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in
1907.
The Great Earthquake Scene
the Talk
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RENAD BROTHERS'
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"SWISS EXPRESS." A Musical
"SWISS EXPRESS." Pantomimical
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"PUSS IN BOOTS," Book by Stanley Rogers.
"PUSS IN BOOTS," Music by Harry Richardson.
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Fourteenth Year of Tour.
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Wanted, Oct. 22, Nov. 19,
Xmas and New Year, for the above Attraction.
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GEORGE HENRY
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"THE SLEDGE HAMMER,"
A Domestic Play in Four Acts,
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Piquant Musical Comedy,
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By Chas. Hoyt, Author of "A Trip to Chinatown,"
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From the Duke of York's Theatre, London.
Teeming with Comedy, Life, Colour, and Action
Throughout. Playing to Enormous Business in
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Dressed, Richly Staged, Perfectly Presented,
Cleverly Acted, Including the Gwalia Male Voice
Quartette, Carolina Troupe of Lady Dancers.
Vacant Dates, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 21, Feb. 11, 18,
March 11, 18, April 1, onwards. Correspondence
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"A COUNTRY MOUSE,"
with Miss Annie Hughes,
Oct. 8, GRAND, FULHAM.
"PUBLIC OPINION,"
with Miss Emma Hutchison,
Oct. 8, ASHFORD and WORTHING.
"COUSIN KATE," "COUNTRY MOUSE."
"ON THE LOVE PATH," "SATURDAY TO MONDAY."
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A
Musical
Comedy
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Thanks Messrs. Robert Arthur, J. W. Turner,
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"THE PRODIGAL PARSON."
35th Consecutive Week.
New Year's Week Vacant through obliging.
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Farewell Tour of
MISS MAUD HILDYARD
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MISS MAUD HILDYARD
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MISS MAUD HILDYARD
Previous to her
Visit to Australia
Next June.
Only Vacant Date this Autumn, Christmas Week
Big Theatre Wanted.
Spring 1907 fast filling.
Re Dates,
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Miss Maud Hildyard,
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Production. Easter, '07, at the Grand Junction
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J. EDWARD WHITTY'S
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A Great Play!
A Great Success!
Everything Carried!
ETHEL VAN PRAAGH as Marion Blackstone.
Only vacant date this year,
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Required, Theatres, with large holding capacity,
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(North preferred).
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C. Watson Mill, Alex. T., Sheffield; next,
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"THE TRUMPET CALL,"
"THE TRUMPET CALL."
Vacant Oct. 29, South.
Apply Charles F. Cooke.
Oct. 8, ALEX., SHEFFIELD.
Oct. 15, Aquarium T., Yarmouth.

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from
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Everything the same as Original Production
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"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS" (N.),
Oct. 8, AQUARIUM, GT. YARMOUTH.
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS" (S.),
Oct. 8, T. R., RUGBY.
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS" (Mid.),
Oct. 8, TAMWORTH, SWADLINCOTE, ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, RUGELEY, WREXHAM (2).
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Wires, "Vagancy, London."
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"THE EXECUTIONER'S DAUGHTER,"
All Dates Filled this Year.
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SPENNYMOOR.

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The Celebrated Romantic Drama,
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Author of "The Midnight Wedding," "Why Men
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(by Arrangement with Messrs. Paumier
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Wanted, Good Theatres, Oct. 29, Nov. 12, 26.
An Entirely New Production,
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Acknowledged to be one of the Best Pantomimes
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First-class Theatres only.
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Living," is prepared to let same, with Scenery and
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(North), Oct. 8, T. R., DEWSBURY.
(Midlands), Oct. 8, T. R., COLCHESTER.
"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK"
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Oct. 8, CORONET THEATRE, W.
"THE PRINCE OF PILSEN,"
(Presenting George Musgrove's Company).
Oct. 8, T. R., HULL.
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL"
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"THE ETERNAL CITY."
Oct. 8, LIVERPOOL, QUEEN'S T.
"OLIVER TWIST."
Oct. 8, COUNTY, BEDFORD.
"THE CHRISTIAN"
(By Arrangement with Wentworth Croke).
Oct. 8, HEXHAM, BERWICK, GALASHIELS.
"THE SILVER KING"
(By Arrangement with Messrs. Polini and Melford.)
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(North), Oct. 8, LEVEN, DUNFERMLINE, &c.
"THE FOUR JUST MEN"
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Tour commences
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CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
Oct. 8, "THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND,
Oct. 11, "OUR BOYS."
NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
Oct. 8, "THE SILVER KING."
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The above Farcical Comedy is one of the very few
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A Romantic Play by Walter Howard.
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ALFRED PAUMIER,
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To-day, Star T., Liverpool.
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The Romantic Play, in Three Acts,
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A Tale of the Old Pretender.
The Powerful Historical Play,
"COUNT HANNIBAL,"
Adapted by Messrs. Frederick Langbridge and
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from the Celebrated Novel of Stanley Weyman.
The Successful Comedy,
"NELL GWYNN OF DRURY LANE."
Mr. Norman V. Norman as
David Garrick.
Mr. Norman V. Norman,
and
Miss Beatrice Wilson.
By Arrangement with Chas. Frohman,
"THE ADVENTURE OF LADY URSULA,"
Wanted, Theatre, through Transfer,
Oct. 29. Oct. 29. Oct. 29.
Oct. 29. Oct. 29. Oct. 29.
Address,
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WEST PIER, BRIGHTON.

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"£1000 REWARD,"
By the Late Charles Rogers.
Miss DAISY HALLING as MADAME SANSON.
Wanted, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 17, 24, 31,
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Rapidly Booking Spring.
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PRESENTS
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This Revival will be Toured in a First-class Manner in every detail.
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The Great Domestic Drama,
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Managers who are still in doubt as to the drawing powers of the above are requested to note the following list of bookings, &c.: Alexandra, Sheffield (two visits); Prince's, Portsmouth (two visits); Metropole, Glasgow (two visits); Palace, Newcastle (two visits); T. R., Middlesbrough (two visits); Osborne and Junction, Manchester (two visits); Queen's, Liverpool (two visits); Queen's, Farnworth (two visits); Queen's, Longton (two visits); Grand, Nelson (two visits); Prince's, Preston (two visits); T. R., Castleford (two visits); Metropole, Birmingham (two visits); T. R., Colne (two visits); Empire, Oldham (two visits); Opera House, Blackpool (two visits); T. R., Rochdale (two visits); Grand, Halifax (two visits); Victoria, Broughton (two visits); T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne (two visits); T. R., Stockport (two visits); T. R., Birkenhead (two visits); Opera House, Bury (three visits); Court T., Bacup (three visits), Avenue, Kettering (three visits).
Kindly Refer to the Managers of any of the above Theatres.
HOME, SWEET HOME,
has been played Three Times Within Eight Months by Mr. Percy Williams in his Stock Season at the Grand Theatre, Plymouth. Mr. Williams has also secured the Fit-up Rights for Cornwall and Devon.
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Re Dates, apply, W. A. McNEILL,
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"THE EARL AND THE GIRL." CHELTENHAM.
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"AT DUTY'S CALL."
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Watch for Date of Production!
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"NEW FRIVOLITY,"
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Tremendous Success of
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All Communications, JOHN LEOPOLD, Jun.,
En Route.
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THE LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE.
By G. CARLTON WALLACE,
Author of "The Village Blacksmith,"
A Truly Magnificent Production.
Second Year of Tour.
Vacant Dec. 3, 10.
Xmas and New Year.
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THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.

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"TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS,"
by Walter Howard.
PRINCE'S T., PORTSMOUTH, Oct. 8.
"THE TEMPTRESS,"
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GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON, Oct. 8.
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W. H. HALLATT,
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are Presenting the Great Lancashire Play,
by Ernest Martin and Fowlass Llewellyn,
"THE COAL KING,"
a Drama of Intense Human Interest, which has anticipated all the Thrilling Episodes that have recently occurred in Coal Mine life.
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No vacant dates this year.
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"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY,"
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MISS AIDA JENOURE as KITTY.
Entire Production direct from Duke of York's T.
Vacant Dates,
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To-day, Grand, West Hartlepool.
Next Week, ROYALTY, MORECAMBE.

IDA MOLESWORTH & MARK BLOW'S
"UNDER TWO FLAGS."
"A SAILOR'S SWEETHEART."
"AT CRIPPLE CREEK."
Vacant Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 28, Feb. 4, 11.
11, St. Edmund's terrace, Regent's Park, N.W.

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"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae; "THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by the late F. A. Scudamore. Wire for Oct. 8, Nov. 5, 12. To-day, Metropole, Abertillery. Next, GRAND, WALSALL.

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CAMDEN THEATRE,
Oct. 8, 1906, One Week.
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"LA POUPEE."
"AMORELLE."
"AMORELLE."
Coms. to HERBERT RALLAND, General-Manager.
Oct. 8, EMPIRE THEATRE, OLDHAM.

HERBERT RALLAND'S COMPANY.
"LA POUPEE,"
By arrangement with C. P. Levilly, Esq.
Oct. 8, EDEN T., BISHOP AUCKLAND.
Coms., H. RALLAND, R. T., OLDHAM.

Season 1906-07.
E. STEVENS & R. C. BUCHANAN will Present the following Pantomimes.
"CINDERELLA,"
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"RED RIDING HOOD,"
New King's Theatre, Sunderland.
"THE FAIR ONE WITH THE GOLDEN LOCKS,"
Gaiety Theatre, Leith.
"JACK THE GIANT KILLER,"
"CINDERELLA,"
Scotland's Provincial Theatres.
General-Manager, STANLEY ROGERS,
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W. H. HALLATT & WALTER HOWARD'S CO., in the Romantic Play,
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD,
by Walter Howard, Author of
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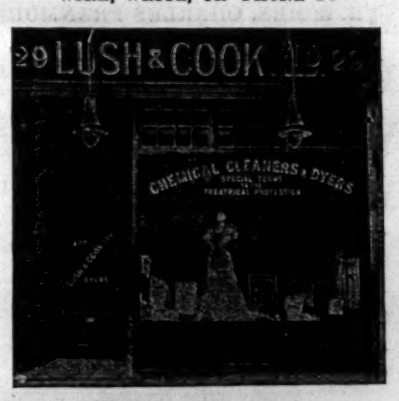

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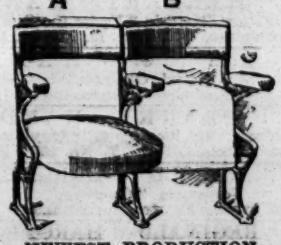

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MISS ROSAMOND MAYNE YOUNG, Disengaged. 67, Elm Park-mansions, Chelsea.

MR. and MRS. FRED ACTON and WINNIE ACTON, "The Golden Ladder" Co., T. R., Leicester.

MR. CHARLES ALDRED, at Liberty Dec. 10. Mr. W. Greet's Company. Oct. 8, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

MR. ALEC ALVES, "What the Butler Saw." Oct. 8, Theatre Royal, York.

MR. HENRY ARMSTRONG, Engaged by Mr. Nation. Terry's Theatre, W.C.

MR. WELDON ATHERSTONE, Starring as Lucas Denbigh, "The Temptress." Address, Grand Theatre, Islington.

MR. CYRIL AUSTEN - LEE, Rev. Basil Gortre, "When It Was Dark." Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. GEORGE R. J. AUSTIN, Chas. Macdona's "Toreador" Co. Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

MR. H. K. AYLIFF, Disengaged. 9, Grafton-mansions Duke's-road, W.C.

MR. MAURICE E. BANDMANN, Address, Theatre Royal, Calcutta.

MR. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Manager of the Palace, Walthamstow. Address, Parkside, The Drive, Walthamstow.

MR. ORLANDO BARNETT, Address, 160, Earl's Court-rd., S.W.

MR. ARTHUR BAWTREE, Leading Business. Oct. 8, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, W.

MR. CHARLES B. BEDELLS, Hutchison Comedy Co. Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

MR. HENRY BELDING, Disengaged shortly. Offers invited. Address, T. R., Whitehaven. Oct. 8, Six Nights.

MR. and MRS. SOMERS BELLAMY (Madge Haines), Business-Management and Lead, "Fatal Wedding." Theatre, Castleford.

MR. IVAN BERLYN, Stage Director, "The Prince Chap." Cambridge and Oxford.

MR. WILSON BLAKE, Mr. Lewis Waller's Co., "Brigadier Gerard." Oct. 8, Borough, Stratford, E.

MR. SYDNEY BLAND, Jean Gaussin, Richard III., &c., Mrs. Bandmann Palmer's Tour. Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

MR. J. H. BOOTH, Marquis, "The Geisha"; Prefect, "A Greek Slave." Dis. Panto. Oct. 8, Theatre Royal, Darwen.

MR. CHARLES BOULT, Ra Goonga, "The Indian Mutiny." Royal Court Theatre, Bacup.

MR. MATTHEW BOULTON, Richard Lawrence and S.M., "The Little Bread-winner." Oct. 8, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

MR. CLIFFORD BOWN Sails to-day for India, S.S. Sardinia, Albert Docks. Address, Theatre Royal, Calcutta.

MR. and MRS. T. B. BRABAZON (Lillian Murray). 19, Farcliffe-place, Bradford.

MR. CONINGSBY BRIERLEY, Barry, in "A Country Girl." Oct. 8, Grand Theatre, Birmingham (six nights).

MR. WILLIAM H. BROUGHAM, At Liberty Nov. 24. Offers invited. Address, C/o "Era."

MR. and MRS. W. RUDDLE BROWN (Miss Nelly Howitt). At liberty Dec. 10. King's T., Longsight, Manchester.

MR. WILLIAM BURCHILL, Mr. Arthur Bourchier's Personal Tour. Address, en route, or 118, Pall-mall, S.W.

MR. HARRY BUSS, Principal Comedian, "Toreador" Co., at Lib. for Panto. Oct. 8, T. R., Blackburn.

MR. JOHN CABOURN, At Liberty. 4, Yale-court, West Hampstead.

MR. and MRS. HARRY CANE, H. C., Mr. Willard's American Tour. Mrs. C., Dis. 22, Linden-gardens, Chiswick, W.

MR. C. DOUGLAS CARLILE, Producing New Sketch, "A Circus Romance," Grand, Sheffield.

MR. LESLIE CARTER, as the Lion, "The Lion and the Mouse." Oct. 8, Pier Pavilion Theatre, Eastbourne.

MR. ALBERT CAVANAH, General-Manager and Stage-Director, Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's "Proof" Tour.

MR. FRANCIS CHAMIER, "The Bondman," Drury Lane. VIOLET CHAMIER, Dis. 46, Altenburg-gardens, Clapham Common, S.W.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE CHILD, (Frances Bruce), c/o G. Kirk, Barnsley. G. C., "Held in Bondage," P. O. W., Salford.

MR. C. F. COLLINGS, Harold Armitage. Address, 14, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.

MR. CECIL A. COLLINS, Bill Sikes, in "Oliver Twist," Mr. Tree's Co. Dis. Xmas. Oct. 8, Shakespeare T., Liverpool.

MR. EDWIN J. COLLINS, as the Rev. Robert Everton. Oct. 8, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow. Six Nights.

MR. ARTHUR COLLINS-ROLFE, Marquis of Steventon, "Walls of Jericho." Mr. Bourchier's Co. A.A.

MR. EDWARD COMBERBACH, "The Eternal City." This, Liverpool; next, O. H., Cork.

MR. SYDNEY COMPTON, As Brassett in "Charley's Aunt." Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington.

MR. T. E. CONOVER, Comedian, Dis. for Panto. C/o Penrhyn-Forster, 11, Buckingham-street, Strand, W.C.

MR. TOM W. CONWAY, Xmas, Dame, Marlborough, Holloway. Address, 48, Sternhold-avenue, Streatham-hill, S.W.

MR. and MRS. VALENTINE COOKE, Disengaged Oct. 14, Juvenile Lead, Comedy, or Irish Business. 195, Brunswick-st., Manchester.

MR. BERNARD COPPING, Lead. Miss ISA BELLINGTON, Comedy. Miss Hildyard's Co., Victoria T., Broughton.

MR. J. W. CORDINER, "Dare Devil Dorothy" (fifth year). Oct. 8, Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall.

MR. EDWARD A. COVENTRY as Lieut. Seton Boyne in "Beauty and the Barge." Buxton (3 nights), Harrogate (3 nights).

MR. VERNON COWPER, Disengaged. 3, Glencoe-mansions, Brixton-road, S.W.

MR. HARRY J. CRANE, Address, 360, Upland-road, East Dulwich, London, S.E.

MR. E. T. DE BANZIE, At Liberty for Pantomime. 116, St. Stephen-street, Edinburgh.

MR. JOHN W. DEVERELL, producing "The Little Stranger" in Australia. 10, Linden-court, Market-street, Sydney.

MR. HERBERT DICKESON, Norman Popple, "Mr. Popple of Ippleton" Co., Oct. 8, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

MR. OSWALD DOUGLAS and MISS MARY AINSLIE (Mrs. O. D.), Dr. and Fay Colbrooke, "Life's Sweetest Sins," Radcliffe.

MR. WELLESLEY DRAPER, "Under Two Flags" Co. Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

MR. CECIL DU GUE, Starring as "Mr. Smith." Opera House, St. Helens.

MR. ALBERT C. DUNCAN, Address, King's Theatre, Cardiff.

MR. and MRS. T. W. DUNSCOMBE (Miss Marie Tennant). Oct. 8, Miners' Theatre, Ashington.

MR. and MRS. E. C. EDWARDS (Miss Bella Power, at lib.), Comedy Old Men, Women, Character. Alhambra T., Stourbridge.

MR. CHARLES ESDALE, Lead, with Miss Annie Hughes. This, Stoke Newington; Next, Grand, Fulham.

MR. GEORGE ESS, Musical Director Panto., Messrs. Dottridge and Longden. Next, Gaiety, Dundee.

MR. PATRICK EVANS, On tour. This, Accrington. Next, Preston. Add., The Homestead, Hurst-road, Eastbourne.

MR. HUGH FLEMING Advance Director, No. 1 "Prince of Pilsen" Co. Theatre Royal, Hanley.

MR. FRANK H. FRANCE, "The 100 to 1 Chance," Address, 38, Fulham Park-gardens, S.W.

MR. & MRS. CHARLES FRANMORE, Address, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

MR. ST. GEORGE FRERE, Murat, W. W. Kelly's Scala Production. Oct. 8, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

MR. W. H. GARBOIS, as Ellis Jordan, "A Wife's Triumph" Co. Theatre Royal, Leeds.

MR. W. V. GARROD, Title-rôle, "The Prodigal Parson," Oct. 8, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

MR. and MRS. WILLIE GARVEY (Kitty Jones) T. R., Jarrow-on-Tyne.

MR. WILLIE GARVEY, Wanted, Good Dame Songs and Patter, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

MR. HENRY GEORGE, Stage Manager, "The Prodigal Son" Co., Theatre Royal, Bradford.

MR. ALFRED GODDARD, Address, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

MR. DOUGLAS GORDON, Engaged by Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler. Add., C/o Messrs. Wheeler, O. H., Cape Town.

MR. and MRS. A. CARLAW GRAND (Miss Rollo Deas). Disengaged. Light Comedy. Address, 30, Doneraile-street, Fulham, S.W.

MR. PHIL GRIFFITHS, Wardrobe Master and Costumier. "Claudian" Co., Avenue T., Sunderland.

MR. LAWRENCE GROVE, Beaujour and Business-Manager in "The Broken Melody" Co. P. of W. T., Nuneaton, or A.A.

MR. HERBERT HARDEN, as Father David in "Under the Seal." 9, Tavistock-place, W.C. Oct. 15, Empire, Croydon.

MR. A. C. HARDIE, Grand, Glasgow. "Cymbeline" Production.

MR. FRANK HARDING, Address all Comms., 21, Argyll-mansions, King's-road, Chelsea, S.W. T. No. 2077, Ken.

MR. HAROLD HARGREAVES, Volpas, in "Claudian." Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

MR. REGINALD HARGREAVES, late "Bauble Shop" Co., Dis., Light Com. Wavertree, Wanstead-place, Wanstead.

MR. FREDERICK HARKER, Malcolm Graeme, "The Lady of the Lake." Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. CHARLES HARLEY, Spencer Traughton, "Public Opinion," Theatre Royal, Worthing.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY, Business-Manager, "The Earl and the Girl." Oct. 8, County Theatre, Reading.

MR. T. P. HAYNES, Mr. Tree's "Oliver Twist" Tour. Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool. Oct. 8, 6 Nights.

MR. JERROLD HEATHER, Starring as Commander Noel Tregarthen, R.N., "Two Little Sailor Boys," P., Portsmouth.

MR. CHAS. HERBERTE, At liberty. Strong Char., Dialect, Comedy, G. O. M., or Sketch. Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. CHARLES HERMANN, Management or Parts. Address, care of "The Era," London.

MR. A. T. HILTON, Disengaged. Address, 31, Crowndale-road, N.W.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD. All Business communications to be made direct to Mr. Cecil Barth, 8, Melina-place, St. John's Wood, N.W.

MR. ALFRED H. HOOK, Acting-Manager, Athenæum Theatre, Lancaster.

MR. FRANCIS HOPE, Eccentric and Light Comedian, Disengaged in Dec. for First-class Tour. Pier Pav., St. Leonards.

MR. FRANK HOWARD, Acting-Manager, "When London Sleeps." Oct. 8, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE HOWARD (Miss Clara Earle). Fifth Year with Edward Terry, Esq.

MR. and MRS. WILSON HOWARD. Miss Carlotta Anson Dis. now; W. H., Nov. 25. Address, C/o "Fatal Wedding, G. T.," Walsall.

MR. S. HERBERT HUMBER and BEATRICE SINCLAIR, Bert Coote's Co. Dis. Nov. 25. T. R., Castleford.

MR. REGINALD A. HUNT, Stage-Manager, Mr. Tree's "Oliver Twist." Oct. 8, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. JAMES P. E. HUSSEY, Harry Marsland, Mr. Eugène C. Stafford's Co., "The Private Secretary." Crystal Palace Theatre.

MR. and MRS. F. JACQUES (Minnie Rayner), "Are You a Mason?" Dis. for Panto. Oct. 8, T. R., Dover.

MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON, Arthur Brinthorpe, in "Sunday." Oct. 8, Theatre Royal, Bury.

MR. T. ARTHUR JONES, Touring the Success, "Life's Sweetest Sins." Address, 26, Wightman-road, Finsbury-park, N.

MR. S. MAJOR JONES, Joseph, "The Girl from Kay's" Co. Broadway Theatre, Deptford.

MR. F. JOYNSEN - POWELL, Iachimo, in "Cymbeline," Rehearsing. Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. OGILVY KEITH. Address, 12, Clarinda-park, Kingstown, co. Dublin.

MR. and MRS. EDGAR KENT (Miss Ada Clarke). Perm. address, Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent. Open for Spring.

MR. CLAUDE KING. Leading Business. Address, Theatre Royal, Calcutta.

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MR. JAMES R. LA FANE, Manager and Stage-Director, "Geisha" and "Greek Slave" Co., Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

MR. PAIGE LAWRENCE, Juvenile Lead in "Oliver Twist." Oct. 8, County Theatre, Bedford.

MR. WINGOLD LAWRENCE, Walter Melville's, Esq., Autumn Production, Every Evening, Standard Theatre, E.

MR. EDWIN LEVER, Disengaged. Character Lead. Address, 68, Alderney-street, Pimlico, London.

MR. LOUIS LINGARD, "What the Butler Saw," Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche's Co. Oct. 8, T. R., York.

MR. GEORGE H. LIOT, Address, La Scala, Paris.

MR. FRANK LISTON, Leading Business, Rehearsing, "Cymbeline" revival. Grand, Glasgow.

MR. and MRS. SAM LIVESEY (Miss Maggie Edwards), "The Village Blacksmith" Co., Empire Theatre, Southend.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN, Address:— 28, Chelverton-road, Putney, S.W.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM LOWE, Disengaged, Old Men, Women, and Character Parts. Address, 7, Bridson-st., Liverpool.

MR. HENRY LUDLOW, Gen. Ivanoff, "The Broken Melody." Oct. 8, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Nuneaton.

MR. WILLIAM LUGG, Lord Bellingham in "The Beauty of Bath." Aldwych Theatre.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY. Own Tour, "Wearin' o' the Green." En route, or Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

MR. GEORGE MALLETT, Talleyrand and General-Manager, Mr. Lewis Waller's Co. Borough Stratford, Oct. 8.

MR. and MRS. W. MANFREE (Amy Wood), and AMY MANFREE, "Silver King" Co. (5th tour). Oct. 8, Opera H., Tunbridge Wells.

MR. D. LEWIN MANNERING, Baron Bonelli and Stage Director, in "The Eternal City," on tour. Oct. 8, Queen's T., Liverpool.

MR. THEO JONES and ADA MANSFIELD, Success of "Jack Sheppard," and "Prodigal's Return." Vac. Oct. 15, E., Portsmouth.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER, Disengaged for the Autumn. C/o Blackmore's, 11, Garrick-st, W.C.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL, Wibsey, in "Public Opinion." Grand Theatre, Nelson.

MR. ERIC G. MERRIE, Business-Manager, "At Cripple Creek" Co. Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR MERVYN, Leads, "A Mother's Love" Co. Oct. 8, Theatre Royal, Blyth.

MR. BERTRAM MILLAR, Permanent address, 47, West Twenty-eighth-street, New York City, U.S., America.

MR. GEORGE MILLER, Pierre Michu, "The Little Michus." Oct. 8, Court Theatre, Liverpool (6 nights).

MR. J. ELLIS MILLER, At Liberty for Management. 1, Camelford-street, Brighton.

MR. JOHN MITCHELSON, Advance Manager. At Liberty. 17, Seneca-road, Brixton, London.

MR. GEORGE M. MONTANINI, Address, The Athenæum, Lancaster.

MR. HUGH MONTGOMERY, MARIE HARCOURT, Napoleon and Marcel, "Napoleon the Great" Co., Grand T., Brighton.

MR. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS, 350th time, "The Convict's Daughter" Co. Oct. 8, T. R., Bristol.

MR. GRAHAM MORRISON, General-Manager, Mr. Cyril Keightley's Tour. Oct. 8, T. R. and O. H., Merthyr Tydvil.

MR. and MRS. KENYON MUSGRAVE Miss Barbara Fenn, Queen, "Cymbeline," Grand, Glasgow. Mr. M., St. James Theatre, W.

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY, Abroad. Communications, 57, Warrington-cres., W.

MR. GUS OXLEY, Disengaged, now and Xmas. 12, De Laune-street, Kennington Park, S.E.

MR. F. M. PAGET, Aristocratic and Character Old Men. 121, Victoria-street, Westminster, S.W.

MR. and MRS. ROBSON PAIGE (Mabel Syringa). Character, Comedy. Ingénue. Dis. 10, Ospringe-road, N.W., or Blackmore.

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MR. ASHTON PEARSE, Lord Perry Kilgour, in "Public Opinion." Theatre Royal, Worthing.

MR. F. PENNINGTON - GUSH, Herbert Manners in "Beauty and the Barge," &c. Buxton (3), Harrogate (3).

MR. and MRS. FRED W. PERMAIN (Miss Florence Le Clercq), c/o Messrs. Wheeler, 11, Greenmarket-sq., Cape Town, S. Africa.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. PETLEY, Mr. William Greet's "Sign of the Cross" Co. Oct. 8, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

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MR. DONALD PRICE-EVANS, Title-rôle, "The Private Secretary" Co. Crystal Palace Theatre.

MR. STANLEY PRINGLE, at Liberty. 6, Brunswick-gardens, W.

MR. ERNEST RAMSAY, At Liberty. Address, Meadow Bank, Epsom-road, Guildford.

MR. W. E. RICHARDSON, Disengaged. Address, 133, Lavender-sweep, Lavender-hill, S.W.

MR. FRANK RIDLEY, Mr. Forbes Robertson's American Tour. Letters addressed A.A. forwarded.

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MR. STANLEY ROGERS, Address all communications, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

MR. ERNEST RUSTON, "Tristram and Iseult." Adelphi Theatre.

MR. JAMES SALTER, Melchisadek-Brown, "The Dandy Doctor," Oct. 8, Lyceum, Crewe.

MR. WILLIE SCOTT, Miss Maude Hildyard's "Great Awakening" Co., Victoria T., Broughton. Panto. offers invited.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN, Note change of Permanent Address, 123, St. George's-road, Belgravia, S.W.

MR. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE and MISS ALICE ARDEN (Mrs. S.). 2, Joubert's-mansions, Jubilee-place, Chelsea, S.W.

MR. WILFRED E. SHINE, Disengaged Oct. 27. "John Bull's Other Island," Court Theatre.

MR. and MRS. JOHN B. SHINTON (Ada M. Ryder). Starring in "The Price of Her Soul." Oct. 8, T. R., Scarboro'.

MR. EDWARD SIDNEY, Disengaged Comedy and Character. Address, 40, Walcot-square, Kennington-road, S.E.

MR. THOMAS SIDNEY Resigns engagement with Mr. Percy Hutchison. 16, Long Acre.

MR. JAMES SKEA, Eng. by J. Bannister Howard, Esq., for Bill Sikes. Distinctly artistic.—Era. County Theatre, Bedford.

MR. A. GIFFORD STACEY, Manager for Mr. Robert Courteidge, Apollo Theatre, W.

MR. PERCY D. STANDING, Address, c/o Guy Standing, c/o Larchmon Yacht Club, Larchmont, New York, U.S.A.

MR. FRANK STANLEY, Acting-Manager, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

MR. E. STANTON - SHARP, John Storm, in "The Christian" (Howard's).

MR. W. R. STAVELEY, Address, Terry's Theatre, Strand.

MR. CHARLES STIRLING, Lead, Heavies. Disengaged Nov. 17. 60, Wouldhave-street, South Shields.

MR. ERNEST ST. JOHN, Permanent address, Maida House, 45, Maida-vale, London, W.

MR. GEORGE STONE, Resident-Manager (Twelfth Year), Royalty T. and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK, Disengaged Oct. 20, owing to termination of "Three Little Maids" Tour, T. R., Darlington.

MR. EDWARD SWINTON, Principal Character Business, Address, P. O., Dorchester.

MR. AUGUSTIN SYMONDS and MISS KATE PARRY, "Mr. Popple," "A" Co. Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

MR. ALGERNON SYMS, This, Chelsea; next, Hammersmith, Fred. Conquest, Esq. Perm., 3, Springdale-road, Clissold-pk.

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MR. FOWLER THATCHER, Character Actor. Tomaso, "Belle of Barcelona," Pal., Bradford. Perm., 35, Mall-rd., Hammersmith.

MR. ALLEN THOMAS, Comedy and Character. Duke of York's Theatre.

MR. and MRS. E. W. THOMAS (Agnes Knights), Mr. Edward Terry's Co., Gaiety Theatre, Manchester. At Lib. Dec. 10.

MR. RAYMOND THOMAS, Heavy Lead, "The Lights o' London" Co. 8th inst., Grand Theatre, Woolwich.

MR. ALEC F. THOMPSON, Stage-Manager, Messrs. Lely and Mollison's Productions. Oct. 8, Theatre Royal, Belfast.

MR. WYLIE A. THOMPSON, "Brigadier Gerard" Co. Oct. 8, Borough Theatre, Stratford.

MR. CHARLES THORBURN, "Prince of Pilsen" and "Belle of New York" Tours. T. R., Hull.

MR. and MRS. WALTER THORNTON (Miss Florence Hamilton), "Between Two Women" Co. Oct. 8, Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

MR. ALFRED C. TOONE, Musical Director, Gatti and Frohman's "Belle of Mayfair." G., Hull.

MR. DUNCAN TOVEY, At liberty. Stage Management and Character parts. Address., Worplesdon, Guildford.

MR. TRUEMAN TOWERS, Stage-Manager for Messrs. Gatti and Frohman's "Belle of Mayfair" Co. G. T., Hull.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL, "The Breed of the Treshams" Tour. Oct. 8, Vacation; 11th, T. R., Worthing.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD VAN BIENE (Kate Hallam), Gen. Mgt. and Star Lead, "The Drama of Life." Co. Grand T., Mansfield.

MR. RICHARD VANE, at Liberty for Leading Business, Nov. 17. Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford.

MR. and MRS. CHAS. B. VAUGHAN (Miss M. Lewes). Mr. Vaughan supporting Mr. Forbes Robertson, Amsterdam T., New York.

MR. PERCY H. VERNON, Talleyrand, "A Royal Divorce" Co. Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR, Napoleon, "A Royal Divorce." Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

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MR. A. N. VINCE, Advance Manager, "Three Little Maids" (N.) Co., Disengaged Oct. 13, Termination of Tour. T. R., Darlington.

MR. ARTHUR WALCOTT, Disengaged. Address, 10, Brunswick-square, W.C.

MR. EDWIN WALTON, "The Coal King" Co. Coms., Playgoers' Club, 6, Clement's-inn, W.C., to be forwarded.

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MR. W. LEMMON WARDE, Address, Palace Pier, Brighton.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY, Theatrical Agency, 3, Bedford-street, Strand. 'Phone, 3781 Cen. Tel., "Frivolous, London."

MR. CHARLES WEIR, Theatre Royal, Glasgow. Disengaged end of Nov.

MR. & MRS. ALFRED WELLESLEY (Miss Beatrice Webb). Dis. 25, Kathleen-rd., Clapham-junc., S.W. Refer Louis Calvert, Esq.

MR. EUGENE WELLESLEY, with Mr. Martin Harvey, on Tour. Oct. 8, Theatre Royal, Birmingham.

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MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS, Six Brothers Luck Co. Palace, Belfast.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS, Manuel Garcia, "The Four Just Men" Co. King's T., W. The Blorenge, Taunton; or A.A.

MR. BREMBER WILLS, as Charles IX., "Count Hannibal." 8th, P.P., St. Leonard's (fortnight).

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The Railway Companies are despatching many morning trains earlier than hitherto. This will enable subscribers and advertisers in the provincial towns to get copies of "The Era" in time for the breakfast table. Advertisers are requested to forward their advertisements as early in the week as possible, and not later than 7 p.m. on Thursday.

Address:
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AMUSEMENTS IN MANCHESTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—*The Housekeeper* was played here on Monday, for the first time in Manchester, by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal and company, who served to attract, as usual, a very large and friendly audience. Tuesday's performance of *The Ironmaster* was throughout a distinguished achievement, the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Kendal being most ably supplemented by Mr. Bassett Roe as the Duc de Bliquy, Mr. Edward Vaughan as the Marquis de Beaupre, Miss Violet Lewis as Athenais, Mrs. A. B. Tapping as the Marquise de Beaupre, and others in rôles of minor importance. On Wednesday a pleasing performance of *The Elder Miss Blossom* was given; and for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday matinée, *A Tight Corner*, described as a new and original comedy, occupies the bill.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A return visit of *Lady Madcap* is the event of the week here. Mr. George Dance's company gives a bright performance of the piece; Miss Vera Vere's abilities in the title-rôle do not suffer by comparison with those of a notable predecessor; Mr Percival Knight gives a capable rendering of "Stony" Stratford, whose confederate, Posh Jenkins, is still played inimitably by Mr. Oliver Round; Mr. H. V. Surrey presents Oroya Brown with comic skill; Mr. Tommy Nelldon is a lively Corporal Ham; Miss Maisie North is a pleasing Gwenny Holden; Miss Peggy Primrose acts nicely as Susan; Mr. Alex. Chentrens does well as the Count de St. Hubert; and other good parts are admirably rendered by Mr. Martyn Roland, Mr. R. S. Comber, and Miss Florence Raymund. A full chorus, an augmented orchestra, and beautiful scenery and dresses, contribute to an all-round brilliant entertainment.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—A strong attraction here this week is Mr. W. G. Wills's *Olivia*, dramatised from "The Vicar of Wakefield." Miss Winifred Emery, who possesses a sympathetic personality, is responsible for an impersonation of Olivia, which is informed with the most charming grace and discretion. Equally strong is Mr. Brandon Thomas's depiction of the Vicar, a dignified and impressive piece of work; while Mr. Eille Norwood makes an excellent Burchell; Mr. Franklin Dyall is admirably good as Squire Thornhill; and high praise is due to Mr. Harry Ashford as Farmer Flamborough, Miss May Chevalier as Sophia, and Miss Keith Lytton as Mrs. Primrose. The play has the added advantage of really splendid scenery.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—After a highly successful fortnight at the Grand Junction Theatre, Mr. Walter Howard's new play, *Her Love Against the World*, is staged here this week with equally gratifying results.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—An excellent programme here is headed by the Brontes, in a comedy duologue, entitled *Saucy Maud*. Rose Elliott, a sweet singer of sensible songs, is also prominent; and another popular turn is that of Tom E. Hughes, comedian, "One of the Upper Ten." The Viponds add an excellent and dainty scena; the Seddons provide a capital juggling act; a clever and comic turn is given by the Errolls; York, Mac, and York are seen to advantage as the Washerwoman and the Urchins; and other good turns are the Sisters Volbecque, comedy duettists; and the Gladenbecks, in a speciality act. The Bioscope shows "The Horse Stealers."

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—One of the most entertaining pieces seen here for a long time is *The 'Varsity Belle*, which is presented by Mr. Henry E. Leigh's company. Mr. James Danvers as Professor Septimus Stoney contributes a huge amount of capital fun, and is responsible for roars of laughter; Miss Josephine Ellis is excellent as Gaye Sparkleton, the title-part; Miss Nellie Parker Dent gives a lively delineation of the Professor's mother-in-law; Miss Nellie Beacon adds to the fun as the Professor's wife; Mr. Edward Chester is well suited in the rôle of Sparkleton, the travelling manager; and other good parts are admirably filled by Mr. R. Harley West, Mr. Roy Barraclough, Mr. Frank Lilliput, and Miss Beatrice Egerton. The action is embellished by the introduction of several excellent songs and specialities; the scenery and accesories are bright and ample; and the whole piece goes with an infectiously humorous swing from start to finish.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Carpenter and Cooper's company present here this week their London success, *The Spider and the Fly*. A good performance is given, Mr. Stanley S. Gordon being seen to advantage as the hero, Cyril Girdlestone, and Miss Nina Vaughton sustaining the part of the heroine, Edith McAllister, with equal success. Mr. Ellis J. Preston as the villainous Welby Girdlestone, and Miss Amy Venimore as Stella Gray, "the spider," sustain their parts with distinct credit; while others worthy of praise are Mr. Frederick Ross (a very fine David Strong), Mr. Fred Terris, Mr. Charles A. Preece, and Miss Lucy Murray (a clever Molly Blake). The drama is very well staged.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A capital programme here this week includes Chirgwin, the white-eyed musical joker, who is in great form, and tremendously popular with the house. The Caledonian Boys play a number of pieces with their well-known skill; Albert Le Fre, a clean and clever comedian and dancer, is very well received; the Brothers Lang indulge in a "friendly bout," with comic effects; Hanvarr and Lee, "the golfer and the maid," give a wonderfully smart juggling and athletic performance; Stelling and Revell, comic acrobats on the bars, raise shouts of laughter; the Coloured Meisters sing and harmonise agreeably; and other good turns are Billy Tucker, an expert ball-puncher; and Bouverie Pleydell, comedienne and dancer. The Bioscope adds a cleverly-arranged series called "Mephisto's Son, a Modern Version of Faust."

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Tarro Myaki, the champion ju-jitsu wrestler of the world, is the attraction here this week, and some interesting bouts are taking place nightly. Claude Ginnett and company are seen to advantage in *Rejected Remounts*, including four trained horses; Jack Pleasants, comedian, makes a hit; Edwin Barwick, character comedian, is well received, his impersonations being well done; and Alice Maydue, vocal comedienne, sings well. Other capital items are contributed by Cavalli, a very clever ventriloquist; Milner Verrin, the popular tenor; and Jessie Merrilees, comedienne. As usual, the Palace pictures are good.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—*Welcome Home* is a capital pantomimic absurdity, presented here in fine style by Bobb Hutt and company; Millie Hilton and Decima Brooke appear in a delightful song-scena, *Somebody's Sweetheart*; the Clement Trio are clever flying gymnasts; Colby and May, the ventriloquist and the dancing doll, are entertaining; and the Australian twin Andersons (Lily and Minnie), are clever dancers. Abdy's Canine Circus is a show well worth seeing; Jose Collins is a pleasing singer and neat dancer; the Three Albions are good comedy musicians; and Mme. Marvelle's birds are wonderfully well trained. Mr. F. J. Hedlam sings to pictures, "When the roses bloom again"; a part-song is rendered by the choir, who, accompanied by the orchestra, also render the Bridal Chorus from "The Rose Maiden"; and a series of animated pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—The Two Bees (Harry and Flora Blake) top the bill here this week, and present with success a new comedy scena, *The Man in the Moon*; George French is to the front with eccentric business; and Frank Coyle, the "continuous" comedian, is also amusing. Cyrus and Maude, musical comedians, are entertaining; Charles Woodward is a capital actor-vocalist; and good turns are those of Little Lily Arthur, the "toy" comedienne; Alexandra Royal, burlesque artist; the Tivoli Girls, speciality dancers; and the Sisters Redfern, banjoists and dancers. Raymond's Vivagraph complete.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The programme here this week is excellent all round. Claude Felman's troupe of clever Beau-Ideal Juveniles head the bill, and their mirth, mimicry, song, and dance, are greatly appreciated; La Belle Lillian is a graceful trick cyclist; the Montaldos, in an original equilibristic slack-wire act, introduce some well-trained birds; and Mephisto, the society contortionist, assisted by Mlle. Marie, contributes quite a novel turn; the Three Royal Temples, including Mme. Temple, are exceptionally good singers; Bert Weston is a good swell comedian; the Sisters Belmont are particularly smart dancers; and considerable amusement is caused by Sandy and Carl, comedians and eccentric boxers; and Lack and Ford, the "india-rubber man" and the "twister." "What the Boots Saw" is shown on the Bioscope.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—*The Lost Coon*, a smart musical sketch, is the attraction here this week, ably presented by Dinah Morris and company. Jack Truman, tenor, sings in good style, and is well received; as is also Herbert Bettis, Callie and Walker are entertaining in a comedy act; Peakman and Walsh are clever and amusing jugglers; Monty Biggs is a capital female impersonator; and Baby Lilybelle sings and dances prettily. The Ottawas, who are billed, did not appear on the occasion of our visit. "Saved by Rover" is an interesting film, depicted on the Bioscope.

HIPPODROME, HULME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Milton Ray's company top the bill here this week in a musical farcical comedy, entitled *The Cruise of the Calabar*, which is well staged, and goes with an excellent swing throughout, the comic element being well brought out by Mr. Arthur Milton and Mr. Joe English, whose whimsicalities cause much laughter; Miss Minnie Mulvey and Mr. Fred Russell also contribute to the success of the piece, and other parts are in good hands. The songs, dances, dresses, and scenery are all excellent. Billy Williams, "the man in the velvet suit," is an old favourite here, and, as usual, is well received; Warden Reed and company are successful in their sketch, *The Right Road*; Selby and Myers, comedians, dance smartly; Dolly Denver is an excellent buck dancer; the Smarte Brothers are good in an acrobatic speciality; and Harry Tomlinson is a pleasing vocalist. The pictures complete a very entertaining programme.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—Good business is still being done here, the programme being up to the usual high standard.

AMUSEMENTS IN BRUSSELS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BRUSSELS, OCT. 2.—We may safely say that our theatrical season is now in full swing. Our national Theatre de la Monnaie has reopened its doors. Some of our artists have left, such as Dalmorès and Albers; others have taken their place. Saint-Saens' *Samson et Dalila*, Gounod's eternal *Faust*, and his clever contrast, Berlioz's *Damnation of Faust*, with Verdi's *Aïda* and Puccini's *Bohème*, have been the opening spectacles.

AT the Parc, M. de Féraudy, with Mme. Pierson, Mme. Kolb, and a host of "Comédie Française" talented pensionnaires, are giving performances of Mirabeau's *Les Affaires sont les Affaires* and of the clever comedian's own play, *Brichanteau*.

THE Galeries, pending their official reopening with Offenbach's *Perichole*, whose principal part will be taken by "transfuges" from the Monnaie (Mlle. Maubourg and M. Forgeur), are occupied by Berryer, an artist à la Fregoli.

THE Molière has just revived Bazin's light comic opera, *Le Voyage en Chine*. The Alhambra has unearthed more melodramas, and the Olympia announces *Le Bourgeon*, a comedy which seems to depict the actual struggles between Church and State within a future priest's bosom.

THE Vaudeville, faithfully sticking to farcical comedies, keeps its audiences roaring with *La Grimpette*, and the Scala has just launched the first revue of the season, *Ca vaut de l'Or* (It is worth gold), and we hope it will be for the manager, M. Brouette, who has been lavish in this production.

THE Palais d'Eté remains the only music hall in Belgium with a programme full of first-class attractions. This week we have Ady Hett, a chanteuse; the Lios Alfa; Clement de Lion, as clever with billiard balls as Thurston with his cards; Ara Mozza, a pretty and clever cyclist; the fanciful duettists, Raphael-Colombel, of international fame; Florizell, a lady contortionist; the Three Willés, a first-class star turn in their acrobatic wonder; the Lepicq, on the flying trapeze; Rosa and Jeannette, American dancers; and the Bonnes, gymnasts.

"THE ERA" EARLY DELIVERY.

SPECIAL NEWSPAPER EXPRESS SERVICES now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible.

	a.m.
RUGBY	4.30
COVENTRY	4.54
BIRMINGHAM	5.20
CREWE	6. 5
MANCHESTER	6.50
LIVERPOOL	7. 0
CHESTER	9. 3
DONCASTER	5.10
YORK	7. 0
HULL	8.20
DARLINGTON	8.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 5
NEWCASTLE	10.10
LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4 36
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.35
SHEFFIELD	6. 6

THE O.P. Club held its annual general meeting on the 28th ult., and elected the following officers for the ensuing year: Mr. Sidney Dark as president; Mr. T. Orton Roberts, vice-president; Mr. Carl Hentschel, hon. treasurer; Mr. Guy Repton, trustee; and Messrs. J. Davis Smith and Stanley Greig, joint hon. secretaries. Under the presidency of Mr. T. McDonald Rendle the O.P. Club have had a very successful year, both socially and financially, the balance-sheet showing a profit of £212.

THE members of the theatrical profession in Paris have risen in arms. They held a crowded meeting at the Théâtre Antoine last week to consider the question of a weekly day of rest. The theatrical managers have hitherto maintained that the Weekly Rest Act does not apply to theatres. According to them, those employed in a theatrical enterprise belong to a liberal profession, and therefore cannot rank as wage-earners. Several amusing speeches were made, one man, a scene-painter, raising roars of laughter by stating that he never knew what a "liberal profession" was, but presumed it was a profession wherein people earned a liberal salary. This, he said, was certainly not the case with theatrical employees, and the managers' excuse consequently was a lame one. After some further discussion, the meeting unanimously passed a resolution repudiating any connection with a "liberal profession," insisting on being treated as mere wage-earners.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavannah, C.A.—*The Orchid*, as presented by Mr. George Dance's company, proves a source of genuine pleasure this week. On Monday Mr. Bertie Wright's part of Meakin was successfuly understudied by Mr. Michael Courtenay; and Messrs. J. R. Val, Sinclair Holden, and E. Nainby gave capital portraitures of Zaccary, the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour, and the Comte Raoul de Cassignal. Mr. Stenson Liddard as the pushful statesman, and Messrs. Burt and Hall as the two "shadows," and Mr. Du Cane as the amorous Dr. Faussett also play well. Miss Emily Stevens acts cleverly as Caroline Vokins; and pleasant work is contributed in their various rôles by Mesdames Dorothy Firman, Desiree Desmond, Jenny Bonney, Florence Wakeman, and Ethel Holdsworth. Several of the songs are heartily encored, and the graceful dancing is also greatly appreciated.

Palace Theatre. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The Sisters Sprightly display more than their usual vivacity and versatility this week; and Miss Nini Gordon, an exceedingly clever mimic, has also a hearty reception. Miss May Mars gives a striking and most original burlesque turn, and Black Apollo shows his remarkable skill on no less than ten instruments; while Cliff and Kean excel alike as vocalists, comedians, and dancers. Leonard and Larry appear in a bright comedy act with much success; Mr. Cade Burnett's singing is generally appreciated; Raglus's feats are not only extremely dexterous but highly novel; and Mr. Barney Salmon makes a good appearance as a soldier-vocalist.

ABERTILLERY. — Theatre Metropole.—Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom.—Miss Frances Delaval and her No. 1 London Company are here in the drama, *Her Lost Self*. Miss Frances Delaval as Phillippine Marcel gives a powerful interpretation of the part; Mr. Cecil Gray well sustains the rôle of Wilfred Daventry; Mr. G. Osmond Tearle gives a clever reading of Norman Esmond; Mr. Leslie York as Paul Kimberley deserves praise; as Victor Elsworth Mr. Fred Lillywhite is all that can be desired; Mr. L. W. Halfpenny and Mr. Edmund Lyons as Abraham and Rachel Cohen respectively are very good; Mr. Jimmy Stewart and Miss Hetty Stewart cause much fun as Tom Flyaway and Bridget Mahone; Miss Clare O'Sullivan deserves great praise for her able portrayal of Lucille and Dorothy; Miss Min Johnson as Dorothy Daventry acts with grace and charm, and deserves special mention for a speciality introduced in Act 2.

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—A return visit is being paid this week by Miss Florence Baines in *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, which was welcomed by a crowded house. Miss Baines as Mary Ellen Thompson is the life of the piece, and keeps the house in continuous laughter. John Higgins is amusingly represented by Mr. D. Donaldson; Harry is well played by Mr. Pat Evans; Mr. Will Casey gives a quaint performance as Herbert Fox; and Mr. Walter Hicks makes an ideal butler; Miss Muriel Thompson looks very chic as Bertha; Mr. Payne Fletcher plays Farmer Thompson to the life, and a capital piece of character acting is given by Miss Pattie Groves. The other parts are in capable hands.

Hippodrome — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Wersker.—A very good entertainment is provided here this week. The Carney Brothers are excellent duettists; Sid Bandon sings some good character songs; Brothers Ashley convulse the house with laughter; and Bob Sanderson is also amusing; Sisters Cora must be complimented on a very smart turn, and Allsopp and Bekwith are very good. One of the attractions this week is a clog dancing contest for the championship of the world.

ALDERSHOT.—Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—Mr. William Greet's company, on a return visit with that always popular farcical comedy, *The Earl and the Girl*, is again being welcomed in the heartiest possible manner. Apart from the very excellent performance given by this capable company, the costumes, staging, and dressing are magnificent. The infectious humour introduced by Mr. Alfred Donohoe as Jim Cheese places that rôle among the favourites; and he has an able partner in the coster comedy in Miss Lina Hicks (Liza). Miss May Yates—an old favourite here—is a charming Elphin Hay, and she dances and sings in a captivating manner. Mr. Thos. Kennard, who is an admirable Wargrave, and Miss Yates are heartily received for their descriptive duet. There are many others who help materially in the success, including Messrs. Leslie Owen, Greville Hayes, Ernest Plumpton, S. Anlyson, Tom Stephens; Misses K. Gerrard, Ida Stratham, Winnie Plumpton, J. Rutter, M. Grey, and E. Grey.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—Under the direction of Mr. Jas. Willard, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company is reappearing here this week in *The Midnight Mail*. A dramatic interpretation is given of Billy Brewer, a drunken stoker, by Mr. Fred G. Evison; Mr. Alfred Goddard sustains in fine manly fashion the part of Harry Steyne; Miss Mildred Carr as Nancy Brewer, the drink-sodden stoker's wife, and Miss Phyllis Dailby as Lady Eustace are both prominent figures in the plot; and Miss Kate Johnson, Miss Dolly Gilroy, Miss Grace Chesterfield, and Miss Ada Oakley are also well cast.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The bill submitted at the Empire for the week is one of the best we have seen for some time. Lovelaces, American song illustrators, give a very clever and taking turn; the Keith and Merson Four are amusing in their hunting absurdity, *The Meet*; in acrobatic exercises Tate and Tate introduced an expert display of Trampolin acrobatic work; another turn of importance is the troupe of Gondoliers, who sing in an artistic manner. Penstone richly merits the applause evoked by his conjuring; Little Beattie is a clever comedienne, Bert Dawson a good eccentric vocalist, Clifton and Gibson expert eccentrics, and Geo. Hoyle a talented character-comedian.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—Mr. Reginald H. Adair's company occupies the boards here this week, presenting "twice nightly" a compressed version of the exciting drama *The Luck of Life*. The duel with knives engaged in by two of the leading female characters is a strong feature of the piece.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—A strong and diversified programme this week is headed by the Brothers O'Brien in an exceptionally smart triple-bar performance. Astarte, the aerial nymph, introduced by Professor Fuller, is a pleasing and mysterious turn; a laughable sketch entitled *The Doctor and His Patient* is given by Helm and Cozens; Miss May Marion is a pleasing comedienne; the Three Behans are highly appreciated; the Attergraph pictures presented by Mr. E. C. Clayton are up to the usual standard of excellence; Mr. George Barrington deserves warm praise for his refined and clever musical act; and Mr. W. J. Lytton, character comedian, is popular.

AYR.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—Three nights and a matinée performance of the new combination, formed at the Glasgow Grand Theatre about a month ago to play the musical version of *Rob Roy*, have been arranged, and on Monday the Gaiety was filled by a most enthusiastic audience. The Francis and Diana of Mr. Hedmondt and Miss Alice Esty received artistic treatment, both vocally and dramatically. The Mattie of Miss Jeanie L. Harle was clever, and she, too, sang well. Miss Marion Lind played the part of Helen Macgregor with acceptance; the Rob Roy of Mr. Nelson Ramsay was perfection; Mr. W. George Robb gave a fine portrayal of Bailie Nicol Jarvie; and Mr. Herbert Benton's Dougal Cratur was particularly droll. The scenery and setting were beautiful, and the choruses were admirable in their volume of tone, being particularly so in "Hail to the Chief."

BACUP. — New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Mr. and Mrs. John Walter's juvenile pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, is the attraction here this week. Miss Gerty McQueen is a bold and dashing Robin Hood, and contributes some excellent songs. Miss Fanny Adamson makes a vivacious Maid Marian, and also sings well; Miss Kitty Chester and Baby Blyth as Bertie and Cissie, the Babes, are highly successful, and their songs are fully appreciated. Blustering Bill and Wavering Willie are played with heartiness and vigour by Messrs. Traynor and O'Connor; Mr. Ernest Thirlway is a bold, bad Baron Whereamecastle; and Ally Benson is highly amusing as Dame Flossie. An excellent Soft Tommy is found in Paddy Mills, and Fairy Goodheart has a graceful representative in Miss Doris Grey.

BARNSLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Mr. George Dance's company in *The Duchess of Dantzic* opened here on Monday for the first time in Barnsley. Miss May Glenn is a charming Catherine; Mr. Gilbert Yorke makes a characteristic Napoleon; as Lefebvre Mr. Ernest Torrence's singing is greatly appreciated; Mr. Alec Johnson is successful as Philippe and Adhémar; Miss Maggie White is graceful as Renee; Mr. Steve Fitzgerald an amusing Papillon; and Miss Buena Bent a capable Lisette.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stoke.—*The Beauty and the Barge* is here this week. The quaint humour of Mr. Blake Adams in the part of Captain Barley is conspicuous; Mr. Walter Pemberton cuts a droll figure as the irascible Major; Mr. Chas. A. White is whimsical as the old gardener, and Mr. Pennington Gush as Herbert Manners, Mr. Edward Coventry as Lieut. Boyne, and Mr. W. R. Hammersmith as Joe leave nothing to be desired; Miss May Fairclough as Ethel Smedley, the Beauty, is most charming; Miss Mary Pemberton is pleasing as Lucy Dallas, and Miss Ruby Wyndham as Mrs. Baldwin and Miss Mona Robin as Mrs. Smedley are clever in their respective parts.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge. — Mr. Morton Powell's company is presenting here this week *The Woman Who Gambles*. Mr. Horatio Sinclair in the character of the Baron displays subtlety; Mr. James Duncan as Count Steinbach is effective; Miss Gertrude Hunt in the title-rôle shows considerable ability, and the part of Cora Goulthart is admirably portrayed by Miss Florrie Halson.

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties. — Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—Mr. Jack McKenzie and company, in the droll musical burlesque, *The Belle of Barcelona*, tops an interesting programme here. The Cleveland team of comedy acrobats receive rounds of applause; George and Edward are clever comedians; J. P. Ling, mimic, gives an exceedingly refined entertainment; Frazer and Haley sing and dance successfully; and the pictures by Vernon's Bioscope continue to be much enjoyed.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Mr. and Mrs. Benson and colleagues are once again giving Bathonians a Shakespearean week, opening on Monday with *Much Ado About Nothing*, in which the popular actor and his gifted wife appeared as Benedick and Beatrice respectively. Each received a cordial welcome, and at the close Mrs. Benson was the recipient of a choice bouquet. Mr. George Buchanan made an excellent Claudio, and to Mr. Clarence Derwent credit is due for his handling of Don Pedro. Don John was impersonated with care and ability by Mr. Murray Carrington; Mr. E. A. Warburton, a new member of the company, was well suited as Leonato; Mr. George Weir once again brought his ripe comedy talents to bear upon Dogberry; Miss Helen Haye made a capital impression as Hero; and with a delightful singing voice Miss Gwladys Wynne as Ursula won encores for each of her solos. On Tuesday *Henry the Fifth* was presented, and other plays in the Benson répertoire are *Macbeth*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Hamlet*, and *As You Like It*.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—A charming stage spectacle is Maurin's Fountains, which forms the leading attraction here this week. J. A. Wilson, the black oracle, is assisted by his canine marvel, Private Towser; Almon does wonders while posing upside down; Will Vay's Juveniles present a comedy scene, *Life in the Slums*; Angelo paints portraits with lightning rapidity; Bliss and Bliss are a couple of amusing comedians; Nina Martino, French and English vocalist, has many admirers; and Maude Beaumont, burlesque actress, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux complete the bill.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Messrs. E. Lockwood and R. Crossman's company in the musical comedy *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. E. Russell makes an excellent Sergeant Brue, whose son Michael finds a clever exponent in Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy; Miss Kitty Dale is a charming Aurora Brue; Mr. T. A. Shole is the life of the piece as Crookie Scrubbs; Miss Lily Lingard as Lady Bickenhall leaves nothing to be desired; and Mr. Henry Chichester is an undoubted success as Mr Crank, the magistrate.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. George Edwardes's company opened here on Monday in the comic opera, *The Little Michus*. The rôle of General Ifs fits Mr. Eric Thorne like the proverbial glove, and he achieves an instantaneous success. Mr. Leonard Mackay was a manly Aristide Vert, his singing being most acceptable, while the rôles of the Little Michus were ably undertaken by Miss Iris Holy and Miss Thelma Baye. Miss Baye further adds to her laurels by her vocal and violin numbers, which were most effective. Mr. W. Talleur Elgaud deserves congratulations for his fine conception of Gaston Rigaud; and another amusing impersonation was that of the General's servant, Bagnolet, contributed by Mr. Jack Cannot. Mr. George Miller was an admirable Pierre Michu; and the rôle of Madame Michu was in the safe hands of Miss Florence Farfrey. The dances contributed by Miss Vivien Talleur were received with enthusiasm.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—The Six Brothers Luck top the bill here, and present their farcical pantomime, entitled *The Demon of the Cellar*, which has created roars of merriment. Dale and O'Malley are exceedingly clever comedians; and a capital mystical interlude, entitled *Semi-Detached*, has been staged by the Meymotts (Harry and Ada); Blanche and Powell, vocal and instrumental duo, are well received; and much praise is due to the Carina Sisters, who have been most successful with their musical *mélange*. Also here are Miss Flo Warner, vocalist; Mr. Arthur Boyne, comedian; Mr. Mark Merry, droll comedian; Mr. Will Driscoll, swell comedian and dancer; and the Palace Pictures.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The chief feature here is provided by Mr. Frank Danby and his clever company, who appear to the utmost advantage in a new musical comedy sketch, entitled *The Chauffeur*. Albertus and Millar present a novel act consisting of a scene in the fair grounds; Mr. Dion Wade is a droll comedian, with capital songs; and the fine voice of Mr. Ian Colquhoun has been heard with pleasure in well-known songs. Mr. Phil Herman, dialect comedian, repeats his former successes in this hall; and Miss May Tyler is a charming comedienne and a fine dancer. Also appearing are Miss Flo D'Orville, comedienne; and the Brothers Obo, laughing comedians.

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Douns.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company is appearing here in the sterling drama, *When Rogues Fall Out*. The rôle of Madge Lorrimere was undertaken by that charming actress, Miss Nina Blake-Adams, who enhanced her reputation by her undoubtedly clever impersonation; Mr. Horace Denton was a manly Jack Lorrimere; while the villainies of Stephen Ralston were realistically portrayed by Mr. Percy M. Stevenson. Mr. Cyril Grier must be commended for his fine character sketch of Bill Jenkins, which he made sufficiently repulsive. Mr. Tom H. Solly, a new comedian here, was most amusing as Billy Faggles, and he was ably assisted by Miss Alice Clarke, who was decidedly humorous as Polly Peach. Miss Effie Macintosh deserves congratulations on her capital impersonation of Dick; and other rôles were ably sustained by Miss Norah Caronne and Messrs. B. Mostyn, H. Elmore Frith, H. Arnold Allen, &c. The Alhambra Bioscope exhibits some fine pictures this week, including *The Miner's Daughter*.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—*The Sin of Her Childhood* is presented here this week by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company. As Captain John Thornton Mr. Campbell is well suited, and Mr. Austin Milroy carries out his dastardly work, both as Stephen Haysel and as Dr. Henry Granger, with much zeal and determination; Miss Madge Devereux is emphatic in utterance and impressive in acting as Mary Haysel; in the dual characters of little Mary and of Eric Dugdale, Ivy Rochfort does well; Mr. Hugh Brady is outspoken as the comical Barney O'Reilly, and is well supported by Miss Nellie Hook as Eliza Muggins.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—The ever-interesting play *A Royal Divorce*, under the management of Mr. W. W. Kelly, is repeating one of many visits here, and, notwithstanding its long career, appears to enjoy undiminished popularity. The production is beautifully staged, and Miss Edith Cole repeats her powerful and absorbing performance of Josephine. Napoleon is assumed with almost startling fidelity by Mr. Frederick Victor; Mr. Percy H. Vernon is an admirable Talleyrand; General Augereau is well enacted by Mr. Thomas Barry; and Mr. Graham Woods is well suited as the Marquis de Beaumont. The rather uphill rôle of Marie Louise is effectively played by Miss Agnes Imlay; and Miss Gertrude Entwistle is an efficient Blanche d'Hervas.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—A really capital company here includes Mr. George Gilbey (comedian), Mr. W. J. Ashcroft (the solid man), Mr. Albert Whelan (Australian mimic and whistler), and Foreman and Fannan (comedians and patterers), all favourably known here. In addition we have Carter Livesey and Lilian Roseberry in *The Would-be Actors*; and also the Waldrons. Mr. Charles Beauland (cartoonist), Miss Lola Patey (comedienne), Mr. Billy Mobbs (coon comedian), and the Sisters Chester are also prominent.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—A most popular engagement this Musical Festival week is that of Mr. Willie Edouin in *Our Flat*. Mr. Edouin plays as Nathaniel Glover with all his old skill and drollery, keeping the audience in a state of rare delight, and he is excellently supported. Mr. Charles Stewart, by whom the play is produced, gives a well-polished and natural portrayal of Reginald Sylvester; Miss Daisy Atherton is charming as the wife, Margery; Miss Polly Emery furnishes an admirable study of the servant, Bella; Mr. Hubert Druce portrays the irascibilities of Mr. McCullum in a most amusing and clever manner; Mr. Frank Emery does excellently well with the rôle of Stout; and Mr. Chas. Hanbury as Clarence Vane, Miss Rosamund Rokeby as Lucy, and the others also score. *Thomas Trotter*, an original farcical trifle, ushers in the principal piece.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—This week Mr. Leonard Boyne is here in *Raffles*, which proves intensely exciting and entertaining. Mr. Boyne, who keeps the audience genuinely interested in the fortunes of the gentleman cracksman, is well supported. Mr. Clifford Brooke displays the detective's spirit and acumen with much success; Mr. Lewis Edgard as the faithful "fag," Harry Manders, otherwise "Bunny," shares in several fine passages; Mr. Dalziel Heron interprets the dogged manner of the professional cracksman, Crawshay, with fine skill. Miss Hazel Thompson expresses the devotion of Gwendoline Conran for Raffles with real charm; Miss Hilda Stewart is successful as the vengeful Mrs. Vidal; and Miss Amy Thomas, Miss Madge Murray, Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald, Mr. Arthur Willoughby, Mr. Edmund Breon, and Mr. E. Jephson participate in the play, which is preceded by *A Lesson in Shakespeare*, in which Mr. Dalziel Heron, Mr. Edmund Breon, and Miss Hilda Wright take part.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—The new play by S. Buchanan Rogerson, founded on Guy Thorne's story, "When it was Dark," and produced under that title, is creating quite a stir here. In this dramatisation, which contains fresh dialogue and a new scene added by the novelist, Mrs. Morton Powell scores a notable success as Helena. Mr. G. H. Pitt as the faith-destroying Schawbe is very effective throughout; Mr. Cyril Austin-Lee provides a capital antidote in the rôle of the curate, Basil Gortre; Miss Mabel Mannering presents the actress, Gertrude Hunt, in a most telling guise; Mr. Riddell Robinson proves to possess sterling ability as Llewellyn. Mr. G. Rammell as Harold Spence, Mr. Millar Wilson (who relieves the tension somewhat with his entertaining comedy play as Gayfly), Mr. Henry Heller as the Vicar, Mr. Geo. Mortimer as Nunc Wallace, Miss Bessie Ellis as Gracie Goldeye, and the Misses E. and G. Allen, with songs and dances as Flossie Lovegay and Minnie Golightly respectively, also deserve honourable mention.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chris. Felton.—A capital week's fare has been provided here by Mr. F. B. Woulfe, who includes in his company Miss Ethel Griffies, a capable actress of sympathetic parts. As Lady Godiva, Nell Gwynne, and Jane Shore, Miss Griffies has given most satisfactory proofs of her ability; as Tom of Coventry (*Lady Godiva*), Charles II. (*Nell Gwynne*) and Richard III. (*Jane Shore*) Mr. F. B. Woulfe has been signally competent and successful; while the support has been most satisfactory, and includes Miss Katherine Brook, Miss Edith Lorraine, Miss Madge Nelson, Mr. R. Seath Innes, Mr. William Macready, Mr. Ernest Hamilton, Mr. A. Edward Dunstan, and Mr. Bob Anderson. The scenery, costumes, and armour are all appropriate to the period.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. Bert Coote's company is here in *The Fatal Wedding*, which is exceedingly well presented. The Little Mother is this time played by Miss Madge McCalla, whose bright and happy style and clever, taking songs mak a great impression. Mr. Wilson Howard portrays Howard Wilson in a worthy manner; Mr. Guy Hastings acts in a well-finished way as Robert Curtis; Miss Leah Marlborough depicts the adventuress in a most vivid light; Miss Katherine Clarke appears with much charm as Mabel Wilson; and the humorous rôles are well played by Mr. Walter Westwood as Schwartz, Mr. Edward Morgan as Toto, Mr. Jack Waring as O'Reilly, and Miss Blanche Stanley as Bridget. The varieties include Miss Dolly McCalla, whose smartly rendered speciality songs and dances make her an immense favourite; and Master Walter Audrey, a clever Lancashire step-dancer; Miss Ivy Westaby, vocalist, and Miss Winnie Crisp, juvenile dancer, are taken into favour.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley. — General-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Mr. Henry Bedford and company fill the bill here with *Gipsy Jack* and (for Friday only) *The See-Saw of Life*. In the former, Mr. Bedford depicts the hero, Gipsy Jack, with all his virtues and manly qualities, securing a fine reception; Mr. Robert Gilbert acts as the principal villain, Gerald Skinner, with perfect success; Mr. David Curtis is good as the elder Skinner; Mr. E. Rayson Cousens is popular as the curate, Francis Harvey; Miss Violet Alwyn invests the heroine, Dorothy Dexter, with many endearing charms and qualities; Miss Frances Foley scores as Hagar, as does Mrs. Jeffrey as Mother Hunt; Miss Bessie Bedford acts in a graceful and good-humoured style as May Harvey; and the comic flights of Mr. Sid Bedford as Joe Banks, Mr. Archer Brown as Charley Bates, and Miss Jennie Risley as Jennie Huggins meet with much success.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. B. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—Mr. Fredk. Melville's popular company is here this week in the drama *Between Two Women*. Miss Molly Malone as the gentle and true-hearted heroine and Miss Vera Fordyce as the base adventuress appeal to the feelings of the audience most successfully; Mr. Aurele Labat plays the hero, Harry Millard, with fine expression and verve; Mr. Walter Thornton embodies the evil points of the unscrupulous Durwood in a complete manner; Mr. Godfrey Tearle invests the rôle of the Rev. Philip Carton with virility; Mr. Roland Yorke as Major Strangeways proves an able advocate for the villain; Mr. Fred Goddard acts well as the Earl of Millard; Miss Lulu Bowes gives a pathetic picture of the blind boy, with songs; while in the comedy scenes Mr. Fred Danvers as Pringle and Miss Lilian Earle as Polly are pre-eminent.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Winifred Hare heads an excellent programme here, her charming presence and excellent songs being much admired. Whit Cunliffe is as amusing as ever. Whimsical Walker and company have a smart sketch, *Captain Hamilton, V.C.*; the operatic selections rendered by Les Voce are well applauded; Minnie Cunningham is an Irish comedienne with a pleasing style; Nenotti is seen in a sensational cycling act which is decidedly clever; Ben Albert, Mont, and Corelli, comedy artists, and Charles Matthews, in a clever jumping act, complete the bill.

Gaiety Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—*Rogues of the Turf*, a dramatic episode in which there is plenty of excitement, is proving a big attraction here. The sketch is presented by J. F. Preston and company; Ross and Grayson are on a return visit, and are most amusing, as also are Mabel Thorne and Harry Weldon; and Pete and Juno, in their coloured speciality "Dancing to Win"; Frank Maura, with his foot juggling, is smart, Fred Curran and Arthur Slater, comedians, are also popular.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Lew Lake and company are attracting crowded houses this week with a musical mélange, *Muggins, V.C.*, which is elaborately staged, while the singing, dancing, and comedy element is much appreciated. The Four Avocas and Lottie Stone's Black and White Girls are also big attractions; Hal Godfrey, American comedian, is making a big impression; while Alix Lukos, actor-vocalist, is loudly applauded. A clever acrobatic display is presented by the Four Emilions; some smart juggling is displayed by Frank Hartley. Other popular turns are Nancy St. John, the Sisters Marion, and Rosalie Jacobi.

Bordesley Palace. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—The excellent programme this week is headed by Alexandre and Hughes, whose humorous and musical entertainment wins loud applause. Nelson's Newsboys also come in for a good share of praise; Herbert Clifton is a clever mimic; Lambeth and Robinson have a Scotch character study; Rosie Bartlett is an attractive comedienne; C. J. Johnson, Bernar's Fantoches, and the Bioscope complete the programme.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Eden Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. Julian Malvern's company, under the direction of Mr. Charles M. Julian, is paying a return visit here with *I Defy the World*. Mr. Percy Ballard impersonates Leon Darville with good effect; the villainy of Count de Beaulieu is well portrayed by Mr. Chas. Wilton, who is ably supported by Mr. Chas. Conway as Laroche. The attractive character of Pauline Delaporte is skilfully acted by Miss Rosalie Heath; Miss Violet Craufaud is well suited to the part of Blanche Darville; and Miss Rosie Dane is very good as Fanchette. Mr. Alfred Denning is a satisfactory General Delaporte; and Mr. Arthur Chisholm a capital Andre. The comedy element is excellently supplied by Mr. Chas. M. Julian and Miss Maud Lilian as Samuel and Marie Wozzle respectively.

BLACKBURN. — Theatre Royal.— Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—There have been especially good houses at this place of entertainment this week on the first visit to the town of Judge Parry's play, *What the Butler Saw*. The success of the piece is undoubtedly made by Mr. Lionel Rignold as the Butler, his drolleries being a constant source of diversion. Miss Ada Blanche plays the part of Mrs. Barrington with her accustomed charm, and Mr. Charles Fawcett as Jack Barrington is uncommonly funny. Mr. Harry Rignold gives an amusing portrayal of Abraham Weinstern; and Mr. George Ascott as General Dunlop is excellent. Mr. Reddick Anderson makes a capital Sir Charles Foden, and Miss Marie Daltra's acting as Miss Foden is also a good performance. As Vere de Bogyns Mr. Alec Alves is good, as are Mr. Roy Byford as Professor Shale, Mr. Louis Lingard as Sidney Clifford, Miss Hylda Davies as Clarissa Dunlop, and Miss Violet Gould as Mrs. Fleming Smyth.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Miss Maud Hildyard's company in the drama, *The Great Awakening*, is drawing good audiences here.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Those old favourites, Tom Foy and company, are here again in their sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, which is as potent in laughter-making as ever. Walter Emerson, the six-foot comedian, is also amusing, as are Florence Yaymen in her burlesque of coon songs, and the Five Bon-Bons in their pantomime sketch, *Hot Time for One*. The Three Rubys are clever lady acrobatic artists, and Playfair and Nikola tear pretty patterns in paper; Helen Martin is a popular vocalist, and Woodward and Walton do some smart rag-time dancing. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux exhibit some interesting living pictures.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—A crowded house accorded to Miss Olga Nethersole a hearty welcome on making her reappearance in Blackpool on Monday night. *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* was the play selected, and both she and the members of her company were seen to great advantage. As Paula Miss Nethersole has a part after her own heart, and she gave the audience of her best—which is saying a great deal. Mr. Frank Mills was good as Aubrey Tanqueray, and Mr. William Clark contributed a well-thought-out picture of Cayley Drummle. Eileen found an exceedingly capable exponent in Miss Rosalind Ivan; and Miss Ina Goldsmith did every justice to Mrs. Cortelyon; Miss Molly Pearson handled the part of Lady Orreyed in a very able manner; Mr. Julian Royce as Captain Ardale, Mr. John Nesbitt as Gordon Jane, and Mr. Slaine Mills as Frank Misquith also played their respective parts with credit and distinction. *Sapho*, *Carmen*, and *Camille* also have a place in the week's bill.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Mr. George Dance's company is in possession here this week with *A Country Girl*, and is meeting with well-deserved success. The title-rôle has an ideal exponent in Miss Maisie Gay, whose vivacity and light-heartedness, together with her tuneful singing, serve to establish her a tremendous favourite. Mr. Charles Walenn as Barry causes much amusement, and Mr. St. John Hamund scores a success as the Rajah of Bhong; Mr. Percy Carr acts and sings well as Geoffrey Challoner, and Mr. F. W. Pedgrift is to be commended for his clever character-sketch of Granfer Mummery. Sir Joseph Verity is in the capable and experienced hands of Mr. J. C. Graves, and Douglas Verity is well looked after by Mr. Robert Corray; Lord Ancester is played by Mr. Percy Corray, and Lady Ancester is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Kathleen Ronayne. The singing of Miss Nancy Rossiter, who makes a charming Marjory Joy, evokes loud applause, and Miss Winnie O'Connor gives the utmost satisfaction as Princess Mehelanah.

Palace. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Alice Hollander, the Australian contralto, tops the bill here, and wins warm approval by her tuneful singing. The Heidelberg Comedy Four provide a pleasing entertainment, and Bertha Winder gives neat exhibitions in clog and top-boot dancing; Albert Wyndham and company contribute a Shakespearean sketch; Ruth Molloy gives impersonations of music hall celebrities; Lillian and Vera appear in a sensational shooting act; Maud Mortimer sings nicely; Walter Wade is a clever comedian and mimic; Will E. Haines is successful as a character-comedian; Arthur Royce gives a humorous turn at the piano, and Amber Austa is a most acceptable coon singer and dancer. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope shows the latest pictures.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. J. Bannister-Howard's company has presented here again the well-known play entitled *The Christian*. The centre of attraction undoubtedly was the portrayal of Glory Quayle by Miss Laura Walker, who gave a careful and artistic performance and won the hearty applause of the audience. To Mr. E. Stanton Sharpe every praise is due for a masterful reading of the part of John Storm; Mr. Percy Johnson as Parson Quayle was most successful; Father Lamplugh, in the hands of Mr. Harry Colbeck left nothing to be desired; Mr. Phipps Stanley gave a powerful rendition of Archdeacon Wealthy; Mr. P. Gedge Twyman was much in evidence as Lord Robert Ure; Mr. Duncan Yarrow displayed ability in the part of Horatio Drake; and the Faro King of Mr. Anthony Rawles was a success.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. George E. Good.—The attractions at the 'Drome continue to draw popular audiences. The bill this week includes Gravetta and Parr, pot pourri artists, and Nellie Nora, society musical entertainer, and a series of animated pictures.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—*Mr. Smith* has this week renewed his acquaintance with the patrons of this theatre, and been well received by large and appreciative audiences nightly. Several changes have been made in the company since its last visit here. Mr. Cecil du Gue deserves warm praise for his easy and manly portrayal of the character of Mr. Earle Godwyn Smith; Mr. Sydney Price again appears as the Earl of Oxted, and plays the part cleverly; the spendthrift Duke of Angleland has a good representative in Mr. Wm. Dunlop; Mr. Austin Spencer is suited to the part of the Hon. Dudley Dysart; Jack Barkeley is in the able hands of Mr. Russell Norrie; Herr Diedrich Anheuser is amusingly sustained by Mr. George F. Ross; Miss Mildred Cottell plays well as the Duchess of Angleland; Miss Eisina Gaunt acts with much charm and dignity as Lady Mary Hildergate; Miss Phyllis Relph admirably sustains the character of Ruth Anheuser; and Miss Daisy England gives a good rendering of the part of the fond mother, Mrs. Smith.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Hermann Meiot heads the bill, and performs some really smart conjuring tricks. Other turns are F. V. St. Clair, vocalist, &c.; Mabel Hind, character comedienne; the Adderley Bros., in their unique speciality *Instrumental Mimicry*; Charles Stoman, comedian; the Olive Trio of comedians and dancers; Palles and Cussick, eccentric comedians and funny knockabouts; Cora Casselli, a charming comedienne; Dan Thomas, comedian; the Three De Veres, in their amusing comedy speciality; Mlle. Cordite, assisted by Wild Buffalo, in a clever rope-spinning and lariat manipulating performance; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE.—Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—*A Wrecker of

Harry Gordon; Mr. S. Major Jones submits an amusing character study as Joseph; excellent support is given by Mr. Tom Shelford as the frivolous Hon. Percy Fitzthistle; and the remaining characters are satisfactorily sustained. The chorus and augmented orchestra are very effective under the skilful direction of Mr. Basil Horsfall. The musical play is well staged and beautifully dressed.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company opened here on Monday with *Two Little Sailor Boys*. Miss Blanche Steele gave a forcible portrayal of Lois Grey; Miss Alice Defoe made a charming Mildred Grey; Mr. W. H. Hallatt achieved much success as Captain Tom Yorke; Mr. Jerrold Heather's Commander Noel Tregarthen and Mr. Ellerslie Pyne's Lieut. Richard Redstone were well played; Mr. J. Court Harvard was a capital Admiral Grey; Mr. Ambrose Horton as Jim Royston was effective; and Mr. Tom Sinclair was entertaining as Ben Baxter. The two little sailor boys were ably represented by Miss May Day and Miss Ethel Frances Greene.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is an excellent company here this week. Herbert Shelley is distinctly successful in his thrilling episode entitled, *Dan the Outlaw*; Harrigan and Holt are eccentric comedians and dancers; the Carlyles are clever and graceful waltz dancers; Mac Olive, assisted by Miss Daisy Baldrey, is well received in his whistling scena from *The Belle of New York*; the Four Juggling Geraldos perform clever tricks with clubs and hoops; Cosgrove and Burn win applause for their Scottish-American comedy act; Claver and Piccolo are sensational equilibrists; Nat Watkins is a capital comedian; Zeidler, legerdemain artist, displays great skill; Walter Levetto is a dancing wonder; Amy Elcock is a neat comedienne and dancer; and the Alhambrascope pictures are amusing and interesting.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—An attractive programme is sustained here this week. A capital turn is given by the Ford and Barras combination, Ford being a good buck dancer and mouth organ soloist and Barras an excellent vocalist and bone soloist; Phil Ray, the popular London abbreviating comedian, is enthusiastically received; Messrs. Corri and Dereye's company submits a delightful sketch entitled *Office Hours*; Ticotte and Lizette are successful in their *Crazy Cook* scene; Herbert Cyril, the seven-footed comedian, is favourably received; the Musical Schaffers prove highly effective in their comedy musical act, *The Garden of Melody*; Harry Edson and his wonderful dogs, Doc and Tige, provide a fine turn; Rex Fox is a clever ventriloquist; Frank Leslie is a pleasing vocal comedian; and the Barrascope pictures are amusing.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. W. Norman.—Mr. Norman V. Norman and company are here this week with *The Chevalier de St. George* and *David Garrick*. The former comedy, presented for the first time on any stage on Monday, is fully noticed in another column.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope continues to prove very attractive here, the up-to-date pictures including the Springboks' first match and the great motor race, Isle of Man.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—The annual visit of the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company is always looked forward to as a special treat by the music-loving section of Bristol. On Monday evening *Tannhäuser* was performed to a full house. The opera was presented in a very complete and satisfactory style, the elaborate overture was splendidly played by the largely augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Eugene Goossens, and special praise must be awarded to the large and well-balanced chorus, who did their work throughout in a most admirable manner. Mr. Julius Walther's interpretation of Tannhäuser is well known and appreciated. On Monday evening he was in excellent voice, and his fine dramatic acting added much to his success in the part. Miss Grace Nicoll sang remarkably well as Elizabeth, frequently with exquisite charm, while her acting was pleasingly graceful and sympathetic. Miss Marie Alexander was deservedly appreciated as Venus; she sang extremely well, her fine voice being heard to advantage in all her numbers, looked the part to perfection, and acted with considerable power. Miss Retta McAllister made a pretty and interesting shepherd boy, rendering her song excellently; Mr. Charles Victor sang well and impressively as Wolfram, his pure baritone being fully appreciated in the "Star of Eve" song; Mr. Arthur Winckworth displayed his fine bass as the landgrave, and acted with dignity; and Biterolf, Reinmar, Schreiber, and Walther were effectively rendered by Messrs. John Ebbeler, Charles Brierley, Albert Felton, and Charles Le Sueur. *Faust* was the attraction for Tuesday evening, and it "fetched" a fine house. The chorus again distinguished itself, and the orchestra, conducted by Mr. Walter van Noorden, did excellent work. Mr. Edward Davies sang well as Faust; Miss Elizabeth Burgess displayed to great advantage her fine soprano in the numbers allotted to Marguerite; Mr. Arthur Winckworth acted cleverly and sang remarkably well as Mephistopheles; Mr. Dillon Shalland was vocally and histrionically successful as Valentine; Mr. Frederick Clendon made the most of Wagner; Miss Dorothy Mayfield both acted and sang prettily as Siebel; and Miss Douglas Wilson was well placed as Martha. *Lohengrin*, *Carmen*, *Bohemian Girl*, *Fidelio*, and *Il Trovatore* are also billed.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—The attraction here is the new drama, *The Coal King*, well staged and cleverly acted by Messrs. Polini and Maitland's company. The drama is above the average, a contingent of working colliers from the Bedminster (Bristol) pits adding much to the realistic effect. Miss Gertrude Valentine is pleasingly sympathetic as Grace Shirley; Mr. Lauderdale Maitland is manly and convincing as Tom Roberts; Mr. Lionel Thompson is well placed as Sir Reginald Harford; Mr. Escott Robson does well in the heavy part of Walter Harford; Mr. Alfred Terris is successful as Jim Williams; Miss Sinna St. Clair makes the most of Mad Ann; Miss Sybil Coghlan is effective as Araminta Green; and other parts are carefully taken by Miss Evelyn North, Mrs. Baker, Messrs. Frank Dalton, John Coghlan, William Bennett, Harry Nelson, L. Fenwick, Louis Stanford, and Fabian Lock.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—Fred Karno and company are here with their amusing sketches, *Early Birds* and *The Smoking Concert*, which are given at alternate performances; G. W. Hunter, comedian, obtains considerable applause; Nellie Rose, comedienne and dancer, is much appreciated; Hector and Paulus, acrobats, do a good turn; George Hyam, comedian, is successful; Daisy Mayer scores in her speciality scena, *Topsy Up-to-Date*; Rose Pink is an exceptionally clever juvenile vocalist and dancer; and interesting animated pictures, including "The Miner's Daughter," are depicted by Vernon's Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Harriett Vernon, comedienne, obtains much applause for her songs, and also for an interesting scena, *Sunshine and Shadow*; James Fawn, comedian, is highly successful in old and new songs; Rene Ring is a pleasing soubrette and dancer; Diana and Natalia do a clever performance on a revolving gymnastic apparatus; Arthur Albert, actor-vocalist, is successful; Johnny Danvers, comedian, does a well-appreciated turn of song and eccentric dancing; Frank Elliston and company score in a comic sketch, *Aunt Matilda*; the Brothers Pasquali present a good exposition of head-to-head balancing and tumbling; and George M. Marriott and company are successful in a well-mounted sketch, *Knights of Hampstead Heath*. The performance concludes with interesting animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*The Convict's Daughter* is being presented here by Mr. Frank Bertram's company. Michael Graham is excellently played by Mr. Bertram; Mr. G. Nelson Wallace is well suited as Frederick Neville; Mr. Herbert M. King works well as Harold Trevelyan; Jasper Thorn is a thorough-paced stage villain in the hands of Mr. G. Moreton Williams; Miss Nellie Clyde makes a charming Edith; Mr. Sam Roberts as Patrick O'Laragan causes laughter; and a clever performance is that of Betty Hynes by Miss Phyllis Gibbon. Marion Thorn is fittingly presented by Miss Rose Carew. Mr. Percy Robinson is also successful as Frank Harper.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE (NEW HIPPODROME).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—A good company is appearing here this week, consisting of Nellie Dunbar, coon songstress and dancer; Musical Silvio, novelty instrumentalist—a really clever turn; Charles Bu-Ual, the Happy Dutchman; Rene and Smith, American speciality artists; Linton, the Mexican Wonder, on the wire; Roland Hill, a really good comedian with funny songs and sayings; Daisy Morel, a clever ballad vocalist; Jack Sheppard, the handcuff king and gaol-breaker, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—For Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, this week, we had Mr. A. H. Canby's powerful company in *The Prince Chap*. Mr. H. R. Roberts gave a delightfully smooth and easy rendering of the name-part, and Mr. George Shelton played with conspicuous success as his servant, Marcus. Miss Wilfred Draycott was well-placed as Lord Harringford, and the parts of Ballington, Nadder, and Fritz were in the capable care of Messrs. A. E. Greenaway, Arthur Eldred, and Ivan Berlyn. Miss Ethel Hollingstead's Alice Travers was capably acted, and Miss Katherine Kollie played her small part of Mrs. Harrington with evident ability. Miss Adie Boyne as Phœbe Puckers kept the house continually on the giggle, and Miss Lorna Lawrence was a pleasing Claudia of Act. III. Little Betty Green acted Claudia in Act. I. cleverly, and little Geraldine Wilson commendably took the same part in Act II. The play is admirably staged. For the remaining three days we had Mrs. Russ Whytal and company in *Alice-Sit-by-the-Fire*.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr. Fred Karno's company is here this week with the musical comedy, *Saturday to Monday*. Mr. Rolando Martin as John Willie Jagga works hard and successfully; Miss Amy Rogerson as Clorinda makes the most of the part; Mr. J. W. Bradbury as Mr. Blake is good, as are Mr. Dick Harcourt as Mr. Potts, Mr. C. Herbert Summers as Tom Freeman, Mr. J. Fletch as Spinks, Miss Daisy Stone as Violet Blake, and Miss Ada Maskell as Aunt Skinner.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—On Monday night the popular comedian, Mr. James Welch, appeared before a crowded house with his capable company in the diverting farce, *When Knights were Bold*. Mr. Welch is seen to much advantage as Sir Guyde Vere. Miss Audrey Ford makes a capital Rowena, and scores a success, while Miss Daisy Cordell as Miss Isaacson is charming. As Sir Brian Mr. Edward Sass presents a capital portrayal, the Dean has a reliable exponent in Mr. James Nelson, and Mr. Arthur Grenville as Mr. Isaacson could scarcely be more suitably placed. Miss Emma Gwynne does well as Mrs. Waldegrave. The principal piece is preceded by *The Lady Burglar*, in which Miss Estelle Winwood and Mr. Henry J. Ford work extremely well together.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—*The London Fireman* is an excellent drama, and has been successful at the King's Theatre this week. A polished villain is found in Mr. Oliver Birrel, whose portrayal of Viscount Fleming is a distinct success. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles is responsible for a capital impersonation of Hal Curtis; Mr. Edward L. Garside gives a clever rendering of the ex-convict Ratty; and Mr. Welham Burgess is well suited to the part of Abel Fortnum. As Ida Curtis Miss Nellie Shirley has a difficult character to sustain; as the Countess Fleming Miss Nellie Waddington submits a powerful delineation; and as Grace Curtis Miss Florence M. Daly is all that could be desired. Comedy has two clever representatives in Mr. Harry C. Momber as Nixey and Miss Nellie Garside as Polly.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—An attractive programme is submitted here. Harry Cadle's *Casey's Circus* production is very amusing; Ancillotti's wonderful dog Pilue creates a sensation by his marvellous display of thought-reading; Howard and St. Clair are always welcome with their fresh original turn; Fred Russell's ventriloquial performance provides unbounded fun; and the Barrowsky Trio score with *In the Woods*. Little Ganty, described as a "lump of fun"; the Three Amorantha, lady acrobatic dancers; Madge May, comedienne; and George Formby, the comedian from Lancashire, are the remaining artists. Nat Clifford is also billed, but was unable to appear on Monday night.

CARLISLE.—H.M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—*The Sign of the Cross* is still a big draw here, the house being well filled on Monday night when Mr. William Greet's excellent company again presented this always interesting play. Mr. Frank E. Petley possesses a happy combination of the characteristics necessary for a successful impersonation of the hero, and his Marcus was a thoroughly sound piece of work; Mr. C. Yorke's Nero, too, was a clever interpretation, his powerful handling of the character creating quite a deep impression; Miss Marie Leonhard represented Mercia with charming grace and skill, and soon gained the sympathy of her audience; Miss Cissie Carlton's Dacia was a bright and clever study; and Miss Mary Newcombe was equally successful and delightful as Poppœa. Ancaria was admirably played by Miss Jessica Thorne; Mr. Frank Wood worked hard as Glabrio, and got as many laughs as it was possible out of the part. Mr. Charles Aldred as Tigellinus, Mr. J. Weatherall as Licinius, Miss Gertrude Price as Berenice, and Miss Effie Dane as Stephanus contributed excellent performances.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Ltd., Carlisle; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Datas, the memory man, heads the list here this week, and is creating quite a sensation with his wonderful feats in memory; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, trick and comedy cyclists, are making a big hit, the daring feats accomplished by these clever performers being little short of marvellous; Lena Verdi does some remarkably lifelike impersonations of variety artists, and scores an instantaneous success; Henri Bekker, designated the pleasing conjurer, seems to go one better than any others that have been here; the absurdity *The Porter and the Parcel*, as submitted by Howard and Collinson, is an excellent item, and keeps the audience in one continual roar, the doll impersonation by the lady being extremely lifelike (?); the Ellimans present a very bright and entertaining musical act; and the singing and dancing of the Three Sisters Silcott are much admired. Some capital pictures are shown by the Pepiscope.

PUBLIC HALL.—The New York Animated Picture Company is exhibiting some capital pictures here this week. Several variety turns have been introduced, including a novel and amusing ventriloquial act by Will Hunter.

CARMARTHEN.—ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietors, Public Rooms Company; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—A crowded house greeted the appearance of Mr. Charles Macdona's excellent company on Monday evening in *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Mr. James Wilson as Hang Chow, the Emperor, was most commanding, and made all that was possible out of the part. Miss Kitty Clayton gave a clever impersonation of Fi-Fi, the little Cockney waitress; Mr. Louis Ashmeade was successful as Chippie Chop, Lord Chancellor; and Mr. Edwin Sykes as Hi Lung, Lord High Admiral, was responsible for much merriment. Soo-Soo was charmingly portrayed by Miss May Jelpka. She possesses a very sweet voice, and her artistic renderings of "Behind a paper fan," "The Little Maid of Pekin" and "Egypt" were received with outbursts of applause. Mr. C. F. Howard gave a capital impersonation of Tom Hatherton, and contributed a solo in fine style. Miss Florence Wilton was most successful as the dainty little Mrs. Pineapple, and she sustained her part throughout with piquancy and "go." Mr. Lindsay Harmon was equally successful as Mr. Pineapple. Miss Hattie Hyde and Miss Sybil Ross were bewitching bridesmaids, and Miss Frances Olgar and Miss Louie Love, as Soo-Soo's maids of honour, were charming; while Miss Florence Manners as Mi-Mi performed her part admirably, as did also Mr. Fred Talbot as Coolie. Miss Alma Bolton impersonated capitally Mrs Brown, that much-dreaded but amorous official mother-in-law.

CASTLEFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Cr. Hy. Masterman.—The attraction this week is Mr. Leonard Dalrymple's company in *At Midnight Chimes*. Witty Wally Walton provokes much merriment by his drolleries; Mr. Percy Maitland plays well the part of Luke Dezzard; Mr. Lewis Leslie, who fills the rôle of Dave Stannard, gives valuable aid; Mr. Herbert Belmore is a convincing Ezra Gamble; and Mr. Leonard Dalrymple acts with dramatic force in several parts. Miss Mary Campbell is impressive as Mary Stannard; Miss Madge Beresford is becomingly pert and vivacious Suzette; Miss May A. Hart a successful Zanora; and Little Davy is well portrayed by Miss Ethel Denville; Mr Robert Hope making a capital P.C. Tibbot.

CHATHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—This week's attraction is *The Walls of Jericho*, presented in capital style by Mr. Arthur Bouchier's company, under the management of Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux. The arduous rôle of Jack Frobisher is enacted in a highly creditable manner by Mr. Herbert Sutton, his efforts being very ably seconded by Miss Florence Jackson as Lady Alethea. Mr. George A. Brandram is a natural Hankey Bannister; Mr. Cyril Baleine does justice to the part of the Marquis of Steventon; Mr. Sydney Hamilton is well-placed as Harry Dallas; and the Misses Lydia Busch and Molly Carton are equally successful as Lady Westerby and Lady Lucy Derenham.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Fred Earle tops the bill here, and with "Seaweed" and other ditties is proving a big draw. The other items in the programme include Lacey's Brascope, with new pictures; the Borghette Troupe of Acrobats; Daisy De Roy, comedienne; Stacey and Williams, patter comedians and dancers; the Sisters Reno, duettists and dancers; Jennie Hartley, soubrette; Russell Carr, ventriloquist; and Bert Bowden, comedian.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. B. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank E. Doane.—The Delevines are on a return visit, their act, *Flipp and Flopp*, proving very amusing. George Prince's burlesque yodelling song still takes well; Galetti's Monkeys are very funny; Mignonette Kokin gives spirited dances; and Snowball and Miss Dolis, American comedy artists, Maud Marlow, burlesque artist, and J. H. Crow, comedian, complete the company.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. George Alexander's company in *His House in Order* is here this week. Mr. Frank Fenton's Hilary Jesson is easy and natural; Miss Auriol Lee's Nina creates a most favourable impression; Mr. Cyril Harcourt's study of Filmer Jesson is perfect in its way; Mr. Adam Alexander as Sir Daniel is excellent; and Lady Ridgley in the hands of Mrs. Kemmis is quite convincing. Price Ridgley is presented with realism by Mr. George Silver; Miss Audrey Campbell cleverly represents Geraldine; Major Maurewarde is excellent in the hands of Mr. Charles Tyrel; Miss Doris Champion is a delightfully child-like representative of the precocious Derek; Mlle. Juliette Milo is a dainty and captivating French governess; and Mr. Cyril Cattley as Forshaw, Mr. James Annand as Dr. Dilnott, and Mr. Langford Browne as Harding contribute to the success.

CHESTERFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Wordsworth.—Mr. Augustine Knight's company is appearing here with *The Assassin*. Mr. Knight gives a vigorous portrayal of Prince Demetri; Mr. Edward E. Ashby is careful in the rendering of Ivan Ipanoff; Mr. Theo. Balfour is impressive as Duke Carl; Mr. Chauncy Morris is excellent as General Nichol; and Miss Ella Vane is capital in the title-rôle.

CORPORATION THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—This theatre was reopened by the new lessee on the 27th ult., when Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company appeared in *The Eternal City*, under the patronage and in the presence of the Mayor (Councillor G. A. Eastwood). At the interval Mr. Cranston made a neat little speech, and during the evening he was the recipient of many congratulatory telegrams. This week the boards are occupied by the famous Leopolds in *The New Frivolity*, preceded by *The Houseboat*.

CHORLEY (LANCS.).—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hemingway.—On Monday Messrs. B. H. Knight and Geo. Denham's company came here with *The Grip of Iron*. Mr. Fred Powell as usual gave a sensational rendering of Jagon, Mr. George Denman capitally undertaking Loustalot; Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner was quite successful as Lorentz de Ribas; Mr. T. R. Lockwood as Alphonse de Concon, and Mr. John Brittain as Dodot were well placed and effective. Miss Rosabel Dodd charmingly rendered Cora Simmonet; Miss Muriel Inglis capably portrayed Sophie Blanchard; Miss Pope Royal was admirable as Mlle. Delaney, and Miss Cissie Hapes vivaciously sustained Babette.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert I. Montague.—The attraction here this week is the sensational drama, *A Rogue's Daughter*, presented by Mr. A. W. B. Kingston's company. Mr. Kingston portrays the hero, Frank Tyler, in a most capable manner; Sir George Mynard is ably performed by Mr. Tom Armitage; the heavy part of Colonel Foster is well sustained by Mr. Jack Armitage; Mr. S. C. Leslie is highly successful as Isaac Isaacs; Miss Emily Peel looks and acts charmingly as Lady Mynard; Miss Carrie Henderson is all that could be desired as Letty Gray; the Priscilla of Miss Dora Hamilton is also worthy of mention; Dickey, a waif, is cleverly acted by Miss Alice Royal; Mr. Harry Egan causes much merriment as Ebenezer Dunnem. Other plays billed are *Trilby*, *East Lynne*, *Old Edinburgh*, and *Jeanie Deans*.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—On Monday night Mr. J. Bannister-Howard's company in *Oliver Twist* opened a week's engagement. The difficult rôle of Fagin was essayed by Mr. Stanley Drewitt, and the great applause which was accorded him continuously was evidence that he fully fulfilled expectations. Mr. James Skea made a powerful Bill Sikes; whilst the parts of Artful Dodger and Charlie Bates are worthily depicted by Mr. Charlie Clark and Mr. R. C. Hunter respectively. Mr. Fred Penley was capital as Mr. Brownlow; and Mr. W. H. Rotherham doubled the parts of Mr. Grimwig and Monks in most realistic Dickensian style. Mr. Paige Lawrence as Harry Maylie, and Miss Dorothy Mayhew as Rose, were suitably placed; and Miss Dorothy Marsdin did splendidly as Oliver Twist. Miss Edith Anton Laing displayed real ability and much histrionic power as Nancy, and was heartily applauded for her meritorious performance.

HIPPODROME.—Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Ben De Frece.—This week the management have deviated from the beaten path by presenting the well-known Jubilee Minstrels, otherwise the Dandy Darkies, and the move is apparently a popular one. The troupe, which is a strong one, both in point of numbers and in the excellence of its choruses, is conducted by Mr. Tom Channing.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Edwin Garth and company are paying a welcome return visit here this week with *McKenna's Flirtation*. Mr. Denis Campbell as Tim McKenna, sen., is funny; as young Tim Mr. Wallace Childs is well placed; Mr. Edwin Garth makes a quaint Michael Ryan; and as Greenleaf Blackstone Mr. C. W. Cudd is acceptable. Miss Amy Knott is good as Mrs. Mary Ellen Ryan, and as Miss Mary Ellen Miss L. Langley is most attractive. As Anastasia Miss C. Vyner is successful.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company opened a week's engagement here on Monday in *The Prince of Pilsen*. The piece went with a swing from start to finish. Mr. John B. Fox makes a capital Prince, and sings in a skilful and robust style; as Hans Wagner Mr. Martin Adeson won unstinted appreciation. He is a capital vocalist and comedian. Mr. G. Villiers Arnold as Lieut. Tom Wagner sings with much taste, and has a nice voice; as the Earl of Shrimpton Mr. Laurence Wensley presented an entertaining study; Miss Millicent Marsden as Mrs. Madison Crocker proved herself to be an artist whose vocalism attains a high standard of excellence; as Nellie Wagner Miss Iza Bowman gave a finished performance, singing the music assigned to her carefully and well; Mr. Alfred Selby was a clever concierge, and Miss Nell Emerald as a maid was vivacious and sprightly.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The management here present a capital programme. Mlle. Eldee is admirable in her turn entitled "Pose Plastique"; the Ando Troupe do some clever balancing and other feats; George Ridgwell is a singer with a well-trained baritone voice; Nancy Renshaw, comedienne and bone soloist, pleases with her songs, &c.; Dora Barrington gives a scena in which she sings some acceptable songs; Nellie Adrienne, comedienne and whistler, wins applause for her song and whistling chorus; Blarney and Kennard, comedians and patterers, evoke much laughter; the Four Watsons give an acceptable turn as vocalists and instrumentalists. The performance concludes with pictures shown by Brown's Bioscope.

COVENTRY.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Wm. Bennett.—A return visit of the popular play *Leah Kleschna* is being appreciated by large houses at the above house of amusement this week. Kleschna is in the capable hands of Paul Belmore, and he is ably supported by Mr. William P. Grant as Paul Sylvanie; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid is seen to advantage as Schram; and Mr. Roland Daniel is rather amusing as Raoul Berton. It would be difficult to find one more suited to the part of Leah Kleschna than Miss Bessie Rignold, who is a big success; Miss Ethel Russell and Miss Helene Belgrave are respectively responsible for Mme. Berton and Claire Berton.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, T. M. Sylvester.—The large audiences patronising this house of amusement again have a capital bill provided for them this week, one of the most attractive performances being that of the Kyasyas, who give proof of remarkable lifting capabilities, and are much appreciated. The Lloyd Phillips present an interesting military drama, entitled *Betrayed Friendship*, the various characters including the following: Mr. A. Davies, Mr. N. W. Phillips, Mr. T. B. Lloyd, Mr. Jas. Braham, Mr. Edgar Lawrence, Miss Howard, and Miss Ledare. The Four Figaros give an excellent turn as international character vocalists and dancers; Stan Aubrey, the comedian, is well received; the same remark applies to J. W. Rickerby; Harris and Worth are amusing; Wal Robbins is successful. The usual animated pictures conclude the performance.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—To crowded houses, Mr. Henry Swinerd's No. 1 company (under the direction of Mr. J. W. Cordiner) is playing *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Mr. Will Brereton as Silas Crump shows great versatility, and his songs gain great favour; Miss Nellie Harcourt gives a very pleasing exhibition of acting and dancing in the character of Judith; Miss Dorothy Desmonde as Dorothy Montrose is to the fore all the time, and sings with great feeling and expression; Miss Mabel Blake and Miss Nellie Blake, as Polly and Rosy Ann, are clever acrobatic and speciality dancers; Miss Marie Vere gives a winsome rendering of Ruth Montrose; Mr. Walter Boyce makes a first-rate General Garston; and as his nephews Captain George Fielding and Captain Edward Dudley, Mr. Walter Ashley and Mr. Henry C. Ward have a lot to do, and do it well. Mr. Arthur Hartley makes a good Hawkins; and Mr. William G. Hearson a capital Smith, the footman; whilst we must not omit praise to Mr. Deane Cliff for his careful study of Featherstone Haugh.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Mr. Bert Coote's company, in *The Fatal Wedding*, is paying a return visit here. Mr. Ernest Owtrim gives an excellent portrayal of Howard Wilson; and the part of Robert Curtis is in the capable hands of Mr. S. Herbert Humber. Mr. C. H. Hughes submits a clever rendering of Toto; and Mr. Cyril Melton is suitably placed as Peter Schwartz. Miss Madge Haines as Mabel Wilson portrays the varying emotions of that character with skill, and furnishes a striking contrast to the scheming Cora Williams of Miss Gertrude Harrison. Miss Maud Locker as Bridget achieves success; and Miss Marjorie Lawrence as Jessie gives a charming representation.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—An important engagement here is Messrs. L. Glenister and Wood-Ingram's company in *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy* and *Jerry and the Sunbeam*. In the first-named comedy Miss Decima Moore is bright and attractive in the name-part; Mr. Lionel Glenister plays with skill and judgment in the rôle of the Hon. Jimmy Keppell; Mr. Frank Bayly is an excellent Lord Crackanthorpe; Mr. Henderson Bland a satisfactory Major Pluppos; Mr. Harold Weston a creditable Jack Menzies; and a good word is due to Mr. Harry Phillips as Parkes and Mr. Patrick Fitzgerald as Lucas. Miss Estelle Despa hits off to a nicety the rôle of the Hon. Mrs. Colquhoun; Miss Annie Brophy is capital as Mrs. O'Mara; and Miss Barton Astor is seen to advantage as the Hon. Millicent Keppell.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company is staging here the stirring drama by William P. Sheen, *The Temptress*. The play is written in a masterly style, and the interest is well sustained throughout the four acts. Mr. Claud Ashworth as Sir Oswald Fordyce is commendable; Mr. Wallace Campbell as Philip Welford proves himself a capable actor; Mr. Richard Talbot as Jack Rivers does well; Mr. Weldon Atherstone is a powerful exponent of Lucas Denbigh; the rôle of Pedro Gonzales is dramatically enacted by Mr. Fred H. Constable; Mr. Quinton Fulford cleverly depicts Austin Dale; Mr. Allen Carruthers as Francis FitzFluke is exceptionally smart; Mr. Chas. Reyne ably sustains the part of John Gregory; and Mr. William P. Sheen creates a perfect hurricane of laughter and makes the utmost of his opportunities as Bob Tanner. Miss Grace Jones as Marian Fordyce displays talent; the difficult part of Madge Denbigh is ably maintained by Miss Effie Bartlett; Miss Ivy Chandos as Rhoda Brown is very good; and Miss Lydia Donovan as Lady Fordyce, the temptress, is an actress of great ability.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hugh Emmett.—An excellent programme here. Arden and Abel's company in *Three of a Kind* cause laughter; the Paytes, novelty duettists, are worth seing; Will English is quaint in song and dance; Henry A. Lytton and Claire Romaine are smart and amusing in the sketch *United Service*; Germaine, American wizard, gives a clever and mysterious turn; the Four Olympian Stars are first-rate dancers; Marie Blythe, contralto, sings with expression; Lottie Collins, the favourite comedienne, makes a big hit; Ben Brown, Geo. Le Clerq, and company are very droll in *Black Justice*; and Florence Schuberth is a neat burlesque artist.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Charles Carey's musical comedy, *After the Ball* is the attraction this week. Miss M. Sadie does well as Nancy; Mr. Percy Baverstock as a Colonel is very entertaining; Mr. Algernon Lee scores with his singing; Mr. Buckstone Clair and Mr. Norman Bowyer are successful in their respective parts; very pleasing are the Gibson Girls and the Four Little Waitresses.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—An exceptionally good reception has been accorded here to *Driven from Home*. Mr. Felix Pitt stands out prominently as Anthony Raybrook; Mr. Clement Wakefield is also good as Walter Hatherleigh. In the dual rôles of Laura and Walter the younger Miss Minnie Waller is conspicuously successful; and Mr. Fred Sandy as Geoffrey, Mr. Harry Cornwall as Jabez, and Mr. Percy Dawsone as Willie help materially the success achieved.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—The boards are occupied this week by Mr. George Dance's company with *The Little Michus*. Mr. Foster Courtenay, who plays the General des Ifs, is a veritable host in himself, and keeps the house in rollicking spirits; Mr. Gilbert Childs, who plays Bagnolet, is another clever comedian, whose efforts are hugely enjoyed; Miss Alice Coverick, who appears as Marie Blanche, and Miss Ethel Bryan, who is Blanche Marie, sing and dance charmingly; the Gaston Rigaud of Mr. Wm. Everard is excellent, the singing of this artist meriting high praise; Mr. Robert C. Harcourt is capital as Aristide Vert; Mr. Leon Simkin is exceedingly good as old Pierre Michu; and Mr. Cecil Moylan scores as a market man. Miss Florence is an excellent Mme. Michu, and Miss Bessie Mackenzie figures agreeably as Mlle. Herpin. A fine feature of the entertainment is the remarkably clever dancing of Mlle. Marjorie as Mlle. St. Cyr.

PALACE.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Marie Loftus is an extra special attraction here this week, and, needless to say, is an unqualified success. Another turn deserving of special mention is that of Speedwell, lightning painter, whose delineations are duly recognised; the San Remo Girls are pleasing vocalists and dancers; Mabel Kessler is a clever vocalist and cornet soloist; Lytton and Bland appear in an amusing sketch, *A Lesson of Love*; Geo. Gulliver is successful as a ventriloquist; Bert Brantford, comedian, is entertaining; and the Palace Bioscope displays some interesting films.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Geo. A. King.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is presenting here Sutton Vane's play, entitled *In Sight of St. Paul's*. A distinctive feature is the exceptionally fine staging of the play, and a favourable impression is created by the singing of a well-trained choir; Mr. Ernest R. Allen, in the leading part of Tom Chichester, gives a highly meretorious performance; other male members of the company deserving special mention are Messrs. H. Sidney, Arthur Armfield, G. Daiper, and W. H. Domony; Miss Lallah Davis comes in for a cordial reception, and her exceedingly good acting quite justifies the applause accorded; Miss Cissie Bellamy is also a most able performer.

DONCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—The variety programme here is headed by Adele Lincoln, an exceedingly neat dancer, followed by Sword and Rubb, comedians and dancers, who are quaintly humorous. Charles Valvo wins golden opinions with his ventriloquial sketches; and Ive Conway, boy comedian, revives pleasant reminiscences. A most acceptable turn is that of Fred Horsfall, humorist and mimic; Evelyn Taylor, with her ample repertoire of songs, is as popular as ever; and Primavesi, juggler, gives a smart display. Le Diabelo, in looping the devil's wheel, creates quite a furore.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Chas. Hyland.—The boards here this week are occupied by Mr. Geo. Dance's company with the popular musical play, *The Orchid*. The part of Meakin is amusingly presented by Mr. Colin Campbell, and Miss Mabel Sealby is responsible for

DUNDEE. — Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—*His House in Order* was presented for the first time here on Monday. Mr. George Alexander's company is one of the best seen here for a long time. The part of Nina is finely played by Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay, who holds the sympathy of the house from start to finish; Mr. Stephen T. Ewart as Hilary Jesson gives a forceful and telling performance; Mr. J. Edward Pearce as Filmer Jesson plays a difficult part exceedingly well; Mr. George Fitzgerald is excellent as Sir Daniel; and as Pryce Mr. E. R. Hollway is quite satisfactory. Miss Augusta Haviland acts the sanctimonious Lady Ridgeley to perfection; and Miss Elaine Stedall is likewise good as Geraldine. The small part of Derek is exceptionally well played by Miss Maisie Richardson; as Major Maurewarde, Mr. Lloyd Lowndes is responsible for a telling performance. The scenery and dressing are in excellent taste.

Palace Theatre. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—A feature of this week's programme is the turn provided by Walker and May, two "real live" coloured comedians; Little Lizzie Leaver is a young and promising comedienne; Alvantee gives a daring performance on the wire rope; Janet H. Reynolds renders her songs in taking style; J. J. Mannix scores with his naive style as a coon comedian; Mark Leslie, described as the Dusky Prince, is successful in amusing ditties; the Sisters Kennedy are clever dancers; and Ahrenesmeyer, the cowboy hypnotist, is the cause of much excitement. The bioscope, with the latest films, completes the bill.

Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Miss Winifred Maude and company, under the direction of Mr. Victor du Cane, appear here in the stirring drama, *The Sins of a City*. Miss Maude submits a sincere rendering of the rôle of Seaweed; Mr. Wm. Vane is a manly Sandy Macdonald; Mr. Ed. Harrison a good Donald M'Iver; Mr. Wm. Bradford an effective Ralph Blackwater; and Mr. du Cane acts with excellent effect in the character of Isaac Levi. Miss Jessie Mason is successful in the rôle of Jenny, a Scotch fisherwoman; and Mr. Norton Shields renders dual service in the rôles of Joe and Jasper Woodleigh.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Mr. Arnold Bell's company holds the boards this week, and presented *Ben-my-Chree* on Monday to two large houses. The part of Dan Mylrea was undertaken by Mr. Arnold Bell, who played with great dramatic power; as Davy Fayle, Mr. F. C. Robson did well; and Mr. H. Fuller as old Hommey-beg was quaint and amusing. Miss Marion Forrester as Mona played with feeling and Miss V. Campbell as Kitty sang several ballads sweetly.

DUNFERMLINE.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—Miss Elaine Verner's company opened a week's engagement on Monday with *Saints and Sinners*. A well-filled house gave a hearty reception to this fine play, and expressed continually their deep interest in Mr. Harding Thomas's presentation of Jacob Fletcher—a study of character that reaches a high plane of excellence; Mr. Percy Brown was a capable George Kingsmill; Mr. Edgar Kent did ample justice to the part of Captain Eustace Fanshaw; Mr. Frank Lyndon was well placed as Samuel Hoggard; and Mr. Edward De Vere was successful as Lot Burden. Miss Elaine Verner gave a highly commendable impersonation of Letty Fletcher; and Miss Ada Clarke was an effective Lydia. *The Middleman* was billed for Thursday.

EASTBOURNE.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen-Triggs.—On Monday a flying matinée was given here under the direction of Mr. Bernhardt. Miss Camille Clifford contributed two songs, and was extremely well received; Miss Margaret and Miss Ruth Clarkson proved gifted musicians; Miss Violet Elliot sang well; Miss Gertrude Tomalin recited cleverly; and Mr. Harry Hemsley gave a humorous sketch. Mr. H. F. Maltby's company was announced to appear during the later part of the week in *The Youngest of Three*.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux's company is appearing here throughout the week in *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt*. Mr. Reginald Dance is a capital Vanderveldt; Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton a distinct Colonel Rayner, Mr. Edward Coutts a light and effective Lord Woolham, and Mr. George A. Seager an amusing Sir B. Cardick. Mr. Russel Barry makes a humorous Goddlestone. Mr. George Percy is a capital clergyman, Mr. Vernon Travers an excellent Melon, and Mr. Gerald Henson an earnest Alfie. Miss Gladys Mason is a pretty Lady Clarice; Miss Mary Weigall a dignified Marchioness; Miss May Brooke succeeds conspicuously well as Lady Clementina; Miss Eve Titheradge is a girlish Aggie Coles; Miss Agnes Gunn a penetrating Miss Pelling; Miss Dorothy Haigh an efficient Miss Brevell; Miss Helen Tytler a very capable Mrs. Mellon; and Miss Muriel Mason a very good Mary. The thrilling drama in one act, *The Drums of Oude*, precedes.

The Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—*Kiss Your Father* is a very successful sketch in which Mr. Lonnen Meadows as Callaghan is very amusing; the Ramlos are a trio of clever bar performers; Harri, the winner of the amateur competition held here, promises to become a successful comedian; Messrs. Grey and Welford are a smart couple; the Olmars are picturesque acrobats; Mr. Harry Maxam sings his comic songs well; Miss Sadie Seymour pleases as a comedienne; and new pictures are shown.

ECCLES.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Wardle and Potasch; Manager, Mr. P. Potasch.—We are being entertained here by Mr. Bannister Howard's company in *Florodora*. Mr. Alf. E. Passmore as Anthony Tweedlepunch is very amusing; the Cyrus W. Gilfain of Mr. Stanley White is successful; Mr. Allen Morris, who takes the part of Lord Abercced, sings well; Miss Kate Leicester as Lady Holyrood is vivacious; as Dolores, Miss Josephine Sullivan fills the part admirably; and Miss Louie Danby is effective as Angela Gilfain.

EDINBURGH. — Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. Tree's company is paying a welcome return visit to this house with *Oliver Twist*. The piece would be worth seeing if it were only for the powerful portraiture of Fagin by Mr. Wm. Mackintosh. A realistic study of Bill Sikes is given by Mr. Cecil A. Collins; and Miss Marie Polini suggests with admirable art the influences of a better nature in the sordid atmosphere surrounding Nancy. Mr. C. H. Croker King is a strong, effective Monks; and Mr. E. C. Buffinn is a pleasant, lovable Mr. Brownlow. Mr. Harvey Braban represents a manly Harry Maylie, and the actor's elocution is excellent; while as Rose Maylie Miss Jane Savile is certainly one of the most promising *ingénues* we have seen, her love scenes with Mr. Braban being charmingly done. Miss Maudie Ray is a pathetic Oliver; and other players who do well in their parts—slight sketches all—are Mr. T. P. Haynes as Mr. Grimwig, Mr. Miller Davidson as Giles, Mr. Horace Adamson as Brittles, Miss Elsie Carew as Mrs. Maylie, and Miss Helen Bouche as Mrs. Bedwin.

Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. G. T. Minshull.—*The Spring Chicken*, though no longer in the freshness of its early youth, has undergone a kind of moulting process, and, in the bright plumage of a second edition, is still gay enough to attract lovers of musical plays. The excellence of Mr. George Edwardes' Gaiety company, by whom this production is brought on a return visit to Edinburgh, has much to do with its continued success. Mr. George Gregory, in his former part of Mr. Girdle, repeats his richly humorous impersonation of that festive old gentleman; the rôle of Babori is taken by Mr. John Brabourne in exhilarating style; Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., as Boniface, the head clerk, shows that he has inherited a considerable share of his father's talent; and Messrs. Frank Hector, Ernest Maher, W. Spray, and Jocelyn Hope fill smaller parts with acceptance. Miss Irene Verona appears with great effect as Mrs. Girdle, earning well-merited applause by her capital singing; Miss Gertrude Glyn is a bright and lively Rosalie; Miss Gertrude Gilliam acts very nicely as Dulcie Babori; and Miss Nancy Langtyre as Baroness Papouche, Miss Nellie Lonnen as Emmy Lou, with Miss Amy Bingham as La Modiste, all do well in their respective rôles. The large and beautifully costumed chorus finds great favour with the audience, and gains repeated encores.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—The name of Mr. Geo. Lashwood is always one to conjure with, and crowded audiences are nightly filling this house to hear the popular comedian. Mr. Lashwood is in his best form, and his songs are rendered with the never-failing *bonhomie* and easy grace which make his style so attractive. The Di Pace Brothers well deserve the title of "mandolinists extraordinary," for their playing of the instrument is of no common order. There is drollery as well as skill in Professor Dunning's ventriloquial act; and Terry and Lambert score heavily in their sketches from American life. Miss Beatrice Willey approves herself to be a singer, not merely of culture, but possessed of dramatic expression; and Miss Marion Scott is also a pleasing vocalist. Lady Mansell's Juveniles appear with acceptance as singers and dancers; and the Brothers Redmond evoke warm applause and hearty laughter by their amusing knockabout turn. Lucia and Viati give a thrilling, graceful wire act; Kahn and Kahn are successful in their conjuring feats; and a pretty exhibition is submitted by Albertino Mellisch with some wonderful performing birds.

Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. J. Ireland.—The theatre in the popular district of Fountainbridge, after undergoing many vicissitudes, and having been named, at various times, the Pavilion and the Prince of Wales's, was reopened on Monday last with the title of the Alhambra as a theatre of varieties. The new management has made a strong bid for popularity. Performances will be given twice nightly, and a goodly programme was presented to full houses on the opening night. The Three Zaracs, in a graceful triple-bar act; the Ladderites, in their expert ladder-balancing feats; Natalie, a clever lady juggler; and the Sisters Terry, were the principal artists in an excellent bill of fare.

EXETER.—Theatre Royal. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. E. J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's company is paying a visit here this week with *Charley's Aunt*. Mr. Stanley Cooke as Lord Fancourt Babberley is exceedingly funny in his impersonation of the title-rôle. Mr. Hastings Lynn is excellent as Jack Chesney, and Mr. Richard B. Mason ably sustains the part of Charley Wykeham. Mr. Walter Beaumont is amusing as Stephen Spettigue. Miss Lilyan Lait and Miss Kitty Carew as Kitty Verdum and Amy Spettigue respectively are charming; and Miss Gladys Storey as Ella Delahay is all that could be desired. The one-act play, *Fourchette and Co.*, makes an excellent curtain-raiser, in which Mr. C. B. Keston as Prince Del Crillo is decidedly good.

Victoria Hall.—Secretary, Mr. Matt. Jno. Dunsford.—Gilbert's Circus, under the able management of Mr. Tom. R. Culleen, is filling the hall this week, and proves that the circus has lost none of its popularity. From start to finish there is not a dull moment. Little Rabbit is as funny as ever, and the performances this week include exquisite dancing by Bonnie Goodwin and her Apollo pickaninnies; the Avolos, in their startling turns on the perpendicular bars, and the Royal Bioscope, with some delightful pictures.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. W. Ebbutt.—*Sentenced for Life* began a three nights' show on Monday. Mr. Balmer's company was a very capable one. Mr. Ernest Vaughan as the villain performed his arduous part with considerable credit, while as the hero, Mr. Edward E. Louis, who has a fine voice and manly presence, was not one whit behind. The character of the Rev. Martin Orris was well taken by Mr. Morris Maud. Miss Madge Douglas as Adele Grey proved herself to be an accomplished actress; Miss May Neilson played well as Kate Rennell, and Miss Mary Dalby did all that was required of her as Lady Stillwell. The humour of the drama was well sustained by Mr. Reg. Oldroyd (Toby the Tadpole), Mr. Arthur Keand (Bill Sharkey), and Mr. Jas. F. Firth (Percy McGentle). On Thursday evening *Kitty Grey* (Mr. George Stephenson's company) made a welcome reappearance.

FLEETWOOD.—Queen's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry J. Snelson.—This week Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maclaren's No. 1 company is here in *Proof*. Mr. Gerald Kennedy gives an able portrayal of Pierre Lorance; Mr. W. J. Butler as Lazare is sufficiently callous in his stage criminality; Mr. Wilford Bailey is well suited to the part of Chamboran; Mr. Carl Beechy and Miss Nita Ashby as the Duke and Duchess D'Aubeterre are effective; and Mr. Arthur St. Aubyn is good as Victor. Miss Beatrice Shirley as Madeline and Adrienne takes her parts in good style; and Miss Phena Powell makes an excellent Madame Deprets. Miss Mary Grimshaw as Valentine and Miss Ellina Turner as Little Adrienne are both good.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland. — Miss Emma Hutchison's and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company were here for the first three nights of the week in *Public Opinion*. Mr. Charles Harley as Spencer Traughton was a capable exponent of the rôle; Mr. Percy Marshall as Horace Wibsey was all that could be desired; Mr. Fred Lewis gave a capable rendering of the Hon. Mr. Justice Mulley; Mr. Douglas Hamilton was decidedly clever as Sir Babington Mulley; Mr. Douglas Greet made the most of the part of Viscount Pomley; Mr. Ashton Pearse was seen to advantage as Lord Percy Kilgour; Miss Nancy Beresford was a commendable Pansy Bligh; Miss Connie Dene an attractive Phyllis Dagenham; Miss Violet Harley a charming Charlotte; and Miss Emma Hutchison may be highly congratulated upon her genuine success as Lady Diana. *The Lights of London* was announced for Thursday.

GAINSBOROUGH.—King's Theatre.—Proprietors, Arthur Carlton Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Robt. Kirk.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company appeared here for three nights last week in *The Plucky Nipper*. Mr. Fred Rivers as Richard Vanbrugh was an excellent exponent of the villain; Mr. Edward Surrey gave a good character sketch of Bill Burgess; Miss Carlton showed ability in the title character; and Mr. Douglas Campbell proved himself an excellent comedian as Tommy Atkins.

GATESHEAD.—King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General Manager, Mr. Joe May.—Occupying the top line here this week is Collinson's Burlesque Company, in a laughter-provoking item, entitled *The Cook's Guest*. A highly appreciated turn is that submitted by Spearman Potts, an illusionist; a musical and dramatic scena, entitled *The Little Colonel*, played by Ernest Montefiore and company, makes the hit of the bill; W. G. Webber, a bass vocalist of considerable merit has many admirers; the Three Schaffers, described as herculean gladiatorial wonders, have a very attractive turn. The humorous songs of the Kimberley Boys create boisterous laughter; Ray and Miles have an excellent comedy act; Craig, Roze, and Craig present refined and graceful gymnastic business; and Vera Mayne, a clever vocalist, completes the show.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—The chief item in a strong programme here is the extraordinary tumbling of the Achmed Ibrahim troupe of Arabs. Patty Yole, a vivacious comedienne, contributes three tuneful numbers which please her audience immensely; another strong favourite is Harry Briggs, a triple-voiced vocalist; very funny are the songs and sayings of J. C. Scatter, a local comedian; the Vekeys are excellent banjoists; and Downey's living pictures terminate the entertainment.

Metropole Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Mr. Frank E. Burdett's company appears here with considerable success in *The Indian Mutiny*. Mr. George Steel makes a handsome Lieut. Manley; Capt. Manley is played in a quiet yet effective manner by Mr. Cyril Harrison; and Mr. John Davidson makes the most of his opportunities as Major Ingleby. Mr. Villiers Stanley is well placed as Nebu Singh; Mr. Charles Boult's Ra Goonga is an admirable piece of acting; and in the comedy part of Terry O'Brien, Mr. Cecil Morand is quite at ease. Miss F. Melrose Millett as Ghuz-Nah is a great success; Miss Agnes Kingston make a charming Kate Ingelby, and Miss Lillie Grey works hard as Mrs. Ingleby.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—Hippodrome.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Manager, Mr. F. R. Griffiths.—This hall re-opened on Monday for the season with every prospect of success. There was a large audience, and they seemed to greatly enjoy the feast of animated pictures, which were served up for their delectation. Chief among the films shown were "The great jewel robbery," "The Rajah's Casket," and "The terrible kids." A little variety in the programme was introduced in the shape of ballads, sung by Miss Elsie Lawreen, who has a powerful soprano voice, and was highly successful. A word of praise is due to the efficient orchestra, which is again under the able leadership of Mr. Harold Price.

GLASGOW. — Theatre Royal, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphreys. — Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production of *The Dairymaids* occupies the boards this week. It is the first time the comedy has been here, and judging from the hearty welcome accorded on Monday it is likely to become a frequent visitor. Mr. E. Statham Staples is with the company, and makes a distinct hit with his quaint impersonation of Sam Brudenell; the rôle of Dr. O'Bryne is taken by Mr. Clarence Blakiston, who imparts considerable character to the genial Irish officer; in the part of Joe Mivens, A.B., Mr. Harry Dent is very good, carrying through the funny business with great success; Mr. George Desmond plays Lieut. Frank Brudenell in dashing style, and Mr. J. Edward Fraser makes a gentlemanly Capt. Leverton; Miss Edith Blanche impersonates Lady Brudenell with sufficient dignity; two bright and lively dairymaids are seen in the Peggy of Miss Violet Lloyd and the Winifred of Miss Rhoda Gordon; Miss Beryl Vaudrey sings sweetly and acts with grace as Helene; a decided touch of character is given to the part of Eliza by Miss Rose Musgrove, and Miss Madge Avery fills the rôle of Penelope Pyechase very well. The chorus and orchestra are a special feature of the production, and are under the direction of Mr. Albert Bartlett.

King's, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Under the auspices of Mr. George Dance we are renewing acquaintance with that enjoyable personage, *The Duchess of Dantzic*. In the title-rôle Miss Kitty Gordon acts with excellent effect, and despite a cold, sang with much brilliance the florid music of the part; Mr. Albert Chapman makes a handsome Lefebvre, and his vocal contributions are given with taste and distinction; Mr. Frederick Moyes, so long associated with the part of Napoleon in another play, gives a dramatic rendering of the character; Miss Lily Edmunds makes a brisk and animated Lizette; Mr. T. C. Maxwell acts with distinction as the elderly Vicomte de Bethune in the first act, and later as the youthful Vicomte; Mr. H. C. Barry's humour as Papillon proves most enjoyable; Miss Lillian Best is a charming Renée, acting and singing with grace and naïvete; Miss Nancy Hearne as the Empress Josephine and Misses Josephine McCarthy and Doris Greville as Napoleon's sisters lend able support. The chorus is large, attractive, and tuneful, and the play is mounted in first-rate style.

Royalty, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—After a lapse of ten years Messrs. Howard and Wyndham are again affording Glasgow playgoers an opportunity of witnessing their fine production of *The Lady of the Lake*. Scott's beautiful poem lends itself to any degree of lavishness in scenic treatment, and on this score alone the present revival is a noteworthy one. The scenery, by Messrs. William Glover, T. F. Dunn, and assistants, is a triumph in the reproduction of the grandeur of the Highland scenes in which the action is laid, the panorama of the Trossachs, Ben Venue, Ellen's Isle, &c., being the most notable achievement, while the scenes representing Loch Katrine by Sunset, the Pass of Lochard, Coilantogle Ford, and Stirling Castle from the King's Park are all striking examples of scenic art. For the present revival Mr. Wyndham has secured a first-rate company. Mr. Leo Stormont as Roderick Dhu is particularly well suited. He embodies the gloomy chieftain to the life and speaks Scott's lines with commendable regard to their poetic flow. In this respect Mr. Ernest E. Norris as King James is also worthy of praise, and their example might well be followed by some of the other members. Mr. Norris makes a picturesque Knight of Snowdoun, and his acting is romantic and dignified; the combat scene between Roderick and King James is well managed; Mr. George Barran makes a manly figure of Douglas, while Ellen (the Lady of the Lake) is charmingly acted by Miss Ada Homer; Mr. Frederick Harker is a duly impulsive Malcolm Græme; Miss Dorothy Chard gives a pathetic impersonation of the Ophelia-like part of Blanche of Devan; Mr. Ernest Lodge as the weird monk Brian, and Mr. Chris Walker as the minstrel, Allan Bane, are effectively placed; Mr. H. Hunter as Red Murdoch and Mr. Forrest Niven as Malise ably play these two Benchmen of Roderick; Mr. Tom Walker, Mr. Ian Lloyd Mackenzie, Miss Evelyn Pascel, and Miss Marie Forbes give able support in their respective parts. The revival was warmly received on its production on Tuesday, and will probably hold the boards here for some weeks.

Grand, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—*The Blue Moon* entered on its second week here on Monday, and continues to secure nightly an enthusiastic reception.

Royal Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—The attraction here is *Under Two Flags*, the military drama founded on Ouida's novel. As on its last visit, the play is most popular, and the acting of Mr. Mark Blow as the soldier hero is one of the principal reasons; Miss Mary Thorne is well placed as the vivandière, Cigarette, and her acting in the more striking scenes is specially happy; as the Princess Carona Miss Mabel Ormonde is good, and another well-played part is the Countess Olga of Miss Joan Stern; Mr. Charles Brooke acts ably as Lord Royellien. In the humorous part of Rake Mr. Harry Benson supplies some clever comedy.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—*The World's Verdict* has been revived here for one week by a capable company, under Mr. W. Reuben Payne. Mr. Cecil R. Thompson is a fine old Squire; Mr. Eric C. Hudson as his nephew plays admirably; the rightful heir, George Ashford, is finely portrayed by Mr. Alfred Deane; Mr. W. S. Wesley's Sammy is a delightful bit of acting; Mr. W. Reuben Payne as the Land Agent bears himself well; the maniac of Mr. W. Bradford Crosby is intensely thrilling; Miss Lily Roselle as Cora looks and acts the adventuress to the life; Miss May Axon and Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh as Florence and Nellie respectively give sympathetic readings of good rôles, and there is the right note of brightness in all Miss Marie Barrett does as Sally.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Mr. Ed. Marris's No. 1 company in *Somebody's Sweetheart* is here this week. As Martin Blabbs Mr. W. H. Kirby gets through an onerous part with excellent success, his original patter, smart acting and dancing being vociferously applauded. Mr. E. H. Bertram as Stanton Ashleigh appears in a part exactly suited to him, and his acting and singing with Miss U. C. Hackett, who portrays the title-rôle in a dainty and praisworthy manner, leaves little to be desired; Mr. D. B. Watson and Mr. J. Templar Ellis as Stephen Leverton and Lem Lee respectively in the unpopular parts receive an antagonistic reception, which is proof positive of their ability; Old Joe is capitally played by Mr. Reg. Hugh Hamber; Miss Cordella Knight's endeavours in the part of Zora are highly gratifying, as are likewise those of Miss Nora Melton, who takes the part of Mrs. Ainslie; Miss Millie Gordon is exceptionally good as Freddie Ashleigh, and her neat and graceful dancing is laudable in itself; the dancing also of Miss Rosie Chandler and Miss Dolly Payne as the barmaids is most commendable.

New Gaiety.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—The domestic drama, *Tricked by a Woman* is the attraction here. Mr. Horace Booth undertakes the character of George Fielding, in which he is eminently successful, and he and Miss Laurie A. Pardy as Mary Melrose ably sustain the leading parts; other notable members include Mr. T. E. Conover, Mr. Alfred D. Adams, Mr. Wilton Reed, and Misses Mattie Crawford, and Marie De Roos, who one and all creditably fill their respective parts.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—A strong programme is submitted this week, headed by Mark Sheridan. This clever comedian's success in all his songs is very marked, and his reception most enthusiastic; Mabel Bardine and company present a dramatic episode, taken from *Oliver Twist*. The company met with great success. The Musical Johnstons' clever xylophone playing is applauded; Florence Esdaile sings with much spirit and acceptance; the Picquays display some clever acrobatism; Burnetti provides some good musical impersonations; Marba and Verity are a couple of smart acrobatic dancers; the Mariano Sisters give a thrilling trapeze act; and the Sidney Bros. are a talented cycling combination.

Zoo-Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The Ten Loonies in *Dotty* meet with a good reception; Beatrice Bonnie is a captivating and clever comedienne; the Sisters Morgan delight in dainty dances, and are capable singers to boot; Stylo is seen in a wonderful series of hoop manipulations; Barrett and Knowles maintain their reputation as singers and dancers; *The Navvy's Rest* shows the Marsumas to be clever and amusing cyclists; Will Cornish has credit for his unique performance on the silver bells; protean dances are well illustrated by Leonard Gorney, and the Bioscope is as popular as ever; a smart entertainment is that given by Wilson and Waring, entitled *A Bit of Nonsense*.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Alec. Hurley and company are presenting here the humorous scena entitled *The Coster's Beano*, which gives this well-known comedian ample scope for displaying the characteristics of costerdom. The Five Whiteleys are a clever combination of acrobatic wire-walkers, and also possess considerable musical talent; Mountford and Walsh, society entertainers, are a clever musical pair; Elton and Edwin give a capital performance as banjoists; Clive and Clark, black and white comedy artists; Fred Land, comedian, and Minnie D'Aubyn, complete a strong programme.

Palace.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Miss Ghita Corri, soprano vocalist, is the principal attraction here; Leo Dryden, vocalist, has had a splendid reception; other notable contributors include Lena Brunton, comedienne and mimic; Johnny Dwyer, comedian and dancer; Andie Burn, comedian; the Violas in a wonderful second-sight act; Cardo, slight-of-hand expert; Baltus troupe of acrobats; Henry Hallam and Josephine Stanton, vocalists, and Bert Byrne, light comedian.

Coliseum.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—The leading attraction here is John Tiller's musical sketch company in *Doon the Watter*. The Miles Stavordale Quintette, expert instrumentalists,; Fielding and Hall in a vocal medley; Percy Hannan, vocalist; R. H. Douglass, the clever monologue artist; the Bisera Troupe, instrumentalists; Clito Clifford, sand dancer, and the American Bioscope are also in the bill.

Queen's.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Marie Kendall tops the bill here; a clever turn is submitted by Devere and Kenwick, with burlesque pictures on popular songs; Steve McCarthy remains a great favourite; and other members of the company include Tom Shenton, comedian; Chas. Baldwin's company in the amusing sketch *The Bank Clerks;* Lade Henderson, vocalist; and the Two Arundels, in their funy act, *The New Office Boy*.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott and company are here in *A Wife's Triumph*. Mr. Abbott as Frank Wilton is a manly hero; Mr. W. B. Gabbois as Ellis Jordan and Mr. Weedon Ross as Julius Hartman give good delineations of their respective rôles; Mr. Douglas C. Phelps as Robert Dewhurst makes a typical Yorkshire squire, and also wins approbation as William W. Williamson, an American bookmaker; Mr. D. Pentland as Charles E. Ryland, and Mr. W. H. Davis Brown as Stubbs give capital readings; Mr. Edwin Keene as Ben Bradford is funny, and brings down the house with excellently-rendered songs; Miss Marjorie Tennant as Marjory Cribb is a pert and mirth-provoking servant; Miss Kathleen Steuart is pleasing as Alice Wilton; and Miss Hetty Jones as little Frank shows histrionic ability; Miss Ada Abbott as Bessie Dewhurst delights her audience by her clever assumption of the character. During the week *Sapho* and *Trilby* have also been presented.

GLOUCESTER.—Palace (late Theatre Royal).—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Rea.—Despite the counter attraction of the popular Barton Fair, the Palace continues to hold its own, the management having secured the Six Brothers Luck in *The Demon of the Cellar*, which is capitally received. Leo Selwyn, the handcuff king, gives a performance that mystifies his audience; Les Uniques give a smart act on ladders; Little Don is a mirthful midget; Henderson, the blind musician, wins applause for a clever performance; the Saletos, head and hand balancers, win favour; the Charnleys, duettists and dancers, do well; Gus Granville has a good reception; the Two Neros introduce a tumbling act with excellent results; Miss Myra Love, comedienne, appears in some good songs; and the Bioscope completes the entertainment.

GOOLE.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John E. Tomlinson.—A most enjoyable attraction is presented here this week in a welcome return visit of *Charley's Aunt*, played by Mr. George Robertson's company. Mr. Edmund Baker is to be highly complimented on his success as Lord Fancourt Babberley; Mr. Frank Tyrell gives a dashing portrayal of Col. Sir Francis Chesney; Mr. Sidney Lynn as Jack Chesney and Mr. Basil Lynn as Charles Wykeham also score in their respective rôles; Mr. William Allison is an excellent Stephen Spettigue, and Mr. Fred Morland is amusing as Brassett; Miss Mary Mallaline is charming and graceful as Ela Delhay; Miss Margaret Moreau is a delightful Kitty; Miss Eva Boyne is a pleasing Amy Spettigue; and Miss Katherine Vereker is deserving of praise for her capital portrayal of Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Musical comedy has been succeeded by drama, and *Sherlock Holmes*, excellently played by Mr. Charles Frohman's company, has formed the week's programme. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart gives a vivid and realistic interpretation of the title-rôle; Mr. Stanley Logan is admirable as Dr. Watson; James Larrabee finds an able exponent in Mr. Ernest Gray; and Mr. W. F. Sterling gives a clever character study as Professor Moriarty. Madge Larrabee is presented with power and feeling by Miss Lindsay Fincham; Alice Faulkner is effectively represented by Miss Constance Leigh; and Therese, Mrs. Smeedly, and Mrs. Faulkner are capably depicted by Miss Rosalie Notrelle, Miss Alice Howard, and Miss Dot Selby.

GREENOCK. — Alexandra Theatre. — Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. George Dance's company opened here on Monday with *The Duchess of Dantzic*, in which Miss Blanche Lynd in the title-rôle gives a delightful performance, her acting calling for high praise; Miss Hetty Ludlow as Lisette is a great success; Renee de Saint Mezard is ably represented by Miss Mona Grey; the Empress Josephine is admirably portrayed by Miss Daisy Brent; Miss F. Smith and Miss S. Albutt also deserve mention; Mr. Alfred Ibberson presents an excellent study of Napoleon; Mr. Warwick Wellington as Duke of Dantzic is much applauded for his capable acting and fine singing, and Mr. Arthur Ferriss as Pappillon is very amusing.

Empire Theatre of Varieties. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—"Casey's Court" is the chief attraction here this week, in which 30 midget mimes appear; the Villions, acrobatic cyclists, give a good exhibition, and Barney Cox, ventriloquial entertainer, is excellent. Other acceptable turns are Ted Curtis and his piccaninnies; Brothers Montes, in their novelty act, *The Scotchman and the Driver;* Reed and Wright, vocalists and expert dancers; and Jack Crawley, American comedian.

Pavilion Theatre, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. S. Lloyd.—This week's attractions include Karr and Kooney, songsters and patterers, who are well received; Zavan is a wonderful contortionist; Steely and Dowton, in a burlesque interlude, entitled *Olla Podrida*, come in for a good deal of applause; Helen Charles is a graceful mimic, and Gus Hindell, comedian, has had a fine reception. The Sisters Bartholomew, duettists and dancers, are smart, and Jack Neil contributes some comic songs; the Pavoscope is also a special feature of a good all-round entertainment.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. J. Curry; Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—The drama, *Her Luck in London*, has attained considerable popularity on its first visit here. Miss Mary Neil in the part of Nellie Harborne gives evidence of considerable power as an emotional actress; Mr. Chas. A. Leicester invests the part of the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor with natural geniality; Mr. Tyrone Power is good as Stephen Harborne; Mr. G. Langdon displays effectively the vicious temperament of Richard Lenowen, and Mr. Douglas Tremayne is a popular figure as the Reverend Lionel Strong. Miss Ada Roscoe as Madame Gabrielle and Miss Francis Bruce as Lillian Harborne also aid the success. The comedy is well looked after by Miss Florrie Groves as Maud Gladys Shovepenny and Mr. J. Telly Dillson as Jerry Gotobed.

Curry's Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—After a somewhat lengthy absence the Craggs have met with a big welcome in their sketch *Billy;* Horace White is a ventriloquist of original ideas; Curtis Leo is smart in his modern magic, and Lozelle performs novel feats upon ingeniously-designed gymnastic appliances. Amusing knockabout comedy is contributed by O'Malley and Brown, and others appearing are Donald Keir and Mabel Kempton, talented vocalists; Guy Rider, whistler; and Billie Burford, comedian.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Ailton.—Peggy Pryde has thoroughly delighted the audiences with her latest repertoire of songs and business, and has fully sustained her popularity; the Seven Zerbinis are responsible for a capital musical speciality; the Two Hartfords submit a clever acrobatic display whilst mounted on bicycles; the globe-walking of the Ettenas is smart; Harry Levaine's eccentricities are productive of fun; Ben Harris's Nippers are well trained, and others contributing are L. B. Athol, character actor, and Lily Hayes, coon singer.

HALIFAX.—Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Enormous business is being done here this week by Mr. Geo. Danco's principal company, in *A Country Girl*, which is on its fourth visit. As Challoner, Mr. John M. Hay both acts and sings well, and is altogther a commanding naval officer; Mr. F. J. Booney enhances his reputation as the Rajah of Bhong; Mr. Chas. Stafford as Douglas Verity, and Mr. H. W. Hewlett as Lord Anchester, are good; while Mr. Coningsby Brierley keeps the pace going as Barry, the quaint little naval cadet. In the feminine rôles, Miss Cissie Sephton must rank first for her vivacious interpretation of Madame Sophie, her dancing and singing being distinctly successful; Miss Ellaline Thorne gives a refreshing assumption of Nan; while Miss Barbara Babington acts wells as Marjory, singing in faultless style; an amiable Princess is found in Miss Ernestine Desborough; and a word of praise is due to Miss Muriel Johnson for her study of Lady St. Quinton.

Theat

Miss Enid Edoni's portrayal of Inez Alvarez appeals strongly to the sympathy of the audience; Miss Ethel Whiteley as Mother Maria Teresa looks and plays the part to the life.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's company is here in the musical play *Three Little Maids*, who are daintily presented by Miss Cora Lingard, Miss Daisy Sylverton, and Miss Eva Weigh. As Gretchen Miss Laura Wright's clever dancing and effervescent merriment contribute to a huge success; Miss Alice Rene looks sufficiently stately as Lady St. Mallory; Mr. Victor Kerr as Lord Cheyne is "simply rippin'," his hilarity being infectious; Mr. Guy Williams is a satisfactory Bryan; Mr. Charles Caffrey an amusing Cupid; and Mr. Eric Barrington a refined and vocally successful De l'Orme.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Misses Vesta and Minnie Pine, in their musical sketch, *Maggie's Day Out*, are interesting audiences here; Martinett and Wallace are favourite musical duettists; Espinosa and Neilson submit a clever dancing act; F. H. France and Miss Marie Stewart are seen to advantage in their bustling sketch, *The 100 to 1 Chance*; and Mlle. Lucretia, top-boot dancer; Miss Lillie Le Breton, on the trapeze; Bob and Jennie Leonard, in their medley speciality; Miss Eva Kelland, vocal actress; and pictures on the biograph are other attractions.

HULL.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—On Monday Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry made their appearance here in *Dorothy o' the Hall*. Miss Neilson's Dorothy met with ready acceptance. Mr. Fred Terry played the hero with charm and spirit. Mary and Elizabeth were entrusted to those capable artists, Miss Lillias Waldegrave and Miss Miriam Lewes. Mr. Horace Hodge's Perkins was a fine piece of acting, and Mr. J. Carter Edwards did good work as Sir George Vernon.

Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Miss Queenie Leighton does much to make *The Girl on the Stage* acceptable, and deserves every praise; her style is bright and vivacious, and her singing pleasing. Mr. John Humphries is a comedian of resource, who keeps the house in excellent humour. Mr. Lennox Pawle exerts himself to make the part of the Earl effective. Mr. Colin Coop adds to the amusement of the audience by his Alderman. Valuable contribution is made by that talented lady, Miss Fanny Dango; she and Miss Valli Valli are pleasing representatives of the Earl's daughters.

Alexandra Theatre.—Mortons, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. George Morton.—*The Ugliest Woman on Earth* is here. Miss Beatrice Horner as the veiled woman shows great originality, and does some admirable acting. As the hero, Mr. Philip Dorien has a rôle which he fills with conspicuous success; and Mr. Edlin is a comedian who also renders valuable aid.

The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Marie Santoi and her merry little Japs, and King and Benson, talented vocalists, are doing well here; Gus Garrick, a clever droll, makes himself very popular; Cissie Curlette, the farmyard mimic, makes a welcome reappearance; and other artists include Mike Gray and Daisy Davenport.

The Empire.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—This hall was reopened on Monday under favourable auspices, an excellent company being provided. Blanche and Deacoff appear in a sensational tea-cup bicycle act; and other artists include Alf. Bishop, Paulo Bros., La Tosca in some classical poses, Nellie Vann, A. H. Lynn, Rena and Rex, Aldro Lukos, and Babs Lloyd.

The Palace.—Appearing here are Carl Hertz, the Mezzetis, Rio Bros., Sanford and Lyons; the Anartos, Gertrude Bradshaw, Irene Rose, Frank Darwin, and the Two Tees.

HYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—This week Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's *The Still Alarm* company is attracting large audiences. Mr. M. A. Glenville looks every inch the gallant Jack Manley he impersonates; Mr. George Arthur makes John Bird a sufficiently despicable and unprincipled individual; Mr. Lewis Gordon renders good service as Franklyn Fordham; Miss Maud Warburton is a charming and sympathetic Elinor Fordham; and Miss Mabel Veriton is excellent as Mrs. Manley. The comedy element is in the capable hands of Mr. Fred Osborne as Doc Wilber, Mr. Tom Beasley as Willie Manley, and Miss Hettie Zillwood as Carie Wilbert, and the latter is also successful in song and dance.

ILKESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—The company of Messrs. Fred J. Webb and Wilson Benge is here, with *The Two Hussars*, in which Mr. Benge himself successfully plays Harry Alford; and Miss Sadie Smith is seen to advantage firstly as Ellen Maythorne; and secondly as Will Gunstock; Mr. J. Stuart as Colonel Manners, and Mr. G. Paradise as Sergeant McFinne, are acquisitions to the cast; and as Marie, Miss Danvers Smith is very successful; Mr. Louis Nanton being laughable as Robert Runn. Miss Lallah Price is amusing also as Molly Cutts.

INVERNESS.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Cameron Burgess.—Mr. R. A. P. Williams's company opened here on Monday a four nights' engagement with *Les Cloches de Corneville* which was an entire success. Miss Kathleen Emmett gained new laurels by her extremely sympathetic rendering of Germaine, whilst her vocalisation was of a very high order; Miss Adela Harvey made a bright Serpolette; Mr. Michael Kemble as Gaspard gave a fine and impressive performance; the audience were kept in good humour by the Baillie and Gobe, excellently rendered by Mr. G. Edward Hall and Mr. Richard Martin respectively; Mr. Piercy Watson made a dashing Marquis.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—Mr. Charles Macdona's *White Chrysanthemum* company has appeared here this week, and been well received by appreciative audiences. Miss Muriel George in the part of O San gave a dainty impersonation, her singing being especially good; Miss Emily Taylor was a vivacious Billy Kenyon; while Miss Nellie Groves was well suited in the part of the American heiress. Mr. H. Langdon Bruce played the hero, Lieutenant Armitage, in capital style, his acting and singing being equally good; Mr. H. E. Garden gave an artistic study of Lieutenant Chippendale Belmont; while Messrs. Charles Schmidt, Richard Talford, Jamie Dallas, and Walter Grigg each rendered able assistance. The orchestra, augmented for the occasion, was well directed by Harry Richardson.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—An Irish vocalist, Michael Nolan, headed the programme, and rendered some Hibernian songs in good style; the Bensons contributed some clever singing and dancing; and the Three Panamas furnished an artistic and refined acrobatic act. Kate Gourlie as a Scotch lassie sang and danced in such a manner as to evoke general applause; and Tom Lloyd gave a novel sketch as an eccentric gravedigger. Other turns included Agnes Hazel, comedienne; Rastus and Bank, coloured comedians; and Tennyson and Wallis, a pair of drolls, whose patter caused much merriment. The Hippodrome Bioscope display included a realistic film, called "The Burglar's Slide for Life."

KETTERING.—Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Payne.—The attraction this week is Mr. James Willard's company, in *A Woman's Pluck*. Miss Grace Lester gives a talented rendering of the part of Grace Daremont; Miss Violet Carr is an acceptable Jessie; Mr. Austin Mortimer as Dick Darrell brings out in admirable style the evil nature of the character; and is well supported by Mr. Fred Norburn as Jim Daremont. Some excellent comedy is provided by Mr. Dicky Bird as Roger Pippin.

KILMARNOCK.—King's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Major Ward.—For the first half of this week Mr. Chas. Majilton and company presented *The Trippers*. The fun was fast and furious. Mr. Chas. Majilton filled the part of The Mystery very well; Mr. Jim Bond's typical rendering of McChuckle was highly appreciated; Mr. Herbert Ashmore and Mr. Randle Wilson were both funny as Quibble and Algie; Mr. Ben Story looked the part of Bill Bloggins to the life; Miss Nancy Clifford's singing was much enjoyed; Miss Carrie Foy looked sweet as Maud. *Rob Roy* was the special attraction for the latter half of the week.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessees, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's *Earl and the Girl* company is here this week. As Jim Cheese, Mr. C. D. Cleveland keeps the fun going well, and is ably supported in his efforts by Miss Adèle Roze as 'Liza Shoddam. Mr. Frank Wilson works hard, and achieves a striking success as Dick Wargrave; the Hon. Crewe Boodle is well played by Mr. E. Fitzgibbon; Mr. Alec Godfrey is smart as Downham; and the part of Mr. Talk is in the capable hands of Mr. Burgess Barrett. Mr. E. Melville makes a good host of the Fallowfield Arms; and Mr. H. Cotter looks sufficiently muscular and bellicose as A. Bunker Bliss. Miss Aline Nixon is a charming Elphin Haye; and Miss F. Brandon makes a dainty Daisy Fallowfield. Miss M. Maude is an imposing figure as Mrs. Shimmering Black; and Miss Carmen Cecil gracefully takes the rôle of Miss Virgina Bliss.

KIRKCALDY.—King's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Burton.—This week Mr. Geo. Stephenson's company is paying a return visit with *Kitty Grey*. Mr. Lauri Lisle as the King of Illyria was as funny as ever; Mr. Leslie Steward made an intensely amusing Lord Plantagenet; and Mr. Stephenson repeated his fine portrayal of Sir John Binfield. The title-rôle was in the capable hands of Miss Hilda Guiver, an artist of considerable talent; a finished piece of work was the Lady Binfield of Miss Marie West; Miss Elsie Skillings did all that was required of her as Sadie; and Miss Nellie Laurine was a humorous Mrs. Bright.

LANCASTER.—Athenæum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—On Monday a crowded audience greeted Mr. Gilbert Payne and company, who are occupying the boards here with the musical absurdity, *The Honeymoon*. Mr. Gilbert Payne is allotted the part of Nathaniel Noodle, and right well does he play it. Mr. Leslie Erle scores as Jack Armstrong; Mr. John Harnes makes the most of Col. Vandyke Brown; and as Archie, Mr. Harry Farrow is very amusing. Miss Rene Walton as Emeretta Noodle is acceptable; Miss Pattie Fairley sings nicely as Madge Armstrong; and Miss Nellie Dyson is a pleasing Stella Le Brunn. The Florentia troupe of lady dancers add much to the success of the piece.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Porter and Fergusson.—An attractive programme is headed by the Lukushima Family in a clever Oriental act; Russell Wallett, the Lady in Black, has a great ovation; and Messrs. Burg, Hand, and Wise are well received in their acrobatic act in "Ye Olde Brown Cow Inn." Happy Tom Parker, clog dancer, is especially good; and Emilie Warren is a pleasing vocalist; Miss Raie Walters, comedienne; Les Trois Pirmans, in a pantomime act, *Dans Le Jardin*; Harry Barclay, comedian; and Walter Payne's pictures complete the bill.

Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and C. Fell; Manager, Mr. John Fell.—This place of amusement opened on Monday evening for the season, under the management of Mr. John Fell. The two houses nightly system will be continued, with a matinée on Saturdays. The opening programme drew fairly large audiences. Darwin's missing link, "Lady Julia," described as the ape with a human brain, heads the bill. Morimura, Jap illusionist, baffles his audience; Grant and Allen are amusing comedians; and La Famille Pichell, acrobats, have a flattering reception. Miss Barbara McArdle, serio; Miss Joan Deering, violinist; Tom Taylor, Wigan singing collier; and Edison-Swan animated pictures meet with approval.

LEAMINGTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—Mr. Weedon Grossmith's farcical comedy *The Night of the Party* is this week being welcomed here. Mr. Sebastian Smith scores a great success as Crosbie; Mr. F. H. Denton plays the part of Frank Frayne in an easy, natural style; Miss Stanley Ronalds is a vivacious Gipsy; Mr. Douglas Munro a satisfactory Mr. Flambert; Mr. Edmond T. Sayers a droll Alderman Haryen; and Miss Maud Linden as the frivolous sweetheart of Crosbie is also good.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—Musical comedy is again the vogue here; this time it is the popular Vaudeville success *The Belle of Mayfair* which is filling the house to its utmost capacity nightly. Messrs. Gatti and Frohman have sent an excellent company. Miss Alice Kusson in the part of Julia Chaldicott is charming; Mr. Charles McNaughton is humorous and entertaining as Papa Chaldicott, whose fire-eating associate, Mount Highgate, is equally well played by Mr. Percy Yorke. Mr. Vernon Davidson acts and sings ably as the peer's son in love; the Comte de Perrier is a clever effort by Mr. Robert Whyte, jun.; whilst Mr. Wensley Russell as a lively and irresponsible bachelor has a hand in many entertaining interludes. Miss Maude Aston invests the part of lady's maid with an agreeable vivacity; Miss Barbara Huntley and Miss Rosa Snell grace the respective characters of Lady Chaldicott and the Countess of Highgate; Miss Joan Keddie is a charming representative of the Princess Carl; and other parts are well portrayed by Miss Blanche Massey and Miss Dorothy Hanbury.

Theatre Royal. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Another thrilling melodrama, *A Beautiful Fiend*, presented by Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company, is attracting good houses here twice nightly. The name-part is an impressive performance by Miss V. St. Lawrence, her emotional acting being of a high order. Mr. Montagu Beaudyn makes an effective foil as the Chief of Police, Ivan Paulovitch; Mr. Tom Robertson is strong and impressive as a captain in the Guards; Miss Irene Munro is a pleasing and acceptable heroine, whose maid Patty is faithfully portrayed by Miss Blanche Hill. The comedy element is largely in the hands of Mr. Harry Oates, who as Christopher Crackles knows how to make the most of his opportunities.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—That perennial attraction *The Silver King* is once again on the road, and that this week's visit of Polini and Melford's company to the Queen's is a popular one is shown by the good patronage which has been bestowed. The character of Wilfred Denver is on this occasion well and carefully played by Mr. Fred D. Daviss; a charming and attractive study of the heroine Nellie Denver is to be attributed to Miss Daisy Scudamore; and Mr. Edward J. George does excellent work as Jaikes. The villainous Spider is portrayed with telling effect by Mr. St. George Lowther; Corket is personated in good style by Mr. A. H. Warburton; little Flossie Hale Daviss shows great promise in a neat portrayal of Denver's daughter; whilst Mr. Arthur Wright, Mr. Alexander Grant, and Miss Dorothy Radford are each effective in their respective rôles.

Empire Palace.—Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Unbounded interest is centred in the appearance here of the French giant Henri Cot, and his diminutive confrère Prince Colibri, their simultaneous presence on the stage being hailed with expressions of wonderment. That clever and entertaining comedian Mark Melford brings his company in a smart comedy episode, which is vastly enjoyed; a humorous acrobatic performance by Burley and Burley arouses considerable applause; the Haytors also combine humour and acrobatics in clever and pleasing style; Frank Sylvo is better than the average of comic jugglers; and the lavish applause which greets the cornet selections of Joly is well merited. Hanid Alexander is an accomplished entertainer at the piano; Maxwell and Francis are a popular vocal comedy pair; whilst Ernest Ball, vocalist, and Alf Gibson, quaint comedian, also add materially to the evening's enjoyment.

Hippodrome. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Claude Shayler and Mr. Chas. Weldon. — Karno's company with the *Dandy Thieves* is the top line here, and in the hands of George Hestor and his fellow comedians the piece is again provocative of uproarious merriment. Grant and Grant, a real coon pair, find a ready acceptance of their clever entertainment; whilst another phase of Western life is depicted by the Deer Family of Indians. An amusing sketch by Fred Fuller and company goes with great gusto; Cribb and Cribb are to the fore with a smart comedy speciality; amongst the comedians Tom Yorke and George Ripon are specially successful; and entertaining turns are also submitted by Nash and Noel, eccentrics, and Baroux and Bion, eccentric acrobats.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—This week's programme is full of good things, notably Ella Shields, a popular vocalist who easily maintains a big local reputation. Those accomplished duettists, Austin and Cowan, are again warbling with their usual success; Gus Harris is a smart comedian; Terry and Bentley are successful in the presentation of a comedy episode; whilst a smart speciality in the same line makes a big name for Bell and Pearl. The Bros. Harrison do comedy business; Satsuma presents his mystifying illusionary act; and Chas. Jerome, coon specialist, completes the programme.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business-Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—Seen for the first time in Leicester, the Japanese musical play, *The White Chrysanthemum*, as presented by Mr. Frank Curzon's principal company, has created a highly favourable impression. The mounting and dressing are of a lavish nature, and the chorus and orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Leonard Hornsey. Miss Nora Guy charms everyone by her delightful portrayal of the title-rôle, and Miss Daisy Le Hay as Betty Kenyon and Miss Katie Vesey as Cornelia Vanderdecken are both conspicuously successful with admirable embodiments. Mr. Horace Mills merits high praise for his cleverness as Lieutenant Chippendale Belmont, the same remarks applying to Mr. W. H. Rawlins as the Admiral. Mr. O. E. Lennon as Sing Chon, and Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., as Private Perks, are both mirth-provoking. Mr. F. Pope-Stamper is excellent as Lieutenant Reginald Armitage.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The attraction is provided here this week by Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Elliott's company in the drama, *A City of Sin*. Mr. Henry W. Hatchman, as Mortain, displays high histrionic talents, and Mr. Conrad Heywood is good as Paul Torraine; Miss Edith Wallis creates an excellent impression as Alice Bertrand; Mr. W. H. Burton as Bertrand and Mr. Wilfred Grahame as Zip Barzon are both successful; Miss Jenny Weston is capital as Ilma. In the comedy parts Mr. Val. W. Gully, Mr. C. H. Spencer, Miss Polly Denville, and Miss Elvira Stuart leave nothing to be desired.

Palace Theatre, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—The great attraction in this week's excellent bill of fare is Mr. John Lawson, who is presenting *Humanity* and *The Monkey's Paw*, the latter for the first time in Leicester. *Humanity* was played on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings, and created a profound sensation. The Sutcliffe Family of Scottish pipers, dancers, and acrobats are scoring with a really smart turn; Jack Lorimer, a versatile and clever Scotch comedian, creates the greatest merriment; the De Breans are Japanese jugglers and sciographists of the first rank; the Mayvilles are popular with their well-worked Liliputian entertainment; Max York's dogs are put through a very good show; Griff, as "the Clown in Apartments," displays his usual smartness; E. J. Sheldon, comedian, is entertaining; a special feature is the Bioscope, which, among other films, is giving the match, South Africans v. Midland Counties, played at Leicester on Saturday.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—The premier attraction here is James Willard and company, who are presenting the exciting comedy sketch, *Did He Deserve It?* in which Mr. James Willard, Mr. Willie Atom, Miss Daisy Tueske, and Miss Queenie Elliott appear with much success. A feature is the introduction of the champion mastiff, Tiger. The Davenports are good as lightning magicians and illusionists; Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is still one of the principal attractions; the Almos give a smart and sensational display as equilibrists and tumblers; Mac and Hill are amusing patter comedians; Gladys Williams is a capital comedienne; Harry Walker, eccentric singer, and Bert and Dora, comedy artists, are also in the bill.

LEITH.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The dramatic fare provided this week is of a highly sensational kind, Mr. John Douglas's popular play, *No Man's Land*, being staged with great effect by Miss Ida Millais' company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Herne. In the rôles of Harry Oaklands and Mary Bathurst, the hero and heroine of the play, Mr. Herne and Miss Millais do excellent work; and Mr. Frank Denis, as the evil genius, Silas Moore, comes in for hearty recognition of his ability; Mat Marsden finds a sturdy exponent in Mr. A. G. Lytton; Mr. and Mrs. W. Mallalieu are eminently successful as Dr. Buxton and Mrs. Poodle, whose son Thompson and daughter Bessie receive adequate treatment at the hands of Mr. V. L. Thomas and Miss Nancy Mitchell; Mr. Alfred Byron skilfully doubles the parts of the two brothers, Gilbert and Norman Bathurst; and Mr. Gerald Vivian, who plays Mr. Cross in lively fashion, creates quite a furore by his interpolated songs. Mr. John Weston, Mr. Charles Young, Mr. Vaughan, and Mr. Edward Adams all do well in less prominent rôles; and a river of real water and a great storm of real rain play an important part in "whetting," but in no wise damping, the enthusiasm of pit and gallery.

LIMERICK.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Robert Fogerty.—The Elster-Grime Grand Opera Company opened a week's engagement here on Monday with *Maritana*. Mr. Payne-Clarke was excellent as Don Cæsar, and as Don José Mr. Frank Land did well. Mr. Gilbert King was capital as the King of Spain, and Messrs. Wheatley, Cooke, and Partridge were good in the rôles of Captain, Alcade, and the Marquis. Miss Marie Elster was powerful as Maritana, and as the Marchioness Miss Kathleen McCahe was very effective. We could desire no better Lazarillo than Miss Madge Quilliam. On Tuesday *The Lily of Killarney* was produced, and as Eily and O'Connor Miss McCahe was at her best. Miss Elsie Lynham, a rich soprano, was excellent as Anne Chute, and Miss Quilliam was clever as Mrs. Cregan. Mr. Payne-Clarke was the good old Myles, Mr. Kewley the Hardress Cregan, and Mr. Frank Land was delightful as Danny Mann.

LINCOLN.—Royal.—Sole Owner, Mr. Frank King.—*The Girl from Kay's*, introduced by Mr. George Dance, made her initial bow to a Lincoln audience on Monday, and met with an exceedingly hearty reception. Miss Jessie Fraser as Winnie scored greatly; Miss Marie Greenhouse was a charming representative of the bride; Miss Irene Vere won high encomiums as the maid; and Miss Grace Murray sang extremely well as Mrs. Chalmers. Mr. S. Ravenscroft was good as Gordon; Mr. H. Jennings made an amusing figure of Fitzthistle; and Mr. H. Dore was smart as Pepper. Mr. J. W. Hooper's Hoggenheimer was decidedly funny, and nothing could have been better than the way in which Mr. Claude Dampier hit off the hall porter. Two amusing portrayals also came from Mr. L. Edmonds as Chalmers and Mr. E. Forde as Uncle Theodore. Mr. Harry March conducted a strong orchestra and chorus.

Palace.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur.—This week's bill is headed by Cabaret's Dogs, an animal turn a long way above the average. A hearty welcome greeted Lennie and Hast in *The Sea Nymph*; and Harry Brown, coon vocalist; Elton and Elma, on the horizontal bars; Maude Vera, comedienne; the Ringling Trio, in an amusing act; Ted Saunders, comedian; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux complete the attractive programme.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Conan Doyle's *Brigadier Gerard* made its first appearance in Liverpool this week, and has been greatly enjoyed by crowded audiences, for Mr. Lewis Waller and Miss Evelyn Millard are exceedingly popular visitors to the Mersey city. It was generally conceded that the part of the brave swashbuckler fitted Mr. Waller like a glove, and at the close of each act he was recalled again and again, Miss Millard also coming in for a goodly share of the compliments. Mr. A. E. George succeeded well as Napoleon, giving a lifelike impersonation; a figure which stood out with prominence was the capital Talleyrand of Mr. Edward O'Neill; Mr. Sheil Barry and Mr. R. C. Smith were admirable in the rôles of D'Albert and Pierre; Mr. Herbert Vyvyan made a satisfactory Papilette; Mr. Eric Scott got everything possible out of Colonel Guerin; and the remainder of the able company afforded such support as was necessary to complete a fine all-round production. The staging and costumes were, of course, especially good. Mr. Waller, as a curtain-raiser, gave *Fortune's Fool*, a trifle which held the audience spellbound. The closest attention was shown during the twenty minutes the distinguished player occupied the stage.

Shakespeare Theatre, Ltd.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—The merry *Catch of the Season* has proved a big draw at this theatre during the week. Miss Zena Dare, who, as the lively Angela, played, danced, and sang with taste, had a most flattering reception from admirers, who recollected her sweet presence in pantomime here a few seasons back. Master Grata was Bucket, whose precociousness materially helped in keeping the ball rolling. The audience did not overlook him when distributing applause. Mr. Frank Lincoln was an admirable Duke of St. Jermyns; Mr. E. H. Kelly did justice to Lord Dundreary; Mr. A. R. Boielle made the most of Higham Montague; Miss Gwynneth Galton submitted an approved Duchess of St. Jermyn; Miss Ida Mann afforded every satisfaction as Lady Crystal; her daughters found worthy exponents in Miss Margaret Savill and Miss Jane Eyre; and Miss Belle Napier was the Lady Caterham. Mr. George Dance, whose company it was, staged the comedy in excellent style.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The box-office here this week has done well through Mr. Douglas Bruce's presentation of *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*. Mr. Edwin J. Collins showed much discretion as the Rev. Robert Everton; Miss Evelyn Clyde gave satisfaction as Molly Vernon; Mr. C. W. Standing worked with credit in the double part of Jack England and Private Johnson; Mr. Geo. H. Asquin caused a deal of merriment with his Dick Punch; Miss Ethel Bracewell as Rose Seymour acted with tact; Captain Caversham was well portrayed by Mr. Frank Adair; Miss Lydia Mannington deserved praise for her Marian Franklyn; and the rest of the cast were efficient.

Lyric Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—Joe Elvin and his clever company are always a draw here, and this week has been no exception to the rule; nightly the house has been packed to witness their decidedly amusing acting in the sketch *Touched*. Joe Elvin keeps the house in roars of laughter with his facial expressions and original humour. Barton and Ashley are old favourites, and their popularity is not on the wane; another favourite from the early days of this theatre's opening is Morny Cash, who is delighting his old friends with his songs and laughable patter; Ada Grey is good, as is A. E. Clifford; Dandy George and his dog are loudly applauded; and Ada Parker is well received.

Star Theatre. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Paumier and Howard's company with *The Midnight Wedding* is here this week, doing good business. Miss Annie Saker made herself very popular by reason of her capital assumption of the rôles of Lieut. Heisberg and Princess Strelsburg; Mr. Alfred Paumier was a dignified Paul Valmar, thoroughly estimating the possibilities of the part; Mr. Fred W. Freeman proved an admirable Crown Prince; Mr. Ulick Burke as Lieut. Strelsburg showed much power; Mr. Clinton Baddeley deserved credit for his Captain Scarsbruck; and the three rivals in love, Sergeant Max, Corporal Otto, and Private Bobo, were efficiently undertaken by Messrs. James E. Page, Percy Compton, and Algie Spalding. The scenic effects were excellent.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—A return visit of Mr. Frank Lindo and his company, including Miss Marion Wakeford, with *Home, Sweet Home*, has been a source of great pleasure to the frequenters of this popular theatre. Mr. Lindo as Stephen Armitage played with dramatic power, for which he was awarded loud applause; Miss Wakeford was a sweet Joan, and won the hearts of her audience; a delightful Dora came from Miss Daisy Rochefort; Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle made an impressive David Armitage; Mr. Helsby Wright acquitted himself most creditably as Gaffer; the rôle of the Duke of Ancaster was well placed with Captain Gerald Gambier; Mr. Ernest E. Owens proved eminently amusing as the always tired Lord Silvermore; and Mr. George Overs did well as the fisher lad, Redmayne.

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The big line here this week is Sam Mayo, whose capital songs keep his audience in a merry mood; a particularly attractive turn is provided by the Kentucky Four, including Topsy, whose plantation ditties and dances are loudly applauded; Collinson's company is responsible for much laughter with the *Topsy-Turvey School*; Carl Howard, as the crazy conjurer, is both clever and funny; a gratifying reception is accorded to Willie Gardiner for his expert skate dancing; the Columbia Comedy Trio have a diverting operatic and humorous absurdity; the Valdos cause endless laughter as the eccentric motor-'bus men; and others in the attractive list are Harry Zetter, comedian and eccentric dancer; J. W. Hall, comedian; and Cyril Carle, actor-vocalist.

New Parthenon. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—The popular Barney Stuart is at the head of the bill this week, pleasing everybody with not only some of the old favourite songs, but with his latest scena *The Miser*; Percy Galino, a refined musical comedian, has a good turn; Grace Langley sings and dances in excellent style; some smart patter and taking songs come from Frank Dunlop; and Marie Courtney and Charles Coll afford satisfaction with their vocal efforts.

Royal Palace of Varieties. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—Success continues to attend the dramatic stock season here. This week the company is playing *True to the Core*, a piece full of telling situations. Mr. Percy Boucher makes a funny Private Twist; Mr. Harry Tresham is a manly Captain Meadows; Mr. Sydney Grant as the rascally Stephen Dudley plays with strong effect; a capital Old Neptune comes from the able Mr. Ravenswood; Mr. Robert Wilton does excellently as Joe Lamb; Mr. E. D. Allen handles the rôle of Mat Blacklock with care; and Mr. Leo Montgomery is Constable Buggins. Among the ladies, Miss Florence Palmer presents a pleasing Mabel Gratton, and Miss Beryl Ravenswood acquits herself creditably as Mrs. Gratton and Old Sal.

Park Palace, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Mr. Horace Wheatley, who has been a prime favourite in Liverpool for a generation, proves as pleasing as ever, and has had a capital reception for his songs and dances; Mlle. Zelda submits a charming entertainment as a performer on musical novelties; Happy Attwood is very funny; Leo Trainor has a number of taking comic songs; and Tom Jackson, the novelty match-box manipulator, and Rose Harvey, vocalist, also appear.

Westminster.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Walter Munroe is in big type here this week, with the result that exceptionally good business has been done. His songs, especially the latest, "I'm coming back to Dublin," were received with much delight; Chas. Santon, a male soprano, rendered several ballads in good style; Molly Doon showed herself to be a dainty comedienne and dancer; Hans and Lux proved humorous as the argumentative college chums; some remarkable juggling for a boy was performed by Massona; Newco and Sullo were smart comedians, patterers, and dancers; and the illustrated songs provided by S. B. Geoghegan and Downs proved enjoyable.

Olympia, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—The uproariously funny *Harum-Scarum*, Hengler's spectacular comedy sketch, remains a second week; the Four Indian Fakirs completely mystify their audience with remarkable conjuring tricks; Ted and May Hopkins present a neat trifle, *Cambrian Courtship*; Frank Lynne is a particularly funny comedian; Pierce and Maizee have an attractive and pleasing vaudeville act; Beatrice Boanas, possessed of a rich soprano voice, renders several delightful ballads; the Canary pantomime company have an act brimming with humour; and others in the programme are Eric, a clever ventriloquist, and Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten.

Paddington Palace.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The "Royal" stock dramatic company is presenting this week *The Lottery of Life*, the principal artists being Mr. Vincent A. Briscoe (Sir George Brierley), Mr. Albert Sember (Arnold Brierley), Mr. Frank S. Strickland (Captain Martin Dalton), Mr. H. G. Brandon (Leary Jim), Miss Lilian Burns (Mabel), Miss Lina Nazeby (Jess), Miss Florence Barnes, and Miss Alice Hinton.

Empire. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—A strong bill is offered here this week. The big attraction is the "Globe of Life," inside of which two performers ride on motor cycles while the structure revolves; the refined and popular G. H. Elliott has a flattering reception for his coon songs; Buddha's Blackboard, as an illusion, proves a source of bewilderment; the smart little Lupino Lane is warmly applauded for his singing and dancing; the favourite J. H. Milburn has some taking songs; Binns and Binns, "the musical vagabonds," are both funny and clever; Fox and Melville present pleasing illustrated songs; the animal impersonations by the Lupino Brothers are exceptionally good; and Harry Carsdale, mimic, also appears.

Roscommon.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Foremost here this week are King's College Boys, with their delightful harmonised songs; the Jeffries arouse great laughter with the comedy sketch *Checkmated*; a popular turn is provided by Bert Gordon, male soprano and piper; the Dagodets have a high-class comedy; J. S. James shows much ability as a banjoist and juggling bone soloist; and the humorous monologue, *The Village Concert*, by Arthur Aiston, proves acceptable.

LLANDUDNO.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. R. Chaplin.—Miss Dorothy Oswald's company appeared here on Monday and Tuesday in that thrilling drama entitled *Life*. Mr. Herbert Barr as Jack Lockhart was good; Mr. Ronald Grahame as Sir Horace Lester was well placed; Mr. A. B. Lyons as Joe Pippit and Miss Mandie Vincent as Jess were excellent, their duets being loudly applauded. On Wednesday and Thursday *East Lynne* was presented by the same company.

LLANELLY.—Royalty Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—Mr. Tom Owen and his clever pierrot troupe opened here on Monday evening. For the rest of the week, *A Chinese Honeymoon* was presented by Mr. Chas. Macdona's company, Miss Florence Wilton being a most charming Mrs. Pineapple; Miss Kitty Clayton as the droll Fi-Fi proved very clever; Miss Alma Bolton as Mrs. Brown was good; and the part of Mr. Pineapple was in the capable hands of Mr. Lindsay Harman.

LONDONDERRY.—Opera House.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon.—Mr. Hoggan-Armadale is paying a return visit here this week, staging *The Bells*, *Vicar of Wakefield*, and *Lady of Lyons*. As Mathias in the first-named Mr. Hoggan-Armadale gives a most dramatic rendering of the part; Mr. Cotton Holmes is an admirable Mons. Bossey; and Mr. F. Wilberforce plays Christian well. Miss Violet Macaree is a fine Madame Mathias, and as Annette Miss Marion Spencer is very good.

LOWESTOFT.—Marina.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—A popular attraction this week is Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *The Silver King*. Mr. Horace E. Herbert presents a striking rendering of the part of Wilfred Denver, and he is ably seconded by Miss B. Doyle's s

song illustrators, give an enjoyable turn; Chester and Lees' marionettes meet with approval; the Spring Trio of lady barrel jumpers are decidedly clever; Magna scores in a number of classic poses; Geo. Russell is a smart comedian; the Two Roses are charming dancers; Mr. Tom Johnson is a clever actor-vocalist; Mr. Billy Beevor, comedian and dancer; and Harrop and Vinroy, in a pleasing sketch, complete the bill

MIDDLESBROUGH. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—The military play, *Death or Glory Boys*, is the attraction here this week, and presented by Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company. Mr. Benhote Wilson is responsible for the leading character Jack Malden, and introduces into the rôle that manly vigour so necessary for the soldier part. Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson as Captain Ferrers gives a capital study of the villain; and Mr. Lancelot Usher as Lieut. Duff portrays the character very ably. Miss Violet Carlyle is charming as Nina Fergerson, and Mr. Gerald Ord exceedingly good as Colonel Fergerson. As Nat Wilks, Mr. J. Russel Boyne is amusing, as is also Miss Hetie Senior as the maid. Miss Amy Ellam plays the difficult part of Edith Malden in a way which leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. Harold Wagner's study of Old George was exceedingly good, and Bryan is admirably played by Mr. Edward Jeffs; as the prisoners, Mr. John Wemyess, Mr. Alf. Reid, and Mr. Jas. Ferguson add in no small measure to the evening's enjoyment. The drama is handsomely staged.

Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. Johnson Marsh's company is here this week in the romantic play, *The King's Signet*. The character of Mick Milligan receives full justice in the able hands of Mr. Chas. Collette. Miss Marie De Campi as Claire Cloville has a lot of work to do, which she gets through with commendable exactness. Mr. Alfred Woods gives a carefully-studied rendering of the part of Maurice D'Alroy, and Mr. E. W. Maule Cale acquits himself well as Comte Dettmer. Miss Maud Williamson is an artist of undoubted ability, her acting as Lyle De Vriesac being altogether artistic and smart. Miss Jennie Dawson as Jeanne; Mrs. Dawson as Mother Gorlet, and Miss Dorothy Sydney as Suzanne are exceedingly good. As the officers of the army, Mr. F. E. Crane, Mr. George Dagleish, Mr. W. Hamilton, and Mr. Arthur Esmonds all play with marked ability.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Chas. B. Rembges.—Harry Roxburg and company head the bill here in the musical sketch, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, and are as amusing as ever, Mr. Roxburg as P.c. Longfellow creating roars of laughter. A clever and funny acrobatic turn is given by Conway and Leland; the Merry Monapedes (Frank and Alice Surin), comedians, do well; Sybill St. Elmo is a charming vocalist; and Dusty Rhodes, comedian, pleases; Gracie Taylor and Barnard's Mannikins also contribute to the programme.

Oxford Palace.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf. Graham.—The highly popular and talented singing comedians, Verno and Voyce, head the attractions here with a turn which is received with much enthusiasm. Florence Hilton, male impersonator, scores with catchy songs, and the Smart Set provide some excellent singing; Smiler Lee, with comic ditties, and Sill and Silcott, comedians, also please. Other turns include La Belle Nello, contortionist, Jessie Burnett, and the Palascope.

MORECAMBE. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House. — Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—*The Days of Cromwell* has proved a powerful draw at this theatre, and Mr. Henry Belding has been seen to great advantage as Ironhand, the Avenger. Mr. Robertson Foulis and Mr. Howard Hardy have proved veritable villains, and Mr. Jack C. Grey has been a gallant hero. There is plenty of comedy in the piece, which is cleverly worked up by Messrs. John Melton, T. W. Stead, T. R. White, Harry C. Momber, Misses Judith Shadwell and Annie Clunn, all of whom have suitable parts. Miss Gertrude Gilman is successful as the heroine, Ruby Avondale; Mr. Geo. P. Lester appears as the Protector, and Mr. Edward Carter is effective as Sir Wilfred Avondale in the first act.

MOTHERWELL. — New Century Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company opened here on Monday for three nights with *A Country Girl*. Mr. Martin D. Pitts is an admirable Geoffrey Chaloner, and Mr. Bernard Vaughan attains the height of complacency as the Rajah of Bhong. Mr. W. O. Billington does well as Sir Joseph Verity; and Mr. George Stone contributes a capital sketch as Grandfather Mummery. Barry, the irrepressible, is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Weir, whose witty sayings keep the house in continual laughter. Miss Violet Leslie jumped at once into favour as Marjory Joy, her singing of "Coo" being repeatedly encored. Princess Michelanah has a charming exponent in Miss Rita Narcelli, and Miss Madge Campbell is a bright and vivacious Madame Sophie. Miss Blanche Courtney is a big favourite as Nan, her singing and dancing being much admired. Minor parts are all creditably sustained, and justice is done to the concerted numbers by the well-trained orchestra under the bâton of Mr. Edmund Paterson.

NELSON.—New Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. George E. Mudd.—Mr. Walter Melville's powerful combination and moral play, *A Girl's Cross Roads*, is being presented here this week. Miss Beaumont Collins does some remarkably clever work as Barbara Wade; Mr. Wilson Gunning gives a fine representation of Jack Livingstone; Mr. Charles Franmore's success as John Meadows cannot be disputed; Mr. Fred Ingram makes a typical Toby Turvey, and Miss Lena Delphine is excellent as Tilly Vane; Miss Nannie Meade makes an ideal Nellie Meadows; Mr. Fred Castleman ably sustains the part of Dr. Weston; Mr. David Borone as Joe Coyle does good work; other members of the company that are well worthy of mention are Mr. George Wilson as Fred Hickley, Mr. Harold Vernón as Harry Butler, Miss Emily Crossley as Jane Thomas, Miss Nellie Butts as Georgie Watts, Miss Kate Walton as Jessie Wilson, Miss Jessica Black as Constance Cornell, Mr. Gerald Jordan as Cuthbert Lumley, Mr. Fred Withers as Luke Ramsden, Miss Gibbons as Fay Dudley, and Miss Nellie Noble as Gertie Dudley.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Not often does Mr. Arthur Bourchier visit the provinces, and Newcastle playgoers, who had previously had but one opportunity of seeing him with his company in a local theatre, naturally looked forward with much interest to his appearance with Miss Violet Vanbrugh and the Garrick Theatre company at the Theatre Royal on Monday night. Though no novelty was presented to Novocastrians in Mr. Alfred Sutro's four-act play, *The Walls of Jericho*, this powerful and witty work and scathing indictment of "the Smart Set" having twice previously delighted audiences in the Theatre Royal, there was a splendid house. As Jack Frobisher Mr. Bourchier was admirable, and in the great scene of the third act, where he delivers a spirited denunciation of the shams and vices of the circle into which he enters after his marriage, he evoked a storm of applause. Miss Vanbrugh played the part of the charming, tantalising Lady Alethea with a grace and ease that met with frequent and prolonged recognition. Mr. Charles Goodhart was excellent as Hankey Bannister, and Miss Pamela Gaythorne very good as the spirited and wilful Lady Lucy; while as Dallas Mr. H. Nye Chart was capital. The other members of the company lent able support. For Thursday and Friday evenings *Brother Officers*, preceded by *Monsieur de Paris*, was announced.

Tyne Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. William Greet's company is this week occupying the boards here with *The Shulamite*. Deborah Krillet is successfully played by Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, much power and feeling being shown in her rendering; whilst Mr. Charles Weir as Simeon Krillet, the Boer farmer, illustrates the stern Puritanism of his race to perfection. Mr. W. T. Lovell is eloquent and passionate as the English lover, Robert Waring. Miss Mary Griffiths plays with great dramatic skill the part of Anna Vanderberg; Miss Marcella Hudson as the Kaffir girl, Memke, is remarkably clever in her impersonation; Mr. Reynolds Denniston is a good-natured Jan Vanderberg. An excellent curtain-raiser precedes the chief piece, *The Widow Woos*, a delightful comedy, in which the characters are impersonated by Mr. Reynolds Denniston, Mr. Henry De Solla, Miss Mary Griffiths, and Miss Hudson.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clarke.—Mr. Fred Melville's company with the drama *The Beast and the Beauty* is paying a successful visit to this popular house. The Beast (Jack Barrymore) is forcibly interpretated by Mr. W. S. Hartford, while nothing can be more engaging or sincere than Miss Alice Bowes as "the Beauty" (Violet). The part of Delilah Vane is portrayed with admirable discretion by Miss Daisy Gwynne; Mr. W. E. Passmore is forcible as the Earl of Foman; Henry Denver is excellently impersonated by Mr. Bernard Mervyn; Mr. Will Costa and Mr. Ben Howard as the two bantam weights, Billy Scorchers and Sid Crooke, give an exhibition of the fistic art which is popularly received and accorded well-merited applause.

Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Well-filled houses are the order here this week, Mr. Vivian Grantham's company in *Held in Bondage* proving a popular attraction. Mr. Grantham as the chief character, Sir John Hawthorn, gives a lifelike impersonation of that part; Mr. Richard Vane as Prince Mazaroff is seen to distinct advantage, and earns a good reception; Miss Florence Tyrrell acts with great skill as Zara; Mr. Charles Stirling shows merit as Ivan Dronski; ample comedy is supplied by Mr. George Scully (Harry Dunn) and Miss Maude Merrick (Lisette), who causes roars of laughter.

Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—Another good bill is this week attracting crowded houses nightly. The premier position is held by Bella and Bijou, who as usual are convulsing their audiences with laughter with their droll, diverting duo; Woodhouse and Wells are a pair of clever comedians and dancers who earn much well-merited success; Spry and Austin are again to the fore in their popular vaudeville turn; Rose Naynon, assisted by Clyde Phillips, with her marvellous troupe of trained tropical birds, is accorded much applause; Martin Iredale, a local boy ballad vocalist, renders his songs in a charming manner; Beatrice Renee, comedienne, scores heavily; as operatic vocalists Rita and Roma contribute some pretty numbers, and do well; Harry Hayton fully sustains his reputation as a first-class comedian; in their comedy sketch Phillip and Terry are amusing; whilst Madge Osmond, male impersonator, and Will Vokes, eccentric dancer, complete a good all-round entertainment.

Pavilion Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—The patrons of this popular hall are this week catered for in most liberal manner. Vesta Victoria, fresh from her triumphal tour in the United States, on Monday sang four songs in her best form, and was cheered to the echo; another favourite turn is that of Regan and Ryan, whose songs and patter earn a royal success, their dancing being a special feature; the Davis and Gledhill Trio supply some interesting and exciting contests on the patent stationary roller tracks; the local competition, promoted by the management, creating much local enthusiasm. In his comical act, "Learning to Acrobat," Recco causes considerable mirth; Violet Morgan, mimic, gives clever impersonations of leading music-hall celebrities; the Three Gilbert Girls are a charming trio of vocalists and dancers; Fred Herbert proves himself a vocalist of great merit; Edna Latonne, chorus vocalist, is very popular; Frank Clough, patter comedian, is as diverting as ever; Bicknelle gives a clever exhibition as a clay modeller; Lillie Lassah, comedienne and dancer, is well applauded. The Barrascope pictures are remarkably clear and steady.

NEWPORT.—Lyceum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Cyril Keightley's company is playing a series of pieces here this week that ought to prove attractive. On Monday *The School for Scandal* was presented to an enthusiastic house. As Charles Surface Mr. Keightley fulfilled expectations as the wild young blood; Miss Haidee Gunn as Lady Teazle played with a natural sweetness that revealed itself particularly in the screen scene; cleverly studied was Mr. Hy. Crocker's Sir Peter; Mr. Edward Harrison made an effective Sir Oliver; and the part of Joseph was ably presented by Mr. Basil Holloway; Mr. B. A. Pittar was an amusing Moses, and Mr. Basil Dean did well as Trip. Included in this week's bill were also *Miles Carew, Highwayman*, and *She Stoops to Conquer*.

Empire.—Moss Empires, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Miss Elsworthy and company are delighting good houses here with the playlet, *The Orange Girl*; Millie Payne is quite a success in her new style of low comedy; Miss Lillie Langtry is as popular as ever; and Bennett and Martell provide plenty of fun. Messrs. G. C. Doughty and company appear in a comedy sketch *Captain Cupid*; Gwennie Hasto is a smart comedienne and dancer; and others in the bill are Clarice Netta, a versatile vocalist, and Carrie Joy, who is applauded. The Bioscope shows interesting pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.—Opera House. — Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Baron H. Harriss's company, in the American musical comedy, *The Prince of Pilsen*, is proving a great attraction. Mr. Harry Kilburn as Hans Wagner is at his best, and proves irresistibly amusing; Miss Sophie Harriss scores largely in the part of Mrs. Maddison Crocker; Mr. Frank H. Crimp is thoroughly at home as Carl Otto; Mr. Bernard Russell makes the most of the dude part of the Earl of Shrimpton; Mr. Roy Sydney sings and plays well in the character of Lieut. Tom Wagner; Mr. Ernest Gifford exerts himself successfully as the lively François; Miss Dorothy Grasdorff is charming and piquant as Nellie Wagner; Miss Florence Beech shines as Edith Adams, Vassar Girl; Miss Molly Wynne as Jimmie makes a cheeky little "bell boy"; Miss Connie Leon as Sidonie is a lively and vivacious French maid.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Representative, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—McCann's Irish Terriers make a brave show, their high leaping being especially good; Fred Carey is a comedian always welcome here for his highly amusing songs; Annie Laurie, a dainty comedienne and dancer, is also a favourite; Bert Woodward, the original cycling coon, with new feats, is another well-appreciated artist here; the Camerons give a clever comedy duologue; Patti Bella is a spirited comedienne; and the Four Brunells appear in a bustling acrobatic comedy act, *On the Links*. The Palace Pictures are extra good this week.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Horace Stanley's company with *The 10.30 Down Express* is proving an attraction here this week. As Sam Wagstaffe Mr. Horace Stanley makes a hit; Mr. George Beverley acquits himself satisfactorily as Jack O'Malley; Mr. Charles Burdon is a capital James Inderwick; Mr. Edwin Clarke figures successfully as Huntley Mason; Mr. Alaric Burton makes the most of Cuthbert Leigh, and Mr. Tom Rowdon does well as Seth Coombes; Miss Elsie Capell gives a finished rendering of Bessie Leigh; Miss Evelyn M. Walton is funny as Letitia Leigh; Miss Kate Kilpack makes a capital Peggy Potts, and Miss Josephine Lee as Olive Coombes is smart.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The bill here is headed by the Cotton Blossom Quartette, vocalists and dancers, who present an enjoyable act; Zaid performs some clever feats, and Messrs Dale and Vale, singers and dancers, are popular; Mr. Arthur Stacey, eccentric comedian and dancer, is loudly applauded, and Miss Sheila McNeil, Scotch comedienne; Mr. George Young, concertina soloist; and the Bio-Photoscope are also successful.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Wentworth Cooke's excellent company in *The Christian* is here. Mr. Frank Tennant as the Rev. John Storm is warmly applauded; Mr. Charles Hill is effective as Parson Quayle; and Mr. Edward Ling does well as Father Lampurgh. Mr. Chas. E. Dering deserves praise as Archdeacon Wealthy; Mr. Geo. R. Montford acts capably as Lord Robert Ure; Mr. Jackson Wilcox is a satisfactory Horatio Drake; Miss Grace Chalmers as Glory plays with feeling; Miss Molly Hayden as Mrs. Callander is good; and Miss Vashti Wilborne as Polly Love secures favour.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—An excellent programme is presented this week. George Bastow makes himself popular in humorous songs; a pleasing sketch by Diana Hope and company, entitled *Her Good Name*, has a good reception; Mr. A. G. Spry has funny songs and patter; the Crown Trio of vocalists are well appreciated; Max Rubens and Mlle. Doro, in their entertainment, *Superba*, show some marvellous mechanical scenic changes; Fred Cullaneo is amusing as a society entertainer; Elsie Earle is a pleasing comedienne; the Three Transfields give a clever musical act; and the Hippo Bio shows some amusing scenes.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal. — Managing Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—Mr. Martin Harvey opened on Monday with *Boy O'Carroll*, and *Hamlet* was staged on Tuesday. Mr. Harvey as the Prince was seen to great advantage, and his acting was most impressive; Miss N. de Silva submitted a delicate and sympathetic reading of Ophelia; Mr. Charles Glenny gave the fullest expression to the violent emotions of the King; and Miss Mary Rorke played with intensity and feeling as the Queen; Laertes was capitally sustained by Mr. Leonard Craske, a young actor possessed of an earnestness that made his work convincing; Mr. Fred Wright, sen., presented a sound assumption of Polonius; Mr. Charles J. Cameron displayed power as the First Player; and the Player Queen was well presented by Miss Madge Fabian. The lines of the Frist Gravedigger were humorously rendered by Mr. P. Alexander; Mr. Vincent Sternroyd did full justice to the part of Horatio; and appropriate representations of Rosencrantz and Guildenstern were furnished by Messrs. George Cooke and Alfred Mansfield respectively. *The Breed of the Treshams* and *A Cigarette Maker's Romance* were also played during the week.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—*The Private Secretary* is on a visit this week after an absence of several years. As Rev. Robert Spalding, Mr. Donald Price-Evans shows his versatility at its best; and Mr. W. Hargreaves drolly realises the peppery old Cattermole; Mr. W. T. Elworthy makes a satisfactory Marsland; Harry Marsland loses nothing in the hands of Mr. James P. E. Hussey; Mr. Randolph Reade presents a good study of Douglas Cattermole; and Mr. Vivian Gilbert is a satisfactory Gibson; Miss Dora Gray is a winning Dora Marsland, whose friend, Eva Webster, is admirably portrayed by Miss Beth Elliott; Mrs. Alfred Davis and Miss Cicely Wade do well as Miss Ashford and Mrs. Stoad. *Good for Nothing* precedes.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—The Macnaughtons form a strong attraction for the top of the bill this week. Full of quaint sayings and with an unending fund of drollery they arouse, and maintain, the interest and enthusiasm of large audiences. Mlle. De Dio is an indescribable dancer, and the effects produced during her turn are of the most beautiful and artistic kind; Alice Lloyd, in dainty costumes and with "chic" songs, always gets a hearty welcome; and Jake Friedman proves his ability to amuse by his up-to-date songs and patter; Park's Eton Boys show careful training; and an amusing military sketch, entitled *Cuckoo* is presented by Mr. Chas. S. Kitts and Miss Rhoda Windrum; Forest and King dance themselves into favour; Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts give a much-appreciated sample of American music-hall methods; and the programme is completed by "The Miner's Daughter," on the Bioscope.

NUNEATON.—Prince of Wales's Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Hardie and Von Leer's company is here with *Two Little Vagabonds*. Mr. Douglas Vigors appears with success as George Thornton, Mr. Edward McLean does well as Captain Darville, Miss Valerie Crispin excites sympathy as Marion Thornton, Miss Lilian Stuart is good as Barbara and Miss Lenna Vernon as Nurse Randall. Mr. Lionel Ellis and Miss Violet Vivian work well together as Biddy and the Gaffer, and Dick and Wally are capably undertaken by Miss Lucy Beaumont and Miss Gladys Vernon.

OLDHAM.—Empire Theatre.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Miss Claudia Lasell and a first-class company are here in the new musical comedy, *The Sweet Girl*. Miss Lasell in the part of Lola is a decided success. She charms the audience with her singing, and her acting is delightful; Miss Alice Lethbridge is excellent as Fritzi, her dancing being one of the features of the show; Miss Grace Hunter as Countess Lizzi makes the most of the part; Mr. Fred Eastman is the life and soul of the piece as Count Leibenburg, the intemperate temperance advocate; and Mr. G. de Lara infuses much humour into the part of Prosper Plewney; Mr. Leonard Russell is capital as Florian, his singing being excellent; and Mr. Lister Morrah scores as Dick Kenyon; Mr. Algernon Newark is good as Anthony Strauss, as is also Mr. W. H. Page as Wilhelm.

Colosseum.—Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor has a capable company playing the domestic drama, *The Female Swindler*. In the title-rôle, Lu Valroy, Miss Grace E. Leslie does full justice to the part; Mr. Joseph Millane makes a capital Detective John Coulson; Geoffrey Warden, the villain, is cleverly played by Mr. Wilford Cheetham, and Abraham Mikestein is well portrayed by Mr. John Belton; Harold Travers has a good representative in Mr. Guy P. Ellis, and Miss Florrie Kelsey is a pleasing heroine; Mr. Henry Wright as Billy Binks causes much laughter, and is ably assisted by Miss Mary Dawson as Mary Ann Mee, Miss Edith Gray as Mrs. Poppem, and Mr. A. Kenyon Gray, as the merchant, James Oliver; Mr. J. Lindley is capital as Dr. Fossett.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Florrie Forde is the attraction this week, and she has a good reception. Karl and May Ohm have a capital troupe of well-trained dogs, ponies, bears, and monkeys; David Poole gives an excellent ventriloquial turn; and the Original Celtics are refined vocal comedians. In Haydee's Miniature Vaudeville Theatre a spectacular Chinese scena is introduced with success; the Cumberlands give a really good cycling and acrobatic turn; Mamie Iris is a charming comedienne and dancer; and the Griss Trio are good in their pantomime, *On the Tiles*. The Royal Dottoscope concludes the entertainment.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—Cliff Ryland tops the bill, and he is as good as usual; the Two Bostons have a funny act in *The Bullfight*; the Sisters Gilbert are a capital pair of dancers and vocalists; Collier and Roberts score in a novel scena, *The Lady and the Coalman*; Johnny Fuller is excellent as the Cat on the Wire; Master Clifford is a good vocalist and expert dancer; and Myles and May appear as the Merry Huntsmen. The Dottoscope is showing the Mischievous Boys with success.

OXFORD. — New Theatre — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. E. Graham Falcon's company is here this week with *Blue-Bell in Fairyland*, which is proving as popular as when it first visited here. Mr. Lawrence Emery puts a lot of good work into the part of Dickie; Mr. Harry Vernon and Mr. Will L. Clement are a most amusing pair of schoolboys, and keep the ball of fun rolling merrily all through; Miss Lily Eyton scores a big success as Blue-Bell, her singing being particularly good; the cat Peter finds an able exponent in Albert Mack; Miss Constance St. Bride is excellent as the Queen; and Miss Vera Vizard does well as Blue-Bell's good fairy; while Miss Haidee Fitch dances very prettily as Will-o'-the Wisp. The chorus do excellent work under the direction of Mr. Herbert Simpson.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*A Trip to the Highlands* has proved a special attraction here this week. The Right Hon. Viscount Lackington is excellently presented by Mr. Wellesley Smith; as the Hon. Frederick Lackington Mr. Frank Barclay fills the part admirably; Mr. Gus Wheatman presents a vivacious and clever study of Sir Septimus Brown-Windsor; in the part of Timmins Mr. Joseph B. Montagu is inimitably droll and amusing; Mr. Wal Croft gives a funny and characteristic creation of The MacMutchkin; and Mr. Arthur Poole is excellent and versatile as Dexter; Miss Maisie Ellinger is irresistible as Miss Araminta Brown-Windsor; Miss Kitty Clinton as Fanny Flounce sings and dances delightfully; and as Miss Winnie Brown-Windsor Miss Millie Engler is most engaging. Miss Lilian Kevill Davies as Flora MacMutchkin, Miss Nan Dowling as Charley Chatterton, and Miss Kathleen Naughton as Lottie Langley perform their respective parts well. An excellent feature of the performance is the dancing of a clever midget troupe.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—Here this week are Horton and Linder, in their original grotesque act, *The Eccentric Chinese*; Clifford Spencer, patter comedian; the Cosmans, comedy entertainers; J. C. Macmillan, Scotch comedian; Marie Rivers, charming vocalist; M. Henri Sardou, assisted by Mlle. Sardou, marvellous mystifiers; and May Fallowfield, dainty soubrette.

PERTH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey's company is here this week giving delightful renderings of the well-known Irish plays, *Wearin' o' the Green*, *The Colleen Bawn*, and *Arrah-na-Pogue*. Mr. Chalmers Mackey is a great favourite in the Fair City, his quaint Irish humour receiving the unstinted approbation of a highly amused audience. His Barney O'Hea in *Wearin' o' the Green* is marked with that striking ability and natural humour which classes him far above the ordinary run of Irish comedians. Mrs. Chalmers Mackey is seen to considerable advantage as Nora McGrath; Mr. Haughton Macauley's Michael Lenny is a vivid sketch of a villainous Irish agent; Mr. Charles Homer sustains the rôle of Shamus McDermott with pleasing effect; Mr. St. John Stuart is also prominent as Gerald Courtenay; Mr. David McFarlane is successfully placed in Connor Martin, as also is Mr. H. Sainsbury in the rôle of Sir George Courtenay; Miss Nana Flensberg's portrayal of Biddy McGinn is beautifully realistic, and she is accorded a special ovation; and Miss Adele Liddon's ability is seen to advantage as Mrs. McDermott.

PETERBOROUGH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—This week's attraction is supplied by Mrs. Alexander Loftus and company in *The New Barmaid*. In the title-rôle Miss Amy Preston plays and sings with grace and charm; Mr. Charles Adeson and Mr. Alexander Loftus as the Brothers White lead the comedy, and deserve unstinted praise; Mr. Michael Dwyer acquits himself admirably as Captain Lovebury, and Mr. James Grant does well as Colonel Claymore.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Mouillot's company is appearing here in *San Toy*. Mr. Arthur Cartwright is a singer of first-class ability, and makes the most of the ample opportunities afforded by the part of Bobby; Mr. Bert Edwards creates plenty of merriment in the rôle of Li; Mr. Robert Rivers as Sir Bingo is capital as the hot-headed parent, and Mr. Jordan is a portly Emperor; Miss Bessie Allayne in the title-rôle sings and dances with becoming grace and precision; Miss Lottie D. Sargent as Dudley is distinctly amusing; and Miss Maud Rundell is a dancer of no mean accomplishment.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—Mr. H. G. Brandon's comedy-drama, *The Fatal Hour*, is being played to very good houses. Mr. Frank Harrison is a dashing young naval officer; Mr. A. Brandon furnishes, as Arthur Henderson, a fine study of an absolutely unscrupulous villain; Miss Ethel Kay has the sympathy of the house as the heroine, Amy Henderson, and Miss Beatrice Whitney is most creditable as the adventuress, Olga Meredith. Mr. Tommy Gough as Bertie Lamb supplies the comic business.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The principal item, that of Eugenie Fougere, is distinctly Parisian; the Bros. Corcoran, the musical shipbuilders, are accomplished cornet players; Ray and Calden have a comedy act genuinely original and humorous in the extreme; the Casino Comedy Four are possessors of fine voices to which full effect is given in some plantation songs; and the Karno Trio extract plenty of fun out of their sketch, *The Traveller's Rest*. The remaining items, namely, Charles Ashdown (comedian), Sisters Hayden (duettists), and Vernon Pictures, are very acceptable.

PORTH. — The Palace (late Opera House).—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—This week a good all-round programme is submitted here. Heading the bill we have the Novellas in their spectacular act, *Europe in India*; the Musical Keiths, novelty instrumentalists; the Lannons, high pedestal dancers; the Wallys, expert jugglers; George Martinesgo, solo 'cellist and baritone; Wisper, juggler; Beattie Bloom, comedienne; the Franco Midgets, conjurors; and Nelson and Thomas in the American absurdity, *On the Ra Ta*. Some fine pictures are shown on the new Bioscope.

PORTSMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J.W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—*Veronique* is attracting large audiences here, Mr. George Dance's excellent all-round company giving capital performances. Miss Ruth Lincoln makes a dainty and vivacious Veronique, singing her various numbers in delightful style. Agatha is well taken by Miss Ethel Negretti, whose vocalisation and acting are most effective; as Emerance Miss Lena Maitland scores well with her "Garden of Love" song; Miss Beatrice Hodson plays Denise with piquancy and dash; Florestan is admirably presented by Mr. Roland Bottomley, who, with Miss Ruth Lincoln, is heard to great advantage in the two vocal gems, "The Swing Song" and "Dear Little Donkey." Coquenard, in the hands of Mr. Leslie Holland, is a most amusing personage; the part of the eccentric Soustol is ably filled by Mr. Fred Syne; and Seraphin finds a decidedly good exponent in Mr. Courtney Comber. The chorus and augmented orchestra are under the able direction of Mr. Victor Champion.

Prince's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company, with *The Span of Life*, is here this week, and is well received by large and enthusiastic audiences. Mr. Kyburn-Deller makes a manly hero of Richard Blunt; Dunstan Leech finds an able exponent in Mr. Sanderson Moffatt; Mr. Walter Dale as Nutty Brown is excellent; and the Almo Trio are responsible for the Human Bridge. Miss Ella Willmer portrays the heroine Kate Heathcott with marked ability; and Miss M. Douglas, in the dual parts of Cecil Jelf and Cecil Blunt, and Miss Kitty Russell as Shrove Tuesday, are worthy of mention.

Empire Palace.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Mr. Tom Leamore, versatile comedian, has a quaint style which keeps the house in high good humour; Crissie Cross is dainty and smart in song and dance; Spry and Monti, in their new scena *The Bandy Guardsman*, makes an amusing turn; Harry Bancroft, actor-vocalist, submits some catchy songs; the Great Northern Troupe of international dancers have a flattering reception; Emmie Ames, comedienne, sings pretty numbers in good style; the Three Sherrys, in comedy acrobatic art, are smart; and the Three Floradora Girls, acrobatic dancers; Wake and Dean, the argumentative artists; and Payne's Bio-photoscope complete the bill.

PRESTON. — Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—This week Mr. Frank Bertram's company is appearing here in the romantic drama, *The Breed of the Treshams*, which has met with an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Tripp Edgar gives a brilliant rendering of the difficult and arduous character of Rat Beresby; and the part of Batty is skilfully played by Miss Celestine Bertram. Mr. Oswald Lingard makes a typical Viscount Dorsington; and Mr. Richard A. Greene as his son, the Hon. Clement Hungerford, fills the rôle in a very clever manner. Mr. Cecil C. Klein is good as the Hon. Francis Tresham; and Miss Florence Tressilian admirably impersonates the Hon. Margaret Hungerford. Mr. G. Traill is popular as Sir Henry Curwen.

Prince's Theatre. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Mr. Fred Benton's company is here this week in the highly successful drama, *The French Spy*. Mr. George Sherraton as Petross Romanoff displays exceptional ability. Miss Gertrude Evans is seen to great advantage in the rôle of the Countess Andre. Mr. Fred Benton gives a popular impersonation of Fritz; and Miss A. Harrison-Tate deserves much praise for her excellent portrayal of Olga. Some pleasing comedy is provided by Mr. Chas. Digby as Viscount Alexis, and Mr. Seymour Perry as Knipps. Mr. Richard Fulton ably sustains the part of Capt. Sommers.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—At the head of the bill here this week is Harry Tate's funny sketch, *Motoring*, which is received with continuous laughter. *The Land Grabbers*, another genuinely amusing sketch, presented by Messrs. Ward and Andrews' company, also creates great merriment. May Lillian Levey is a popular and artistic comedienne; Laura Lorne and Nell Rene submit a pleasing Lancashire singing sketch; and other good turns are given by Juan and McQue, comedians and dancers; Oakdene, ventriloquist; H. J. Kisby, the "call boy"; J. H. McCann, roller skate dancer; and Monty Walker, laughing and mimetic comedian. Bioscope pictures complete the enjoyable programme.

RADCLIFFE. — Grand Opera House. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—Miss Grace Warner and company are paying a return visit in *East Lynne*. As Lady Isabel Miss Warner is most successful; Miss Kathleen Cranston is a grotesque Cornelia Carlyle; and Joyce has a successful exponent in Miss Annie Corri. The Suzanne of Miss Maud Steeple is also praiseworthy. Mr. George Gordon portrays the villainous Sir Francis Levison with power; Archibald Carlyle is in the safe and experienced hands of Mr. J. Leighton Leigh; Mr. R. Brown infuses fun into the part of Mr. Dill; Mr. T. Vyner is a dignified Lord Mount Severn; and Mr. L. Brien as Detective Perryfoot and Mr. Robert Arnold as Justice Hare also render a good account of themselves. For Friday *The Scarlet Clue* was announced.

RAMSGATE.—The Amphitheatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Large and interested audiences have assembled here this week to witness performances by the well-known North American Indian actress, Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk, and her company in the exciting play, *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*. In this Miss Mohawk plays the central figure, the Indian mail-carrier, in dashing style, and is loudly applauded. Mr. C. W. Charles is good as Col. Stockton; Miss Goepel makes an effective appearance as Nellie; and a fine representative of villainy is Mr. Ed. Leroy as Manuel Lopez.

Royal Victoria Theatre and Pavilion.—Proprietors, the Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee, Mr. J. Richeux.—*Sapho* has been played with marked success by Miss Annie Bell and company here this week. In the title-part Miss Bell gives a powerful display of histrionic ability and is deservedly applauded. Mr. Frederick Annesley does admirably in the rôle of Jean Gausin; Mr. George Antley is a capital Cesaire; and Mr. H. Langford is excellent as Caoudal. As the child Joseph little Miss Doris F. Graham proves herself a capable child actress. The other parts are skilfully portrayed.

RAWTENSTALL. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager,

Mouillot's company opened to a packed house. Mr. Victor Wallace as Major Callabone was very good. Mr. Arthur Radcliff as Captain Ormsby was all that could be desired; as Bobbie Scott Mr. Basil Mercer was well suited; Mr. Charles Stephenson as Private Taylor kept the house in a merry mood; Mr. Ainslie Burton was a funny Moolraj; and Miss May Audrey a dainty Millicent, her bright manner and lively singing winning for her unlimited applause. Mlle. M. Naudin made a pretty Chandra, and sang sweetly; Miss M. Glanbrane as Lady Brabasham and Miss D. Morgan as Evelyn Ormsby were also successful.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company is making a big hit here this week with *Sunday*. Mr. Leonard Payden gives a decidedly clever reading of Colonel Brinthorpe, being powerful yet natural; Mr. G. Wallace Johnston presents a satisfactory Arthur Brinthorpe, and Tom Oxley is excellently played by Mr. Ernest A. Douglas. Towzer, Davy, Lively, and Jackey are all carefully portrayed by Messrs. William Lockhart, Sidney Rennef, T. Norman Walker, and Arthur Vezin respectively, the strong characteristics of each part being carefully sustained. The title-rôle is in the excellent hands of Miss Emelie Polini, who sustains the exacting part with marked success. Miss McAimee Murray gives a good delineation of Mrs. Naresby. A special word of praise is due to the excellent scenery.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Miss Lillian Beszant's company is paying a first visit to Seaham with *An Actor's Romance*, which had a flattering reception on Monday. Mr. E. Eardley Howard scores in the rôle of Harold Davenport; Robert Livingstone is capably treated by Mr. Cecil Fowler; a successful portrayal of Jack Woodford is contributed by Mr. Harry Agar Lyons; Mr. Harry Wren as Charley Cummins cleverly sustains the humour of the piece; Ikey Isaacs is played in good style by Mr. Percy Warlow; Miss Lillian Beszant as Dotty Dillingham skilfully enacts the part and contributes a pleasing song; the heartless Florence Hastings is ably treated by Miss Florence Nelson; Miss Beatrice Hone's reading of the part of Louise Davenport is a feature of the performance; and Phyllis is delightfully played by Miss Marion Ryder.

SHEERNESS.—THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Moul; Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—A capital programme is presented here this week, amongst the most prominent items being an excellent conjuring entertainment by Carl Rosine. Billie Ross and Co., in the amusing sketch, *The Hot Member*, is much appreciated; Allen and Hart (Harry and Rose), refined duettists and speciality dancers, meet with popular favour; Lily Flexmore, comedienne, gains hearty applause; and Clive Watts, comedian and patterer, is accorded a favourable reception; Mollie Nolan, comedienne, and Evie Hamilton, soubrette, also score. The programme finishes with the usual display of animated pictures.

THE PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—Another good all-round company appears here this week, and business continues fair. Shumann, comedy conjuror and card manipulator, secures hearty applause; Miss Lillie Thomas is a clever little serio comedienne; Elliott and Warne, comedy entertainers, make a big hit with their well-known comedy act, *The Traveller and the Lady*, which is cleverly played and excellently staged; Mr. Phil Reymond, the evergreen comedian, reappears, his new songs going capitally; Miss Marie Ingram is well received in popular ballads; and Mr. Tom Dalton, the well-known negro comedian and expert dancer, scores greatly with his clever turn. Mr. John Swingler makes a hit with his clever violin playing.

SHEFFIELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart: General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The Drury Lane drama *The Prodigal Son*, by Hall Caine, was played to a good house on Monday. The original scenery and effects were used, and the fine stage pictures helped considerably in the strong impression produced. Mr. Norman Partridge, an earnest, intellectual, and well-graced actor, did fine work as Oscar, and strengthened the favourable impression created here by his performance of Hamlet some time since; another favourite "hero" of Drury Lane and Adelphi drama appeared in the person of Mr. Henry George, whose fine presence gave distinction to the character of the Governor; and Mr. Herbert Hewitson acted with emotional power in the part of Magnus. In the dual rôle of Oscar's wife and daughter Miss Lily Hall Caine played in a natural manner; Miss Cecil Cromwell was a pretty and alluring Helga; and the other artists did good work.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*As Good as Gold* is being played here to well-pleased audiences.—Mr. H. H. Barrington acts in a forcible manner as Mark; Mr. Richard Ferris cleverly realises in appearance and bearing the character of Sir Richard Wharncliffe; and Mr. William Heilbron makes a dashing Jack Stanton. The clever low-comedy business of Mr. Norman Hall as Spanker, Mr. Fred May as Simpson, Mr. F. T. Tracy as Timothy, and Miss Ella Seaton as Madge causes roars of laughter. Miss Marie McAuley acts cleverly as Kate D'Arville; the part of Nora is gracefully represented by Miss Gertrude Bonser; and Miss Irene Ross is good as "the Kipper."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The visits of Mr. C. Watson Mill and Miss Rosalind Tate are always welcome here, and in *A Warning to Women* Miss Tate, looking handsome in beautiful confections, acts with charm, intelligence, and skill as Moira Kennion. Mr. H. P. Kennedy evokes laughter as the merry-hearted Mike McQuade; Mr. Palliser Acock submits a good sketch as Dr. Joules; Miss Emmie Barton is pleasing and graceful as Miss Kennion; and other characters are well played.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—A generous programme was presented to crowded audiences on Monday, the "star turn" being Mr. Wilkie Bard, who fully deserved the enthusiastic applause bestowed upon him. Another diverting comedy merchant is Mr. Walter Curtis, cordially received in his burlesque of a concert room vocalist; the Vivian company, dressed in the costume of 1820, sing, play, and burlesque in a clever and finished manner; Vernando is an original ventriloquist; Miss Nelly Stratton, a charming serio; Jean Sene is successful in his feats of magic; the graceful Sisters Finney, in a tank performance, are much admired; Alburtus and Bartram do a smart club juggling act; the Monte-Myro troupe appear in a comic *ballet d'action*; and the Bioscope brings a pleasing entertainment to a finish.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Appearing to large audiences here are Miss Carlotta De Tonsen and company, in *The Kingdom of Hate*; Mr. George Leonard, vocalist; the Nettas, duettists; Johnson and Pelham; Wirson, head balancer; Mr. Harry Thurston, comedian; and Mr. Llewellyn, vocalist. In addition there are Pallister's popular animated pictures of topical and comic incidents.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—Mr. Allan Wilkie's talented répertoire company is paying a welcome return visit here this week, with *Hamlet*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Othello*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *David Garrick*, *The Bells*, and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. Mr. Allan Wilkie played the Prince of Denmark with much ability; Mr. Alexander Marsh was a fine Laertes; Mr. Aubrey Mather acted with conscientious care and success the part of the King; Mr. George Munro was a very good Polonius; Mr. Wilton Ross acted creditably as Horatio; and other male parts were satisfactorily filled. Miss Cameron as Ophelia showed considerable talent; Miss Elly O'Dempsey merited praise as the Queen, and Miss Ruth Nightingale as the player Queen acquitted herself well.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Mr. Auguste van Biene makes a welcome appearance with *The Broken Melody*, which is now approaching its 5000th presentation. Mr. Van Biene receives a warm welcome in the part of Paul Borinski. The solos which he performs in the second act are a delightful item in themselves. Mr. Henry Ludlow makes a hard and unbending General Ivanoff; Mr. Faulkner Cox is a typical exponent of a certain kind of theatrical agent; Mr. Lawrence Grove is well-placed as Beaujoir. Miss Rosemary Rees has an unthankful part as the Duchess de Verviers, but her representation it would be difficult to better; Miss Lena Burleigh as the somewhat fickle wife of Borinski, is correct in her treatment of the part. Mr. Charles A. Morgan (Dickson) and Miss Rosie Lewis (Mrs. Dickson) infuse a welcome touch of humour into an admirable performance.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison are providing this week's attraction with *A Country Mouse*. Mr. Tempier Powell is a noteworthy character as the Hon. Archibald Vyse; Mr. Charles Bedells submits a clever study of John Bowlby; Mr. Thomas Sidney is capital as the Duke of St. Kitts; Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox is well suited as Lord Robert Wykeham; and Mr. Frank Hill is good as Jephcot. Miss Dorothy Casey wins favour by her portrayal of Lady Sylvia; Miss Margaret Marshall is decidedly good as Violet Aynsley; and Miss Hilda Honiss gives a pleasing characterisation of Angela Muir. *On the Love Path* is to be played to-night, and *Why Women Weep* has preceded each evening.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—The excellent programme submitted here by Miss Eileen McCarthy's Vaudeville company is entirely satisfying to the management here. The Merry Carpenters, in musical comedy, prove as popular as ever; Miss Eileen McCarthy sings tastefully; Mr. Wal Burt, too, is heard to advantage in his selections; and Miss Alfreda is delightful with her butterfly dancing. Mr. Harry Read conducts the orchestra with ability.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Mr. Ballard Brown is fulfilling a successful engagement here. Miss Pattie McCarthy and Messrs. Finlay Dunn, Will Edwards, Arthur Edwards, J. W. Bince, and Arthur Thomas also contribute popular items.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—A visit from Mr. Edward Terry is looked forward to by the local habitués of the theatre with more than usual interest, and a hearty reception was accorded the famous comedian, who appeared on Monday in the rôle of William Todman in Mr. R. C. Carton's play, *Liberty Hall*. Mr. Terry's conception of the part was excellent in every way, alike in the sympathetic and humorous traits of the character, which were brilliantly depicted. Mr. Allan Pollock was an admirable and clever exponent of Mr. Owen; Gerald Harringay was capitally portrayed by Mr. Frank Cellier, jun.; Miss Fyfe Alexander artistically impersonated Blanche Chilworth; Miss F. Glossop Harris submitted an earnest representation of Amy Chilworth, and Miss Eugénie Vernie did some good work as Crafer, the remaining parts being successfully played. During the week *The Magistrate* and *Sweet Lavender* were presented.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—Prominent amongst the capital variety combination engaged here this week are the Haxell team in their original act, entitled *A Day on Hampstead Heath*, which created roars of merriment; another good turn was contributed by Will Godwin, the popular character-vocalist; the programme includes Barton and Franklin, the Scottish Princes of Music; Gilbert Girard, the phenomenal mimic; Herr Addison's troupe of performing fox terriers; Counsell and Mills, in their burlesque playlet, *On the Stage*; Annie Casey, vocalist; Ruby Bijou, dancer, in an artistic barefoot dance; Charles Chard, comedian; and the Bioscope, with the latest films.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—The boards here are occupied by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *The Freedom of Suzanne*. Charles Trevor is portrayed in a natural and easy style by Mr. Percy Hutchison. Miss Mabel Love had a flattering reception, delighting everyone by her charming and vivacious acting as Suzanne. Lord Datchett, Captain Harry Cecil, and Tommy Keston are capitally hit off by Mr. J. Hastings Batson, Mr. Townsend Whitling, and Mr. Richard Neville; Mr. F. G. Thurstans as Fitzroy Harding, and Mr. Patrick Quill as Sir Horace Hatton are both good; Miss Annie Stallman cleverly enacts the overbearing dame; while Lady Isabel, Miss Fanny Minching, and Mrs. Tustail are excellently interpreted by Miss Violet Ley, Miss Charlotte Mead, and Miss Dorothy Lart.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. George F. Thompson.—The Boissetts again head the bill with their amusing sketch, *The Evening Party*, which keeps the house in roars of laughter. Ella Retford is well received; Leo Tell is successful in his mimicry of musical instruments and animals; the Wedburns are quaint comedians; Lillian Lowe, ballad vocalist, has had a good reception; a capital musical scena is contributed by Hillman and Russell; some clever dancing is given by Edgar Budden, bone soloist; and the Bioscope completes the bill.

TIVOLI. — Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Jos. Sweeney.—Roars of laughter greeted Charles R. Whittle, whose songs were quaintly rendered; an amusing sketch, *Turning the Tables*, was contributed by Brady and Johnson's Sketch Co.; the manipulation of billiard balls and cues and other juggling is cleverly shown by Halma, who is retained another week; Frank Newbury, a good whistler; Alexander Gay, with box illusions; Billy Burns, singing pit lad; Landor Brothers, enjoyable comedy acrobats; and Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope all make up an excellent programme.

STAFFORD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—Mr. John Power and company were here for the first three nights of the week with *Man's Enemy*. Mr. Francis Everard as Harry Stanton gave a fine performance, and met with a flattering reception; as Tom Drake, Mr. John Power presented a masterly and highly dramatic impersonation; as Sir Arthur Stanton and Bill Saunders, Mr. T. Arthur Ellis worked hard and effectively. Miss Clara Reid gave a happily-conceived comedy study of Polly Harris, and Mrs. Saunders was ably impersonated by Miss Edith Leslie. The remaining three nights of the week Mr. Charles Macdona's company appeared in *Three Little Maids*. Mr. Elphinstone deserves to be complimented on the great improvements he has effected at this theatre, which has been redecorated in tasteful style and reseated in a most luxurious manner. Increasing popularity is the result.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Louis Ellison; General Manager, Mr. Eugene E. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Dunford Oswald.—A good company is appearing here. Mr. Sidney George is a capital ventriloquial humorist; Miss Ada Whitton is an effective male impersonator; Mlle. Victoria Dagmar, with her comedy assistant, is given the star turn, and shows her ability on the horizontal bar; a new dramatic sketch, *A Woman's Honour*, is depicted in six scenes; and Miss Flo Banks, serio-comedienne; Mr. Marcus Boyle, comedian; and the Bioscope complete the programme.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—The stirring military drama entitled *The Trumpet Call* is here this week. Mr. Charles F. Cooke's company is a particularly good one. Mr. Joe Bracewell is seen to advantage as Professor Ginnifer, causing uproarious laughter; Mr. Leonard Yorke plays with power and conviction as Cuthbertson; Mr. C. F. Cooke makes a dashing Sergeant-Major; Flasherstone has in every way an excellent representative in Mr. John Dennys; Mr. Fred Bentley is smart as Dutton; Miss Doris Gilham cleverly sustains the arduous rôle of Astrea; Miss Elsie Evelyn Hill acts sympathetically and with effect as Constance; Miss Phyllis B. French is an attractive Lavinia; Miss Helena Rigby is a good Mrs. Wicklow; and Mr. W. G. Blunt is well placed as Redrush.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Will, Sley, and F. Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—The star turn here is Clown Barker, who, assisted by Miss Rozsika, gives a refined comedy animal show; Ike, Scott, and Son, comedians, on a return visit, are repeating their former successes; others appearing include Mr. J. H. Wakefield, the ideal coon; the Brothers Lillian in a speciality wire act; Carr and Ross, the humorous singing duo; Julian Mack, patter comedian; Frank Caffrey, Irish comedian; Mr. Lawrence Barclay, character comedian; and the Bioscope.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. Norman Macowan and company in *Monsieur Beaucaire* have attracted large audiences here. The acting of the title-rôle by Mr. Norman Macowan was most interesting; and Miss Violet Sterne gave a charming impersonation of Lady Mary Carlisle; Mr. Murray Hathorn was effective in the part of the Duke of Winterset; and Major Molyneux was satisfactorily acted by Mr. J. C. Taylor.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—Lockhart's admirably trained elephants comprise the chief item here this week and provide a pleasing entertainment. Bob Hamilton is a versatile Scotch comedian; the Custances, in their duologue, *A Game for Two*, are much appreciated; Gillin, ventriloquist, is amusing; Harry Carmen, comedian, tells some humorous stories; Keene and Adams are pleasing duettists and dancers; the Cecilias give a clever musical act; and Daisy Lane, comedienne, sings with success.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—For the first three nights Mr. Horace Moseley and company appeared in a musical drama, entitled *The Betrayer*. Mr. S. Lester Howard in the title-rôle made a capital impression; Mr. Norman Martin as Bryan Feathersby was a capable exponent; and the Jack Reynolds of Mr. J. W. Wallbank was very good. Mr. Horace Moseley as Martin Doyle and Miss Frances Vibrant as Peggy Maloney provided plenty of fun. For the last three nights *The Orchid* was announced.

SUNDERLAND. — AVENUE THEATRE.—Director and Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—The lovers of opera in and around the Wearside town have responded handsomely to the attractions afforded by the visit of the Moody-Manners Opera Company here, crowded houses having been the rule throughout the week. Monday night was devoted to Gounod's *Faust*, with Mr. Joseph O'Mara in the title-rôle. Mr. Charles Manners' Mephistopheles at this period of the day is too well known for criticism; Mr. Lewys James submits an admirable rendition of Valentine; Madame de Vere's interpretation of the difficult rôle of Marguerita calls for the highest commendation; Mr. Rowe excelled in the somewhat less important part of Wagner; Miss Mildred Bryan's Siebel was also a pleasing performance; and Miss Maude Baker left little to be desired as Martha. The chorus is large and well-balanced. The baton was in the able hands of Herr Richard Eckhold. *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci* were given on Tuesday, under the conductorship of Signor Romnaldo Sapio; Wednesday *The Lily of Killarney* occupied the boards, with Mr. John Child as Myles-na-Coppaleen and Madame Fanny Moody as Eily O'Connor. *Tannhäuser*, *Maritana*, and the ever-welcome *Bohemian Girl* were the other operas submitted during the week.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Josh Hemingway.—Mr. George Testo Sante's company, in *The Life of a Showman*, is paying a return visit here. An excellent variety show is given in Act II. Mr. Loyan Darra plays fairly strongly as Hendrick Marais; Mr. Ed. Warren is seen to advantage as the Rev. Cyril Arliss; Master Harry Warden is precocious as Dickie Marais; Mr. George Testo Sante as Brian Leader is afforded an opportunity of introducing his athletic feats as a "strong man"; Miss Amy McNeil is efficient as Agatha Winter. In the prologue Mr. J. G. Sante as Laurie Grey plays the violin with more than the usual ability.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and S. B. Stringer.—The redoubtable Hackenschmidt heads the bill this week. Other turns are furnished by Hess and Lisbon, who score in a roller-skating act; Maidie Berka, society entertainer; Lachie Thompson's "Top-weights"; Dan Conroy, comedian; Jeannette Hall, a lady contralto with a voice of wide range, and who sings with culture; Will Letters, comedian; the Sisters Geretti, trapeze artists; and the bioscope pictures.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD. — Proprietor, Mr. Edward Gray. — Mr. Lingford Carson's company opened on Monday with *The Heart of a Hero*. Mr. Charles Draycott as Jim Resdale and Mr. J. Dobson Clyde as Mark Marl both play up in capital style, and the Wilfred Marl of Mr. Ernest J. Fare is a fine performance. Other characters worthy of mention are the Detective, played by Mr. Mordy Carroll; the Miser, which is in the capable hands of Mr. Harry Scatchard, and Timothy Heigho, played by Mr. Arthur Byron; Miss Muriel Thompson as Nell Resdale and Miss Marie Robson as May Ryder each gives an excellent performance.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners; Musical Director, Mr. Fred Lucas.—The new romantic drama, *A Destroyer of Men*, capitally presented by Mr. James Hare and his well-selected company, is proving a strong attraction here this week. In the part of Karl Mischla, Mr. James Hare is exceptionally fine, and Mr. Charles Bickell is successful and prominent as Michael. Mr. Harold B. Lewis is seen to considerable advantage as Count Starevitch; Miss Irene Clifford undertakes, with commendable judgment, the part of the wretched Olga Mischla, and Miss Gladys Lloyd is pleasing as Vida Ravel. Miss Alice Buckland, as Nina, and Mr. Ross Warren, as Coco, are safely entrusted with the fun of the piece. A strong and interesting feature of the drama is the introduction into one of the scenes of Volcano, the herculean athlete, with his marvellous feats of strength, and Mr. Harry Wright, with his clever rhyming song.

TODMORDEN.—TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, Todmorden Corporation.—Miss Rose Faith's No. 1 London Company opened here on Monday with the romantic Georgian costume-play, *No Cross, No Crown*. Miss Gwen Stewart played exceedingly well in the dual parts of Lady Margaret Luttrell and Mistress Gray; and Miss Rose Faith as Lady Clare scored a distinct success. Miss Rita Rosslyn as Dame Priscilla Barclay looked the part to the life, and Miss Corona L'Estrange made an efficient Annabel Sylvester; Little Ruby was a winsome Doris Luttrell, and Miss Ada Clawson as Plato, Dame Priscilla's coloured page-boy, did exceedingly well. Mr. W. Carriden made a handsome Sir Francis Luttrell, and Mr. Harrison Chapman as Professor Nebb was distinctly good; as Austin Blake, the villain of the piece, Mr. Herbert De Ville had a difficult part to play, but his efforts are worthy of high praise; whilst Mr. Fred Gresham as Dr. Ashby, a fussy military surgeon, was amusing. In the minor parts of Sergeant Arnold and Lettie Crayle, Mr. A. Bower and Miss Olive Webb were successful; whilst Rawson Haines, military servant to Sir Francis, was ably impersonated by Mr. C. George.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. George Dance's own company presented *The Cingalee* for the first time in Torquay on Monday. As Nanoya Miss Edith Harmer sang sweetly; Miss Bertha Frey made a dignified Lady Patricia, singing her numbers successfully; the Peggy Sabine of Miss Minnie Muir was delightful, her duets with Mr. Tom Payne as Chambhuddy being among the great successes of the evening; Mr. Payne was extremely funny; Mr. J. C. Fagan made a capital Harry Vereker, Mr. Frank Sutton a dignified Kandy Noble, Mr. William Austin a pleasing Bobby Warren, and Mr. Coope Edmonds an excellent High Commissioner; Miss Florrie Treseder danced prettily.

TREHERBERT.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Poole; Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—Messrs. E. A'Dell and F. Chabat's company appeared here on Monday in *The Romany's Revenge*. The part of John Hope is impersonated with marked skill by Mr. Evelyn A'Dell; Mr. Fred Green as Archibald Heath is well placed; Mr. Frank Jefferson gives an excellent rendering of David Renard; Mr. Harry Rose as Bobbie Bloom is humorous and is ably assisted in the fun-making by Miss Ada Stelling as Polly Pluck; Cleb Kral is well sustained by Mr. F. Henson; whilst Messrs. Alf Kitson, Frank Stockwell, Wilson Verner, and Sidney Leighton leave nothing to be desired in the remaining male characters. Miss Ethel Ashleigh in the part of Zamet plays in a manner that stamps her to be an actress of the first rank; Miss Lil Francis is successful as Archie; Miss K. Eckart as Lilian Hope and Elspie is deserving of mention for her portrayal of both parts.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Manager, Mr. L. J. Gunnell.—Mr. Bannister Howard's company in *Florodora* has been well received this week. Mr. Gus Danby has proved as amusing as ever as Tweedlepunch, while Mr. Colin Johnston gives a powerful study of Cyrus Gilfain, and Mr. Howard Crofton is successful as Frank Abercoed. Miss Patsy Lake is charming as Dolores; Miss L. Arnold is the lady typist; and Miss Dorothy Dance is the maid.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—For this, the last week of the season, the bill includes the Deane Tribune Co., in their amusing absurdities, "The Cheerful Idiot," and "Applicants"; the Leotard Brothers, grotesque balancing and hat-throwers, who prove a popular turn; Van Denoff, lightning picture painter; Eva Linden and Frank Leedam, in light comedy sketches and duets; and the Bioscope pictures.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. Herbert Ralland's company is here this week in *La Poupée*. Mr Harry Braynes gives an excellent rendering of Hilarius, and keeps the house in continuous laughter with his smartness; Mr. Arthur Cozens displays fine vocal powers and acts well as Lancelot; Mr. Walter Balfour is good as Father Maxime; Mr. Fuller Allen is seen to advantage as Baron Chanterelle, being ably supported by Mr. Arthur Dennis as Loremois; Miss Mysie Devine is bright and piquant as Alesia, and sings charmingly, and Miss Edith Hunter is admirable as Madame Hilarius. The play has proved very popular here on its first visit.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—The Musical Savonas with their beautiful electrical scena, *The Palace of Orpheus*, are paying a return visit, and meet with a cordial reception; the Reays are a couple of smart athletic equilibrists; Mabelle May, comedienne, dances well; Tom Collins, comedian, sings in good style, and the Six Cycling Elliotts contribute some exceedingly clever feats.

WALTHAMSTOW. — PALACE. — Managing Director, Mr. G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr. A. J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Slatter.—Miss Marie Lloyd heads the list of attractions in Mr. Barclay's liberal programme this week, and sings with all her old charm, her two contributions on Monday evening being "She is so strictly proper" and "The custom of the country." The popular comedienne is nightly enjoying the warm reception to which she is accustomed, and to which her talents entitle her. Miss Blanche Holt, in a Dutch costume, is successful in an Anglo-Dutch ditty, and is a clever dancer; Penley and English appear in an amusing duologue, and score heavily; Mr. T. E. Finglas sings a good coon song, and is loudly applauded for a particularly neat dance. The heartiest laughter of the evening falls to the Brown and Kelly Combination for their clever acting in *The Butler Knows*, a smartly-written and very laughable little farce. Mr. Papa Brown is simply splendid as the Butler. Mr. Jack Foster rattles volubly through the part of Mr. Lovebird, and Miss Blanche Holt is a charming wife. Mr. George Bendon, the white coon, is the possessor of a fine sonorous voice, which he employs advantageously in two capital songs; Mr. Chas. Freeman and Miss Florence Tench appear in a new act entitled *Dramatic Gems*, in which they display their well-known talents in selections from *Moths*, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, and *Drink*. Miss Tench is charming as Vera in the first-named, while Mr. Freeman boldly seizes his opportunities as Bob Brierley and Coupeau. The novel turn is well received, the success of the two artistes being thoroughly deserved. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope presents the usual interesting pictures.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company are re-appearing here this week in the stirring play, *The Face at the Window*.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Another capital entertainment is provided for the habitués of this house. Jack and Evelyn in their sketch, *Come into the Office*, again score well, and the Three Seabournes are accomplished equilibrists; Wenona and Capt. King are clever with the rifle, and J. G. Aitkén, a smart comedian; the Three Sisters Jonghmans have excellent voices, which blend well in a choice selection of harmonised trios. The Five Casino Girls play on various instruments with success, and the Royal Bioscope pictures are all good.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby.—A special engagement of Messrs. Granville and Thorne's company in the historic drama *Napoleon the Great* is drawing capital houses here this week. Mr. Hugh Montgomery is admirably suited in the rôle of Napoleon, and Colonel Lavarennes is well played by Mr. Henry Earlsmere; Mr. Phil Harper scores in the part of Colonel Jules Meuron; and as Paul Laczinska Mr. Bartlett Garth is well worthy of special mention. Marie Walewska is charmingly acted by Miss Elsie Warner; Miss Maud Russell secures hearty applause for her able embodiment of Mlle. Leonie Marboeuf; Mère Dumont is ably depicted by Miss Florence Thorne; and as Lisette, the maid, Miss Adelaide Cromer proves herself a talented artist.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—Mr. T. Morton Powell is here this week paying a return visit with his drama, *Honour Thy Father*. Mr Walter H. Cameron plays the rôle of Gabriel Garth in a masterly manner; Mr. W. R. Winning does full justice to his part as Duncan Bly; Miss Kate Newton interprets the character of Gertrude Garth with much feeling; Jack Halyard is capitally portrayed by Mr. Bertram Ross; Mr. W. H. Melrose makes an able and smart Ned Pennycomquick, and in conjunction with Mr. Fred Rolls as Mike Copplestone keeps the house in continual roars; a smart piece of character acting is presented by Mr. Claude Merton as George Bloggs; Miss Mabel Coleman is all that could be desired as Lillian Garth; Miss Winnie Donovan well sustains the character of Mercy Merry; Miss Lizzie Morley gives a nice rendering of Poppy Cornleigh.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—Mr. Harry Champion heads the programme here, and is in his best form and much appreciated. Miss Eva Hope, in association with Mr. Jack Wayho, gives a clever performance in original duologues; a good turn is submitted by Beattie Foster; Wallace Whitney comes in for great applause for his comic rendering of his soldier song; some smart impersonations are submitted by Harry Bent; the clever little comedienne, Venie Clements, gives a good show; the Hippodrome pictures also add to the amusement of the evening.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis. — *The Marriage of Kitty* is being presented here. Miss Aida Jenoure is included in Mr. Howard Cochran's company, and this talented lady has a very true conception of the character of Kitty, which she interprets in a breezy and vivacious style; Miss Betty Castle makes the rôle of the Peruvian widow most attractive, whilst Mr. Howard Cochran finds ample scope for his ability in the character of Sir Reginald Belsize; Miss Helen Kay Robertson makes an excellent French maid, and Mr. Cecil Wilford sustains the part of the solicitor admirably; Hampton, his clerk, is well represented by Mr. Colet Dare.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson. — Mr. Frank Macnaghten is again presenting a good bill of fare here. Dutch Daly receives quite an ovation each night; Will Musgrave is greeted as an old friend; the gymnastic pot-pourri act of the Arleys is distinctly good, the dogs introduced greatly enhancing the charm of the turn; Frank and Free are two bright and fresh comedy artists; the Bros. Curran cause amusement with their boxing act; Brown and Robinson (duettists) are enjoying popularity; and Rita Resden proves herself an accomplished male impersonator. Raymond's Bio-tableaux are always good.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. F. R. Benson's North Shakespearean company is paying a most welcome return visit here. *The Taming of the Shrew* was staged on Monday. As Petruchio Mr. Henry Herbert's elocution was excellent; a sound piece of acting was the Baptista of Mr. Reginald Davis; Mr. Gerald Ame's Lucentio was a meritorious performance, as was the Gremio of Mr. Lionel Bevans; Mr. Henry Morrell was decidedly good as Hortensio; Mr. Ross Shore proved himself a capable comedian as Grumio; Mr. E. Spencer Geach did well as Tranio, and Biondello was facetiously portrayed by Mr. Charles Francis; Mr. Philip Merivale was an able exponent of Vincentio; Miss Dorothy Green looked remarkably handsome, and showed rare histrionic ability as Katharina, and Miss Louise Graeme gave a delightful delineation of Bianca. *Romeo and Juliet*, *Twelfth Night*, *Macbeth*, *As You Like It*, *Hamlet*, and *The Merchant of Venice*, are also in the répertoire.

WEST STANLEY.—VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; Responsible-Manager, Mr. John Cassidy.—Messrs. E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Finberg's company in *The Traitor* proved an attraction here on Monday. Mr. E. E. Clive gave an imposing portrayal of Prince Rudolph; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan was responsible for powerful acting as the Chief of the Police; Captain Ross, R.N., was presented in a bluff, hearty manner by Mr. T. W. Hurst, who was ably seconded by Mr. F. Sutherland; Cen Cen was a typical Japanese girl in the hands of Miss Maud Stewart; the rôle of Elsie Dupres was well sustained by Miss Kath Vere; Miss Ruth Shepherd as Zulu won applause; the mysterious Countess Zicka was cleverly portrayed by Miss Gwynne Warren; Miss Isabel Hunt won unstinted applause by her presentation of Lieut. Nicholas; Mr. Arthur McCulloch made a capital Gen. Hertz; and Mr. Edward Duff a fine Gen. Franz.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Miss Winifred Chalmers and company are presenting *The Master Criminal* here. The title-rôle is in the capable hands of Mr. Henry L. Osmand; Mr. Alexander Haviland scores as Philip Manners; Mr. Dunlop Stewart makes a typical Ben Beaudy; the rôle of Gentleman Jim is effectively handled by Mr. J. W. Callaghor; and Tommy Dale (Mr. Harry Cooke) and Peggie Perks (Miss Mabel Tremere) are general favourites. Mr. H. P. Warburton gives an imposing portrayal of Mr. Manners; and Mabel Manners is played in a sweet and winning style by Miss Katie Blair. Miss Winifred Chalmers was responsible for some powerful and emotional acting as Cecile.

WHITEHAVEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Clark; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Clark.—A return visit was paid here on Monday by Mr. Chas. Carte's company in *A Noble Brother*. Mr. Carte repeated his remarkable performance of Jerry, being well supported

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DAS FRIEDENSDORF,"
Farce, in Three Acts, by Carlot G. Reuling,
Produced at the Lustspielhaus,
Sept. 21.

Dr. Brandes ..... Herr Marx
Annie ..... Frau Mallinger
Krüger ..... Herr Harting
Dr. Seyfert ..... Herr Bach
Dr. Berthold ..... Herr Burg
Frau Berthold ..... Fraulein Becker
Tennert ..... Herr Beckmann
Kofahl ..... Herr Impekoven
Pansa ..... Herr Ritter
Grund ..... Herr Bothmann
Lutasch ..... Herr Penke
Hannschick ..... Herr Friedemann
Schrobeck ..... Herr Lindner
Mine ..... Fraulein Euler
Rosa ..... Fraulein Cerigioli
Stine ..... Fraulein Kuhn
Die alte Bruckin ..... Fraulein Hilla
Miete ..... Herr Paulmuller

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, Sept. 27. — Herr Reuling made for himself a name some years ago with a successful play, but he has hardly lived up to his reputation. None of his succeeding pieces—and he is a prolific writer—have ever obtained or merited the success accorded to *Der Mann im Schatten*, which was produced at the Deutsches Theatre under Dr. Brahm's management, and, at the time, fully detailed in your columns. The reception the work under present discussion met with at the Lustspielhaus was a mixed one, many of the audience applauding heartily, and some, at the close, hissing. The farce is neither better nor worse than many that have enjoyed a lengthy run, and it is difficult in this case to prognosticate. It is exaggerated to the verge of caricature, the plot being—here, at least—a very well-worn one; but some of the dialogue and the scenes are genuinely amusing. Two Berlin men, Dr. Brandes and his friend Krüger—both artists, unmarried and well-to-do—are weary of the eternal routine of town and society life. They long for the restful quiet of the country, for Nature and the simple life. So Dr. Brandes buys a villa in the Mark, in the Spree Forest neighbourhood, and his sister is to keep house for all three. They turn their backs upon the metropolis, bidding a cheerful adieu to dinner-parties, clubs, automobiles, and all that makes for the tumult of the city. The experience the novices meet with in their rural village is such as could only be met with in a farce. In the first place, Brandes has paid double as much for the house as it is worth. This is followed up by a systematic cheating and plundering of the smart city men by the cunning peasants. Fräulein Brandes' poultry is stolen and sold to her again, only to be re-stolen; the fields are mowed, and the hay carted off by night; and every day some new swindle takes place. Ultimately a false alarm of fire is sounded, whereupon the peasants, in a body—under the pretence of rendering assistance—carry out and carry off the doctor's furniture. This is the last straw, and all three long-suffering dupes shake off the dust of "Gottes freier Natur," and hasten back—cured for ever of grumbling—to their beloved Berlin. The acting was exceptionally bright, Fräulein Cerigioli—as a village beauty, dishonest as the rest—being capital. Herren Marx, Härting, Beckmann, and Impekoven gave very good accounts of their respective parts, and Frau Mallinger is deserving of a special word of praise for her convincing rendering of Annie Brandes.

"DER JUBILAUMSBRUNNEN."

Play, in Four Acts, by Walter Bloem,
Produced at the Neues Theatre, Sept. 29, 1906.

Ellmenreich ..... Herr Stange
Kottsieper ..... Herr Bornstedt
Hönninghaus ..... Herr Helmerding
Schaumann ..... Herr Schwaiger
Hasselluss ..... Herr Schmidtaesler
Hellmuth ..... Herr Christians
Rebecca ..... Fraulein Riechers
Isolde ..... Fraulein Clemens
Minna ..... Fraulein Boccay

BERLIN.—Thursday, Oct. 4.—An unusually cordial reception was accorded to this new play—the creditable work of a young Dresden author. Herr Bloem was called before the curtain at the close of each act and warmly applauded. Were the over-long religious and moral discussions curtailed the piece would gain in value, and there is quite sufficient without these to fill out the evening. Two clergymen make most of the conversation—Ellmenreich and Kottsieper. The former is a friend of genuine art in every form; his first wife had been a concert singer, and his charming young daughter Isolde longs to tread the same path. The present Frau Ellmenreich is a narrow-minded bigot and a prude, and her brother, Pastor Kottsieper, is little better. A fountain—on the occasion of a jubilee—has been erected in the town; it is a beautiful work of art, and the sculptor is a man of note. Frau Ellmenreich, however, and her brother look upon the nymphs which form part of the fountain with horror, and Kottsieper makes long harangues to set the people against what he terms a sinful and blasphemous work. Now the sculptor turns out to be Pastor Ellmenreich's nephew, whom he adopted as a child. Hellmuth's father, Ellmenreich's much-loved brother, had been an unsuccessful artist, and when the boy developed a love of art his uncle considered it his painful duty to chastise him. The high-spirited lad ran away, became a famous sculptor under another name, and when he comes for the unveiling of his jubilee fountain is recognised by his uncle. Pastor Ellmenreich is the only one in the town who stands up for the beautiful work of art, and receives his long-lost nephew affectionately into his family. So well has Kottsieper succeeded in arousing the indignation of the people that a band of rowdies storm the fountain and demolish it. Hellmuth has promptly fallen in love with his cousin Isolde, who is only too glad to go forth with him into the beckoning world of art. The old man is left despairing, for Hellmuth's ideas of love are the reverse of orthodox, and Isolde was the pastor's one ewe-lamb. It is evident that the author is writing with one chief aim—the defence of real art—and much that he says is excellent. There is a pathetic little incident of a cobbler who has worked all his life in an underground shop, seeing nothing but his boots and shoes, oblivious to all but the grey routine of his days. The beauties of the marble fountain strike him like a revelation, and he asks how it is possible that life can be a vale of tears when there is so much loveliness. As to the interpretation of the piece, it could not well have been better, Herr Christians, Fräuleins Riechers and Clemens, and Herr Stange being especially good.

The long-anticipated revival of *Hamlet* at the Royal Schauspielhaus took place on Saturday evening, resulting in another triumph for Herr Matkowsky, who gave the title-rôle for the first time. This famous actor's reading of the part was exceedingly interesting; it was a rendering as powerful and convincing as we expected—and that is saying much. He makes the Prince of Denmark less youthful than most actors do; his conception is altogether more matured than those we are accustomed to; it is as though grief had made his Hamlet prematurely old. A crowded house applauded with unbounded enthusiasm, particularly during and at the close of the third act. Fräulein Wachner's Ophelia was not satisfactory, being somewhat cold and conventional; but most of the other artists—notably Herr Staegemann (Laertes), Herr Pohl (King), Herr Vollmer (Polonius), and Herr Geisendörfer (Horatio)—gave excellent impersonations. Director Barnay excelled himself in the good taste of the mounting.

MR. ALFRED LESTER AT THE GAIETY THEATRE.

AS THE LOST CONSTABLE IN "THE NEW ALADDIN."

Press Opinions.

"Mr. Alfred Lester's performance stands out as one of the most legitimate and admirably finished in the piece."—*Daily Telegraph.*

"The funniest of all is Mr. Alfred Lester as the lost constable—a delightful piece of genuinely humorous acting."—*The Times.*

"A new reputation was made by Mr. Alfred Lester as a London policeman who had lost his way—the only genuine Cockney study in the piece."—*Daily Chronicle.*

"The naturally and incisively played Lost Constable of Mr. Alfred Lester deserves special praise."—*Daily News.*

"The sad policeman who has lost his way and cannot find Bow-street is already something of a jay as played with much sense of character and quiet humour by Mr. Alfred Lester."—*Standard.*

"A policeman who wanders about disconsolately, lost in new London. . . . and he is funny, his bewilderment being depicted with great cleverness by Mr. Alfred Lester."—*Morning Leader.*

"There is a delightfully mournful policeman who has lost his way, very cleverly acted by Mr. Alfred Lester."—*Daily Express.*

"Mr. Alfred Lester's impersonation promises to be one of the most humorous character studies of the piece."—*Morning Post.*

"The best individual performances are those of . . . and Mr. Alfred Lester's policeman who loses his way."—*Daily Mirror.*

"Mr. Alfred Lester is drily comic as the lost policeman, a really capital piece of characterisation."—*The Globe.*

"The amusing incident of the fairy and the policeman, interpreted anew with real dramatic force by Miss Connie Ediss and Mr. Alfred Lester . . . thoroughly enjoying the engaging and really funny humour of this lost constable. . . . Clever as the second act of *Aladdin* is, with its touch of imagination in a changed and so-called ideal London to redeem it from the commonplace, one of the chief features is undoubtedly this very human humorist, who in despair tries to induce Mr. Edmund Payne to get run in so that the constable may find his own police-station."—*Evening Standard.*

"The funniest of the many funny incidents is provided by Mr. Alfred Lester."—*News of the World.*

"Two things stand out—one, the quiet comedy of Mr. Alfred Lester as a policeman who has lost his way."—*The Star.*

SPARROWS IN OPERA.

Addison, in an essay in the fifth issue of the *Spectator*, says:—

"An opera may be allowed to be extravagantly lavish in its decorations, as its only design is to gratify the senses, and keep up an indolent attention in the audience. Common sense, however, requires that there should be nothing in the scenes and machines which may appear childish and absurd. How would the wits of King Charles's time have laughed to see Nicolini exposed to a tempest in robes of ermine, and sailing in an open boat upon a sea of pasteboard! What a field of raillery would they have been led into had they been entertained with painted dragons spitting wildfire, enchanted chariots drawn by Flanders mares, and real cascades in artificial landscapes? A little skill in criticism would inform us that shadows and realities ought not to be mixed together in the same piece; and that the scenes which are designed as the representations of nature should be filled with resemblances, and not with the things themselves. If one would represent a wide champaign country filled with herds and flocks, it would be ridiculous to draw the country only upon the scenes, and to crowd several parts of the stage with sheep and oxen. This is joining together inconsistencies, and making the decorations partly real, and partly imaginary. I would recommend what I have here said to the directors, as well as the admirers, of our modern opera.

"As I was walking in the street about a fortnight ago, I saw an ordinary fellow carrying a cage full of little birds upon his shoulder; and as I was wondering with myself what use he would put them to he was met very luckily by an acquaintance, who had the same curiosity. Upon my asking him what he had upon his shoulder, he told me that he had been buying sparrows for the opera. 'Sparrows for the opera! What! are they to be roasted?' 'No, no,' says the other; 'they are to enter towards the end of the first act, and to fly about the stage.'

"This strange dialogue awakened my curiosity so far that I immediately bought the opera, by which means I perceived the sparrows were to act the part of singing-birds in a delightful grove; though, upon a nearer inquiry, I found the sparrows put the same trick upon the audience that Sir Martin Mar-all practised upon his mistress; for though they flew in sight, the music proceeded from a concert of flageolets and bird calls, which were planted behind the scenes. At the same time I made this discovery: I found, by the discourse of the actors, that there were great designs on foot for the improvement of the opera; that it had been proposed to break down a part of the wall, and to surprise the audience with a party of a hundred horse, and that there was actually a project of bringing the New River into the house, to be employed in *jets d'eau* and water-works. This project, as I have since heard, is postponed till the summer season; when it is thought that the coolness which proceeds from the fountains and cascades will be more acceptable and refreshing to people of quality. . . .

"But to return to the sparrows: there have been so many flights of them let loose in the opera that it is feared the house will never get rid of them; and that in other plays they make their entrance in very wrong and improper scenes, so as to be seen flying in a lady's bedchamber, or perching upon a king's throne. I am credibly informed that there was once a design of casting into an opera the story of Whittington and his cat; and that in order to do it there had been got together a great quantity of mice; but Mr. Rich, the proprietor of the playhouse, very prudently considered that it would be impossible for the cat to kill them all, and that consequently the princes of the stage might be as much infested with mice as the prince of the island was before the cat's arrival upon it, for which reason he would not permit it to be acted in his house. . . .

"Before I dismiss this paper, I must inform my reader that there is a treaty on foot between London and Wise (who will be appointed gardeners of the playhouse) to furnish the opera of *Rinaldo and Armida* with an orange-grove; and that the next time it is acted the singing birds will be personated by tom-tits, the undertakers being resolved to spare neither pains nor money for the gratification of the audience."

At the Operetta House, Clacton-on-Sea, last Saturday, Mr. Geo. Grossmith gave his drawing-room entertainment. He had the able assistance of Miss Dorothy Scott, raconteuse, Miss Dorothy d'Egville, vocalist, and Miss Dorothy Forster, pianiste

"The Old Cabin Home; or, Carolina," a drama in four acts by Grattan Donelly, was produced for copyright purposes by Mr. Robert Perris's company at the Theatre Royal, Darwen, on Saturday afternoon.

PROLOGUES.

The prologue is an old-established institution, and with its friend the epilogue or "tag" has died hard out of theatrical custom. The field at the disposal of the student of prologues is so ample that the only method that can be adopted is the falconer's way "to fly at all we see." Indeed, there is "much matter" in prologues. Marlowe's allusion in that prefixed to *Tamburlaine the Great* to "jigging veins of rhyming mother wits. And such conceits as clownage keeps in pay" is made the more interesting by the fact stated in the "Address to the Reader" of the same piece which showed that Marlowe—advised maybe by contemporary critics—had deliberately abandoned what is now called "comic relief"—"fond and frivolous gestures," said the dramatist digressing, "and, in my opinion, far unmeet for the matter, which I thought might seem more tedious unto the wise than any way else to be regarded, though haply they have been of some vain-conceited fondlings greatly gaped at." The prologue to *The Jew of Malta* is oddly spoken by Machiavel, who tells the audience that he is come on a pleasure trip from France now that the Duc de Guise is dead. But for Ben Jonson's prologue to *Volpone*, we might have been ignorant of the time taken in writing the play, and of the view adopted of rapid composition. Jonson distinctly complains of critics who

"When his plays come forth, think they can flout them,
With saying he was a year about them.
To this there needs no lie, but this his creature,
Which was two months since no feature.
And though he dares give them five lives to mend it
'Tis known, five weeks fully penned it;
From his own hand, without a coadjutor,
Novice, journeyman, or tutor."

Like Marlowe, Jonson introduces into his prologues spiteful side-hits at some of his rivals. He distinctly boasts that he does not "Hale in a gull old ends reciting, To stop gaps in his loose writing." Nor does he, he says, "Make his play from jests stolen from each table, But makes his jests to fit his fable; And so presents quick comedy refined, As best critics have designed; The laws of time, place, persons he observeth, From no needful rule he swerveth." There is nothing like a little self-praise; and doubtless *Volpone* went none e worse for Ben's little braggadocio. The prologue to *The Silent Woman* is not in the least out of date, though it was written in the seventeenth century. The author remarks:—

"Truth says, of old the art of making plays
Was to content the people; and their praise
Was to the poet money, wine, and bays.

But, in this age, a sect of writers are,
That only for particular likings care,
And will taste nothing that is popular.

With such we mingle neither brains nor breasts
Our wishes, like to those make public feasts,
Are not to please the cook's taste, but the guests."

Ben seems to have felt somewhat as a modern serious dramatist might towards the authors of musical plays; for in his prologue to *The Alchemist* he tells the reader "Thou wert never more fair in the way to be cozened than in this age, especially in plays; wherein now the concupiscence of dances and antics so reigneth, and is the only point of art that tickles the spectators." But the Restoration drama was the period for prefaces and prologues. How curious is the prose introduction to *The Relapse*, in which Vanbrugh says of the piece in question:—"I believe with steady faith there is not one woman of real reputation in town, but, when she has read it impartially over in her closet, will find it so innocent, she will think it no affront to her Prayer-book to lay it upon the same shelf." The actual prologue to the same play, spoken by Miss Cross, alludes amusingly to the airs and graces of the beaux who, according to the custom of the day, witnessed the play from the stage. It runs:—

"How have I shook, and trembling stood with awe
When here, behind the scenes, I've seen 'em draw
A comb, that dead-doing weapon to the heart,
And turn each powder'd hair into a dart."

In the prologue to *The Provoked Wife*, which Mrs. Bracegirdle delivered, there is a satirical allusion to the brutal severity of the London critics of the day as compared with the tender and encouraging appreciation of those on the Continent. "So much of the old serpent's sting you have," said the author; "you love to damn as Heaven delights to save." For the sake of a change, apparently, the prologue to *The Confederacy* was spoken by an actor attired as a shabby poet, wearing a crown of laurel. A pretty touch of playfulness was introduced into the prologue to Congreve's *Old Bachelor*, when Mrs. Bracegirdle pretended to forget her lines, and said, speaking of the young author whose first-born play was about to be put upon its trial—

"He prays—O, bless me, what shall I do now?
Hang me, if I know what he prays or how!
And 'twas the prettiest prologue as he wrote it.
Well, the deuce take me if I han't forgot it!"

The prologue of *The Double Dealer* commended the piece to the tumultuous mercy of the pit; and cried:—

"Critics, avaunt, for you are fish of prey,
And feed like sharks upon an infant play."

THEATRES AND RATES.

In view of the interest which has been created by Sir Albert De Rutzen's recent decision in the cases of the Westminster City Council v. the Lyceum and the same body v. the Coliseum, the following list of theatres and their rateable values is interesting. The particulars are taken from the latest returns issued by the London County Council, published in January, 1904:—

	£		£
Adelphi	5000	King's Theatre, Hoxton	183
Alexandra, N.	1250	Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith	542
Apollo	3334	Lyric Theatre	4167
Avenue	2500	Marlborough	1750
Brixton	700	Metropole (now Camberwell Empire)	460
Broadway	790	New Theatre	2500
Camden	1042	Pavilion	920
Comedy	3750	Prince of Wales's	4167
Coronet	875	Princess of Wales's, Kennington	625
Court	1167	Royalty	917
Covent Garden	4800	St. James's	3750
Criterion (including restaurant)	7917	Savoy	2917
Crown, Peckham	739	Shaftesbury	3334
Dalston	1167	Shakespeare	750
Daly's	4734	Standard	1242
Drury Lane	5500	Strand	2084
Duke of York's	2917	Terriss	825
Elephant and Castle	500	Terry's	2600
Gaiety	5834	Theatre Royal, Woolwich	559
Garrick	3834	The Greenwich	359
Grand, Fulham	979	Vaudeville	1922
Grand, Islington	1834	West London	459
Grand, Woolwich	500	Wyndham's	2500
Great Queen-street	500		
Haymarket	3417		
His Majesty's	5688		
Imperial	1834		
King's, Hammersmith	792		

The attraction this week at the Broadway Theatre is the musical pantomimical comedy entitled *The Swiss Express*, played by Messrs. C. and F. Renad's company, which includes the Edene quartette of vocalists and dancers.

NEW ENGLISH AND FOREIGN PLAYS.

In order to assist managers and others in the selection of pieces for production and adaptation, we are publishing from time to time synopses of likely English and Continental plays, so that dramatic speculators may judge for themselves of the suitability of the plots for their purpose. Authors wishing for this publicity should forward synopses to "Playwrights," care of *The Era*, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

"PLAYTHINGS OF THE GODS,"
Drama, in Four Acts, by Maurice MacDonald.

Before the play begins, a young man named Arthur Henington has been murdered in Hyde Park. A member of his club, Captain Rickard, with whom the deceased man had been heard to quarrel, is charged with the crime. When the play opens he is under remand. The opening scene is in the study of Charles Pembrook, the Bow-street magistrate, before whom Captain Rickard is to be brought up for the second time on the following day. Pembrook asks his private secretary, Taborn, if he has heard anything new about the case. Taborn hands him a piece of a letter found in Rickard's rooms. It contains only a few words—part of the name of some well-known Bond-street tea-rooms, and an appointment for the following afternoon. Pembrook recognises the handwriting of his wife, who is about twenty-five years younger than himself. Stifling an exclamation, he advises Taborn not to talk about the discovery of the scrap of paper. Taborn replies that the police, who are anxious to get a remand, will certainly not mention it, as it tends to confirm the Captain's defence.

The Captain states that he was supping with a lady at the time of the murder, but refuses to give any details. Left alone, Pembrook, after comparing the writing on the scrap of paper with his wife's letters, throws the whole bundle, including her photograph, into the fire, saying, just before the curtain falls, "Guilty or not guilty, Captain Rickard, you shall hang for this."

The second scene takes place in the Glendower Tea Rooms, Bond-street, on the following day. Robert Caro, a rich moneylender, and Henry Synes, a Stock Exchange speculator, are talking. Caro is in love with Synes's sister, who had been engaged to the murdered man. Caro has already lent Synes considerable sums of money, and the latter wants more. Caro gives him a cheque, but says he will not give any more before he marries Alice Synes, when he undertakes to pay off all her brother's debts, and give him a fresh start in life. Synes promises to do his best to help his friend's cause. Shortly after, Mrs. Pembrook enters. As she never reads the newspapers, and takes no interest in her husband's profession, she has not heard of the arrest of Captain Rickard, with whom she has been carrying on a mild flirtation under an assumed name. Instead of seeing Rickard, as she expected, her husband comes in. He taxes her with infidelity, which she indignantly denies. He confronts her with the piece of the letter, and she confesses to have acted foolishly in flirting with the Captain, who, she says, did not know she was married. Pembrook does not believe his wife, and, as he wishes to avoid a scandal, and prevent her appearing as a witness, he tells her they must separate, she going to her sister-in-law's in Scotland. She agrees, but just before the curtain falls, newsboys are heard calling, "Special edition. Hyde Park murder. Captain Rickard sent for trial." Mrs. Pembrook faints, and her husband calls for assistance.

About two months elapse between the first act and the second, which is entirely taken up with the trial. After examination of witnesses, counsel's speeches, cross-examination of accused, who persists in his uncorroborated alibi, and judge's summing-up, Captain Rickard is found guilty of manslaughter only, and is sentenced to seven years' penal servitude. The Court has just risen, and nearly all the spectators have left, when Mrs. Pembrook tries to force her way in. As she is somewhat incoherent, she is stopped by a policeman, who tells her it is all over. She sees her husband coming out, and begins to speak to him, saying that he knows the truth. To prevent awkward revelations, Pembrook tells the bystanders that his wife is insane, and, putting her into a cab, drives off.

The third act opens in Synes's house. Synes, with the assistance of his valet, Hett, has murdered Arthur Henington, to prevent him from marrying his sister. Hett tries to extort money, but only succeeds in getting a sovereign. Hett then leaves, saying he will go to Australia the day he receives £1,000. Synes tries to persuade his sister to marry Caro, but she refuses, having sworn never to marry anybody until the murderer of her late lover has been discovered. She gives the same answer to Caro, who promises to help her to discover the perpetrator of the crime. The first thing is to find out the name of the private asylum where Mrs. Pembrook has been sent by her husband. Caro tells her this will be an easy matter. Synes speculates on the danger of keeping Hett, and endeavours to conceive some means of getting rid of him. He takes down a book on poisons as the curtain falls.

In the second scene Pembrook receives a visit from John Paddon, his father-in-law, a prosperous retired farmer, who has come to town to see his daughter. After making some excuses, Pembrook tells him that his wife is lying seriously ill in a nursing home. He also persuades Paddon that the doctors have given orders that no one is to see her. The old man is about to go away in despair, when a servant brings in a card, bearing the name of Alice Synes, whom he does not know. He says he cannot receive her, but that if she wants advice she must see him at the Court. The servant goes, but returns with a message that Miss Synes insists on seeing him, as she has something to say about Mrs. Pembrook. On hearing this, Paddon declares he will see Miss Synes himself, and, thinking this may be dangerous, Pembrook agrees to receive the girl. She asks Pembrook's permission to go to the asylum where his wife is confined and speak to her. On hearing this, Paddon accuses his son-in-law of deceiving him. Pembrook tries to explain that he concealed the truth "for the best," but Paddon does not believe him, and announces his intention of visiting his daughter in company with Miss Synes. Pembrook thereupon telephones to Dr. Legrand, owner of a private asylum in Croydon, and instructs him not to allow anybody to see Mrs. Pembrook, but, if possible, to send her away to another institution.

The fourth act begins in the private room of Dr. Legrand's asylum. Pembrook is there, and agrees to pay him another £500 if he gets Mrs. Pembrook safely away. Legrand instructs one of his men to give her a sleeping-draught, and take her away immediately on a motor-car to a colleague's at Haywards Heath. The arrival of Mrs. Pembrook's father, a young lady, and two men, is announced. Pembrook goes into a side room, and Legrand locks the door. Enter John Paddon, Alice Synes, and two detectives, one of whom says he has a warrant to arrest Legrand for illegal detention, and to search the place. Legrand replies that Mrs. Pembrook is no longer there, but just at this moment she rushes in, having managed to free herself from the attendants. Legrand now sees that the game is up, but pleads that he had Pembrook's authority for what he did. The latter, hearing this, shoots himself. He is carried out, and only lives a minute or two. Before dying, he asks his wife to forgive him, as he has forgiven her, and tells her, if she marries again, to marry a man she loves. Some six months pass, during which time Rickard has been liberated and has married Mrs. Pembrook, and the last scene takes place in Synes's house. He again urges his sister to marry Caro, who is expected to dinner. He points out that even if the guilty man has not been found, the innocent one has been set free, and that she ought not to let her idea of vengeance stand in the way of her happiness. She meditates on the swiftness with which happiness can be destroyed, and comes to the conclusion that men are the "playthings of the gods." Caro comes in and pleads his cause, and she gives h'm her hand as a sign of assent. A servant announces Captain and Mrs. Rickard, who have come to thank Alice Synes and say good-bye, as they are leaving for South Africa.

Alice goes out with them, leaving Caro and Synes together. Caro returns Synes all his I.O.U.'s and a considerable sum in addition. Synes says it is the happiest day of his life, and that nothing could upset him now. A servant announces two men, who wish to speak to Mr. Synes in private. He replies that he has no secrets from his future brother-in-law, and asks them what they want. They reply that they have a warrant to arrest him on the charge of murdering Arthur Henington. He denies it, but they tell him that his servant Hett had let slip a few words when drunk, and had now turned King's evidence. The shock is too much for Synes, who goes mad. Caro gives the men some money, and asks them to take care of the unhappy man. Caro wonders how he can break the news to Alice, but reflects that a lunatic cannot be tried, and that she need never know the whole truth. He determines to leave the country as soon as possible, and when on Alice's return he asks her if she will go abroad, she is only too glad to leave a country where her recollections are so painful.

DRURY LANE MEETING.

The ninth annual general meeting of the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, Limited, was held at the theatre on the 28th ult., when Mr. T. H. Birch (chairman of the company) presided. After having alluded to the great improvement secured by the installation of the new warming and ventilating apparatus, the chairman said that in common with many other theatrical companies throughout the United Kingdom they had felt the unfortunate theatrical depression which had existed during the past twelve months. In addition, owing to the unexpected and lamented death of Sir Henry Irving, they had had to close the theatre during the whole of the spring and summer, because they were unable to carry out the arrangements which had been made with him, and because it was too late to make new arrangements. That, of course, had resulted in a considerable increase of unproductive expenses, but notwithstanding they had been enabled once more to bring the theatre into the list of dividend-paying enterprises. The improvement of the neighbourhood all round the theatre, and the increased means of access to it by tubes, motor omnibuses, and electric trams must, he thought, surely tend to the prosperity of the company. The touring of their pantomime in America had during the last two years been unprofitable, and the board had, therefore, decided to discontinue that portion of their enterprise for the time being. They had arranged for the production of last year's successful pantomime, *Cinderella*, in Paris, and they believed it would prove a source of additional revenue to the company. *The Prodigal Son* was touring in the provinces with fairly satisfactory results.

Mr. Arthur Collins, the managing-director, who on rising to second the motion for the adoption of the report was received with enthusiasm, said that his prophecy of last year had been realised, and their directors had managed to steer the ship out of troubled waters into the calm harbour of a dividend-paying port. A great blow, he continued, had befallen them, as well as the whole of the theatrical world, by the death of Sir Henry Irving. They had looked forward to Sir Henry appearing at that theatre every spring, and making it his permanent London home, and had actually made arrangements for him to appear there during the spring that has just passed. Unhappily, his death destroyed all hopes in that respect, and it was then too late to make any other arrangements for the spring, and so the theatre had to remain empty. He was sure, however, that he was only echoing the voice of all in saying that, whilst they deplored a personal loss in so good a friend and eminent an actor as Sir Henry Irving, they recognised there had been a much greater loss to the whole theatrical world—indeed, he might say, to the world at large. Referring to *The Bondman*, Mr. Collins alluded to his experiences at Vesuvius and in the Sicily sulphur mines in search of realism, and announced that it was intended to produce the play in America. The next pantomime would be based on the story of "Sinbad the Sailor." He would do his utmost to keep up the same high standard as last year, and to make the production, if possible, more attractive, more refined, and more amusing. The cast would include Miss Queenie Leighton, Miss De Sousa, and Messrs. Harry Randall, Harry Fragson, and Walter Passmore, together with several newcomers.

In reply to a shareholder, the chairman said the remuneration of the directors was £900, they having voluntarily given up a considerable amount to which they were entitled under the articles of association, and they received no additional remuneration whatever until after the shareholders had been paid a dividend of 10 per cent., and then they received considerably less than the amount to which they were entitled under the original articles of association.

The report was eventually adopted, and a 5 per cent. dividend was declared, free of income-tax, on the paid-up capital.

Lord George Loftus was re-elected a director of the company.

BROADWAY THEATRE.
On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Musical Pantomime Comedy, entitled
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."

Messrs. C. and F. Renad are appearing here this week in their screamingly funny comedy, which is capitally interpreted by their excellent company, which includes the Edene quartette of vocalists and dancers. The Renad Brothers are a host in themselves, and as Dr. Gull's eccentric servants keep the audience in a continual state of uproarious merriment. Mr. Johnny McElroy is exceedingly funny as Dr. Gull; Mr. George Martin is excellent as Rob Rollingstone; Mr. Alec Wylie is very good as Dudley Green. Mr. C. Grey is successful as Septimus Squeeze; Mr. Harwood Cooper scores as Jack Gadabout and Admiral Bombshell. Other parts are well played by Messrs. Cecil Barrett, F. H. Strachan, Gilbert N. Oakes, Oliver Russell, A. Johnson, E. Cooke, G. Mason, and Leloire. Miss Dora Moorhouse is capital as Mrs. Septimus Squeeze; and Miss Ida Ernest is a charming Virginia.

HOCKEY.

Mr. F. R. Benson's Co. v. A Bath XI.

Played at Bathampton on Tuesday, resulting in an easy win for the local players by seven goals to nil.

"THE CHEVALIER DE ST. GEORGE."

A TALE OF THE OLD PRETENDER.

A Comedy in Three Acts, written by Frederick Langridge, produced at the Brighton West Pier Theatre, on Monday, Oct. 1.

Chevalier de St. George.MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN
Francis Lord Castlewood....MR. NORMAN LESLIE
Col. Harry Esmond.....MR. DENNIS CLEUGH
Lockwood .....MR. BREMBER WILLS
Bishop Atterbury .....MR. KENNETH BRUCE
Lord Norwood.....MR. HOWARD BRENAN
Lord Dalton.....MR. PHILIP PIMPERNAL
High Sheriff of Kent..MR. SAM WILKINSON, JUN.
Sub-Sheriff of Kent .....MR. S. GREENLEY
Captain Jacks .....MR. W. ROBERTS MARSHALL
Rachael .....MISS HILDA GREGORY
Fidela .....MISS SYBIL RUSKIN
Mrs. Ridgway .....MISS BETTY STANNARD
Beatrix Esmond .....MISS BEATRICE WILSON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A large audience in the Brighton West Pier Theatre gave a very hearty reception to this comedy on Monday evening, when it was performed for the first time on any stage by Mr. Norman V. Norman and company. The play is an episode in the life of the "Old Pretender," suggested by Thackeray's "Esmond." The incidents of the story are ably presented by the author, whose dialogue, particularly in the last act, reaches a high standard of literary merit, and the striking dramatic situations are admirably conceived. The central figure is the Chevalier de St. George, who, by his amorous escapades, discounts all the efforts made by his supporters to secure him the crown of England on the death of the last monarch of the Stuart line of Sovereigns. The first scene of the play is laid in Lady Castlewood's town house in Kensington, where preparations are being made by the Dowager Lady Castlewood, Francis Lord Castlewood, Colonel Harry Esmond, and his cousin Beatrix Esmond for the reception of the Old Pretender. The "King," as his friends term him, arrives, and it is soon evident that he is smitten by the personal charms of Beatrix, who, however, is engaged to be married to Colonel Harry Esmond. A repast is prepared for the royal visitor, and the Old Pretender, who insists on Beatrix sitting next to him at the table, partakes too freely of brandy, and, after dozing in his chair, wakes up to find he is alone in the room. Fidela, a French servant, appears upon the scene; the Chevalier flirts with her and kisses her. They are interrupted by Fidela's husband, Lockwood (Esmond's servant), and the amorous Chevalier explains the situation by describing his efforts to take a green fly out of Fidela's eye. In honour of their guest, who is known to the servants as Master Harry, the company indulge in a dance and blind-man's-buff; but the Chevalier's conduct, it is clear, has excited the jealousy of Harry Esmond and Lockwood.

In the second act, in a room in Lady Castlewood's house, the Chevalier again angers Lockwood by his attentions to Fidela, and at the same time he pleads with Lady Castlewood that he may be permitted to bid farewell to Beatrix, whom the Dowager Lady is sending away from home to escape the Chevalier's amorous advances. In a spirited scene the Chevalier, on Beatrix entering the room, boldly declares his love for that young lady. Beatrix, however, feels insulted when her admirer kisses her, and she throws to the ground a red rose the Chevalier had asked her to wear if she favoured his suit. On the retirement of the Chevalier, Beatrix is confronted by her lover, Harry Esmond, and she realises that all her friends condemn her for her conduct. She returns Harry her engaged ring, and is about to start for Castlewood, in Kent, when the Bishop of Rochester appears upon the scene and enquires for the Old Pretender, feeling that the latter must leave in furtherance of his claim to the crown, as Queen Anne is sinking. The act closes with Beatrix still at variance with her lover, and leaving the room once more wearing the Chevalier's red rose.

In the third act, in a room at Castlewood, in Kent, we see Fidela and Beatrix, and find that both have realised the wayward character of the amorous Chevalier. Beatrix tramples the red rose under her foot. The Chevalier arrives at Castlewood, and vainly pleads with Beatrix to favour his suit. Some exciting incidents follow. Fidela, in an impassioned scene, shows plainly she considers she has been insulted by the Chevalier. Harry Esmond and the Chevalier cross swords, and the former is worsted; but ultimately Harry is convinced by the Chevalier that Beatrix is innocent of all charges laid against her, and the young lovers become reconciled.

The High Sheriff of Kent arrives, and announces that George of Hanover has been proclaimed King, and has pardoned all the conspirators against the throne with the exception of the Old Pretender. The Chevalier leaves the room disguised as a priest, but shortly returns and throws off his disguise, but ultimately escapes being shot by the armed intervention of his supporters, who keep the Sheriff's soldiers at bay while the Old Pretender gladly rushes from the scene.

Mr. Norman V. Norman may be warmly and deservedly congratulated upon his masterly enactment of the Chevalier de St. George. He gave his lines with distinct elocutionary skill and emphasis, and displayed vigorous and convincing acting, marked by artistic restraint. In his lighter moods, when flirting with Fidela, his comedy was excellent; but he fairly excelled himself in the last act during the stirring scene with Beatrix. Miss Beatrice Wilson gave a charming portrayal of Beatrix Esmond. Her acting was graceful and refined, and she was especially impressive in her scenes with the jealous Harry Esmond and in the trying interview with the irrepressible Chevalier in the last act. Mr. Dennis Cleugh as Colonel Harry Esmond was somewhat hesitating in the first act, but as the play proceeded he showed great skill in his representation of the difficult character. Mr. Norman Leslie made a dignified and courtly Francis Lord Castlewood; Mr. Brember Wills was well suited as the suspicious and vengeful Lockwood; while Miss Sybil Ruskin submitted fine contrasts of light comedy and dramatic force in her impersonation of Fidela. Miss Hilda Gregory was well suited as the Dowager Lady Castlewood; Mr. Kenneth Bruce acquitted himself admirably as Bishop Atterbury; Mr. Sam Wilkinson made the most of his opportunities as the High Sheriff of Kent; Miss Betty Stannard was well placed as Mrs. Ridgway; while Mr. S. Greenley as the Sub-Sheriff, Mr. W. Roberts Marshall as Capt. Jacks, Mr. Howard Brenan as Lord Norwood, and Mr. Philip Pimpernal as Lord Dalton rendered satisfactory support.

ON Wednesday, the 3rd, Mr. J. D. Hunter took his twenty-seventh annual benefit at the Hastings Pier Pavilion, under the patronage of Mr. Harvey Du Crow, M.P., the Mayor, and many of the aristocratic residents. On this occasion the programme was augmented by Miss Marie Dainton, comedienne; Max Darewski, the boy composer; Mr. Thornley Dodge, society entertainer; and the Trial scene from "Pickwick" by members of Mr. Hunter's company.

LITTLE DOT MOSS became such a favourite last week at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, that the manager, Mr. R. E. Leston, awarded her a benefit on Friday night, Sept. 28, when a crowded house proved the popularity of this talented and versatile little artist, who was presented with a large basket of roses from Mr. Liston, with good wishes, also boxes of chocolates from other admirers.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS LILLIAN MURRAY.

Miss Lillian Murray (Mrs. T. B. Brabazon) commenced her professional career under the guidance of the late "Daddy" Bruce, who was so long associated with the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool. She played her first part (Barbara Hare in *East Lynne*) at the Theatre Royal, Bath, under the management of the late Mr. Fred Neebe. She then went to Exeter with Mr. Neebe, where she fulfilled a pantomime engagement. Her next move was to town, where, under Messrs. Hollingshead and Shine, she was engaged to understudy a part in the burlesque opera *Dick Whittington* at the Globe Theatre. A tour with Mr. Willie Edouin followed. She played a small part—combined with understudy—in his burlesque *The Babes, or, Whines from the Wood.* At the end of this tour Miss Murray returned to Messrs. Hollingshead and Shine's management, small part and understudy; but by this time she began to

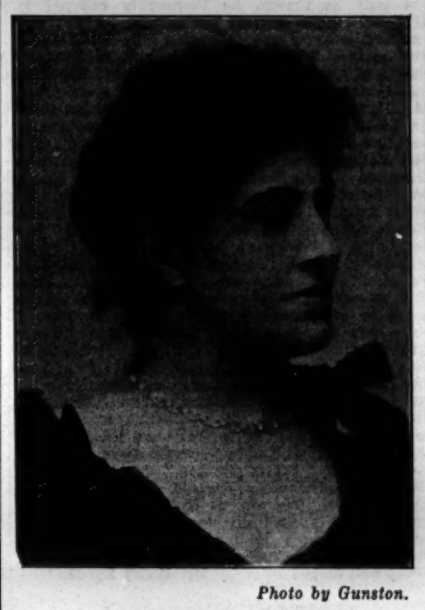

Photo by Gunston.

MISS LILLIAN MURRAY.

feel tired of waiting for prominent parts, so accepted an offer to play Dora in *Fun on the Bristol* on tour. She was four months with this piece, then she again joined Mr. Hollingshead for his Christmas pantomime at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, but, to her dismay, she found her part consisted of two lines, which were spoken from a jar (the pantomime was *The Forty Thieves*). An engagement with Messrs. Howard and Wyndham followed. With these gentlemen she played the French officer (De Bracy) in the burlesque of *Ivanhoe.*

Since then Miss Murray has appeared in several character parts in touring pantomimes, but her engagements have been principally in comedy and drama. Her favourite parts are old women, although in stock Miss Murray has done everything from "My Lord, the carriage waits," to lead. She has had several stock seasons, amongst them being Newcastle (Messrs. Howard and Wyndham), Stockton-on-Tees (Mr. Lloyd Clarance), Leith (Mr. Julian Malvern), Glasgow (Messrs. Morell and Mouillot), &c.; also three tours playing Clarissa Champneys in *Our Boys* with Mr. Charles Harrington; two tours with the Cowper-Calvert Repertoire Company, playing old women. Her favourite part in the repertoire was Actea in *Ingomar.*

During the past six years Miss Murray has been eight months each year with Mr. Rushbury's companies, playing the following parts:—Biddy Maloney, *Alone in London;* Cornelia Carlyle, *East Lynne;* Peggy Mahoney, *The Driver's Luck;* Biddy Roonan, *The Shadows of a Great City;* Betty Black, *The Drama of Life;* Bet Hundle, *Her One Great Sin;* Mrs. Buzzard, *In the Ranks;* &c. On two occasions, during the summer months, Mr. Rushbury organised a répertoire company to visit the Hebrides, on these trips combining business with pleasure, and the members of the company enjoying themselves immensely. Miss Murray has also had two summer tours with Messrs. Marris and Bickford, playing Miss Ainslie in *Somebody's Sweetheart.* She has recently appeared as Sal Perkins in *The Village Blacksmith.*

MR. WILLIAM LUGG.

Mr. William Lugg's first appearance on the stage was at the Savoy Theatre, in Gilbert and Sullivan opera, in January, 1884. He played Synthius in *Princess Ida* and the Usher in the revival of *Trial by Jury,* but having contracted a complication of throat disorders had to give up singing, and it was only through the great skill and

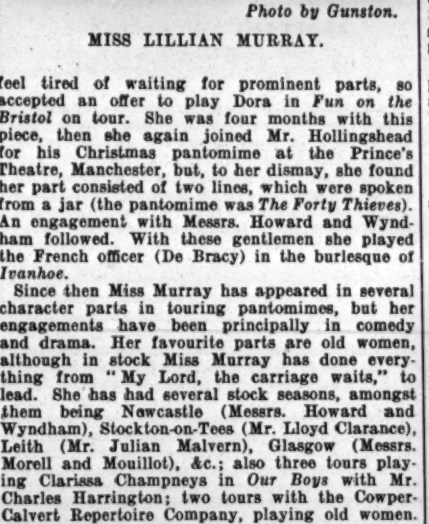

Photo by Bender and Co.

MR. WILLIAM LUGG.

patience of Dr. A. W. Orwin, under whose treatment he remained for many years, that his voice recovered. He went straight from the Savoy to the old Court Theatre, under the management of John Clayton and Arthur Cecil, in March, 1885, and played in a series of comedies by A. W. Pinero, in company with such artists as Mrs. John Wood, Miss Marion Terry, William Macintosh, Fred Kerr, Albert Chevalier, Edmond Maurice, John Clayton, and Arthur Cecil. He appeared as Sergeant Lugg in *The Magistrate;* the Fireman in *The Schoolmistress;* and the Groom in *Dandy Dick.*

The old Court being pulled down, *Dandy Dick* was transferred to Toole's Theatre in August, 1887. About this time he also played a number of parts with the dramatic students—Croaker in *The Good-natured Man;* Costard, *Love's Labour's Lost;* Tom Sutherland, *The Favourite of Fortune;* Father Oliver, *The Housekeeper;* &c. In March, 1888, he opened a season with Mr. Yorke Stephens at the Olympic Theatre, and played Harry in *Good For Nothing,* Tosser in *The Area Belle,* and the Waiter in *Christina.* In the following June he was at the Strand with Mr. Willie Edouin, and appeared as Sir Geoffrey in *Run Wild,* the Butcher in *Kleptomania,* and also took part in the burlesque *Aladdin.*

From the Strand Mr. Lugg went to the New Court, under the management of Messrs. John Wood and Arthur Chudleigh, and played Bouncer in the operetta *Cox and Box,* which ran for five months. In May, 1889, he opened an engagement with the Messrs. Gatti, at the Grand, Islington, representing Uncle Bob in *The Silver Falls.* After appearing at the halls for a time with H. D. Burton in a sketch, *The Burglar,* he went, in the August of the same year, to the Comedy Theatre, and played the Major in *Æsop's Fables;* Sir Percy Wagstaff, *Pink Dominos;* the Irish innkeeper, *Queen's Counsel;* Colonel Capstick, *The Clockmaker's Hat;* the father in *One Summer's Night;* the Soldier in the operetta *Penelope,* by Edward Solomon; the Steward in the operetta *Domestic Economy,* also by Edward Solomon. He was at the Strand again in 1890 with Mr. Willie Edouin, appearing principally in one-act plays, and acting also as understudy to Mr. Edouin, in which capacity he played for a fortnight Mr. Edouin's famous part of Nathaniel Glover in *Our Flat,* and Captain Medway in *Turned Up.* He also played Sir Giles Wapshot in *Boys Will Be Boys;* Sir George Grantley, *Daggers Drawn;* Bedford Roe, *Back in Five Minutes;* and the Detective in *Private Inquiry.* In the autumn of 1891 Mr. Lugg was engaged for the season at Drury Lane, where he appeared as Captain Vernon in *A Sailor's Knot.*

After several scattered engagements, Mr. Lugg went to America in August, 1894, with Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, and remained with them three years. Amongst other parts he played the Colonel in *The Queen's Shilling;* Sir John Ingram, *A Scrap of Paper;* the Duke, *Clancarty;* and Bechelin, *The Ironmaster.* Then, engaged by Mr. Oscar Barrett, he represented the Baron in the pantomime of *Cinderella.* Under the same management he, in 1898, appeared in Mr. Fred Bowyer's musical comedy *The White Blackbird.* Next he went to the Lyceum with Mr. Forbes-Robertson to play Duncan in *Macbeth* and Polonius in *Hamlet.*

In the spring of 1899 he accompanied Miss Kate Phillips on tour in the name part of *His Excellency the Governor.* The following autumn Mr. Lugg joined Sir Henry Irving, as a member of whose company he played many parts. When Sir Henry was commanded to appear before His Majesty at Sandringham in November, 1902, Mr. Lugg had the honour, as the great actor's understudy, to play Shylock with the company in Belfast. Last spring he returned to musical comedy with Mr. Seymour Hicks, at his new theatre, the Aldwych.

Mr. Lugg's record also includes appearances in pantomimes at the Crystal Palace, the Lyceum, and the Garrick, and a season with the German Reeds in a piece entitled *Dan'l's Delight.*

MISS KATHLEEN RIND.

Miss Kathleen Rind began her public career as a reciter, studying elocution with Miss Jessie

Photo by Guy and Co.

MISS KATHLEEN RIND.

Scrivener. She soon, however, gave this up for the stage. Miss Ellen Terry, who heard her recite, strongly advised her to take this step. Miss Rind was fortunate enough to be under Miss Rosina Filippi for some time. Her first appearance was in a small part of Miss Filippi's adaptation from *Pride and Prejudice* entitled *The Bennetts,* produced at a matinée at the Court Theatre about four years ago. Soon after this she was engaged by Miss Lilian Herries for her repertory tour of modern plays. With her Miss Rind enacted Louise (*Frou-Frou*), Mildred (*A Fool's Paradise*), Lucy (*Dream Faces*), Nanine (*Camille*), Irene (*The Profligate*), &c. This was followed by a stock season at Lowestoft, run by Mr. Walter Maxwell and Mr. Herbert Greville. Here Miss Rind played the title-rôle in *Sweet Lavender,* Lucy in *The Streets of London,* and Sam in *The Ticket-of-Leave Man.*

Miss Rind has but recently left Mr. Norman V. Norman, whom she was with two years. She played with him, among other parts Lady Ernstone (Miss Eva Moore's part) in *My Lady Virtue,* by H. V. Esmond, Anne in *A Lady of Quality,* the juvenile in *Nell Gwyn,* Mme. de Cocheforêt in *Under the Red Robe,* Louise in *A Scrap of Paper,* Mrs. Mildmay in *Still Waters,* Juliet in the balcony scene, which was put up as a curtain raiser to *David Garrick,* Lazarillo in *Don Cæsar de Bazan,* and several other parts. On May 29, 1905, Miss Rind enacted Beatrice in the play of that name produced at a special matinée at the Court by Miss Rosina Filippi. The play was written round the story of Dante and Beatrice, as told in the "Vita Nuova." Mr. Lewis Casson was the Dante. Miss Rind's favourite parts are Lady Ernstone in *My Lady Virtue* and Anne in *A Lady of Quality,* both being of an emotional order. The photograph represents Miss Rind as Mme. de Cocheforêt in *Under the Red Robe.*

MR. ORLANDO BARNETT.

Mr. Orlando Barnett began his theatrical career under the auspices of Mr. Beerbohm Tree by "walking on" in *A Man's Shadow* when it was first produced at the Haymarket in Sept., 1889. The following year he went on tour with the piece under Mr. Horace Lingard's management, playing the part of Jean Ricordot. This was followed by two tours as Olivier Deschamps in *Esther Sandraz,* and three tours with Mr. Hermann Vezin, playing Gratiano, Roderigo, Osric, &c. After this Mr. Barnett played several special engagements as De Haas in *On 'Change,* with Miss Emilie Grattan; and Bobby Buttons in *The New Wing* and Jimmy in *Nita's First* under the management of Mr. St. John Denton.

Mr. Barnett had several very interesting engagements with the old Independent Theatre under Mr. Grein, making a distinct success as Cyril Vane, the art critic, in Dr. Todhunter's remarkable play *The Black Cat.* As Knut Brovik in *The Jerry Builder,* a clever skit on Ibsen's *Master Builder,* by Mrs. Hugh (now Lady) Bell, he had the honour of being associated with Miss Violet Vanbrugh and Mr. James Welch. He also had the privilege of playing Ragnar Brovik in the real *Master Builder* and George Tesman in *Hedda Gabler* with Miss Elizabeth Robins.

For the production of *Arms and the Man* at the Avenue, the first of Mr. Bernard Shaw's plays to achieve a London run, Mr. Barnett considered himself very lucky so early in his career to be selected by Miss Florence Farr to create the part of Nicola, the Bulgarian servant, which he played so satisfactorily as to lead to several other excellent engagements, including the offer to support Miss Robins in *Hedda Gabler.* Under Miss Farr's management he also played in *The Land of Heart's Desire,* by W. B. Yeats, at the Avenue, and in *The Shadowy Waters,* by the same author, more recently at the Court Theatre, where, too, he appeared in Messrs. Barker and Housman's

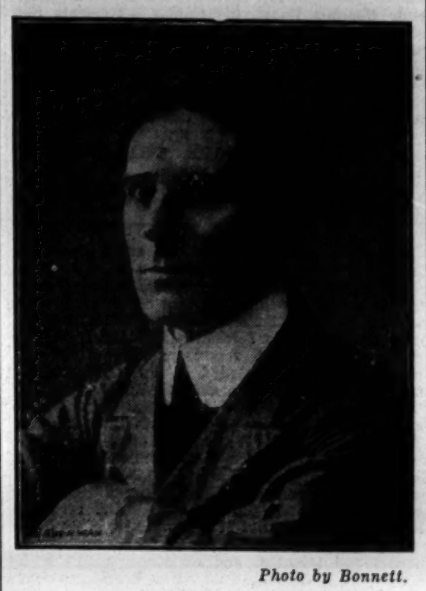

Photo by Bonnett.

MR. ORLANDO BARNETT.

delightful musical phantasy, *Prunella, or, Love in a Dutch Garden,* produced at Christmas, 1904.

His accumulated experience in the more everyday plays includes such widely different parts as Talbot Champneys, Eccles, and Benjamin Goldfinch, in all of which he was particularly successful. Mr. Barnett has recently added to his long list of Shakespearean parts by playing Benedick for Mr. Poel, of the Elizabethan Stage Society, and in Miss Bessie's open-air company. During several occasions, he has played at different times Clown, Orsino, Toby, Aguecheek, and Sebastian in *Twelfth Night;* Antipholus of Syracuse and Duke of Ephesus in *A Comedy of Errors;* and Orlando and Touchstone in *As You Like It.* In the production of *The Conqueror* at the Scala Theatre on Sept. 23, 1905, Mr. Barnett did exceedingly well in the small part of Cuthbert.

MISS SYLVIA MORRIS.

Miss Sylvia Morris began at the age of four years to recite; in fact, she used to recite before she was able to read. She made her first public appearance when she was six, and from that time until she was nine was constantly reciting at various charity concerts. It was while she was appearing at one of these concerts that a lady heard her, and advised her mother to let her take it up professionally. Mrs. Walter Abrahams, for that was the lady's name, got Miss Morris her first engagement at the People's Palace, London. After that she used to appear at four or five concerts a week; sometimes she was engaged to give the entire entertainment, and then she used to do scenes from *Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth, Hamlet, The School for Scandal,* and other plays, besides her recitations. She also introduced pieces with music, to which she generally played her own accompaniments; but on one occasion she was so taken up with the lines that she forgot all about the quets best, and was always very curious to know what was going on, for, of course, the artists were not allowed in the room during the toasts.

When Miss Morris was twelve she was placed under Mrs. John Billington, with whom she studied for some time. She played scenes with Mrs. Billington several times in public—a fact of which she is still very proud. The one she liked best was the comedy scene from *Romeo and Juliet.* She studied many parts with Mrs. Billington, music. She used to like the Freemasons' ban-Shakespearean and modern, and when sixteen she got her first theatrical engagement. She stayed

MISS SYLVIA MORRIS.

for two years under one management, playing many parts, from chambermaid to juvenile lead. Then Mr. Henry Dundas engaged her for Mary Vine in *The Price of Peace,* and she also played the ingénue part in his production of *Shadowed Lives.* Then followed Ismalia Meleda in *Secrets,* Lucy McCullum in *Our Flat,* Lady Teazle in *The School for Scandal,* Laura in *The Blind Witness,* juvenile lead in a farce with Miss Ada Blanche, the Fairy Godmother in Mr. Robert Courtneidge's *Cinderella* pantomime, and Mabel Borinski in M. Auguste Van Biene's *Broken Melody* company. Miss Morris has a preference for emotional parts, and confesses that her one great ambition is to play Juliet.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

GENESIUS,

AND THE GENESIUS CLUB.

The Genesius Club, which was founded by Messrs. Harry Nicholls, W. J. Holloway, W. Lestocq, A. E. Bishop, the late F. H. Macklin, and Howard Reynolds, opened its session at Wycombe Hall, Hammersmith-road, on the 30th ult. The meeting was for the purpose of electing the executive for the ensuing year. There were present Messrs. W. Lestocq, Harry Nicholls, W. H. Marler, H. G. Levy, J. Powell, Richard Green, C. T. Coggin, Courtenay Peach, Louis Schnieder, G. A. Keen, N. T. Ridille, E. C. Cartwright, E. Halford, M. Whittenburg, T. W. Potter, W. S. Lyon, G. A. Lansdown, J. Bavin, T. W. Rumble, H. Walker, Gerald Maxwell, J. W. Wynn, J. M. Trytel, A. H. Snow, H. Chenery, W. G. Danby, H. T. Town, and W. G. Harvey. Mr. James W. Matthews was unanimously elected preceptor, Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon, deputy preceptor. Mr. Harry Nicholls, retiring treasurer, and Mr. William H. Marler, retiring secretary, were again re-elected to the positions which they have occupied in the club for many years past. Messrs. W. Lestocq, A. H. P. Snow, and Clarence T. Coggin, were re-elected to the committee. It may prove of interest to the majority of our readers to know something about the origin of the club, and of St. Genesius, the patron saint of the drama, after whom the club is named.

At the time of the foundation of this club for Masonic instruction the question of the name by which it was to be known was much discussed, and eventually it was decided by the founders that, as it was founded by actors principally to meet the exigencies of their professional avocation, it should have some distinctive name in connection with the actor's art.

St. Genesius, it was known, was a comedian and a martyr, therefore it was decided that for such a club as was intended to be founded, the name of this comedian and Christian martyr should be used as its title. In view of this it has been thought well for the information of the brethren becoming members of the club that the story of his martyrdom should be told as a preface in the book of bye-laws.

Down the ages for 1300 years has rolled the name of Genesius, the patron saint of the drama. The actor can boast, if boasting were necessary, that he is a descendant of Genesius, a noble defender of the Christian faith. In the year A.D. 285 the Emperor Diocletian was coming to Rome, and he was to be received with great rejoicing and festivities. Many entertainments of various kinds were arranged in his honour and for his amusement, but the crowning entertainment of all was prepared for him in a comedy to be enacted in his presence, and before his Court, and all the principal men of rank and position in Rome, by the favourite players of the time. This play, it was arranged, should represent the ceremonies of Christian baptism after conversion, and to be rendered so as to pander to popular feeling at the time, and should not fail to divert the assembly who held this religion in the utmost contempt and derision. For the part of the man who was to represent the convert to Christianity, and to go through the form of baptism in public, and then afterwards under examination to renounce the faith, and thereby bring it into ridicule, the favourite actor or mummer of the time—one Genesius—was selected to perform the principal part.

Genesius, the better to perform his part and to amuse the assembly, made himself acquainted with many things concerning the Christian faith and rites; and, therefore, to announce his conversion, stepped forward on to the stage and addressed the Emperor and assembled multitude thus:—"I am resolved to die in the Christian faith, that God may receive me on the day of my death as one who seeks his salvation by flying from idolatry and superstition." Then a priest and exorcist was called to him, and said, "Well, my child, why did you send for me?" Genesius replied most seriously, "Because I desire to receive the peace of Jesus Christ and to be born again, that I may be delivered from my sins."

Then the players proceeded to go through the whole ceremony of Christian baptism with him, and he most earnestly and seriously answered all the interrogatories put to him; then, finally being baptised, as was the custom, he was clothed in a white garment. After this, other players, habited like soldiers, to carry on the jest seized him, and rudely thrust him before the Emperor to be examined as the martyrs were wont to be. Of course, Genesius was expected to break down in the examination, and to renounce his faith, when, suddenly, to the amazement and consternation of all, standing upon the stage, he openly and seriously declared himself in these words: "Hear, O Emperor, and all ye who are here present, officers of the army, philosophers, senators, and people, what I am going to say. I never yet so much as heard the name of Christian but I was struck with horror, and I detested my very relations because they professed that religion. I informed myself exactly concerning its rites and mysteries only that I might the more heartily despise it, and inspire you with the utmost contempt for it also. But whilst I was being washed with the water and examined, I had no sooner answered sincerely that I believed than I saw a company of bright angels over my head, who recited out of a book all the sins I had committed from my childhood, and, having afterwards plunged the book into the water which had been poured over me in your presence, they showed me the book whiter than snow. Wherefore, I advise you, O Great and Mighty Emperor, and all ye people here present, who have ridiculed these mysteries, to believe with me that Jesus Christ is the true Lord, and that he is the Light and Truth, and that it is only through Him you can obtain forgiveness for your sins."

The Emperor Diocletian was so enraged at these words that he ordered him immediately to be beaten with clubs, and then handed over to Plautian, the Prefect of the Prætorium, that he might compel Genesius to recant and sacrifice his faith. He was then put on the rack, his flesh torn with iron hooks, and also burnt with torches. He endured these torments with constancy, and cried out during his agony, "There is no other Lord of the Universe whom I adore; Him will I serve. There is no King but Christ, for whom I will be killed a thousand times: for as you cannot take Him out of my mouth, neither can you tear Him from my heart," and so continued proclaiming his faith, till at length his head was struck off.

A well-known historian has written that "The baptism which Genesius received on the stage was no more than a representation of that sacrament for want of serious intention in performing the Christian rites, but Genesius was baptised in desire with true contrition, and also in his own blood."

He suffered his martyrdom on Aug. 26, A.D. 285, and a church at Rome was dedicated to his honour, which was afterwards restored and beautified by Pope Gregory III. in A.D. 741.

The Romans who came to laugh at the comedy which was to be enacted at the expense of the hated Christian religion, left the theatre with the recollection of the ghastly sight of that battered, bleeding, and headless body of their favourite actor, who had exchanged the "cap and bells" for the immortal martyr's crown.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—Your correspondent for Sheffield reported me last week in his notice of the Central Palace. I was playing at the Theatre Royal, York, at the time.—Yours truly, THE ORIGINAL KYOTO.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Play, by Sir A. Conan Doyle, entitled
"BRIGADIER GERARD."

Brigadier Gerard, with its military flavour and exciting incidents, was greeted with much fervour by a capital house on Monday, and throughout the week the attendances have been decidedly good. The management is to be congratulated on the effective staging of the piece and the excellent company formed by Mr. Waller, including Mr. Loring Fernie and Miss Maud Hoffman, who work hard and make the very most of the material at their disposal. The central figure is Mr. Fernie, whose Gerard is exceptionally fine. He grasps each point with dramatic skill, and at the conclusion receives quite an ovation, which must be very gratifying to him. The Comtesse of Miss Maud Hoffman cannot be over-praised, and although she only undertook the part for the first time on Monday, it may at once be recorded that her success was complete. Mr. George Mallett made a capital Talleyrand, his elocutionary powers being of much service in the part. Mr. Cecil Wynne handles the rôle of General de Caulaincourt with ability; and Messrs. J. Henry Twyford and Edwin Bennett are well placed as Major Brow and Major Olivier. Mr. Frank Powell is all that can be desired as Col. Guerin; and Mr. Penn Hamilton (M. D'Albert), Mr. James Crowe (M. Bassompierre), and Mr. Reginald Mason (Pierre) deserve commendation for their excellent assumptions. Mr. Arthur Somers presents a capital portrait of the man of iron will, the Emperor Napoleon, although he is seen to greater advantage in the part of Timothy Filby in the curtain-raiser referred to below. Miss Gertrude Beattie is an admirable Agnes. Mr. Arthur Bowyer, in addition to successfully undertaking the part of Papilette, makes a notable feature of the stage-management, and is to be congratulated on his work. *Brigadier Gerard* is preceded by a charming one-act play, entitled *The Borrowed Uncle*, in which Messrs. Arthur Somers, A. Claremont, Humphrey Warden, and Miss Gertrude Beattie successfully take part. The proprietors of the Marlborough have a thoughtful and painstaking business-manager in Mr. Murray Heriot, who was the recipient of a presentation from Mr. and Mrs. Kendal last week on the termination of their engagement. Good service is also rendered by the Marlborough orchestra under the direction of Mr. Chas. Elcock.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Comedy, with music by Paul Rubens, entitled
"MR. POPPLE (OF IPPLETON)."

Excellent fun is furnished by Mr. Rubens in his latest comedy, and the vast audience at the King's on Monday night were regaled to their hearts' content by the many good things provided by Mr. Popple and his friends. The fact that Mr. Charles Macdona's company included two such clever artists as Mr. G. P. Huntley and Miss Millie Legarde was sufficient guarantee to satisfy the most fastidious playgoer, and the comedy was received with continuous and genuine laughter. Mr. G. P. Huntley as Mr. Popple was in splendid form, and everything he said and did caused roars of laughter. His delightfully innocent and bucolic manner was highly effective, and the whole performance proved Mr. Huntley well worthy of the reputation he has achieved. As Norman Popple, Mr. Basil S. Foster was exceedingly good as both actor and singer. The George Hennay and Henry Goring of Messrs. Sidney Young and James Stevenson were very droll portraitures, and Mr. Arthur Grover as Jacques Kenyon displayed talent. Lord Downe and Pat Fenton were capitally played by Mr. Sydney Courtney and Mr. R. B. Hunter. The servant, Platt, found an able representative in Mr. Charles M. Daly. It goes without saying that Miss Millie Legarde made an instantaneous success as La Bolero—style, acting, and singing were alike admirable. Miss Eva Kelly was a general favourite as Violet Brinton, and Louise, the maid, was represented by Miss Nellie Hodson with much charm, the song and chorus with the District Messenger boys deserving and receiving much praise. Miss Kate Forster and Miss Ella Daincourt played Mrs. Doring and Mrs. Hennay very effectively. The chorus was a really live one, and the orchestra ably responded to the bâton of Mr. Julius Butt. Messrs. Harker and Hicks were responsible for the artistic scenery provided.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
"THE GIRL BEHIND THE COUNTER."

The enterprise of Mr. Frank Curzon in sending the whole of the company from Wyndham's Theatre on tour with this successful musical comedy seems likely to meet with its due measure of success. On Monday night *The Girl Behind the Counter* welcomed kind friends in front, and there was such a rush of customers, as might be expected at a rummage sale, or some such special event in shop-keeping annals, resulting in a bumper house. The piece is exquisitely mounted and dressed, and a bevy of beauty sets off the lovely dresses to perfection. Miss Isabel Jay sings charmingly the little ballad, "Life is what you make it," and her whole rendition of the part of Winnie Willoughby is replete with grace, refinement, and melody. Mr. J. F. McArdle is a host in himself, and his droll rendering of the "Sir Walter Raleigh" skit, and the song that follows, is worth travelling miles to hear. Throughout the piece the part of General Sir Wilkie Willoughby, quite safe in his hands, dominates the scene. Another fine bit of character acting is Mr. George Barrett's waiter at the Baron's Court Exhibition, played on intensely diverting low comedy lines. Mr. Hayden Coffin proves that he has lost none of his skill as a singer and actor in such parts as that of Charles Chetwynd, though, despite his protestation to the contrary, he looks much more at home in the Court costume of the second act than as the gold-digger in the first act. Mr. G. Davy Burnaby causes considerable amusement by his clever assumption of invertebrate aristocracy, yclept Viscount Gushington; and Mr. Lionel Victor distinctly scores as the office-boy, Adolphus Dudd. Miss Kathleen Courtney is pretty and engaging as Susie, cashier at the Maison Duval, and her "Kate Greenaway" song and dance with Mr. Victor is very pretty and effective. Miss Helen Rose is a smart and winsome Ninette, head of the millinery department. Miss Violet Englefield looks very handsome as Erica Mostyn, manageress of the Maison Duval, and her capital song, "The Vicar's eldest daughter," is well received. Others deserving of mention in a long cast are Mr. A. E. E. Edwardes, who does yeoman's service in the "Sir Walter Raleigh" song; Miss Violet Crossley as Lady Willoughby; Mr. Fred Allandale, excellent as the proprietor of the Maison Duval; and Mr. Ernest W. Laceby as Rudolf, the commissionaire. Mr. J. Herbert Jay is general-manager, with Mr. E. F. Bradley as acting-manager, and Mr. Tom Mowbray as stage ditto.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Comic Opera, entitled
"THE GEISHA."

Although at this time of day there can be few among the theatre-loving public who have not seen *The Geisha* at least a couple of times, it has again been abundantly proved by Mr. Mouillot's chief company that, adequately mounted and capably handled, this favourite comic opera has lost none of its power of drawing good audiences and of entertaining them to the full. The place of honour must unhesitatingly be given to Miss Louie Collier, whose clever acting and, above all, her delightful singing, place her at once in the front rank of the talented artists who have at various times played O Mimosa San. When it is stated that Miss Collier is the fortunate possessor of a soprano voice of unusual power and sweetness, and that she is perfectly skilled in the management of it, it will be readily understood that the hearty encores with which such old favourites as "The Jewel of Asia" were received were fully warranted. Miss Florrie Saunders made a charmingly dainty Molly Seymour, singing nicely and dancing very gracefully. A spirited interpretation of the French mousmé came from Miss Violet Kenyon, who threw herself wholeheartedly into her work, and was soon a favourite. Miss Aubrey Ashton made a stately Lady Constance, and spoke her lines with distinction; Mr. Cyril Thompson was responsible for a sterling impersonation of Reginald Fairfax, his fine, resonant voice being heard to good effect in several well-known numbers; Mr. Lionel Braham was an excellent Marquis Imari, his clumsy movements and elephantine methods of love-making being very amusing; Mr. S. Lockeridge distinguished himself as Dick Cunningham; and Mr. J. Mansell Stringer sang well as Captain Katana. Last, but by no means least, must be mentioned the exceedingly clever Wun Hi of Mr. Edward Carlton.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Farce, in Three Acts, adapted from the German, entitled
"ARE YOU A MASON?"

A flourishing state of affairs exists at the Crystal Palace Theatre, now that Mr. J. Bannister Howard has taken over the reins of management, and a well-filled house on Monday gave evidence that residents in the neighbourhood are persevering in their determination to support the plucky enterprise. A succession of excellent attractions has been included in the season's bookings, and this week Mr. Charles Macdona's chief company is appearing in *Are You a Mason?*—the farce which had such a brilliant career at the Shaftesbury, where it was produced just five years ago. The piece retains all its pungent flavour, and its funny dialogue and situations appealed freshly to a Crystal Palace audience, who laughed and applauded throughout the evening, the more spicy features of the piece securing their best applause. The members of the company are earnest and talented, and each one speaks with commendable distinctness. Mr. Ernest Cossart has a large share in the laughter which is aroused, his appearance in petticoats as the pretended Fanchon being very realistic, while his affectation of feminine airs and graces is replete with many ingenious touches. The embarrassments of his friend, Frank Perry, are effectively borne by Mr. Howard L. Tracy, and, though he is inclined to be over-emphatic, he quite realises the spirit of a difficult part, and maintains it cleverly to the end. Mrs. Perry, Frank's trusting wife, has a prepossessing representative in Miss Mabel Younge, who has a voice of musical intonation, and exhibits a charming petulance which well befits the situation. Miss Adelaide Grace is a veritable "dragon" as the strong-minded Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood, every word and action being instinct with severity and exaggerated self-esteem. Her daughter Lulu is played in engaging manner by Miss Babs Stuart, who is a winsome exponent of the part, speaking her lines ingenuously. A dainty impersonation of her sister Lulu is also given by Miss Madge Merrique, a young actress whose light comedy gifts are evident even in so comparatively small a part. An opportunity for the exercise of her ability to charm comes in her love scene with the pseudo Fanchon, and Miss Merrique avails herself of it to the utmost, quite captivating the house by her delicacy and grace. The reprobate Amos Bloodgood is amusingly represented by Mr. E. H. Patterson, who makes the utmost out of the many droll situations which arise; and Mr. Edwin Millins as John Halton is extremely funny without opening his lips as the would-be Mason who is willing to make any sacrifice to prove his fitness to become a member of the craft. Mr. Frederick Jaques puts the finished art of a long experience into his impersonation of the bibulous actor, Hamilton Travers. Make-up and expression are alike excellent, and roars of laughter greet every utterance, to which his mellow voice gives added effect. A smart Ernest Morrison is found in Mr. Dare Austin, who acts naturally and with elocutionary skill; Miss Dora Frank Harvey displays charm of style and finished expression as Mrs. Halton; and the vagaries of the Irish servant, Lottie, well played by Miss Minnie Rayner, provoke constant laughter. The one scene is effectively set, and the play goes throughout with a merry swing.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Opera, by Goldfaden, entitled
"THE SON OF THE STAR."

For the opening night of the Yiddish holiday week the management selected Goldfaden's opera of *The Son of the Star*, which has been played here occasionally during the engagement of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company. The story is concise and clear, but there is little originality in the music, many numbers being taken bodily from other sources, such as Handel's *Messiah*, &c., although, under the skilful bâton of Professor F. Staub the band and chorus did excellent service. The piece contains a small cast, and is admirably represented, being staged and mounted with the usual care always found at this popular theatre. Mr. M. Gusofsky was in fine voice, and quite in the picture as Bar Cochba (the Son of the Star), rendering all his songs acceptably, and being at the same time most earnest and impressive. Mr. Isaacowitch made a commanding Cezar, and acted with intensity and power. Mr. Joseph Fineberg, well made up, presented a decidedly clever sketch of Papus; and Mr. Goldsmith played with care as Eliezer. Mme. R. Waxman displayed undoubted artistic skill as Dinah, her expression of varied emotion during the progress of the opera being very fine. Mme. Goldstein is deserving of praise for her exposition of Seraphina. Admirable representations have been given during the week of *The Jewish Priest, The Jewess, Money or the Tramp, Othello, Solomon Charlatan, The Viceroy, The Hero of Jerusalem*, and *Thirty Years Under the Earth*.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
The Drama, in Five Acts, by Henry Arthur Jones, entitled
"THE SILVER KING."

The attraction here this week is G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company in *The Silver King*, a drama which, notwithstanding the years it has been before the public, has by no means lost its power of appealing strongly to the sympathies of a popular audience. An excellent company has been engaged, and the interpretation of the piece is in every way successful. The acting all round is worthy of the warmest praise, but chief honours must be accorded Mr. Herbert Ford, who quickly wins favour by a manly and powerful impersonation of Wilfred Denver. Miss Victoria Addison acts with feeling and delicate pathos in the part of Nellie Denver; and a notable performance is that of Mr. Tom Paulton, who, in the character of Jaikes, gives an admirable delineation of the faithful butler. Captain Skinner finds an excellent representative in Mr. Charles Skinner, who acts with marked ability. Some excellent work is put in by Mr. Henry Osman, who contributes a sound character study of the old marine-store dealer, Eliah Coombe; and Mr. Claud Vernon as Henry Corket and Mr. Charles Fenton as Cripps also render valuable assistance. Mr. Allen Jeayes creditably sustains the rôle of Geoffrey Ware; and Mr. Arthur H. Rooke, who is also stage-manager, makes excellent use of his limited opportunities as Samuel Baxter. Miss Viola Holland as Olive Skinner acts with zest and sincerity; and Miss Jessie Apted creates a good impression as Cissie Denver. Among those giving good support mention may be made of Miss Amy Wood as Tabitha Durden, Miss Margaret Rooke as Susie, and Miss Mabel Gardener as Mrs. Gamage. Mr. S. Burton is business-manager for Messrs. Polini and Melford, and Mr. E. de Hague Body acting-manager for Messrs. Bennett and Bennett.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Musical Comedy, by Seymour Hicks and Ivan Caryll, entitled
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."

The great hold which Seymour Hicks and Ivan Caryll's rollicking musical comedy *The Earl and the Girl* has upon metropolitan playgoers was amply demonstrated at Kennington Theatre, when a crowded house assembled to accord the piece a hearty welcome on its return visit on Monday. The production is in the hands of Mr. William Greet's principal company, and the artists do their utmost to make the show go with a swing throughout, their efforts being crowned with complete success. The comedy is magnificently mounted, the second act, The Conservatory at Stole Hall, being quite a triumph of staging. The chorus is powerful and the orchestration good, and all the well-known lyrics are admirably rendered. The principal character, Jim Cheese, could not be in better hands than those of Mr. William Stephens, who is a comedian of great ability, and creates endless amusement. He is worthily supported by Miss Jennie Richards as Liza Shoddam, that lady interpreting the part with life-like fidelity. Mr. Arthur Harrold makes himself a warm favourite as Dick Wargrave, singing with striking effect the "Cosy Corner Girl." Another good actor is Mr. Tom Redmond, who appears as Hazell, host of the Fallowfield Arms. Mr. Percy Wright wins high encomiums as Hon. Crewe Boodle, the supposed heir; and Mr. H. Curtin as Bunker Bliss, Mr. Will Hindson as Downham, an American solicitor, and Mr. Greene Taylor as Talk, an English solicitor, all do well. The ladies of the company are uncommonly attractive, and the principals are accomplished actresses. Miss Frances Earle deserves high praise for her charming representation of Elphin Haye, an American heiress; Miss Gertrude Melville as Daisy Fallowfield makes a decided hit with her song "Sammy"; and Miss Mary Morison is exceedingly clever as Miss Virginia Bliss. Miss Beatrice Anderson deserves mention as Mrs. Shimmering Black. The Entente Cordiale dance is gracefully performed by Misses Beatrice Ford, Enid Beverley, Lily Doran, Blanchette Grand, Natalie Grant, and Geraldine Scott. Mr. Evelyn Baker conducts the augmented orchestra.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Musical Comedy, by Owen Hall and 'Liza Lehmann, entitled
"SERGEANT BRUE."

Sergeant Brue is on his beat this week in the Peckham district, and on his return visit has made himself very popular. Messrs. Lockwood and Crossman's company presents the piece excellently. Mr. Arthur Reynolds plays with much humour in the title-rôle, and gets a deservedly cordial reception. Mr. Charles McLagan scores a success as the incorrigible Crookie Scrubbs, his genuine comedy causing roars of laughter. Mr. E. Percy Rogers plays pleasantly and sings well as Michael Brue. Miss Mary Hay looks fascinating as Aurora Brue, dancing and singing charmingly. Miss Hebe Bliss is arch and engaging as Lady Birkenhall, rendering her songs with much point. Miss Marion Hargrave contributes a good character-sketch as the quaint maid-of-all-work, Daisy; and Miss Mabel Keith is excellent as Mabel Widget. Mr. Crank, the magistrate, is well played by Mr. Charles Sims; and Mr. Cecil Hood is an appropriately grim and severe Inspector Gorringe. Mr. Ernest Moyar makes the most of Gerald Treherne. Mr. Norman Latham is the skilful director of the orchestra. The chorus is numerous and efficient, and the scenery and effects are beyond reproach. Mr. G. R. Burch is manager for the company, and Mr. E. Percy Rogers is the stage-manager.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Drama, by Charles Darrell, entitled
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS."

The above well-known drama is meeting with its usual success at the Lyric this week, Mr. Lester Collingwood's company being responsible for the production. Mr. C. P. Wentworth is certainly a very prince of villains in his part of Captain Hayes, and gives a capital study of that despicable person. An excellent hero is found in Mr. Louis Norman, who, as David Englehardt, receives much applause. Queenie Carruthers is played with much pathos by Miss Mabel Scudamore; Miss Maude York in the rôle of Hilda Carrode does extremely well; and roars of laughter are caused by the merry sayings of Mr. D'Arcy Kelway as Sammy Blyth, Mr. Frank Howard as Bertie Broomhead, and Miss Daisy Clifford as Maud. Mr. Charles E. Sutton does good work as Mr. Furnaby Fuller, a solicitor; Mr. F. E. Thomas as Bob Jones, and Miss Bessie Frank as Carrie Jones, are in no small way helpful to the success achieved; and others who deserve special praise are Mr. Harry Barham as Mark Blackwood, Mr. Fred Barnardo as P.C. Stone, Miss Edith Colona as Signorina Jonesio, and Miss Josephine Goldsmid as Leila.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Play, in Five Acts, by Fred Melville, entitled
"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."

This week Fulham has been indulging in melodrama in the shape of a good company in Melville's "whirlwind drama of surprises," which appears to be mightily to the taste of pit and gallery. The play deals mainly with the heinous sin of unduly interfering with the course of true love, and is full of vigour and sensation. The artists, one and all, throw themselves into their work with energy. The hero, George Madison, is played in a manly and straightforward fashion by Mr. Henry Lonsdale; and Mr. Louis Hector as the scheming Devereux is an excellent contrast. Mr. Kenneth Black takes the attractive part of Sir George Lancaster, and his acting is full of quiet strength and pathos. Mr. Rawdon Vivian as the Rev. Mr. Dean accomplishes the difficult task of representing a clergyman performing his sacred duty on the stage, and it is to his credit that he succeeds in doing it with a certain quiet dignity that merits great praise. Mr. Fred De Vere supplies the comic element as Timothy Tuttutt, and appears to great advantage therein, never failing to raise a hearty laugh. In this he is ably seconded by Miss Denny Fitzherbert as Patty Lovejoy. Mr. Philip Renouf also contributes an amusing sketch of an ancient rustic. Miss Nellie Bonser makes a good representative of the heroine Lucy, and plays with charm and sincerity. As the second Lady Lancaster Miss Octavia Noel shows a woman of a different and less agreeable type, and acts with plenty of power and spirit. Miss Barbara Gott as the Mother Superior has a difficult part to play, and acquits herself remarkably well. The other members of a numerous cast are well up to their work, and help to make the performance a success.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts,
by Owen Hall and Leslie Stuart, entitled
"FLORODORA."

Florodora is being presented here by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1—an excellent all-round company—which drew a crowded, demonstrative, and appreciative house on Monday. The droll efforts of Mr. Dudley Cooper as Anthony Tweedlepunch were highly successful. This gifted artist is a veritable fun-producer, and his sly hits and topical local allusions were received with shouts of laughter. The highest pitch of hilarity was reached in the burlesque opera scene in Act II., where the actor's success was much helped by Miss Violet Grazia. Mr. Joseph R. Tate as Cyrus Gilfain looked a typical millionaire, and acted the part as though he thoroughly enjoyed it. His well-known song in the second act was well received. As Frank Abercoed Mr. R. Courtier Dutton was highly successful, and sang "The Shade of the Palm" with much expression. His duets with Dolores were also greatly appreciated. Mr. Harold Perry as Capt. Arthur Donegal made an ideal lover, and was heard to advantage in the favourite number, "The Military Man"; and Mr. Edwin Oxlee as Leandro was a satisfactory Overseer. Miss Edith Housley must be highly commended for her playing of Lady Holyrood. With much of the charm and vivacity of Ada Reeve, she has followed an excellent model. Her rendering of "When I leave town" and "Tact" left nothing to be desired. The Dolores of Miss Violet Gracia was a capital bit of acting, and this graceful actress gave the requisite dramatic touch in her handling of the part. Her capital voice was heard to much advantage in "Silver star of love" and other songs. Miss Nellie Bowman played the part of Angela Gilfain in a most engaging manner, investing the character with much charm. All her songs were well received, especially "The Starlight Queen," which earned rapturous applause. Gilfain's clerks and the lady visitors, who had admirable representatives, gave the ever popular "Pretty Maiden" double sextet in the usual satisfactory manner, winning enthusiastic encores. The chorus had been well drilled by the able musical director Mr. Bert Paterson; and the company is under the management of Mr. Andrew W. Spens, the front of the house being well looked after by Mr. Harry Lyons.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Play, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE BELLS OF HASLEMERE."

A great attraction here this week is the famous Adelphi success, *The Bells of Haslemere*. The play is capitally rendered by the members of the talented stock company, and large audiences have been the rule. Mr. Albert Ward is seen to advantage in the part of the young hero, Frank Beresford, Squire of Haslemere. Mr. Ward thoroughly realises the character, and adds another to his list of successes here. The villainy of John Silkstone is capitally realised by Mr. Harry Crane, some of his lines being rendered quite inaudible by the groans and hisses of excited sympathisers with stage virtue. Mr. Horace Hunter plays Captain Vere, an adventurer, in his easy, polished style, which always lends distinction to the parts he undertakes. Mr. W. Felton portrays Matthew Brookfield with much earnestness and skill; Reuben Armstrong is quite safe in the hands of Mr. Teddy Colman, who, with Miss Agnes Paulton as Dorothy Tremble, is responsible for the fun of the evening. Mr. Colman and Miss Paulton are immense favourites here. Mr. Brian Daly is effective as Joseph Thorndyke; Mr. Godfrey is successful as Patrick Desmond; Mr. Teversham gives a capital rendering of Captain Salem; Toby is realistically portrayed by Mr. Alfred Holles; Miss Kathleen Russell plays Evelyn Brookfield, the squire's betrothed, with much feeling and charm; Miss Daisy Murch gives a capital representation of Mary Northcote; and Nora Desmond is carefully played by Miss Eva Sunbury. Much care is noticeable in the staging and mounting of the piece.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Domestic Play, in Four Acts, by Chas. Klein, entitled
"THE LION AND THE MOUSE."

An attractive programme is presented this week at the Brixton with a visit of Mr. Walter Maxwell's excellent company in *The Lion and the Mouse*. Mr. Leslie Carter gives a powerful reading of John Burkett Ryder, making the financial magnate sufficiently domineering as fits the character, but showing an entirely different trait of his disposition in the love for his son Jefferson, which eventually conquers him. Too much praise cannot be given to Miss Christine Silver as Shirley Rossmore, her acting being pleasing and good, noticeably in Act 3, where she defies Ryder. This is a fine scene, and the emotional outburst is delivered with telling effect, compelling her to appear several times before the curtain. Mr. Stephen Wentworth plays exceedingly well the part of Jefferson Ryder, His love for Shirley is uppermost, and his winning manner appeals to the audience. Mr. J. W. Mackie acts with aristocratic manner, as befits the scion of a noble family, the part of the Hon. Fitzroy Bayley, and is the cause of much laughter. Mr. George Lyttleton plays the financially ruined James Rossmore very earnestly; Mr. Richard Norton gives excellent support as Mr. Stott, the lawyer; Mr. John Wheatman does exceedingly well as I. Whitmore Roberts, M.P.,; and a clever study of the butler, Joskins, is given by Mr. A. B. Murray. The timorous wife of Ryder is presented in a refined manner by Miss Elspeth Dudgeon; Mrs. Rossmore is sympathetically and artistically played by Miss Maude Townsend. Kate Roberts is well impersonated by Miss Dorrie Roberts, her business with the books causing amusement. The smaller characters of the servants Mary and Jane are in the capable hands of Miss Ethel Gordon and Miss Marjorie Murray.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Comedy, in Three Acts, by Arthur Law, entitled
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."

A particularly attractive bill is provided for the patrons of the Alexandra by Mr. Dudley Bennett during the present week. Miss Annie Hughes is appearing in two of her most successful charters, namely, Saucers, in Mrs. Oscar Beringer's play, *A Bit of Old Chelsea*, and Angela Muir, in Mr. Arthur Law's comedy, *A Country Mouse*, supported by the members of Miss Emma Hutchison's company. In both of these plays Miss Hughes has been previously seen at this theatre, and a very hearty welcome was accorded to her on her reappearance on Monday night. Her Alexandra Victoria Belchamber, the flower-girl, has lost nothing of its artistic qualities by frequent repetition, and the comedy and pathos of the character are presented with equal skill. In direct contrast to the lowly but straightforward Saucers is the scheming and artful little "heroine" of Mr. Law's comedy, and in her presentation of this character Miss Hughes is no less successful. Especially good is she in the scene which concludes the second act, in which the seemingly artless "girl from the country" scores off the worldly wise Lady Bowlby, a character filled with complete success by Miss Moyra Creegan. A clever and unexaggerated sketch of the conventional stage charwoman comes from Miss Ida Laurie; and Miss Francis Davie is a pleasing and agreeable Violet Aynsley. Mr. Evelyn Vernon, as the old roué, the Duke of St. Kitts, plays the part with a full appreciation of all its possibilities. As the young men of the play, Archibald Vyse and Lord Robert Wickham, Messrs. Charles Esdale and Thomas A. Brandon both do well. A sound and convincing performance of John Bowlby is given by Mr. William Calvert, and the part of Jephcot, the butler, although a small one, gains prominence by the excellent treatment it receives at the hands of Mr. John E. Watson.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"LADY MADCAP."

Mr. Charles Dance's company is presenting this week at the Dalston Theatre the musical comedy, *Lady Madcap*, and the performances are proving in every way attractive. The book is by Paul Rubens and Newnham Davis, and Mr. Rubens's lyrics and music just suit the tastes of all parts of the house. The additional lyrics by Percy Greenbank are taking, and the acting is all that can be desired. Mr. J. Knox-Orde as the Count de St. Hubert sings with effect, acts with becoming dignity, and dances with a degree of animation which is almost infectious. In the matter of vivacity, Miss Isabelle Dillon is well to the fore as Lady Betty Claridge, the "madcap," who provides the chief element of excitement in the piece. Miss Dillon, it should be added, sings well and dances gracefully. Mr. Bay Russell's Bill Stratford is a decidedly humorous performance, his love scenes with the leading lady being most successful. Mr. James Graydon as Posh Jenkins, Stratford's confederate, frequently evokes laughter; and another couple who keep the fun of the play going are Mr. John Ossie as a professional butler and Mr. Harold Parkes, who enters the contest as an amateur caretaker of the silver. Mr. Emlyn Davis and Miss Gabrille Leighton as Col. and Mrs. Layton respectively are favourites; and others in the cast include Miss Maude Davis, Miss Ethel Beech, and Messrs. E. Cresfan, S. Clunes, F. Hilton, Oswald Marshall, G. Whillis, and E. B. Davies. Mr. Leonard Leslie directs the orchestra.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by G. Carlton Wallace, entitled
"THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH."

This drama is paying a return visit to the Grand, and, as on the previous occasion, business is quite excellent. Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesay, who control the company, have secured one that is efficient in every respect. Mr. Sam Livesey himself plays John Strong, the blacksmith, and submits a clever and virile impersonation, and one that commands the fullest recognition. Mr. Joseph Carter as Capt. Leo portrays the heavy rôle in an emphatic and conventional manner, and is successful. Mr. Edwin Maydew as Marlow is good; Mr. Thomas E. Marshall as Parkins presents a well-conceived character-sketch; Mr. George V. Campbell as Twigg is responsible for the humorous interludes in the drama, in which he has valuable assistance from Miss Edith Gliddens as Martha Mopps; Mr. A. Walker deserves notice for his sketch of a mule; and Mr. Halstead is commendable as the Landlord. Mr. George Wilton as St. John Harmar is also worthy of praise. As for the ladies, Mrs. T. C. Livesey gives an excellent study as Sal Parkins; Miss Cassie Le Grande as Ruth Parkins is particularly good; and a sympathetic performance is that given by Miss Maggie Edwards as Kate Strong. Mr. Newman Maurice, the popular acting-manager here, is, as usual, courtesy itself in the front of the house.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Play, in Three Acts, by Robert Neilson Stephens and E. Lyall Swete, entitled
"MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER."

In response to the wishes of numerous patrons of the theatre, Mr. Peter Davey, the managing-director, arranged for a return visit of this charming play, which was so well received on former visits to the riverside, and there was a numerous and appreciative audience at the theatre on Monday evening, when the first of three performances was given by Mr. Lewis Waller's company, in connection with the tenth anniversary of its opening, of which a notice appears in another column. The company was a particularly strong one, and the mounting of the play was all that could be desired. Chief honours were earned and liberally awarded to Miss Lilian Hallows, who played Miss Elizabeth. Her fine acting was the leading feature of the production. She was ably supported by Mr. L. Race Dunrobin, who appeared as Captain Peyton, and gave a breezy picture of the dashing young cavalry officer. The part of Mr. Valentine was well placed in the hands of Mr. Fred Dark; and Franklin Graham gave a good account of himself as the unheroic Major Colden. Miss Leonora Braham submitted a pleasant impersonation of the aged Mistress Sarah Williams; and a pretty and engaging picture of the serving-maid, Molly Edwards, was given by Miss Phyllis Back. Mr. F. G. Martindill as Black Sam and Mr. J. Thomas as Cuff also rendered valuable assistance. *The School for Scandal* filled the bill for the rest of the week.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Musical Play, entitled
"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

Previous visits to Stratford have endeared "The Belle" to the hearts of local playgoers, and consequently excellent audiences are being attracted to the Borough Theatre, where J. Bannister Howard presents George Musgrove's company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Thorburn, in this, by far the most successful of American musical plays. In the title-rôle Miss Empsie Bowman looks the part of the demure Salvation lassie to perfection, and sings delightfully. Mr. Frank Lawton's ripe performance as Blinky Bill is of incalculable value, and his whistling and bones solos are immensely popular. Mr. Paddy Dupres plays the elder Bronson with much unctuous humour; and Mr. John Doran acts and sings in manly and pleasing style as Harry Bronson. Mr. Max Copeland appears to revel in the somewhat exacting part of the Polite Lunatic, whose ludicrous efforts to kill Mr. Bronson are so funny, and he makes it quite an artistic characterisation. Mr. Alfred Sandoe is decidedly good as Doc Smifkins; and Kenneth Mugg has a capital exponent in Mr. Walter Uridge. The inseparable Portuguese Twins are impersonated with a keen sense of humour by Mr. Lionel Yeoman and Mr. R. L. Cody; Mr. A. Linforth plays Twiddles very appropriately; Mr. C. W. Anson does well as Fricot; and Mr. Owen O'Brien makes an alert newspaper reporter. Miss Lily Maxwell, if not very French as Fifi Fricot, plays the part very coquettishly, and Fifi's songs are admirably rendered; and Miss Winnie Browne makes a handsome and engaging Cora Angelique. A pleasing performance is the Mamie Clancy of Miss Florence Hersée, who plays the little Pell-street girl with rare sparkle and vivacity. Mr. Ernée Woodville conducts with his customary skill, and the stage-management is in the safe hands of Mr. Arthur Linforth, very popular in Stratford, where he has stage-managed four consecutive Borough pantomimes.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."

A New Play, in Four Acts,
by Walter Melville,
Produced at the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, on Monday, Oct. 1.

Bill Slater .....MR. FRANK LISTER
Jack Fenton .....MR. WINGOLD LAWRENCE
Johnny Walker .....MR. WILLIE REID
Joe Fletcher .....MR. JOHN WILSON
Peter .....MR. G. BRACKLEY
Charles Graham .....MR. JACK CLARKE
Davis .....MR. T. EDWARDS
Mr. Dough .....MR. GEORGE WRIGHT
Mr. Grabball .....MR. G. LACEY
Poppy Slater .....MISS EVA DARE
Vesta Le Clere .....MISS OLGA AUDRE
Willie Mason .....MR. ROY REDGRAVE
Richard Fenton .....MR. JACK DENTON
James Harcourt .....MR. J. C. AUBREY
John Matthews .....MR. C. CARTER
Maggie .....MISS ALICE BENTON
P.C. Sharpe .....MR. GEORGE VILLIERS
Hoppit .....MR. LESLIE JACKS
Lucy .....MISS JESSIE WINTER
Sophie Coventry .....MISS FRANCES RUTTLEDGE

One of the events of the autumn theatrical season is the production of a new play at the Standard Theatre. To the skilful and experienced pen of Mr. Walter Melville we are again indebted for the autumn novelty, and he has not failed to furnish the patrons of the popular house in Shoreditch with dramatic fare well suited in every respect to their tastes. Mr. Melville has, too, again displayed his ingenuity in the invention of a striking title for his play. Indeed, the latest Standard production is a worthy successor to quite a long list of dramatic successes, and a prosperous career may with confidence be predicted for *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*.

The new production is described as "an original play of the people we meet every day." Fortunately it is not within the experience of all of us to encounter in our daily life such utterly wicked people as some of the leading characters in Mr. Melville's new play. But it must be remembered that is the very essence of melodrama to have the extremes of virtue and vice sharply defined. The employment of neutral tints is not encouraging in its results. Therefore we find that James Harcourt, tersely described as "an undiscovered criminal," is a villain of the deepest dye, and equally vicious and unscrupulous is James's female ally, Vesta Le Clere. They carry on in the Tottenham Court-road a private gambling club, the resort of fast old and young men, and when the story opens this precious couple are on the look-out for a new lure in the form of a pretty girl. They discover what they are in search of while on a visit to Newmarket. Sophie Coventry is a young girl living in a charming country cottage with her married sister Lucy. She is utterly discontented with her lot in life; and when Vesta Le Clere suggests that she shall accompany her to London she gladly accepts the offer. Lucy is the wife of Jack Fenton, who has been cast off by his wealthy father for marrying against his wishes, and has been compelled to accept a job as stableman at some racing stables at Newmarket. Here also is employed Bill Slater, who is in the power of James Harcourt, inasmuch as that individual is aware that Slater has, under another name, served a sentence of five years for forgery. Jack Fenton stands in the relation of cousin to James Harcourt, who has his own reasons for wishing to blacken Jack's character in his father's eyes. Principally by means of threats Harcourt compels Slater to place notes to the value of £50 in a work-basket belonging to Jack's wife. He then accuses Fenton of theft; but the plot miscarries, Johnny Walker, a comic character, having annexed the notes.

In the second act Willie Mason, a sailor, returns home. He has asked Sophie to marry him, and turns up burdened with a large sack presumably consisting of presents and a parrot in a cage. When he learns from his friend Jack Fenton the truth concerning the girl he loves he is overwhelmed with despair. He goes to London and discovers Sophie's whereabouts, but his pathetic appeals only excite her scorn and derision. The new life suits her—so she declares—and the young sailor leaves the house like a stricken man. Slater exposes the villainy of Harcourt and Vesta Le Clere. Jack is accused of the murder of his father, and ere the end is reached there are many more sensational scenes. Mr. Melville, of course, brings about a happy ending, in justification thereof quoting O'Connell's charmingly expressed lines:—

Did spring last ever, 'twould lose its sweetness;
If flowers bloomed always, we'd cast them by;
'Tis change that makes the world's completeness—
The sweetest laughter succeeds the sigh.

The play may be said to contain two heroes. Mr. Wingold Lawrence played with sincerity and earnestness as Jack Fenton, showing real feeling, but never once over-acting the part. Mr. Roy Redgrave was as smart and handsome a sailor lad as ever walked the main deck, and won the sympathy of the house early in the evening by his affecting portrayal of grief and despair when he discovers that his sweetheart has proved false to him. Such a manly Jack Tar was received with acclamation, and Mr. Redgrave, well known in North-East London, carried all before him. Mr. Frank Lister as Bill Slater, the "man with a past," presented one of those careful, clever character studies which have already in similar productions gained him a high reputation. Mr. Jack Denton deserves to be complimented on his crisp, clear-cut portrait of James Harcourt; he looked and acted the villain of the piece admirably. Excellent, too, was the Vesta Le Clere of Miss Olga Audre, an actress well versed in depicting the unscrupulous adventuress of melodrama. Her latest character will add another to her triumphs in this special line of business. Miss Jessie Winter was a graceful, winsome exponent of the part of Lucy Fenton, and was successful throughout. Miss Frances Ruttledge had a less easy task in realising the more complex character of Sophie Coventry, "the girl who took the wrong turning," but she also succeeded in presenting with life-like fidelity first the discontented girl and then the gay human butterfly that so soon loses her beauty and her purity in the unhealthy atmosphere of London. Mr. Willie Reid cut a comic figure as the racing man of the suggestive name of Johnny Walker, and when he marries Poppy Slater he finds that there is only one in command, and it is not he. Poppy becomes a music-hall artist, and when she departs for the Alhambra poor Johnny is left at home with strict injunctions to wash the baby. His summary method of performing this purely domestic task caused shrieks of laughter in all parts of the house. Miss Eva Dare was a sprightly, dashing Poppy, who gave the audience a taste of her quality as a music-hall star by singing a comic song in the third act. Mr. Jack Denton was an excellent representative of Richard Mason, Jack's obstinate, unreasonable father. Mr. George Villiers as a good-hearted policeman made the most of his opportunities; and Mr. Leslie Jacks scored as Hoppit, a pickpocket. Able assistance was afforded by Messrs. John Wilson and G. Brackley as stablemen; Mr. Jack Clare did well as a "gay old gentleman," other minor rôles being entrusted to Messrs. T. Edwards, Geo. Wright, G. Lacey, C. Carter, and Miss Alice Benton.

The mounting of the new drama leaves nothing to be desired, the sets painted by Messrs. H. K. Brown, E. P. Mullen, and Richard Douglass being admirable specimens of their artistic skill. The incidental music has been supplied by Mr. Edward Reeves.

THE DRAMA IN ROTTERDAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, SEPT. 25, 1906.—The regular season of the Grand Theatre was opened on the 18th inst. with *Trippelbeen*. This is the Dutch equivalent of the new French farcical comedy, *Triplepatte*. It initiated the regular season auspiciously. Mrs. Van Eysden as the Baronne Pepin had a part entirely in her line, and was as vivacious and animated as could be desired. A clever piece of character acting was Mrs. Van Kerckhoven's Mme. de Crevecœur.

We are again having a series of performances by the Meiningen Company. Its leading man is Kurt Grösser, whilst the impresarios for the Dutch tour are the popular Amsterdam managers, Messrs. Van Lier. The programme of the Meiningers last week consisted of *Renaissance*, by Schönthan and Koppel-Ellfeld. The performance took place on an "off night" at the Grand Theatre, and was genuinely enjoyable. Praise should be given to Martha Grösser-Spier as the youthful Vittorino. She looked well in boy's costume, and acted with fervour, tact, and jaunty grace. Kurt Grösser was a fine, stalwart Silvio da Feltre, and did not lose sight of the vein of delicate feeling that runs through the part. Mirra was characteristically interpreted by Jenny Nachbauer; and Max Spiess was telling as the Benedictine monk, Bentivoglio.

LAST Saturday evening, at the Grand, a special performance was given of *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*, with Coquelin Aîné and Jean Coquelin, supported by able artists of the Gaîté. The capable and energetic French impresario Henry Hertz is managing the tour, and, judging from the success of the performances at Amsterdam and in this city it will be a triumphal one. M. Coquelin Aîné's Mr. Jourdain was delightful in its unaffected simplicity and truthfulness to nature. Jean Coquelin played the Master of Philosophy and the valet Covielle, and was excellent in both parts. Other members of the cast were Messrs. Volny and Chabert, and Mesdames Devoyod, Delia, and Beylat.

LOUIS BOUWMEESTER is on his way back from his tour through the Dutch East Indies, and preparations are being made by his admirers in Amsterdam to give him a welcome.

DON'T CAUSE A TRAGEDY.

A little knowledge is a dangerous thing, and this truism was fully exemplified at the hearing of a case which came before Mr. Horace Smith recently, at Westminster Police Court, when a lady tailoress appeared to answer a summons taken out by the London County Council for keeping a quantity of petroleum otherwise than in pursuance of licence, &c. For the County Council it was stated that the defendant purchased a two-gallon tin of petrol for the purpose of cleaning skirts and a carpet. She performed the operations in a kitchen, and on applying a light to the gas a serious explosion and fire resulted. The defendant herself was unfortunately rather badly injured. This case was not proceeded with to obtain a heavy penalty, but with a view to illustrating the extreme danger of using this petrol spirit for cleaning purposes. The Council had good reason to believe that it was very largely used by those engaged in dressmaking businesses, and the risk of keeping any considerable quantity, unless with proper precaution, could not be too widely known. Mr. Horace Smith thought that some further responsibility should be placed on the sellers. Mr. Williams, for the defendant, said she did not procure the spirit for the purposes of her trade, but solely for the purpose of cleaning a carpet, having read in the fashion papers that it could be employed in this way. Mr. Horace Smith said he was sorry for the serious consequences, but the difficulty was to make people take reasonable precautions. The penalty for the offence was £20; that must not be forgotten. In the present case he would impose a fine of 10s. and 25s. costs.

The moral of the above is that it is an extremely risky thing to attempt to clean materials with highly inflammable spirit. Take no risks. It is so much wiser and quite as cheap for managers to send their theatrical cleaning to those experts, the Chemical Cleaning Company, of Argyll-street, Regent-street, W., whose ubiquitous chief, Mr. Thomas Harris, will promptly answer any 'phone, wire, or letter.

THE THESPIDS C.C.

A most successful season was spent by the Thespids C.C., and a very meritorious list of "averages" has been returned. Out of a total of twenty-four matches, 11 were won, 7 drawn, and 6 lost.

BATTING AVERAGES.

	No. of Ins.	Times not out.	Total Runs.	Most in an Ins.	Av.
Bleackley, H. W.	6	2	190	60	47.50
Bisgood, B. L.	14	1	570	83	43.84
O'Connor, V...	9	1	360	67	32.50
Pullman, H. J.	9	1	233	61	29.11
Cameron, Ernest	13	3	243	47	24.30
Gardner, E.	8	0	161	69	20.12
Sherriff, H. A. C.	12	2	174	62	17.40
Smith, C. Aubrey	7	0	109	59	15.57
Selby, Robert	6	0	85	31	14.16
Brace Hall, R.	9	1	109	34	13.62
Egerton, B.	9	1	73	38	9.11
Dixon, Sydenham	12	3	41	9	4.63
Bisgood, E. F.	5	0	21	9	4.22

The following have also batted: R. Graham, G. Groves, F. Tew, C. D. Cleveland, J. H. Stevens, P. G. Wodehouse, Frank Stayton, E. Longden, E. A. Barkby, Horace Mills, H. Lane, S. Dennison, A. Whitby, H. Nye Chart, S. Livesey, J. R. Turnbull, Eric Green, Oscar Asche, H. Rees, Capt. Baird, H. P. Pearce, F. Blackman, H. Ainley, A. E. Bradshaw, and G. C. Bisgood.

BOWLING AVERAGES.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	Av.
Cameron, Ernest	90	14	397	36	11.02
Sherriff, H. A. C.	74	7	294	26	11.30
Smith, C. Aubrey....	39	11	118	10	11.80
Graham, R.	75	14	240	19	12.63
Godward, C. A.	69	12	184	13	14.15
O'Connor, V.	95	14	325	21	15.42
Egerton, B.	90	13	300	14	21.42

The following also bowled: G. Groves, H. Bleackley, E. Gardner, F. W. Tew, E. A. Barkby, H. B. Warner, E. Longden, H. Lane, P. G. Wodehouse, Frank Stayton, H. J. Pullman, S. Livesey, Eric Green, F. B. O'Neill, E. F. Bisgood, Capt. Baird, and H. Rees.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors—The late SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

EDWARD TERRY ON TOUR.

A PHENOMENAL SUCCESS.

Mr. Terry's annual autumn tour this year is proving a phenomenal success both artistically and financially. His receipts at the various towns visited have been far in excess of previous years. The latest addition to his extensive répertoire is the clever four-act play by R. C. Carton, *Liberty Hall*.

Mr. Terry, in the character of William Todman, has added another stage portrait to the long list of his inimitable character studies, and his assumption of the rôle has proved a veritable triumph, both Press and public being unanimous in their laudatory verdict. The Dickens-loving, kindly, old secondhand bookseller in the hands of this clever actor becomes life-like and real. He can touch chords in the human heart that may have dried up and almost withered, and he wins from his audience a ready laughter that is near akin to tears. It is enough to say of his performance that it is as beautiful as art can make it, and it will readily take a prominent place amongst the marvellous creations he has already presented to enthusiastic audiences during his travels all over the globe.

It is unnecessary to describe the many homely incidents, the sentiments of love and affection, the humour, and the pathos with which the story abounds.

Although the play is not actually new, it comes with all the freshness and charm of a new production by reason of Mr. Terry's masterly conception of the innate possibilities of the part.

Photo by Langfier.

MR. EDWARD TERRY
as William Todman in *Liberty Hall*.

Edward Terry is always worth seeing, for there is no comedian on the English stage of to-day who can invest a part with so much character—character which burns itself into the mind—as he. But the pen is inclined to run riot, so appreciative are one's feelings of his art. Mr. Terry concludes his present tour on Dec. 8 at Oxford.

"DUTTON'S DILEMMA."

A Farcical Sketch, by Leonard Mortimer,
Produced at the Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall, on Friday, Sept. 28.

Mr. Dutton .....MR. EDMUND O'GRADY
Mrs. Dutton .....MISS CLARA O'GRADY
Mary Ellen .....MISS KITTY THOMAS
Reggie Augustus ....MR. GEORGE M. MONTANINI

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This bright and amusing little piece was put on at the Grand, Rawtenstall, as a curtain-raiser to *The Mill Girl*. The book is racy, and the plot presents some very comical features. Mr. Dutton, who, it appears, is rather fond of the fair sex, has brought home a box which he has found and which he thinks contains something of interest to him as an antiquarian. Mary Ellen, while dusting the breakfast-room, finds this box, and wonders whether it is a present for one of her master's lady loves. She also scrutinises the letters, and proceeds to pity her poor mistress, who enters at this point, and shows her some letters which she concludes have come from Mr. Dutton's lady friends. Whilst reading the newspaper, waiting breakfast, Mr. Dutton is horrified to find that the box he has found is an infernal machine charged with dynamite, and fixed to explode in about twenty minutes' time. He is much perturbed, and imagines all kinds of methods to get rid of the box; but Mrs. Dutton suddenly appears, denounces him as a faithless husband, and wishes to know what is in the box. Dutton rushes to his room, after telling his wife the truth. A disturbance is heard in the garden, and Reggie enters, saying he has arrived by balloon. He is followed by his sister, Mrs. Dutton, who informs him that her husband has gone mad, and asks his help. A series of misunderstandings ensue, until eventually Reggie is apprehended as an Anarchist, and the curtain descends on Dutton rushing from his bedroom with the box to the balloon, and rising in mid-air just as the machine explodes. The acting was all that could be wished. Mr. Edmund O'Grady being exceptionally good as Dutton. The piece was well received.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Frank Bateman and John Douglas, entitled
"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."

The story of *No Wedding Bells for Her* is always interesting, and possesses plenty of thrilling situations and comedy interludes—ingredients which successfully appeal to popular audiences. The scheming and vengeful Lola Delaspierre is the central figure of the piece, and the part suits Miss Lizzie Montague admirably. Lola's catspaw, Abney Stone, is very convincingly portrayed by Mr. Conrad Franklyn; Mr. Stuart Lomath, as the outspoken muscular young parson, Frank Hatherleigh, contributes a praiseworthy performance; and Harold Trevelyan's lines are well delivered by Mr. E. Holland Day. Mr. Frank Bateman as the ubiquitous Dick Delver shows much versatility and resource, and the detective's doings are always followed with interest. Mr. Louis Garton is well placed as Montague Blair; Mr. Will Skelton makes an amusing Simkins; Mr. Harry Belford brings plenty of experience to bear upon the part of Horatio Fane; Mr. Frank Davies is responsible for a graphic sketch of Osric Guildenstein; and Herbert J. Walton is happily cast as the manager of the Imperial Theatre. Miss Louie Adair plays with tact and sympathy as Doris Vane; and Miss Vera Bateman renders an excellent account of Peggy. Minor parts in a long cast are all capitally played.

MARTIN HARVEY AT NEWCASTLE.

Mr. Martin Harvey was the guest of the Newcastle Pen and Palette Club at a supper on the 28th ult. His health was proposed by Mr. J. B. Radcliffe, who prophesied that further conquests were before the popular actor.

Mr. Harvey, in response, said: Mr. Radcliffe, and, if I may say so, brother artists of the Pen and Palette Club, my presence here to-night forms a further link in many associations which I am privileged in possessing with this Royal city of Newcastle. I cannot claim to be a Novocastrian myself; I have not yet acquired that wiry but charming habit of mendacity which persuaded an eminent member of my profession, on public occasions, to claim as his birthplace every city he visited; but it is a fact that my mother first saw the light in Newcastle, and it so happens that both my wife and I made our first provincial appearance in your city. That occasion, in my case, was destined to become a melancholy remembrance. I suppose my youthful ideas of the spending capacity of fifty shillings per week—which was my salary in those days—was, to say the least of it, exaggerated. Fresh from home, and unused to the modest habit of expenditure essential to the young and struggling actor, my first idea was to put up at the best hotel in the city. The week had not passed before it was put to me delicately by the manager of the company that I was perhaps living beyond my income. This, as you may imagine, was easily proved to be the case, and the repayment of the heavy advance which I was obliged to arrange with the treasurer to liquidate my liability to the Station Hotel was a serious encumbrance during the remainder of my stay with that company. My remembrance of that early appearance scarcely ends there. We were performing at the Theatre Royal the old Criterion farce of *Becky*, and the late William Hill—familarly known as "Wull Hill," and described in the play bills of the day, I think, as "Newcastle's favourite comedian," was a member of the company. He was, poor fellow, as I daresay many of you will recall, the most preposterously comic figure I think I have ever seen. To say that he was portly was to put it very mildly indeed. His form reminded one mostly of a large and ripe inverted pear, and the spectacle of Wull Hill driven, as was customary, in a very small wagonette, which he almost capsized, drawn with some difficulty by a very small pony, was a picture to which any Rowlandson or Gilroy could have done justice. His mere appearance upon the stage was generally quite sufficient to convulse the audience with laughter; and, inexperienced as I then was, the astonishing comicality of that man would, at certain moments of the play, drive every word of my part from my head. I remember at one point I had to state certain objections I entertained to the lady he proposed should be my wife. I had to say, "But, father! she is forty-two years of age, has a pug nose, and weighs fourteen stone." Now, when Wull Hill looked at you it was with a pair of eyes expressive of the reproach of a hooked cod, and, meeting this gaze from over his pendulous chops, the best words I could think of were, "My father, she's fourteen years of age, has a pug stone, and weighs forty-two noses."

Nor can I forget either, gentlemen, that the first audience after leaving London to which we submitted *The Only Way* was the audience of the Tyne-side. The encouragement you gave us then was to bear fruit later, when we submitted to you for the first time *The Breed of the Treshams*, and again last year our latest—shall I call it relaxation?—*Boy O'Carroll*. May I say, gentlemen, that I think such "relaxations" are healthful, provided that, however light and trifling a subject may be, the handling "dignifies" it. I recall that I am speaking to men of the Palette and the Pen when I remind you of what old Crome said to his son: "Paint what you see, my boy; and, if it be only a pig-sty, dignify it." To every artist, I take it, relaxation and variety in his work must be wholesome and beneficial. Perhaps one may say that the greatest artists are those who in their artistic selection can cover the widest ground. Shakespeare himself turned with ease, and no loss of dignity to his art, from Lear to Christopher Sly. Garrick was wont to conclude his evening's work, after performing *Macbeth*, with Abel Dragger, the half-witted apothecary's assistant. Scott, Thackeray, Dickens could pass easily from grave to gay, thus reflecting that sense of proportion without which a work of art can never be true to human nature. And we, following humbly in the footsteps of these great masters, find development of our powers, such as they are, in attacking the lighter as well as the graver themes of life. Who is it who has so wisely said that "A tear trembles on the lip of every laugh"? And when the humorous and the pathetic approach each other to the speaking point that thrill of truth instantly radiates through us all which is indeed the touch of nature making the whole world kin.

That advice of old Crome's to his son "that he should *dignify* every subject he illustrated" seems to me capable of a very wide application. "The presence or absence of that sense of dignity of worthiness" in all artistic expression would seem to be no bad criterion to apply when one's approbation or disapproval of a work of art is in question in whatever medium it is presented, and of course I include dramatic entertainment. If the proper study of mankind is man, there would seem to be no side of man which does not come within the province of the artist; but whatever side of human nature is depicted, we must "dignify" it. If that quality is present, let us welcome a work of art in whatever medium it is presented to us; and if that quality is absent, let us absolutely abhor and abominate it. I think we may say that wholesome fun need never lack that spirit of worthiness. When it does, let us give a free voice to the denunciator, for mere frivolity and vulgarity is belittling, is useless, is degrading to the character and to the soul. But art must not be confined—I have seen art, and exquisite art, in a Japanese lollipop—such creations in sweetmeat are comparable only to the butterfly which flutters his marvellous little life for an hour and is no more. Such creations give us a momentary glimpse of beauty, and the creator takes rank among the glorious company of art workers.

Gentlemen, I am now thoroughly in the saddle, becoming didactic and liable to bore you heavily, so I think I had better dismount; but the companionship of men of the Pen and Palette to which you have admitted me turns one's thoughts into these channels. For your welcome here Mr. Radcliffe and gentlemen, I am without adequate words of thanks and appreciation. I count it no small honour to be your guest here to-night. I feel that around me are those choice spirits who have given us from time to time during our visits here such a "splendid spur" in our work, the work we love, which it is our privilege and undeserved reward to put before teeming numbers of Novocastrians, who have always urged us on to our best, and, what is more, who have supported us with their presence and their critical interest.

MR. JOHN MURRAY will publish very shortly a volume by Mr. Sidney Lee, entitled "Shakespeare and the Modern Stage, with Other Essays." The book mainly consists of articles on various aspects of Shakespearean drama which bear on current affairs, and includes articles on "Shakespeare and the Elizabethan Playgoer," "Mr. Benson and Shakespearean Drama," and "The Commemoration of Shakespeare in London."

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON.

SEPT. 3. *The Scapegrace*, a wordless farce, founded on *Good for Nothing*, arranged by Albert Chevallier—Duke of York's.
" 3. *Toddles*, farce, in three acts, adapted from *Triplepatte*, by MM. Tristan Bernard and André Godfernaux (produced Nov. 30, 1905, at the Paris Athenée)—Duke of York's.
" 3. *Daylight Ghosts*, a comedy of terrors, in one scene, invented and written by J. N. Maskelyne and David Devant—St. George's Hall.
" 4. *Tristram and Iseult*, play, in four acts, by J. Comyns Carr—Adelphi.
" 6. *Solomon the Siberian*, drama in Yiddish, in four acts, by John Jackson—Pavilion.
" 10. *An Unwedded Wife*, drama, in four acts (originally produced at the Queen's Theatre, Leeds, on July 30, 1903)—West London.
" 10. *Mrs. Temple's Telegram*, farce, in three acts, by Frank Wyatt and William Morris—Waldorf.
" 10. *His Child*, play, in one act, by Frederick Fenn and Richard Pryce—Waldorf.
" 12. *Peter's Mother*, comedy, in three acts, by Mrs. Henry de la Pasture—Wyndham's.
" 12. *The Sixth Commandment*, play, in one act, by Cosmo Hamilton—Wyndham's.
" 14. *Nurse Marjorie*, play, in four acts, by Israel Zangwill (copyright performance)—Criterion.
" 17 *The King's Signet*, romantic play, in four acts, by Watson Bay—Grand Theatre, Fulham.
" 20. *The Bondman*, drama, in four acts, adapted by Hall Caine from his novel of the same name—Drury Lane.
" 22. *A Wire Entanglement*, play, in one act, by Robert Marshall—Comedy.
" 25. *The Silver Box*, play, in three acts, by John Galsworthy—Court.
" 29. *Yellow Fog Island*, musical, satirical play, in two acts, founded on a story of Gilbert A'Beckett, by Arthur Sturgess, introducing songs, imitated from the French by W. H. C. Nation, choruses composed and music arranged by Napoleon Lambelet (Mr. W. H. C. Nation's season)—Terry's.
" 29. *The New Aladdin*, musical extravaganza, in two acts, by James T. Tanner and W. H. Risque, with lyrics by Adrian Ross, Percy Greenbank, W. H. Risque, and George Grossmith, jun., and music by Ivan Caryll and Lionel Monckton, with additional numbers by Frank E. Tours—Gaiety.

PROVINCES.

SEPT. 3. *Miles Carew, Highwayman*, play, in three acts, by Harry and Edward Paulton—Opera House, Cheltenham.
" 6. *La Marseillaise*, play, in one act, by Frank Ernest Potter—Theatre Royal, Worcester.
" 7. *From Washerwoman to Duchess*, play, in prologue and four acts—Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.
" 10. *Ivanhoe*, play, in five acts, adapted from Sir Walter Scott's novel by William Palmer—Queen's Theatre, Manchester.
" 10. *The Unseen World*, musical drama, in four acts, by Harry Starr—Athenæum, Lancaster.
" 10. *Oh! that Major*, farcical sketch, by J. Hamilton Urquhart—Town Hall, Leven.
" 17. *When Knights Were Bold*, farce, in three acts, by Charles Marlowe—Theatre Royal, Nottingham.
" 17. *The Honeymoon*, musical absurdity, in three acts, by Gilbert Payne—Empire Theatre, Dundee.
" 17. *A Miserable Marriage*, play, in four acts—Theatre Royal, Lincoln.
" 17. *Her Love Against the World*, play, in four acts, by Walter Howard—Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester.
" 21. *How Nihilists are Made*, play, in four acts, by A. B. Mackay (copyright performance)—Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.
" 24. *A Lesson in Pearls*, comedietta, by Mrs. Barry Pain—Theatre Royal, Bath.
" 28. *Dutton's Dilemma*, a farcical sketch, by Leonard Mortimer.—Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall.
" 29. *The Old Cabin Home; or, Carolina*, play, in four acts, by Grattan Donelly (copyright performance)—Theatre Royal, Darwen.

REVIVALS.

SEPT. 1. *The Winter's Tale*, Shakespeare's comedy, arranged in three acts, by Herbert Beerbohm Tree—His Majesty's.
" 17. *John Bull's Other Island*, comedy, by G. Bernard Shaw—Court.
" 29. *He's Much to Blame*, revised and compressed version, in two acts, of Thomas Holcroft's comedy (Mr. W. H. C. Nation's season)—Terry's.

BERLIN.

SEPT. 1. *Ein Kaisertag zu Nürnberg*, one-act play, by V. Hahn—Royal Schauspielhaus.
" 5. *Frau Inger von Oestrot*, five-act play, by H. Ibsen—Schiller O.
" 5. *Die Sünden der Väter*, farce, in one act, by A. Groiss—Folies Caprices.
" 5. *Der Generalkonsul*, one-act farce, by MM. Caprice and Kmoch—Folies Caprices.
" 6. *Frost im Frühling*, drama, in three acts, by Leo Lenz—Neues.
" 11. *Eine*, farce, in two acts, by Max Dreyer—Neues.
" 11. *Ein Stammgast*, one-act farce, by M. Courteline—Neues.
" 13. *Der Hausfreund*, comedy, in three acts, by MM. De Fiers and De Caillevet—Trianon.
" 15. *Klein Dorrit*, three-act comedy, by F. von Schönthan—Royal Schauspielhaus.
" 15. *Triplepatte*, farce, in five acts, by MM. Bernard and Godferaux—Residenz.
" 15. *1001 Nacht*, operetta, in three acts, by J. Strauss—Central.
" 21. *Das Friedensdorf*, three-act farce, by C. G. Reuling—Lustspielhaus.
" 24. *Mann Raun nie Wissen*, comedy, in three acts, by G. B. Shaw—Kleines.
" 29. *Der Jubiläumsbrunnen*, four-act play, by W. Bloem—Neues.

PARIS.

SEPT. 4. *Mes Oncles s'amusent*, vaudeville, three acts, by Hugues Delorme and Francis Gally—Cluny.
" 15. *Jean Chouan*, play, five acts and six tableaux, by Louis Decori and Paul Olivier—Gaîté.
" 29. *Cinderella*, fairy play, forty-five tableaux, by Arthur Collins, translated by Emile Herbel—Porte-Saint-Martin.

ADDITIONAL facilities are offered by the Great Eastern Railway Company for reaching Newmarket during the Second October and Houghton Meetings, by the issue of reduced first-class day return tickets at a cost of 15s., and first-class four-day periodical tickets at £2. Restaurant car accommodation is provided on some of the principal trains.

PRESENTATION.—Mr. Charles Majilton, the popular comedian, has been presented by his friend, Mr. William Glover, with a beautiful water-colour drawing (a sunset), executed in the talented artist's best style.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree has been telling a Dublin interviewer how he baffled the inquiries of the New York reporters on a certain occasion. "I went out," said Mr. Tree, "on the same steamer as Mr. Richard Croker, of Tammany fame. He and I became very friendly on the steamer, and the New York reporters, hearing this, attacked me in pursuit of copy. 'I understand, Mr. Tree,' they said, 'you talked a good deal with Mr. Croker on the voyage?' 'Yes,' I replied. 'I should like to tell you how much I like America——' 'But what did Mr. Croker say?' 'Oh, Mr. Croker—well, what Mr. Croker said was his business, wasn't it?' 'Pardon us,' they cried in chorus; 'we guess it's ours.' 'Well,' I said, 'if you insist on my revealing a private conversation, I must tell you that Mr. Croker talked exclusively about horse-racing and the immortality of the soul.' Mr. Croker was much pleased. He said that what he liked about actors was their discretion."

Mr. Bram Stoker, in the lecture which he delivered at the Westbourne Park Chapel on Tuesday evening, told an anecdote to the effect that when the committee on the revision of the Bible had finished their labours they went one night to the Lyceum Theatre. The chairman of the committee sent for Mr. Stoker and said, "I want you to bear in mind that we wish to put it on record that we, who have just revised the Bible, have come here, and we not only see nothing to object to, but we think this theatre is altogether a place for good." Mr. Stoker proposes to repeat the lecture, which is full of interesting matter, in other places.

The will of Mrs. Pearl Mary Teresa Craigie, better known under the *nom de plume* of "John Oliver Hobbes," who died on Aug. 13 last, has been proved at £24,502, with net personalty of £995. By her will of June 1, 1906, she directs that her son, John Churchill Craigie, after leaving Eton, is to continue his education at Oxford, but shall be unfettered in the choice of his religion or profession, and she gives him, with a few exceptions, all her personal articles, jewels, books, furniture, and horses and carriages, at her residence in the Isle of Wight and her rooms in The Albany, Piccadilly. So much of the proceeds of her works, royalties on plays and books as will amount to £3000 Mrs. Craigie gives to the Right Rev. Monsignor Brown, of St. Anne's, Vauxhall.

It is not often that the sufferings of the aspiring playwright are dramatised, but Mr. Herbert Darnley, in his well-written dramatic episode in one act, *The Last Hour*, which preceded *The 'Varsity Belle* at the St. James's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday last, has for his hero a struggling dramatic author, who takes poison in despair just before he receives news of the acceptance of one of his plays by an important manager. The cast includes also the suicide's landlord, landlady, and sweetheart, who add some humorous and sentimental interest to the theme; and the piece was very well played by Mr. R. Harley West, as the author, Mr. James Danvers, Miss Nellie Parker Dent, and Miss Beatrice Egerton.

The meeting convened by the Actors' Association to consider the question of the proposed Irving Memorial was held in the saloon at Drury Lane on Monday morning. Sir Squire Bancroft presided, and other members of the theatrical profession present were Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Lionel Brough, Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Mr. F. Arlton (the late Mr. Toole's constant companion), and Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, secretary of the association. The Press were not admitted, but it was stated that the matter had been referred back to the council of the association for further consideration.

Mr. Forbes Robertson, Miss Gertrude Elliott, and the members of their company sailed on Wednesday for New York, where they are due to appear at the New Amsterdam Theatre on the 22nd, opening in Berinard Shaw's play, *Cæsar and Cleopatra*. Mr. Robertson returns to England in April.

An important première will take place at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Monday, when the dramatisation by George Warren of Mr. Edgar Wallace's enthralling story, "The Four Just Men," will be produced at Mr. Mulholland's handsome house. The leading part will be sustained by Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, and amongst other members of a full cast are Mr. Gordon Bailey, Mr. Legai Robinson, Miss Alys Rees, and Miss Dorothea Desmond. The play will be produced by Mr. Saintsbury, who has been in close touch with the authors, both of the book and the play, while the company is controlled by Mr. J. Bannister Howard. Every person visiting the theatre on Monday night, when the curtain will rise promptly at eight o'clock, will be presented with a handsomely bound volume, published at 3s. 6d., of Mr. Wallace's book. In addition to the evening performances, Mr. Mulholland announces a matinée at 2.30 on Thursday.

Mr. Wallace's clever story, it may be remembered, ends with a problem as to the way in which a Parliamentary Minister, who refuses to accede to the commands of the invincible "Four," meets his death. In the play a most dramatically thrilling solution is arrived at. One of the wires connected with the Minister's telephone is affixed to a dynamo, so that, at a given time, the full current of electricity is passed through him as he sits with the receiver to his ear. Four mysterious-looking individuals, dressed in cloaks, sombrero hats, and masks, have been seen careering around the West End in a motor-car during the past few days. On inquiry it has been discovered that they are effectively advertising the new play.

It is not often that an actor realises one of the most familiar "motives" of fiction—the attempt of the rightful heir to enter into his estate; and therefore great interest attaches to the claim of Mr. William Ernest Block to the Revett-Warner estates in Suffolk. Mr. W. E. Block is known in the theatrical world as W. E. Bentley, and until recently was advance manager to Charles Macdona, Ltd., having previously served under H. J. Leslie, Van Biene, and Augustus Harris. He is forming a syndicate for the purpose of providing funds for the necessary litigation in his claim, with a bond capital of £15,000, and offices at 53, Victoria-street, Westminster.

Mr. Block is the son of a boot manufacturer. Fifteen years ago his father attempted to obtain possession of the property, which is in the hands of trustees, but died before he had completed his researches. The families of John Revett, of Brandeston, and the Edmund and Thomas Warner, of Parham and Framlingham, were united by marriage. Mr. Block is a direct descendant and the sole representative of the family, and is determined to prove this to the satisfaction of the Courts.

The Revett property became intestate in 1830, and the revenues of the whole of the estates have accumulated to over £2,000,000. The Glevering Hall estate contains about 3460 acres, and shows a rent-roll of over £3000 per annum. It is richly timbered, and in close proximity to Easton Park. Mr. Block, should he be successful, will give £5000 to any theatrical charity or charities which shall be named by the Editor of *The Era*, so the whole profession is interested in his success.

Mr. and Mrs. Forbes Robertson have again contributed to swell the resources of a beneficent institution. This week they have sent a further sum of £1 7s. 11d. to the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, collected by means of their autographs.

Mr. H. B. Irving achieved a success instantaneous and complete on his first appearance in America. A large and enthusiastic audience welcomed him at the New Amsterdam Theatre, New York, on Monday, when he appeared as Malatesta in *Paolo and Francesca*. The striking resemblance of the young actor to his distinguished father was noted at his first entry, which was the signal for a loud ovation. At the end of the last act, after being recalled again and again, Mr. Irving made a short speech, in which he attributed the warmth of his reception "as much to the tender memories of my father, cherished by many American playgoers, as to any poor efforts of my own."

Miss Ellis Jeffreys and Mr. William H. Crane will shortly appear together in New York in a revival of *She Stoops to Conquer*, and Miss Jeffreys will be seen as Kate Hardcastle, a part which she has played a number of times in London. The cast will be as follows: Hardcastle, Mr. William H. Crane; Young Marlow, Mr. Walter Hale; Hastings, Mr. Herbert Sleath; Mrs. Hardcastle, Mrs. Fanny Addison Pitt; Miss Neville, Miss Margaret Dale; the Diggory will be Mr. Fred Thorne. The tour will include many of the larger cities of the West and South, and the New York engagement will begin in January. It is twenty-three years since Mr. Crane appeared as Hardcastle, with the late Stuart Robson.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier had a conspicuous success in *Coster Joe* in its compressed form during an excellent week at Leeds. On Friday the popular actor, who opened to splendid business this week at Newcastle with *The Walls of Jericho*, paid a return flying visit to Leeds to open the Gilbert and Sullivan Fête in aid of the Leeds Lifeboat Fund. Mr. W. S. Gilbert, who is at Wiesbaden, sent the following telegram through Mr. Bourchier to the Corporation, to be read at the lunch at the Town Hall:—"I send hearty good wishes for the success of fête. Greatly regret I cannot be present."

Mr. Bourchier has sent round a circular letter to the London Press referring to his recent request for delay in noticing *The Morals of Marcus* at the Garrick. In this letter Mr. Bourchier states that, on consideration, he admits that his request did not carry with it the meaning he meant to convey. "Believe me," writes Mr. Bourchier, "I had no wish to offend. I value criticism, and I wanted to solicit it when a play was free from first-night nervousness. It would have been better had I requested an interview to hear your side of the question before making so definite a move. I apologise for the mistake."

Mr. Lewis Waller, who, in conjunction with Mr. Tom B. Davis, will produce *Robin Hood* at the Lyric on Wednesday, the 17th inst., will be well supported in his assumption of the bold outlaw. The cast will include Messrs. Philip Cuningham, William Devereux, S. B. Brereton, H. J. Carvill, Herbert Jarman, A. E. George, Owen Roughwood, and Cecil Cameron, and Misses Helen Leyton, Dorothy Minto, Georgie Esmond, and May Chenery, with Miss Evelyn Millard as Maid Marian. Sherwood Forest, the battlements of Nottingham Castle, and Much's Mill on the Trent are all to figure among a varied assortment of scenic display.

At the Theatre Royal, Worthing, Wednesday was set aside for the second annual benefit of the popular manager, Herr Adolf Seebold, when Mr. Junius Booth's company played to packed houses both afternoon and evening. It must be gratifying to Herr Seebold to see that his untiring energy in catering for the public at this healthful South Coast resort is appreciated in such a tangible manner.

Mr. Bannister Howard will present at the Crystal Palace Theatre, on Monday, *The Private Secretary*. The following week the newly-decorated theatre will resound to the melodious strains of *The Belle of New York*, played by Mr. George Musgrove's company.

At St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, at 2.30 on Tuesday, the Bishop of London will celebrate the marriage of the Rev. Harold Davidson, Rector of Stiffkey, and chaplain of the Trafalgar-square section of the Actors' Church Union, and Miss Moyra Saurin, of County Meath, Ireland. Mr. Reginald Kennedy-Cox, the playwright, will act as best man.

Mr. George Dance's chief company, with *Lady Madcap*, will visit the Kennington Theatre next week. Miss Vera Vere will be the Madcap, and those who remember her in *A Chinese Honeymoon* will need no further inducement to see her in her latest impersonation. Mr. H. V. Surrey will be Trooper Smith, and the rest of the characters are in the hands of an excellent company.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell and Mr. Lewis Waller are announced to recite at a concert which will be given in the afternoon of Tuesday, Nov 6, at 35, Grosvenor-square, in aid of the funds of the Royal Ear Hospital, Dean-street, Soho. The programme will also include Mme. Kirkby Lunn, Mrs. Henry J. Wood, Mons. Oumiroff, Miss Edith Kirkwood, and Miss Norah Drewett. Princess Christian and many members of the nobility have promised their patronage and support.

The *Sherlock Holmes* company is meeting with gratifying success on its autumn tour. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart has been congratulated by the local management of every town he has visited on the excellence of the production.

The management of the Metropole Theatre, Devonport, have secured the able services of Mr. George S. King as general-manager, in the place of Mr. Mitchell, who has left the town. Mr. King is intimately acquainted with the needs of a theatre like the Metropole, having been formerly connected with the Grand, Stalybridge, and the Carlton, Birmingham. He is also at the present time lessee and manager of the Metropole, Hoyland, but will be enabled to give his undivided attention to his new protégé.

Mr. Wentworth Croke's belief in the drawing powers of Miss Minnie Palmer in a new version of *My Sweetheart* has been fully confirmed by the many No. 1 theatre proprietors who have promptly booked this attraction. The tour will begin at the Grand Theatre, Middlesbrough, on the 29th inst. The piece will be sent out in first-class style, Mr. Ernest Howard having painted two new and very beautiful sets, while Messrs. Stafford and Co. have put in stock a very fine plant of printing. Mr. Richard Elliott will be the business-manager.

Mr. Wentworth Croke has been elected to serve on the committee of the Touring Managers' Association and as a director of the Managers' Club, now so firmly and successfully established in Savoy Mansions.

Mrs. Langtry opened in New York on Monday night in Mr. Graham Hill's powerful little drama *Between the Night and the Light*, and made an instantaneous success. The performance went splendidly, and was enthusiastically applauded.

Mr. Fred Terry will be seen in a new impersonation on Thursday, when he and Miss Julia Neilson will produce, at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, the new romantic play *Matt of Merrymount*, by B. M. Dix and E. C. Sutherland. Miss Neilson does not figure in the cast, which will otherwise comprise Messrs. Malcolm Cherry, Carter Edwards, Alfred Kendrick, C. R. Gibbon, Walter Edwin, D. J. Williams, W. A. Haines, Frederick Groves, and Jerrold Robertshaw, and Misses Claire Pauncefort, Kathleen Doyle, Miriam Lewes, and Lilias Waldegrave.

The beautiful representation of Shakespeare's *Winter's Tale* at His Majesty's Theatre will last only till the end of the month, as Mr. Tree then returns from his successful provincial tour. The last opportunity of seeing Miss Ellen Terry as Hermione must therefore be on the evening of Oct. 27, and playgoers who are anxious to witness the production would be well advised to secure seats at once. On the following Monday, Oct. 29, Mr. Tree will himself appear in Mr. Michael Morton's play *Colonel Newcome*, with which he concluded his summer season, and which has recently been received with enthusiasm in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dublin, and the North of England. Mr. Tree has been fortunate in securing practically the original cast, including Mrs. Tree, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, and Mr. Norman Forbes. Extra matinées of *A Winter's Tale* are announced for Saturday next and the following Saturday, Oct. 20.

Miss Phyllis Dare will take up the title-rôle of *The Belle of Mayfair* at the Vaudeville Theatre this evening, when there will be presented a second edition of the popular play, the attractiveness of which will be embellished by new dresses and appointments. Mr. Leslie Stuart has composed a new number for the young actress bearing the title of "I'll wait for you, little girlie."

The Theatre Metropole, Birkenhead, was offered for sale by auction last week, but, no bid resulting, the property was withdrawn. It is understood that it will be disposed of by private treaty for conversion into shops.

Another link with the past is about to be put under the auctioneer's hammer in the shape of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, which on Tuesday next will again seek a purchaser. The old place, wherein Toole, Terry, and all the famous comedians of the last fifty years attracted packed houses, has been closed several years. The general opinion in Liverpool is that the building will be acquired for business purposes, for which it is eminently suited, standing as it does in the heart of the shop-keeping locality.

We regret to learn that Mr. Robert Fogerty, manager of the Theatre Royal, Limerick, is seriously ill.

The full cast of *The Amateur Socialist*, the comedy by W. Kingsley Tarpey, which will be produced on Saturday at the Criterion, will consist of Messrs. Eric Lewis, Louis Goodrich, R. Clayton Greene, F. Percival Stevens, E. Dagnall, E. Y. Rae, Percy H. Jackson, and Rawson Buckley, and Misses Carlotta Addison, Margaret Bussé, Ethel Matthews, and Lilian Braithwaite. *The Lemonade Boy*, the one-act play by Gladys Unger, which will precede, will engage the services of Messrs. O. P. Heggie, Percy H. Jackson, E. Y. Rae, and Misses Nella Powys and Minnie Terry.

The part of Bridget in *The Fatal Wedding* is closely identified with the name of that clever actress, Miss Julie Temple. At twenty-four hours' notice Miss Temple resumed the rôle on Monday with Mr. Bert Coote's company at Crewe, and repeated her artistic success.

Phenyl Brickwell, son of Mr. H. T. Brickwell, is on board the Xema in quest of the hidden treasure. Fortune proverbially favours the brave, and it is to be hoped that success will attend him in his plucky venture in search of the sequestered millions.

Mr. Auguste Van Biene introduced into the second act of *The Broken Melody* at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, last week, a new solo, entitled "Vespers," composed by his son Edward Van Biene. Mr. Van Biene, jun., has also originated a novel scheme for advertising his work. It consists of a picture postcard bearing a reduced facsimile of the title-page of the publication, and has been executed by Moody Bros., the theatrical printers, in their usual excellent style. The publishers of the solo, Reeder and Walsh, report excellent sales, and the famous 'cellist predicts an enormous success for the piece, which he describes as "charming."

Mr. Maurice E. Bandmann's comedy and dramatic company leaves to-day for India by the s.s. Sardinia for a tour of about twelve months, with a répertoire including *His House in Order*, *Raffles*, *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*, *Leah Kleschna*, and many of the latest West End successes. The company consists of Misses Florence Hamer, Violet Vorley, Helen Grenville, Russell Spiers, Dorcas Corsbie, and Lily Lloyd, and Messrs. Claude King, Philip Sanders, Sydney T. Pease, Clifford Bown, Sinclair Cotter, and W. S. Butt. Mr. Kelson Trueman, who is Mr. Maurice E. Bandmann's sole representative in England, will be at Tilbury to see the company on board.

Mr. Napoleon Bird, a pianist, of Stockport, has just succeeded in accomplishing a record in playing the piano with both hands continuously for forty-eight hours. The feat took place at the Armoury, Stockport, commencing at 10 p.m. on Tuesday and finishing at 10 p.m. on Thursday. In the course of his performance Mr. Bird, who is fifty-one years of age, played nearly fifteen hundred selections of a varied character.

Mr. Allan Wilkie is paying a return visit to the Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury, and is doing especially good business, the house being packed nightly. Mr. Wilkie's performances of Hamlet, Shylock, Othello, &c., were received with the greatest enthusiasm. Messrs. David Allen and Sons are now at work on a special plant of pictorial printing for Mr. Wilkie, which, when complete, will be found to contain something quite new.

Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker will revive *Man and Superman* at the Court on the 29th inst., with Mr. Granville Barker, who has not appeared since last March, again playing the part of John Tanner. Miss Lillah McCarthy will again be Ann Whitefield, and the rest of the cast will be the same as before with the exception of Roebuck Ramsden, which will be played by Mr. James Hearn; while Miss Grace Lane will play the part of Violet Robinson. The production of Mr. St. John Hankin's new comedy, *The Charity that Began at Home*, is fixed for Oct. 23.

Mr. Norman V. Norman has played to remarkably fine houses at Brighton this week with the Rev. Frederick Langbridge's piece *The Chevalier de St. George*. A little conversation between two ladies who had just come out of the theatre the other night was overheard. Both were interested spectators of the pictorial posters of the play, and one remarked to the other, "Do you know what this new play next Monday is about?" Her companion replied, "Oh, quite a well-known thing. It is about Esmond's 'Thackeray,' you know." It must have been the same two ladies who applied at the box-office for seats on the occasion of a former visit of Mr. Norman to Brighton, and asked what the play was. Upon being told it was *Nell Gwynn* they remarked that they were great lovers of Shakespeare, but had never seen that particular play of his!

Mr. Charles Carey opens his second Scotch tour with *After the Ball* at Perth next week. This piece is meeting with phenomenal success in the North, and at Darlington this week "House Full" has nightly been the announcement. The play goes with a merry swing, and the chorus—a big one—is far smarter than is usual on this side of the Atlantic. When, we may ask, is Mr. Carey going to give Londoners an opportunity of putting their ball-mark on it?

The usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Miss Kate Phillips, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, C. Hayden Coffin, Lawrence Grant, Fewlass Llewellyn, Quinton McPherson, M. R. Morand, Spencer Trevor, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

The hon. solicitors reported that they had advised several members on points submitted. A case of alleged insanitation at a provincial theatre was under discussion, and the secretary received instructions to communicate with the management upon the question. Chas. T. Doe, Beatrice Fitzgerald, Gerald Clifton Boyne, Nellie Beryl, and Alexandra Carlisle were nominated for election. A former member was reinstated. The secretary received instructions to deal with the list of unpaid subscriptions. The hon. solicitors were requested to advise two members upon the validity of claims made by them. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received, and the secretary was directed to call a meeting of the special committee next Tuesday at noon. The council directed the secretary to express their thanks to Mr. Norman Wrighton for his gift of a framed engraving of Shakespeare in his study.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee of the A.A. held a meeting on Tuesday last, when there were present Mr. Acton Bond (chairman) and Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater, Lawrence Grant, C. Aubrey Smith, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). The secretary received instructions to obtain certain information in order that the committee might be in a position to place a scheme before the council.

Mr. J. Burgiss Brown, who, during a career extending over thirty years, has given upwards of 8000 performances as an entrepreneur in various parts of the country, will be accorded a complimentary concert at Bechstein Hall on Tuesday afternoon next. Mr. Brown is a musical man, with a musical family, and his popularity with the profession at large is evidenced by the list of eminent artists who have volunteered their services. Among those who have promised support are Mme. Helen Trust, Mme. Bertha Moore, Mr. Herbert Grover, Mr. Barton McGuckin, Mr. Courtice Pounds, Mr. Farren Soutar, Mr. Watkin Mills, Mr. George Grossmith, Mr. George Grossmith, jun., Mr. Arthur Roberts, Mr. Charles Collette, Miss Hilda Trevellyan, Mr. Charles Bertram, and Mr. Rutland Barrington.

Mr. George Edwardes was again among the winners on Wednesday, when his three-year-old Marie Blanche romped home with two lengths to spare in the Houndean Selling Plate at Lewes. The filly, who made the running very early in the race, was sold for 105 guineas.

A great deal of useful work has been unostentatiously done by the association formed some eighteen months ago by the managers of suburban theatres, but by far the most important step has been the formation of a defence fund, amounting to nearly £4000. This fund, which is duly vested in trustees, is now available, not only to protect the interests generally of owners and lessees, but more particularly to constitute a war chest to be drawn upon in the event of attack on any individual manager, upon whom the whole expenses of defending his rights might otherwise fall too heavily.

Some such effective insurance against aggression has become more than ever necessary since the Lord Chamberlain delegated his powers—which to all intents and purposes he did a few years ago—to the London County Council, whose requirements are ever-varying and ever-increasing. The theatres of Greater London—as apart from music halls, with which this association is not concerned—represent an invested capital of nearly a million sterling, and the members of the association are the actual responsible men in connection with these theatres, being, in many instances, the owners. The hon. secretary of the association is Mr. J. B. Mulholland, who, times out of number, has given proofs of his determination to hold his own against the attacks of London's governing body.

Mrs. D'Oyly Carte's opera company, back from a prosperous South African tour, began on Monday a two weeks' visit to the Camden Theatre, opening with the utmost success in *The Mikado*. The programme for next week will consist of *The Gondoliers*, *Mikado*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *Trial by Jury*, *Patience*, *Iolanthe*, *Princess Ida*, and *Yeomen of the Guard*.

Miss Mona K. Oram, with her terrier Springer, which accompanies her on all her tours, left Euston last Sunday morning for Glasgow, where she will appear as Imogen in the forthcoming production of *Cymbeline* at the Grand. Miss Oram is looking forward with much interest to playing this part, and it is one of the few Shakespearean leads which she has not hitherto attempted.

The testimonial to Mr. R. W. Allum, the acting-manager of the Brixton Theatre, will take the shape of a benefit, which will be given at the Brixton Hall, Acre-lane, on Tuesday, Oct. 16, when a long and varied entertainment will be presented. Tickets may be had of the hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. Henry Dann, 457, Brixton-road, with whom artists who desire to support Mr. Allum are asked to communicate.

Mr. Herbert Leonard, who has resigned the business management of the Prince's Theatre, Poplar, is now collaborating with Mr. Walter Slaughter in writing a new musical comedy, in addition to personally organising the new Conquest and Leonard tours in conjunction with Mr. H. Cartwright. *The Girl of My Heart* is to be sent out on its tenth touring year, starting next Christmas at the Theatre Royal, Sunderland, with an excellent cast and new scenery, uniforms, and equipment. *Serving the Queen*, *On Active Service*, and a new musical comedy will be added to the répertoire next autumn.

Mr. Edward Michael has decided that for the future he will only operate the Répertoire Theatre Company at the Theatre Royal, Margate. As his tenancy of the Theatre Royal, Canterbury, has expired, that house has now reverted to Mr. E. Graham Falcon.

Miss Edna Loftus, now appearing in *The New Aladdin* at the Gaiety Theatre, created a decided impression last spring at the Folies-Marigny, Paris, as leader of the British Gibson Girls. Miss Loftus was offered a part at the Saint-Martin, in the French version of the Drury Lane pantomime *Cinderella*, recently successfully produced, but, not feeling quite sure of her French, declined.

The directors of the Pavilion, Kingstown, Dublin, have made an undoubtedly successful inauguration of their dramatic season this week, during which Mr. Russell Rosse's Repertory company have been appearing in the well-known comedies *A Pair of Spectacles*, *Our Boys*, and *Caste*. The engagement will continue for another week, and the directors have been so pleased with the results of their initial venture that they have offered Mr. Rosse, through their resident-manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon, a three weeks' engagement in the height of the Kingstown season next year. Mr. David James has, in the leading rôles, undoubtedly "caught on," and a well-balanced cast helps to make the pieces most acceptable.

Closely following the recent visit of Mrs. Kendal to the Marlborough Theatre comes an interesting event in the appearance at the popular North London house next week of that fine actress's talented daughter in the emotional rôle of Lady Isabel in the ever-popular *East Lynne*. Miss Grimston has already made her name in London as a rising young actress, and will be remembered as achieving a marked success recently at the Garrick Theatre. *East Lynne* will be something of a novelty at the Marlborough. It is a play usually relegated to sultry "summer dates," and the experiment of producing it in the middle of the autumn dramatic season with a carefully selected West End company and mounted in a handsome and lavish manner should prove a highly successful one. Following it come *The Prince Chap*, Mr. and Mrs. Benson, *The Blue Moon*, Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson, *The Dairymaids*, the Carl Rosa Opera Company, and the D'Oyly Carte Company, &c. Elaborate preparations are being made for the Christmas production of *Cinderella*.

The Promenade Concerts at the Crystal Palace began successfully on Wednesday, when the vocalists were Miss Edith Evans and Mr. Julien Henry. Amongst other artists engaged for these concerts are Miss Violet Ludlow, Mr. Reginald Brophy, and Mr. Charles Pond, who will give his clever and original entertainment.

"Mrs. Temple's Telegram" was withdrawn from the Waldorf on Saturday, after a meritorious endeavour to attract the public. The theatre is now closed, and when it is reopened in about six weeks time the attraction will, it is said, be musical comedy.

Last Sunday being the birthday of Mr. James Sinclair, the popular acting-manager of the West London Theatre, he was the gratified recipient of many kindly mementos from his several friends. The gifts, however, were all overshadowed, when on the same evening his wife presented him with a bonny son and heir. Mother and child, we are glad to hear, are doing well, and we beg to offer our heartiest congratulations to Mr. Sinclair and his talented wife (Miss Alice Sinclair).

Four Australian stars will scintillate in this year's pantomime at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, which is to be *Sindbad the Sailor*. The principal boy will be embodied by Miss May Beatty, the second girl will be Miss Nina Osborne, and Mr. Edward Lauri and Mr. G. H. Snazelle will also take part in the production.

"The Illustrious O'Hagan," a new play by Justin Huntly McCarthy, founded on a novel of the same title, which is to be published shortly, was copyrighted this week. The action passes in Paris and Germany, towards the end of the seventeenth century, and more than one of the principal characters, as may be inferred from the title, claim Ireland as the land of their birth.

"The Virgin Goddess" is to be the next novelty at the Adelphi, and will witness the reappearance of Miss Geneviève Ward, whose absence from the London stage has extended over several years. The play, which is written in blank verse, is by Rudolf Bessier, a journalist, who thus receives his first introduction as a dramatist. It is modelled on the lines of old Greek drama, the action taking place in Artis, an imaginary city of ancient Greece. Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton will have important parts in the new piece, the production of which is fixed for Tuesday, the 23rd inst.

"Colonel Newcome" is going gaily on its travels. News of its prosperity comes from various parts of the United Kingdom, and a cabled message gives tidings of its success at Montreal, where the clever play was produced by Mr. E. S. Willard on Monday. The famous actor is said to give a striking impersonation of the rôle, which will add considerably to his laurels.

The George Musgrove *Prince of Pilsen* company, the autumn tour of which has proved a veritable triumphal progress, is appearing in Cork this week. After the performance to-night the members of the company leave by a special midnight train, provided by the Great Southern Railway Company to convey them to Kingstown in time for the Sunday morning mail boat to Holyhead.

Miss Dorothy Grassdorff, who is winning golden opinions for her performance of Nellie Wagner in Baron Harris's *Prince of Pilsen* company, is the youngest daughter of the late Portuguese Vice-Consul, and received her early education at a convent in Brussels. After a course of study under Signor Giovanninni in Milan for voice production, followed by a period of tuition at the Paris Conservatore, Miss Grassdorff found herself playing Will o' the Wisp at the age of fifteen in the pantomime of *Aladdin* at the Shakespeare Theatre the season before last.

At the Schiller O., Berlin, *Donna Diana*, a three act comedy from the Spanish of Moreto, has met with a good share of success. This old Spanish play is thoroughly well written and amusing, and many a modern farce-maker might learn from it with advantage. "Talking of Spanish authors," (writes our Berlin correspondent), "there is to be a 'Spanish play cycle' at the Neues. The first of the series was on Sunday afternoon. It consisted of a three-act comedy by Miguel Echegaray, entitled *Magdalena*. Being brightly acted, the old-fashioned style of the piece was not so boring as it would otherwise have been, and the audience—which was not a very large one—applauded with cordiality.

Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge recently sold, by private treaty, to an American collector a copy of the 1612 edition of Shakespeare's poem "The Passionate Pilgrime" for £2000. The only other copy was at one time in the collection of Edmond Malone, and is now in the Bodleian Library.

Mr. Charles Frohman's production of *Brigadier Gerard* at his Illinois Theatre, Chicago, on Monday, was received with much enthusiasm. Mr. Kyrle Bellew, who played the Brigadier, was greatly praised.

"The Dandy Duke," a new burlesque opera, the book and music by Vere Smith, will be produced at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on Monday, December 17. The proceeds of the performance will be given to the much-needed Sussex County Hospital funds. The Green Room Club and the Brighton Operatic Society will be concerned in the production.

Miss Braddon (Mrs. Maxwell), who on Thursday received many congratulations on the completion of her seventieth year, had during her teens some experience as an actress, and this in a measure may account for the dramatic quality of her novels, most of which have been adapted from time to time without adding anything appreciable to her income. Several versions of "Lady Audley's Secret" have been presented, the character of Robert Audley being played in the days of his youth by Sir Henry Irving. She is the author also of several plays. *The Loves of Arcadia* was produced in 1860, *Griselda* in 1873, *Genevieve* in 1874, and *For Better, For Worse* in 1891.

The famous novelist has been for many years a resident at Lichfield House, Richmond, once an episcopal palace, and believed by the late George Augustus Sala to have been built by Sir Christopher Wren. The relics of Lichfield House include a small table on which Wellington wrote the despatch recounting the victory of Waterloo.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

"Mr. George Edwardes," says a writer in the *Birmingham Daily Post*, "is stated to be convinced that Saturday night's 'booing' at the Gaiety Theatre, when the curtain fell on the production of *The New Aladdin*, was 'stage-managed by enemies.' This is interesting as a proof of the strange survival in the managerial mind of the idea that first-night disapprobation is never spontaneous or genuine. Over a quarter of a century ago Messrs. James and Thorne, when fortune for a time failed them at the Vaudeville, set it all down to 'an organised opposition,' the existence of which was never proved. I have been for twenty years a regular attendant at London first nights, and have closely watched the popular demonstrations, both for and against certain plays; and I have never seen a trace of the 'organised opposition,' which is only mentioned when a piece has not gone well, and injudicious friends of the management have, by forced enthusiasm, provoked reprisals. But what has been growing of late years in certain London theatres has been the practice of 'papering' the pit and gallery on a first night, with the result of disturbances on the part of those who have paid for admission, roused to anger by the untimely cheering bestowed upon a weak production. Mr. Edwardes, of course, is far too shrewd, as well as popular, a manager to fall in with that custom."

In the case of musical play productions, the occasional dissatisfaction of a section of the first-nighters is easily accounted for. They do not represent the regular paying patrons even of that part of the house, still less those of the stalls and boxes. The real lovers of musical plays are accustomed to the peculiar manner in which these entertainments are constructed, and do not demand that the plot shall be constantly pursued all through the second act. Again, Mr. Edwardes's first nights are never final; and before a week has passed the piece is quite a different thing from what is was at the première. So that, by the time the real paying public have arrived, they have every reason to be satisfied. It is astonishing what a change can be made in an entertainment by simply cutting out everything that does not "go" and replacing the gaps thus created by "taking" items.

Our readers may be interested in the remarks of a Berlin journal upon Mr. Bernard Shaw and his play *You Never Can Tell*, a German version of which was recently seen in Berlin. The writer says: "This dramatist makes us giddy with the astonishing variety of things he shows us at the theatre in a single evening. He talks psychology to us, amuses us, introduces social reforms, fights prejudices, and is, at times, frivolous as a schoolgirl. To do all this in one evening takes a Molière—or the self-confidence of a Shaw. The Berlin public over-estimated Shaw merely because they like to pose as discoverers of talent. They do not overrate Mr. Shaw, however, as much as he over-estimates himself. He has evidently mistaken himself for a first-water genius, and he is so vain that he will not even observe the laws of common politeness and social conventionality. He interrupts himself continually, swallowing the ends of his own anecdotes, because he has not patience to finish one before beginning the next. In the middle of a scene beginning with pure comedy he breaks off abruptly, dashing into psychology, sociology, or any other 'ology' that catches his fancy at the moment. His plays run in a zig-zag that makes one reel."

It is not often that an actress turns her attention to medical subjects; and when, as Miss Olga Nethersole did at the Dublin Mansion House the other day, she makes a long and eloquent speech on the treatment of tuberculosis, one marvels at her versatility. As she told her hearers, Miss Nethersole has all her life been interested in medical study; and, had she not been an actress, she would have tried to be a lady doctor. Miss Nethersole's proposition was that a Women's International Tuberculosis League should be formed, the duty of its members being to report to the Board of Health or other health authority in each city the name of any shop, factory, place of amusement or worship, where precautions against the dissemination of tuberculosis are not severely observed. Miss Nethersole has received the Queen's assurance of her interest in the proposed League.

Some writers' ideas of good-nature are peculiar; but it is the triumph of dramatic authorship to reconcile the public to the extraordinary. An American correspondent writes that a Miss Eva Tanquay is appearing at the Alvin Theatre, Pittsburg, in a new piece called *A Good Fellow*. The lady represents the heroine, the "good fellow" of the play. She helps a man who is wanted for gambling to escape the arm of the law at the expense of her newly-married husband, who is dragged off to jail instead. "But," says our representative, "the funny situations arising therefrom gain her the forgiveness of the audience."

Another successful production at Pittsburg is a piece by a Mr. Blaney called *The Girl Raffles*. It is a "hot and strong" melodrama, made into what is practically an opera by the addition of musical numbers and choruses. The arrangement is ingenious, as it combines the advantages of the musical play and the melodrama—the two strongest attractions in the English provinces.

Miss Susan Strong, the American vocalist, has started a laundry in Baker-street, and hopes to make it pay better than singing in public. She attends to the accounts, while her maid Pauline overlooks the washers and ironers. Another professional who has long retired from the boards to business is Mr. George Bigwood, the veteran stage-manager of the Britannia, who has for years past been doing remarkably well at his cosy cigar shop on the front at Southend-on-Sea.

Miss Emily Soldene has given some amusing reminiscences to the *Daily Chronicle* apropos of her coming benefit matinée. Referring to *Geneviève de Brabant*, she said: "I shall sing my original song, 'Lady, look down below.' I wonder how many of the people there will remember it. At San Francisco not long ago—before the earthquake, of course—I met an old gentleman on crutches who repeated to me the 'Pie' song from *Geneviève de Brabant* word for word, though he had not heard it for thirty years." Miss Soldene has noted certain changes in public taste. "As to the general run of girls upon the musical stage," she said, "they are, of course, a different type altogether from the old crowd. The old style of beauty was plump. 'Physique' was the great thing. Now they like them slender and petite and mincing and chirpy. Socially, too, they belong to a much higher class."

"As regards the social position of the old actors generally," says Mrs. Clement Parsons in her amusing book "Garrick and His Circle," "evidence is conflicting. The London patentees and Foote were expected to go to Court, and would on no account have missed a birthday. On the other hand, Arthur Murphy was denied admittance as a barrister by both the Middle and Inner Temple because he had been an actor; and the son of an architect of the Mansion House changed his name when he went on the stage from Dance to Love, in order not to imperil the reputation of his relations. The brothers of this James Love, Nathaniel Dance, afterwards Sir Nathaniel Dance-Holland, and George Dance, R.A., are now remembered for having painted portraits of Garrick and his associates!"

"THE NEW ALADDIN."

A Musical Extravagance, in Two Acts,
by James T. Tanner and W. H. Risque; lyrics by Adrian Ross, Percy Greenbank, W. H. Risque, and George Grossmith, jun.; music by Ivan Caryll and Lionel Monckton;
and Additional Numbers by Frank E. Tours.
Produced at the Gaiety Theatre, on Saturday, Sept. 29.

Genie of the Lamp ..Mr. Geo. Grossmith, jun.
Cadi .....Mr. Arthur Hatherton
Ebenezer .....Mr. Harry Grattan
General Ratz .....Mr. Robert Nainby
The Lost Constable .....Mr. Alfred Lester
The Ideal Man .....Mr. Charles Brown
Billy Pauncefort .....Mr. Eustace Burnaby
Reggie Tighe .....Mr. J. R. Sinclair
Tony Cavendish .....Mr. S. Hansworth
A Tax Collector .....Mr. J. W. Birtley
Tippin .....Mr. Edmund Payne
Lally .....Miss Lily Elsie
The Princess .....Miss Adrienne Augarde
Laolah .....Miss Olive May
Fossette .....Miss Jean Aylwin
Mrs. Tippin .....Miss Winifred Dennis
Winnie Fairfax .....Miss Kitty Mason
Flo Cartaret .....Miss Doris Beresford
Di Tollemache .....Miss Enid Leonhardt
Kit Lomax .....Miss Tessie Hackney
Vi Cortelyon .....Miss Gladys Desmond
May Warrener .....Miss Florence Lindley
Nan Jocelyn .....Miss Violet Walker
Madge Oliphant .....Miss Edna Loftus
Millie Farquhar .....Miss Minnie Baker
The Charm of Paris.....Mlle. Gaby Deslys
Spirit of the Ring .....Miss Connie Ediss

There is a foundation for a triumphant "entertainment of the stage" in the new piece which was produced at the Gaiety last Saturday; and there can be little doubt that, by the application of his usual methods, Mr. George Edwardes will soon have built up *The New Aladdin* into a complete success. The construction of the second act is sufficiently elastic to allow of "any amount" of interpolation, in addition to the excellent items already supplied; and Mr. Edwardes's clever lyricists and composers are quite equal to the task of providing effective additions.

The chief difference between *The New Aladdin* and the ordinary musical play is that the spring of action in the Gaiety piece is fantastic and supernatural. The story is commenced in Bond-street, in the shop of one Ebenezer, a dealer in "curios," the uncle of Lally, a young man about town, who has fallen romantically in love with a Princess, the unknown original of a miniature which has come into his possession. The curio-dealer, coming home unexpectedly, finds Lally and a party of his friends revelling on the premises, and turns his nephew out of doors. With him the young man takes a comic page-boy named Tippin, who, before his departure, drops on the ground a valuable vase containing a scroll and a ring—the latter being the Magic Ring of the old Aladdin story. By its aid Lally, Tippin, and Ebenezer are conveyed to the famous palace in Far Cathay, where Lally meets the original of the portrait, and gains possession of the celebrated Lamp, which has lain concealed in the cellar.

Having obtained the all-powerful talisman, the question comes, What is he to do with it? The happy thought occurs to Lally to create an "ideal" London, with the Gaiety Theatre close to the Houses of Parliament, Romano's Restaurant opposite the Burlington Arcade, and picturesque barges sailing over the now azure waters of the Thames. Ebenezer, a Cadi, and a Russian General named Ratz, follow Lally to England, and endeavour to get possession of the Lamp; but they are baulked by the cleverness of the Princess, who secures the talisman, leaving with Lally only a worthless duplicate. Some fun is extracted from the attempts of the curio-dealer, the Cadi, and the General to purchase the lamp from Tippin, and their chagrin when, by some adroit manœuvres, he extracts thousands of pounds from them for the "imitation"; and there is a comical scene when Tippin, unaware that he only holds the duplicate of the real lamp, offers to allow himself to be shot at by a section of General Ratz's soldiers, relying on the magic power of the Genie to secure him from injury.

The old favourites of the Gaiety all work their hardest to make the piece a success. Miss Connie Ediss as the Spirit of the Ring—a personage reminding one a little of the Fairy Queen in *Iolanthe*—gives full expression to the longing of the solid sylph for mortality and the love of man. Miss Ediss is particularly successful in a song in the second act, in which the Spirit describes her aspirations to fame and renown. The personal and topical hits in this ditty are keenly appreciated, and Miss Ediss reveals dancing powers unimagined by many of her admirers. Mr. George Grossmith, jun., is solemnly quaint as the Genie of the Lamp in the first act, when the Spirit, after the manner of pantomime demons, is hardly to be prevented from expressing himself entirely in rhymed verse. In the second act, Mr. Grossmith "lets himself go," greatly to the delight of the audience. He has a very amusing song, in the treatment of which he is assisted by the chorus, ridiculing the "No-hat" brigade and the hygienic young ladies who are so eager in their abandonment of attire that, as the refrain says, "We wonder what they'll leave off next!" After each verse of a song in the first act, "Rub the lamp," he does a very neat dance, which is admired and applauded. Another item, a song satirising the Smart Set, is illustrated by bits of comedy. Mr. Grossmith appears as the spouse of a card-sharper, and a young married couple are "fleeced" at bridge in the most audacious and absurd manner. Mr. Grossmith works very hard, and must be credited with keeping the ball rolling briskly by his assiduous efforts. Mr. Henry Grattan gives a weird and pallid representation of the relentless Ebenezer, quite dramatic in its icy intensity. Mr. Edmund Payne has another of those plebeian parts in which he excels, and his success is only limited by the opportunities at present afforded to him—opportunities which, we may be certain, will soon be increased. As it is, he makes an excellent impression as the page, and is delightfully droll as the card-sharper already alluded to, and as a weak and inane amateur recitress in another of the illustrations to the "Smart Set" song. Miss Adrienne Augarde's dainty grace and winsome archness are employed with effect in the part of the Princess, and she does some bits of neat and clever comedy acting in the Princess scenes with Lally, besides dancing very prettily and singing the songs allotted to her with sweet expressiveness. Miss Lily Elsie plays the romantic Lally with all the impulsive earnestness required, and with a dash and animation that are inspiriting. She is an agreeable vocalist, and her dancing is a commendable feature of her performance. Miss Olive May, who represents the Cadi's daughter Laolah, is also an accomplished *danseuse*, as she proves by her *pas seul* in the first act. Miss Gaby Deslys, a newcomer to the Gaiety "crowd," has a warm welcome, which she wins by her prepossessing appearance, her bright and lively style, and the smart way in which she sings her two songs, the second—"Sur le plage"—which she delivers in bathing attire, being perhaps the more successful, though her first, in which she gives her impressions of London, is crisp and neat. Mlle. Deslys is a valuable acquisition to the feminine attraction of the Gaiety company. Mr. Arthur Hatherton gives an odd, eccentric, and diverting impersonation of the Cadi; and Mr. Robert Nainby, with an extraordinary uniform and a burlesque clicking together of his military heels, is extravagantly funny as the Imperial Aide-de-Camp, General Ratz. A cleverly unconscious and very genuine bit of comedy is contributed by Mr. Alfred Lester, as a Constable who is supposed to be utterly bewildered by the alterations in the topography of London made by the Genie. Mr. Charles Brown does good and careful work as the Ideal Man; and Mr. J. W. Birtley is efficient as a Tax Collector, Miss Jean Aiwyn making a bold, handsome, and alert appearance as Fossette. *The New Aladdin* is mounted with the exquisite taste to which we are accustomed under the Edwardesian rule, Messrs. Joseph and Phil Harker's "Palace in Far Cathay" being a very beautiful and artistic set, and Mr. Hawes Craven's "Ideal London" scene being both ingenious and effective. Mr. Wilhelm has designed the costumes with his usual skill; and the orchestra, under Mr. Ivan Caryll's direction, does full justice to the compositions of that gentleman and to those of Mr. Lionel Monckton. The music in *The New Aladdin* is uniformly pretty, and quite suitable to the neat verses of the lyric-writers; the dances arranged by Mr. Harry Grattan do him credit; and Mr. Herbert Cathcart's excellent stage-management has resulted in a smooth and complete entertainment, which only requires "working up" to hold its place on the Gaiety stage for many months to come.

SAVOYARDS IN THE SUBURBS.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
at the Camden Theatre, the Comic Opera,
by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan,
entitled
"THE MIKADO."

"When the Savoy Theatre closed its doors to comic opera," said Mr. Arthur Poyser in a recent article, "London lost one of its charms. Do we not all of us remember those days of our youth, or younger manhood, when we looked forward to the visit to town—a visit always sure to include an evening of delight in the temple of Gilbert and Sullivan on the Embankment? What first nights those used to be!—we might even see Sullivan himself in the conductor's chair, and, perchance, succeed in bringing Gilbert before the curtain at the end. We heard an entrancing medley of wit, and grace, and sweetest music, and came away feeling that there was at least one theatre in London where a delectable evening could be spent." Silence now broods over the house that once echoed to the laughter and applause evoked by an alliance in art that set the world wondering. We had hitherto taken our lighter music from Paris, and our stage had been deluged with wretched hack adaptations of Offenbach, Hervé, Lecocq, and others who ministered to Parisian gaiety, when Gilbert and Sullivan loomed on the theatrical horizon, and gave us incomparable libretti and the magic of melody in such admirable union that Savoy opera stands unique in its classification. It is not our intention here to write a homily on the degeneration of the public taste, or to deplore the popularity of musical comedy. It is more to the purpose to chronicle the fact of the reappearance within the London cab radius of a company charged—every man and woman of them—with the Savoy traditions, and concerned in representations of Gilbert and Sullivan opera that are giving profound enjoyment to extremely large and enthusiastic audiences at the Camden Theatre. It is a répertoire company that was sent out to South Africa by Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, under the business-management of Mr. H. E. Bellamy, and its return to the suburbs on Monday was celebrated by a packed house, which surrendered itself completely to the delights of the sprightly music and fantastic fun of *The Mikado*. Mr. François Cellier was in his old place as conductor, and a performance so completely realising the intentions of author and composer, and so perfect in its *ensemble*, has rarely been heard. Mr. C. H. Workman, who takes up what are known as the Grossmith parts in the répertoire, has not allowed familiarity with his lines to blunt his sense of fun as Ko-Ko, and the odd suggestions in song of the erstwhile "cheap tailor" were, in his keeping, as palpably funny as ever. The famous "Tit-willow" song and the courting scene with Katisha may be singled out as among his many triumphs. Mr. Fred Billington, in imperturbable fashion, brought into droll prominence the comic incongruities of the position of Pooh-Bah, Lord-High Everything Else, and scored a hit in "Let the punishment fit the crime." In the wonderful trio, with its clever versification, that comes towards the end of the opera, Mr. Billington and his coadjutors, Mr. Workman and Mr. Albert Kavanagh (an imposing and mellow-voiced Mikado), showed that they had mastered the art of perfect enunciation, which, judging by the representations at some of our theatres, is not a *sine qud non* of musical performances. Mr. Pacie Ripple as Nanki-Poo sang the pretty tenor solo, "A wandering minstrel I, a thing of shreds and patches," with suavity and sweetness; and the advent of Yum-Yum (Miss Hope Hastings), Pitti-Sing (Miss Lulu Evans), and Peep-Bo (Miss Mabel Burnege), once more resulted in the singing of the pretty trio, "Three little maids from school are we," which was of course enthusiastically encored. Each of these young ladies acted brightly and fascinatingly. Two of them shared the success of the lovely madrigal with Mr. Pacie Ripple and Mr. Fred Drawater, the last-mentioned being an excellent basso. Miss Theresa Rassam as Katisha, possessing an excellent voice, has also an acute sense of fun, and the high-falutin' of the love-lorn, unattractive maid was quite in the true vein of parody, the music of the part also obtaining complete justice from this experienced and talented artist. Mr. Leicester Tunks acquitted himself ably in the small part of Pish-Tush. The scenery had the atmosphere of the Land of the Chrysanthemum, and the dresses were tasteful. Mr. Robert Arthur, and his popular lieutenant, Mr. Wilfred Stanford, are entitled to the heartiest congratulations on an engagement that so exactly coincides with the wishes of their artistic patrons from Highgate and Hampstead. The much-travelled and courteous Mr. H. E. Bellamy is the business-manager for Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, and the stage-manager Mr. Fred Leon.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by George R. Sims and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

This fascinating play is always a big attraction in Marylebone, but this week it has broken all records, Mr. Bailey's commodious theatre being packed from floor to ceiling nightly. A vigorous, energetic portrayal of George Thornton is proffered by Mr. William Fazan, who is well received; Mr. Henry Watson distinguishes himself as Captain Darville; Mr. Edmund Cuthbert is well suited as John Scarth; Mr. John F. Traynor as Bill Mullins, alias "The Gaffer," makes the most of his part, and profits accordingly; whilst Mr. Ernest K. Nelson and Mr. Fred Archer deserve favourable mention for Dido Bunce and the Cough-Drop respectively. Miss Laura Hansen acts Marion Thornton with womanly tenderness and sympathetic expression; Miss Mildred Hodson gives a delightful rendering of Barbara Scarth; Miss Muriel Clay does well as Sister Randall, and Miss Marie Pritchard is responsible for a broad and vigorous delineation of Biddy Mullins. The two little vagabonds, Dick and Wally, are sustained in well-nigh faultless style, the Dick of Miss May Hart calling for more than ordinary attention, by reason of its life-like and telling rendering by this experienced actress, who nevertheless is run very closely by Miss Margaret Nybloc, as the unfortunate Wally. The piece is well mounted and staged, Mr. Leo St. Clair being the acting-manager for Hardie and Von Leer

ACTORS DAY.

FIRST CELEBRATION ON OCT. 18.
(By our own commissioner.)

We believe we are right in saying that never before in the history of the stage have actors and actresses combined to the extent numerically, and to the extent enthusiastically, as they have done in the scheme for the establishment of what, we doubt not, will become one of the most powerful and wealthy provident funds that have been established in the United Kingdom. Several thousand persons of both sexes—proprietors, acting and resident managers, and performers—have already notified their intention—not by the legally valueless word of mouth, but by sign manual—of supporting in a practical manner the institution of Actors' Day, by giving up to the fund in connection therewith their salary for one night in each year. It might indeed be said that the degree of approval with which the plan has been welcomed has far exceeded the expectations of the gentlemen in whose minds it originated, and to whose strenuous efforts its present highly satisfactory progression is due. For more than six months the organising committee of the Fund have almost unremittingly devoted their time and attention to the preliminary arrangements necessary for the placing of the affairs of the Fund on a sound basis. That this has been a labour of no small magnitude will be readily understood, and, it is to be hoped, appreciated by all who will, in one way or another, come within the scope of the scheme. Thousands of circulars and other literature dealing with Actors' Day have been sent out to every part of these Isles, hundreds of letters have been written, and scores of discussions and interviews have taken place. The work, as we have already mentioned, has not been light, and the burden of it, borne, as it has been, by the five gentlemen comprising the organising committee, must have at times—taking into consideration that it was of a purely honorary character, and that their ordinary professional occupations could scarcely be wholly neglected—pressed very heavily upon their shoulders, and taxed their mental and physical resources to the utmost.

And the outcome of it all is one for congratulation to the theatrical profession. Actors and actresses are not to wait until next year until they have at command the nucleus of a provident fund for which a superlatively useful and beneficent future is confidently predicted. Great things are expected as the result of Actors' Day, and, indubitably, great things will be accomplished by Actors' Day, provided that the members of the profession will rally to its aid every third Thursday in October of each year. On Oct. 18—that is, the Thursday in the week after next—Actors' Day is to receive that material recognition by members of the profession which will make it, *de facto* if not *de jure*, an actually existent and operative institution. We understand that every company on the road playing at the time will be represented at the initiatory performance on behalf of the Actors' Day Fund. It need hardly be assumed by this that every actor and actress, and every touring and resident manager, has intimated his or her agreement to relinquish the individual night's salary, but we are assured that the majority of them have done so. It was not found possible, for reasons which the circumstances and conditions of the professional life will be of themselves adequately explanatory, to enter into negotiations upon the subject with every single member of all the companies. However, there is not the slightest cause for misgiving on this point, because it is felt by those who have the scheme in hand that many persons will fall into line on or before the day set apart for the great general benefit performance, and even those who fail, by any means, to render assistance this year, will most likely do so next year. At the same time, it is most desirable, not merely for the success of the Fund itself, but for the possible personal emergencies that may arise in a calling which, we are told, is associated with variable fortunes, that everybody who is at all cognizant that there is such an institution as Actors' Day should not wait to "see how it pans out," but enter with zeal and promptitude into the work of placing the organisation of Actors' Day upon so firm a basis as to ensure its permanence.

And the benefits which it will be possible to mete out to temporarily distressed members of the profession under this plan of providence, or insurance—for it certainly partakes not of the nature of charity—will be of no exiguous order. It is estimated—and the estimate is by no means a far-fetched one—that the revenue available will be more than sufficient, not only to meet—and meet generously—all emergency claims from actors and actresses and managers who are in immediate want, but to provide pensions for those who have had their names regularly registered in the books of the Fund. It may also be taken for granted that the existing theatrical funds will not be left out of the reckoning, as, according to their respective requirements, these institutions, which have done such good work in the past, will receive favourable treatment under the new scheme.

Most of our readers are acquainted with the principle of Actors' Day, so far as the getting of the money is concerned. Therein the scheme is simplicity itself. You give up your salary for one night. You give it up for your own benefit, if need be, for, having tendered your services in the manner indicated, you can claim as your right, and *not* as charity, in the event of some slight misfortune overtaking you, a share of what you have yourself helped to accumulate. There will be no question as to the amount of your salary becoming known to anyone connected with the Fund, for only the total receipts of the night's performance will be sent to the London offices, the sum total of all contributions being alone made public. The sums of money sent from each theatre will be known to the trustees only, and no details of individual salaries will be furnished. It may be that you are not playing on Actors' Day. That circumstance, however, would not invalidate your membership of the Fund, or any claim you might feel compelled to make upon it, so long as you have already agreed to the conditions—that of handing over the night's salary in the event of your playing on the evening in question, or, if not, of forwarding, only if you are in a position to do so, a contribution to the Fund.

Many acting-managers, both touring and resident, have signified their intention of giving up their one night's salary each year, in the same manner as the actors will do, and they will greatly assist the Fund by collecting the different amounts from the company and sending the total sum to the trustees. The forms which will be forwarded to London will not state the amount from each member of the company, but will only give the aggregate.

The Actors' Day Fund should be welcomed for another reason, apart from those already submitted. It will do away with the pest of stage-door begging. The solicitant would be asked, "Are you on the register of the Actors' Day list?" If he be on the register, whether he be working on Actors' Day or not, he would be eligible for monetary assistance. Considering the sums of money that are expended by actors and actresses in this casual manner, this point is surely of some significance.

The trustees are responsible gentlemen, who can be said to represent several branches of the profession—actors and managers by Sir Squire Bancroft, authors by Mr. George R. Sims, and the legal aspect of affairs by Sir George Lewis. The organising committee are Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Mr. Norman McKinnel, Mr. Brandon Thomas, Mr. A. E. Drinkwater, and Mr. Acton Bond. Money collected should be sent to the Trustees of the Actors' Day, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, and all other communications to the Organising Committee.

A NATION'S EXPERIMENT.

If we are to accept the old comedy of the eighteenth century and the modern musical and satirical play forming the double-barrelled bill at Terry's Theatre on Saturday evening last as the deliberate choice of Mr. W. H. C. Nation, then his courage. The entertainment commenced with a representation of Thomas Holcrft's old comedy, *He's Much to Blame*, now compressed into two acts and presented by the following cast:—

Don Von Gosterman .....Mr. Charles Groves
Lord Vibrate .....Mr. W. R. Staveley
Sir George Versatile .....Mr. A. B. Imeson
Mr. Delaval .....Mr. Norman Wrighton
Thompson .....Mr. Campbell Bishop
Boniface .....Mr. Terry Hurst
Jenkins .....Mr. Reginald Grey
Williams .....Mr. Henry Armstrong
Harry .....Miss Iredale Hope
Maria .....Miss Maie Ash
Lady Vibrate .....Miss Alice Barth
Lady Jane .....Miss Elise Cooke
Lucy .....Miss Gladys Archbutt
Maid to Lady Jane ..Miss Eleanor Harwood

Holcroft wrote many plays, most of which have been happily forgotten; and the actor-author who loomed on the political horizon in the troublous decade immediately preceding the dawn of the nineteenth century is now only known through the occasional revival of *The Road to Ruin*, which Mr. John Galt—who wrote concerning Holcroft in his "Lives of the Players"—considers an "extravagance put together with much skill and acumen." We did not, however, discern either of these qualities in *He's Much to Blame*; but we hasten to add that the shortened form of the comedy, which was originally in five acts, may be responsible for the absence of clever dialogue or interesting character drawing. Lord Vibrate, of whom we hear and see a good deal in the Holcroft comedy, is for ever halting between two opinions. Never was a nobleman cursed with such hesitancy. His daughter, Lady Jane, has two suitors—Sir George Versatile and Mr. Delaval. The former has had some tender love passages with Maria Delaval, the sister of the latter, and is called to account by the justly indignant brother. Sir George repents of his heartless conduct, and takes Maria—who, by the way, has adopted male costume to be near him—to his arms, and Delaval is assigned to Lady Jane, who seems profoundly indifferent in her choice of a husband. This is all we need say of the plot. Mr. Charles Groves, excellent actor that he is, scarcely succeeded in galvanising into life the foreign quack Don Von Gosterman, but worked bravely and kept things going when an awkward stage wait threatened. Mr. W. R. Staveley may be complimented on his efforts as Lord Vibrate; and heartiness and jollity marked the embodiment of Lady Vibrate by Miss Alice Barth, whom we now see so seldom on the stage. Mr. A. B. Imeson's elegance of manner and clearness of diction served him well in the character of Sir George Versatile; and Mr. Campbell Bishop made effective use of limited opportunities in the character of Thompson. When we take into consideration the fact that Miss Maie Ash's experience has been restricted mainly to the representation of musical comedy we may highly commend her Maria. She looked extremely handsome in the gentleman's costume of the period, but scarcely put on the swaggering air of a young gallant of the latter period of the eighteenth century. Miss Elise Cooke did sufficiently well as Lady Jane; Miss Gladys Archbutt was arch and captivating as the maid Lucy; and Miss Iredale Hope showed ability as the page Harry.

Holcroft's comedy was followed by an entirely new and original musical and satirical play, in two acts, by Arthur Sturgess, entitled

"YELLOW FOG ISLAND."

Dysma .....Mr. Campbell Bishop
Sir Precedent Poskins .....Mr. Robson Paige
Simkins .....Mr. A. B. Imeson
Rolls .....Miss Elise Cooke
Princess Lucy .....Miss Maie Ash
Dame Madge .....Miss Alice Barth
Zorah .....Miss Iredale Hope
Dolly .....Miss Gladys Archbutt

The musical attractions of this "satire" consist mostly of songs, by W. H. C. Nation, imitated by that gentleman from those of another "nation"—the French. The story concerns a certain King Dysma, the fifth monarch of Beata, who has come to "Yellow Fog Island"—a clear indication that England is meant—for the purpose of acquiring information regarding our institutions. He is courteously received by the Lord Mayor of Yellow Fog Town, who is desirous of introducing him to various personages celebrated in the Army, the Church, and the Peerage. None of these well-known people turn up; but, nothing daunted, my Lord Mayor employs Simkins—his private secretary and general factotum—to impersonate them. A slight underplot revolves round the love affairs of Rolls, a young baker, and the Princess Lucy, daughter of the enlightened dusky potentate, whose "platitudinous"—we are quoting from the libretto—lectures are somewhat tedious. In this curious concoction Miss Elise Cooke made a favourable impression by her singing; Mr. A. B. Imeson displayed no little ability in the part of the secretary Simkins, his Fregoli-like impersonations being decidedly amusing, though occasionally verging on caricature. The pastoral dance of Miss Gladys Archbutt had much of the vigour and character of the American jig; Miss Maie Ash looked sweet and danced prettily as Princess Lucy; Miss Alice Barth was a droll Dame Madge; and Mr. Robson Paige made comic capital out of the part of the Lord Mayor. The dresses, by Hyman, of Leicester-square, were tasteful, and an excellent sample of Mr. Cecil Hicks's brushwork was found in the country scene illustrating the second act of the musical satire. Mr. Napoleon Lambelet, who conducted, composed the choruses, and was responsible for the arrangement of the music.

The jubilee of the Tonic Sol-Fa festivals at the Crystal Palace will be celebrated next summer, and all taking part in the proceedings will receive a commemoration medal. Mr. J. S. Curwen is preparing a souvenir book, and will be glad to have the reminiscences of those who sang at the first concert in 1857.

Mr. Harry Lyons, who has been Mr. Sounes' general-manager for some time, is also looking after the resident-management of the Prince's Theatre, Poplar, pending the appointment of an acting-manager.

Mme. Suzanne Adams has joined the San Carlo Opera Company for the autumn season at Covent Garden, and makes her first appearance on Monday, as Michaela, in *Carmen*.

Mr. W. Payne Seddon has purchased the No. 3 and fit-up rights of *The Night of the Party*, which he will tour at Christmas with *The Private Secretary*.

Mr. Reuben Morr's concert party has just concluded an eighteen weeks' successful engagement on Hastings Pier.

Miss Edna May will gladden the hearts of her London admirers by her reappearance at Christmas. No definite announcement can be made with regard to the play chosen, but it will be an entirely new musical piece; and the theatre will be one of the playhouses under Mr. Charles Frohman's present control.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form

Shepherd of the Cornonailles, Liverpool, April 28, 1879.
Shepherd's Star, Britannia, Dec. 26, 1879.
Sherlock Holmes, Theatre Royal, Glasgow, May 28, 1894.
She Stoops to Conquer, Opera, Covent Garden, Feb. 11, 1864.
She Would and He Wouldn't, St. James's, Sept. 6, 1862.
Shield of David, West London, April 3, 1899.
Shilling Day, Adelphi, June 9, 1862.
Shilly Shally, Gaiety, April 1, 1872.
Shindy in a Shanty, Gaiety, West Hartlepool, Aug. 7, 1876.
Shingawn, The, Royal Albert, Portsmouth, Feb. 5, 1872.
Ship Ahoy, Surrey, Oct. 3, 1874.
Shipmates, Lyceum, Sunderland, March 3, 1873.
Shirtmaker of Foxteth Park, Sefton, Liverpool, June 28, 1880.
Shock-headed Peter, Garrick, Dec. 26, 1900.
Shoddy, Old Theatre, Bristol, Nov. 6, 1876.
Shooting Stars, Folly, Nov. 22, 1877.
Shooting the Moon, Strand, Oct. 29, 1850.
Shop Boy, West Hartlepool, Oct. 10, 1895.
Shop Girl, Gaiety, Nov. 24, 1894.
Shopwalker, The, Islington, Feb. 5, 1892.
Short and Sweet, Strand, Oct. 10, 1861.
Shorthand, Hammersmith, Feb. 11, 1889.
Shoulder to Shoulder, Theatre Royal, Limerick, Nov. 8, 1886.
Should this Meet the Eye, Lyceum, June 10, 1872.
Shower of Blacks, Terry's, Dec. 26, 1887.
Shower of Kisses, Hammersmith, June 27, 1893.
Show Folks, Marylebone, July 7, 1851.
Showman's Daughter, Theatre Royal, Worcester, Oct. 12, 1891.
Showman's Sweetheart, Crouch End, Aug. 29, 1898.
Shows of the Season, St. George's Hall, June 18, 1884.
Shrove Tuesday in St. Albans, 1461, St. Albans, May 17, 1898.
Shuttlecock, The, Toole's, May 16, 1885.
Shylock, Olympic, July 4, 1853.
Shylock and Co., Criterion, June 18, 1891.
Siberia, Princess's, Dec. 14, 1887.
Sicilian Idyll, St. George's Hall, July 1, 1890.
Sid, Grecian, June 12, 1871.
Sidonie, Novelty, Dec. 14, 1887.
Siege of Seringapatam, International Exhibition, 1863.
Siege of Troy, Lyceum, Dec. 27, 1858.
Siegfried, Covent Garden, June 8, 1892.
Sight and Sound, Britannia, Nov. 20, 1876.
Signa, Covent Garden, June 30, 1894.
Signal Lights, Birkenhead, July 30, 1894.
Sign of the Cross, Grand, Leeds, Aug. 26, 1895.
Signor Appiani, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, Oct. 22, 1897.
Sigurd, Covent Garden, July 15, 1884.
Silas Bruton, Victoria, April 12, 1877.
Silas Marner's Treasure, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, May 1, 1876.
Silence, Holborn, May 6, 1871.
Silence of a Chatterbox, Terry's, Oct. 30, 1899.
Silence of Dean Maitland, Kidderminster, April 12, 1898.
Silence of the Night, Clapham, July 19, 1897.
Silent Battle, Criterion, Dec. 8, 1892.
Silent Protector, Prince of Wales's, March 7, 1868.
Silent Shore, Olympic, May 8, 1888.
Silent System, Strand, July 3, 1862.
Silent Witness, Olympic, May 18, 1889.
Silken Fetters, Haymarket, Nov. 14, 1863.
Silly Season, Shepherd's Bush, Dec. 30, 1892.
Silver Bullet, Britannia, Aug. 16, 1875.
Silver Cage, Opera Comique, July 31, 1874.
Silver Cross, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, April 25, 1898.
Silver Falls, Adelphi, Dec. 29, 1888.
Silver Fortune, Ramsgate, Oct. 15, 1888.
Silver Guilt, Strand, June 9, 1883.
Silver Honeymoon, Trafalgar, May 8, 1894.
Silver Horseshoe, Brighton, Feb. 4, 1895.
Silver Keepsake, Theatre Royal, York, Dec. 19, 1894.
Silver Key, Her Majesty's, July 10, 1897.
Silver King, Princess's, Nov. 16, 1882.
Silver Line, Gaiety, May 25, 1891.
Silver Lining, St. James's, Jan. 30, 1864.
Silver Shaft, Warrington, Nov. 21, 1889.
Silver Shell, Avenue, April 15, 1893.
Silver Shield, Strand, May 19, 1885.
Silver Spoon, Buxton, June 22, 1900.
Silver Tower, Standard, April 13, 1857.
Silver Veil, Lavender Hill, Feb. 6, 1888.
Silver Wedding, Assembly Rooms, Coventry, Feb. 2, 1885.
Silver Wooing, Fulham, July 2, 1900.
Simon Moneypenny, Linlithgow, April 3, 1888.
Simon; or, More Ways than One, Philharmonic, Jan. 17, 1876.
Simon; or, The Lost Heir Restored, Theatre Royal, Greenock, May 10, 1875.
Simon the Smith, Bayswater, April 18, 1890.
Simon the Tanner, Victoria, April 7, 1856.
Simon the Thief, Victoria, Jan. 6, 1866.
Simple Hearts, Wrexham, Dec. 24, 1888.
Simple Sweep, Grand, Leeds, March 1, 1882.
Simpson and Delilah, Avenue, June 3, 1882.
Sin and its Shadows, Theatre Royal, Oxford, Sept. 21, 1885.
Sin and the Sorrow, Grecian, Sept. 17, 1866.
Sinbad, Drury Lane, Dec. 26, 1882.
Sinbad; or, The Dryland Sailor, Theatre Royal, Coventry, July 7, 1884.
Sinbad the Sailor, Pavilion, Dec. 24, 1866.
Single Heart and Double Face, Princess's, Edinburgh, June 1, 1882.
Sinless Secret, Comedy, Jan. 7, 1890.
Sinless Shame, Theatre Royal, Cheltenham, Feb. 28, 1887.
Sinless Sinner, Ealing, April 15, 1896.
Sin of a Life, Victoria, Sept. 28, 1867.
Sin of St. Hulda, Shaftesbury, April 9, 1896.
Sin's Angel, Ipswich, Nov. 16, 1893.
Sins of New York, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, Feb. 10, 1890.
Sins of the City, Surrey, Sept. 29, 1884.
Sins of the Father, Pavilion, May 4, 1885.
Sins of the Night, Theatre Royal, Barnsley, March 30, 1893.
Sir Alan's Wife, Herne Bay, Aug. 17, 1888.
Siren, The, Lyceum, Nov. 27, 1869.
Sir George and a Dragon, Strand, March 31, 1870.
Sir Gorger the Giant and Little Boy Blue, Parkhurst, June 19, 1897.
Sir Jack o' Lantern, Neath, Aug. 31, 1892.
Sir Jasper's Tenant, Sadler's Wells, Nov. 29, 1865.
Sir Marigold the Dottie, H.M.S. *Rainbow*, April 16, 1885.
Sir Reginald, St. George's Hall, Jan. 6, 1894.
Sister Grace, Avenue, June 26, 1884.
Sisterly Service, Strand, Feb. 9, 1860.
Sister Mary, Theatre Royal, Brighton, March 8, 1886.
Sisters, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, March 31, 1883.
Sister's Love, New Holborn, July 24, 1867.
Sister's Penance, Adelphi, Nov. 26, 1866.
Sister's Sacrifice, Liverpool, July 30, 1900.
Sister's Sin, Accrington, Nov. 28, 1900.
Sisters, The, Britannia, June 10, 1878.
Sister's Vow, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, May 19, 1888.
Sithors to Grind, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, April 7, 1873.
Six and Eightpence, Prince's, March 17, 1884.
Six and Six, Theatre Royal, Hull, Aug. 9, 1880.
Sixes, Vaudeville, Aug. 5, 1893.
Sixes and Sevens, Criterion, June 14, 1894.
Six Months Ago, Olympic, July 26, 1867.
Sixpenny Wire, South Kensington, Jan. 18, 1887.
Six Persons, Haymarket, Dec. 22, 1893.
Sixteen—Not Out, Prince of Wales's, Feb. 25, 1892.
Sixteen Years Ago, East London, March 11, 1871.
Sixth Commandment, Shaftesbury, Oct. 8, 1890.
Sixtus the Fifth, Olympic, Feb. 17, 1851.
Sixty Years Ago, Standard, Dec. 27, 1852.
Skeleton, The, Vaudeville, May 27, 1887.
Skipped by the Light of the Moon, Reading, Aug. 24, 1896.
Skirt Dancer, Fulham, June 29, 1898.
Skittles, Limited, Theatre Royal, Richmond, Jan. 17, 1895.
Skyward Guide, Royalty, May 9, 1895.
Slander, Theatre Royal, York, Sept. 16, 1878.
Slate Pencillings, Globe, Oct. 24, 1876.
Slave Girl, Bristol, Sept. 26, 1893.
Slave Hunter, City of London, Aug. 6, 1866.
Slave Life, Adelphi, Nov. 29, 1852.
Slave of Drink, Opera House, Workington, Aug. 4, 1890.
Slaves of the Ring, Garrick, Dec. 29, 1894.
Slave's Ransom, Theatre Royal, Newcastle, June 4, 1874.
Slaviana, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Oct. 11, 1875.
Sledge Hammer, Kilburn, Feb. 22, 1897.
Sleeping Beauty, Haymarket, Dec. 26, 1857.
Sleeping Dogs, Cambridge, Jan. 18, 1897.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on the Saturday night of June 30. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left the same night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared the following week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital. She was found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body.

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

Miss Stephens was a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and

Photo by Russell and Sons.
MISS DOT STEPHENS.

afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

It is intended to purchase an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

Already acknowledged	£716	5	3
A. Kelsall	2	2	0
W. L. Dobell	0	5	0
Madge Merryweather	0	2	6
Ballard Brown	0	2	6
S. E. Angless	0	2	6
Mr. Cowper	0	2	6
Herbert Ralland's *La Poupee* Company :—			
Mr. and Mrs. Fuller Allen	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Shaw	1	0	0
Arthur Voxens	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Brayne ..	1	0	0
Walter Balfour	0	10	0
Alice Roche	0	10	0
Arthur Dennis	0	10	0
Mysie Devine	0	10	0
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mooney..	0	5	0
Dorothy Adams	0	3	0
Nina Zambray	0	3	0
Nita Cree	0	3	0
Dora Dickens	0	2	6
H. Cashel	0	2	6
Mr. Benson	0	2	6
Bert Rolfe	0	2	6
H. Matthews	0	2	6
L. Corich	0	2	6
P. Hughes	0	2	6
C. Hill	0	2	6
J. Birch	0	2	6
E. B. Eadie	0	2	6
Norman V. Norman's Répertoire Company :—			
Beatrice Wilson	0	3	6
W. Howard Ashley	0	2	6
G. Norcott	0	2	6
Brember Wills	0	2	0
Norman Leslie	0	2	0
Sybil Ruskin	0	2	0
F. Hope	0	2	0
D. West Symos	0	2	0
Howard Brenan	0	2	0
Hilda Gregory	0	2	0
Miss Rushforth	0	1	0
B. Stannard	0	1	0
D. C.	0	1	0
Driven from Home Company	0	14	6
A few Sympathisers in Mr Charles Macdona's *White Chrysanthemum* Company	1	11	0

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock street, W.C.

Miss Ellen Terry sends a subscription, with these womanly and sympathetic words :—"For the poor child Dot Stephens, with loving sympathy from Ellen Terry."

Miss Edna May writes :—"I am more grieved than I can say over this dreadfully sad case. I have sent to all my friends; have also asked for assistance from *The Belle of Mayfair* company, and hope to be able to send you a good sum by Friday or Saturday. I don't remember ever having heard of anything so sad as this little girl's accident. Please let me know if I can do anything else."

Miss May Lewis encloses a cheque, and writes :—"I cannot tell you how glad I am to see that the poor unfortunate lady's case has been taken up. It has my most sincere sympathy."

Mr. Chas. E. Machin accompanies his cheque with the following note :—"I beg to enclose my little cheque for the Dot Stephens Fund. It is a terrible calamity."

Mr. Martin Harvey.—"I have much pleasure in sending you a cheque for £1 1s. for your admirable fund for the poor little lady."

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The first annual outing of the staff of the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, under the present management, took place on Sunday, to Brighton. The party, numbering close upon fifty, left New Cross in reserved carriages shortly before nine, arriving at London-by-the-Sea at 10.20. The weather being gloriously fine, trips were made to Shoreham, Bramber Castle, Black Rock, &c., and dinner was partaken of at Chatfield's Hotel, where excellent arrangements had been made. In responding to the toast of "The Firm," which had been drunk with great enthusiasm, Mr. Will T. Taylor stated how Messrs. W. and F. Melville deeply regretted their inability to be present that day, as pressure of work was so heavy. The stage-manager, Mr. Tom Taylor, added, with his customary geniality, a few eloquent remarks, and the health of the popular acting-manager, Mr. Will T. Taylor, upon whom devolved the organisation of the outing, was drunk with acclamation. The party returned home to New Cross by 8.40, having all enjoyed what was really a red-letter day in the history of the theatre.

Mr. Arthur Collins, in describing the production of *Cinderella* in Paris, said : "The Paris workmen learned their lesson well, and if they had not been mismanaged I am sure that last night's success would have been greater than it was." Here we have expert opinion as to the value of a competent stage staff, under skilled management.

Further on, Mr. Collins expresses his pleasure at the good work done by the scene-shifters, actors, and actresses. It is not often that complimentary references are made to the scene-shifters in the order quoted. They are usually mentioned last, if at all. Mr. John Hinton, the master carpenter at the "Lane," the electrician, and Mr. Bruce Smith, the scenic artist, accompanied Mr. Collins to assist the management in Paris.

Mr. Frank Harrison, who was recently master carpenter of the *Sunday* company, has been appointed master carpenter at the New Theatre, in succession to Mr. G. Bailey.

It is proposed that the baggage-men attached to music halls be asked to wear the badge of the Variety Artists' Federation in their cap, and if the V.A.F. succeeds in establishing a fair rate of remuneration for this class of employees, the suggestion is certain to be adopted. In many cases the baggage-man receives no wage from the management; in other cases the pay is as low as 2s 6d. per week, being merely sufficient to make the man, in the eye of the law, a servant, and subject to the control of the management as such. It is understood that the recent letter published by Mr. Adney Payne was not intended to refer to those who are engaged in the occupation to which we are now referring. It is, of course, recognised that the baggage-man depends upon the tips of the artists, but why remuneration for such services should be described as a "tip" is one of those things that have no explanation.

On the occasion of the first night at Terry's Theatre a zealous member of the staff was disclosed on the stage among the members of the company as they took their third "call" in *Yellow Fog Island*. His rush off caused some amusement, and even the Lord Mayor of "Yellow Fog Island" could scarcely forbear to smile. The accident brings to mind the late Sir Henry Irving's humorous reference to these unrehearsed incidents. He said : "The stage-carpenter, you know, does not figure in the public eye—at least, he shouldn't—though the rapid rise of the curtain has sometimes been known to disclose his manly form to the national gaze. I believe that on such rare and memorable occasions he has received the tribute of a hearty cheer." Needless to say, it was not the master carpenter at Terry's who took the "call" with the company; much as he may deserve one, he is far too modest to make such an appearance.

The committee arranging the annual concert in aid of the stage staff societies' benevolent funds are meeting weekly, and they hope to issue an announcement next week, giving particulars of the arrangements made.

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

The chief feature in the programme of the Queen's Hall promenade concert on Wednesday evening was Dvorák's Symphony No. 5 in E minor ("From the New World"). In this remarkable work, in which the chief themes are based on negro melodies, Dvorák endeavoured to found a national school of American music, and Messrs. Percy Pitt and A. Kalisch's analytical notes give a good idea how the composer in the Adagio, Allegro, Largo, and the finale (Allegro Confurco) has succeeded in carrying out his original idea. Full justice was done to this characteristic, even if somewhat lengthy, symphony by Mr. Wood's fine orchestra, and the applause and rapt attention given to the performance by the large audience only shows how seriously the general public are regarding musical matters. The orchestra also gave a brilliant rendering of Berlioz's overture "Le Carnaval Romain," Moszkowski's "Krakowiak" No. 4 (Op. 55), and the "Raymond" overture by A. Thomas, which was conducted by Mr. Henry Verbrugghen. Mr. Frederick Stock, a member of the orchestra, was warmly applauded for his able performance of the solo instrument in Mendelssohn's Concerto in E minor for violin and orchestra; and the Misses Mathilde and Adela Verne were heard to great advantage in Bach's delightful Concerto in C major for two pianofortes and orchestra. The talented sisters also gave the Staccato Study, by Rubinstein, which was arranged for two pianos by Miss Adela Verne. On the vocal side of the programme, Miss Maud Santley sang "In Haven," "Where Corals Lie," and "Sabbath Morn at Sea" (three sea pictures by Edward Elgar), and later in the concert Roeckel's "Angus MacDonald"; and Mr. Percy Rhodes gave Lohengrin's Narration, from Wagner's *Lohengrin*, with artistic expression. Mr. Fredk. B. Kiddle was the accompanist and organist.

A few years ago M. Affre, the well-known Paris Opéra tenor built a villa in Cabourg to spend the summer. His example was followed by M. Poncet, a police-court magistrate, who presides over the eighth Chamber. In the course of time an interest in local municipal affairs was developed in both, and both decided to become candidates for election to the Municipal Council in that little watering-place. The inhabitants of the place are rather religiously inclined, and it seemed probable that they would prefer the gentleman on the Bench to the gentleman on the Boards. But the election has just taken place, M. Affre polling 172 votes and M. Poncet only 142. The good people of Cabourg, after all, preferred a tenor to a judge.

Mr. John Coates, the famous actor-vocalist, who has distinguished himself in Sir Edward Elgar's new oratorio, *The Kingdom*, which was the chief feature of the Birmingham Musical Festival, relates a droll experience concerning a company he took into the "smalls." On the first night there was a large audience, which enthusiastically applauded the show, but the town boasted no daily newspaper, so Mr. Coates was unable to read at breakfast the opinion of the local critic. During the morning he looked in at the hall, and found an old man sweeping the floor. "Well, marn," said Mr. Coates, in his broadest Yorkshire, "what did you think of the show last night?" "Didn't see it, maister, for I went to bed." "Have you heard whether the townspeople liked it?" inquired the anxious manager. "I ain't heerd no complaints as yet," replied the old gentleman, tartly.

ON THE ROAD, OCT. 8.

After the Ball.—O. H., Perth.
All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—O. H., Blackpool.
An Actor's Romance.—Court T., Warrington.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona).—Dover.
Assassin.—Theatre Royal, Rotherham.
At Cripple Creek.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
At Duty's Call.—Theatre Royal, Dover.
Beast and the Beauty.—T. R., South Shields.
Belle of Barcelona.—Palace T., Bradford.
Belle of Mayfair.—Grand Theatre, Hull.
Belle of New York (Howard).—Coronet Theatre, W.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—O. H., Coventry.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Ilkley and Tamworth.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs., and Co.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Breed of the Treshams.—Grand T., Nelson.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Catch of the Season (No. 1).—Newcastle.
Charley's Aunt.—T. R., Peterboro'.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona).—S. Wales District.
Christian, The (Croke).—T. R., Stockport.
Christian, The (Howard).—Galashiels.
Cingalee (S.).—Birkenhead.
City of Sin.—West Bromwich.
Claudian.—Avenue T., Sunderland.
Coal King.—Metropole T., Abertillery.
Convict's Daughter.—T. R., Bristol.
Country Girl (N.).—O. H., Cork.
Country Girl (S.).—Birmingham.
Country Mouse.—Fulham Theatre, S.W.
Dairymaids, The.—T. R., Edinburgh.
Dandy Doctor.—Lyceum T., Crewe.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
D'Ovly Carte.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Driven from Home (N.).—Star T., Liverpool.
Duchess of Dantzic (N.).—Dublin.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—Burnley.
Earl and the Girl (Howard.—Bury St. Edmunds.
Earl and the Girl (M.).—Manchester.
Earl and the Girl (W.).—Cheltenham.
Earl and the Girl (N.).—Reading.
Face at the Window.—Miners' T., Ashington.
Eternal City.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—T. R., Castleford.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—Grand T., Walsall.
Faust Up-to-Date.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Female Swindler.—Grand T., Middlesbro'.
Florodora (Howard) (M.).—T. R., Colchester.
Florodora (Howard) (N.).—T. R., Dewsbury.
Florodora (Howard) (S.).—Dalston T., London.
Four Just Men.—King's T., Hammersmith.
Freedom of Suzanne.—T. R., Huddersfield.
French Spy.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
Gay Parisienne (Macdona).—Queen's T., Leeds.
Geisha.—Hastings.
Girl from Kay's (N).—Deptford.
Girl on the Stage.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Golden Ladder.—T. R., Leicester.
Great Awakening.—Victoria T., Broughton.
Held in Bondage.—P.O.W., Salford.
Her Fatal Past.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
Her Lost Self.—Grand T., Walsall.
Her Love Against the World.—Rotunda T., L'pool.
Her Luck in London.—T. R., Barnsley.
Her One Great Sin.—Grand T., Newcastle.
His House in Order (N.).—Alexandra T., Greenock
His House in Order (S.).—T. R., Hanley.
Home, Sweet Home.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
Hutchison Repertoire.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
I Defy the World.—H. M. T., Barrow.
Indian Mutiny.—Court T., Bacup.
Judy.—Theatre Royal, Glossop.
Kitty Grey.—Motherwell and Coatbridge.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Hertford and Egham.
Lady Madcap (N.).—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Lady Madcap (S.).—Halifax.
La Poupee (Levilly).—Empire T., Oldham.
La Poupee (Ralland).—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
Lights o' London.—Grand T., Woolwich.
Lion and the Mouse.—Pier Pav., Eastbourne.
Little Breadwinner.—Longton.
Little Michus (Edwardes).—Court T., Liverpool.
Little Michus (S.).—Preston.
London Firman.—O. H., Dudley.
Lucky Durham.—T. R., Gloucester.
Manxman.—Albert T., Brighouse.
Marriage of Kitty.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
Midnight Mail.—Prince's T., Poplar.
Midnight Wedding.—Irving T., Seacombe.
Moody-Manners (A.).—Edinburgh.
Moody-Manners (B.).—Folkestone.
Mr. Hopkinson (Macdona).—Dover.
Mr. Popple.—Theatre Royal, Brighton.
Mr. Popple (A.).—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
Mr. Smith.—Theatre Royal, St. Helens.
Napoleon the Great.—Grand T., Brighton.
Nethersole, Miss Olga.—O. H., Leicester.
Norman V. Norman.—W. Pier, Brighton.
Oliver Twist (Howard).—County T., Bedford.
On the Stroke of Twelve.—Spennymoor.
Orchid (N.).—Blackpool.
Orchid (S.).—Dundee.
Otto the Outcast.—T. R., Leigh.
Price of Her Soul.—T. R., Scarborough.
Prince of Pilsen (Musgrove).—T.R., Hull.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris).—P. O. W., Gt. Grimsby
Private Secretary.—Crystal Palace Theatre, S.E.
Prodigal Parson.—Junc. T., Manchester.
Prodigal Son.—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
Proof.—Central T., Northwich.
Public Opinion.—Ashford and Worthing.
Raffles.—Harrogate and Buxton.
Revenge.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
Royal Revenge.—Shakespeare T., Altrincham.
Royal D/vorce.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Saints and Sinners.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Shulamite.—Theatre Royal Glasgow.
Sign of the Cross.—King's T., Kilmarnock.
Silver King (Howard) (N.).—King's Lynn.
Silver King (Howard) (S.).—Leven and Dunfermline.
Silver King (Polini) (N.).—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Silver King (Polini) (S.).—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
Sin of her Childhood.—Wednesbury.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—Gaiety T., Dundee.
Spider and the Fly.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Spring Chicken (S.).—Cardiff.
Still Alarm.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Sunday.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
Swiss Express.—Brixton Theatre, London.
Temptress, The.—Grand Theatre, Islington, N.
Terry Edward.—Gaiety T., Manchester.
Three Little Maids (N.) (Macdona).—Darlington.
Three Little Maids (S.) (Macdona).—Midland Dist.
Toreador (Macdona).—Midlands.
Toreador.—Blackburn.
Traitor.—Theatre Royal, Consett.
Trip to the Highlands.—Kirkcaldy and Falkirk.
Trumpet Call.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Two Hussars.—T. R., Loughborough.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Two Little Vagabonds (M.).—Tamworth and Wrexham.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.)—T. R., Rugby.
Under Two Flags.—Grand T., Edinburgh.
Under the Russian Flag.—T. R., Thornley.
Unwedded Wife.—T. R., Batley.
Veronique (N.).—Plymouth.
Veronique (S.).—Theatre Royal, Bolton.
Village Blacksmith.—Empire T., Southend.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—T. R., Hanley.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—Theatre Royal, Bath.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Grand T., Chorley.
Warning to Women.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
Way of the World.—T. R., Tyldesley.
Wearin' o' the Green.—Paisley T., Paisley.
What the Butler Saw.—T. R., York.
When London Sleeps.—T. R., Aldershot.
When Woman Hates.—Gaiety T., Clydebank.
White Chrysanthemum (Curzon).—G. T., Croydon.
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—Leamington.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—Royalty T., Llanelly.
Worst Woman in London.—Jarrow.
Youngest of Three.—T. R., Ryde.
£1000 Reward.—T. R., Macclesfield.
10.30 Down Express.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. J. C.—*When* The Sorrows of Satan *was produced at the Shaftesbury, Jan. 9, 1897, the cast included Messrs. Lewis Waller, Yorke Stephens, E. O'Neill, and John Beauchamp; Mrs. Saker; and Misses Granville and B. Sheridan.*

Dromio.—Pink Dominos *was produced at the Criterion, March 31, 1877, and ran until December, 1878. It was revived there on Oct. 10, 1892, and ran for seven weeks.*

G. R. D.—*This is a question of fact, and if they can prove that the money is owing they will no doubt recover.*

Comique.—*Mr. Gus Elen appeared at the Empire, Leicester-square, in 1894. His engagement was for three months.*

Nomad.—*We can find no record of his death.*

T. K.—*Miss Lily Hanbury was the original representative of Julia Topliff in* Meadowsweet, *at the Vaudeville Theatre.*

Tony.—My Sweetheart, *by William Gill and Fred Maeder, was originally produced in America. Its first London production was at the Grand, Islington, Sept. 17, 1883, when the principal parts were played by T. J. Hawkins, J. G. Wood, Graham Wentworth, Ben Greet, Haldane Crichton, Charles Arnold; and Misses Jane Grey, Helen Carroll, and Minnie Palmer.*

H. W.—*Yes; at the Princess's Theatre, in 1902.*

H. S. M.—*They are not obliged to give you the information you require*

Edward Brooks.—*You are at liberty to adopt any professional name, provided it does not clash with that of any other artist.*

Hubert Bartlett.—A Pair of Lunatics, *to which our correspondent referred, was evidently being played under another name. It is quite an old duologue. We have known it for at least twenty years. Of course, the root idea of the piece can be treated in different ways.*

V. M. Burnaby.—*Amateur dramatic performances are given by various clubs at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, and the Brixton Hall, Acre-lane, at any of which places you might make inquiries; or else consult "Douglas's Directory of Amateur Clubs."*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

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As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Clifford.—Sept. 26, at 5, Victoria-street, Bradford, wife of Walter T. Clifford, of a son. Both doing well.

Forbes-Winslow.—Sept. 23, at 23, Wilton-avenue, Chiswick, the wife of D'Arcy Forbes-Winslow, of a son.

Relph.—Nithside, Dumfries, on Saturday, Sept. 29, Mrs. Chas. Relph, of a daughter. Both progressing favourably.

Saphrini.—On Sept. 29, at 19, Tower-street, Boston, the wife of Geo. Saphrini, lessee and manager Palace, Boston, of a son (stillborn).

Sinclair.—Sept. 30, the wife of Mr. James Sinclair, Acting-Manager of the West London Theatre, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

Carey—Cloughton.—On the 3rd inst., at St. Margaret's, Westminster, Pat Carey to Emily Cloughton, widow of Captain Cloughton and mother of Edgar Budden.

DEATHS.

Holloway.—Aug. 18, at Sydney, N.S.W., Edmund Holloway, the oldest actor in Australia, aged 85.

McBan.—Sept. 21, at a sanatorium at Mont Blanc, of consumption, Patrick McBan, of the Juggling McBans, after an illness of eight months.

Moore.—Sept. 30, at Glasgow, Geo. A. E. Moore, the beloved son of Tom Birchmore. Aged 27 years and 11 months. R.I.P.

In Memoriam.

Clough.—In loving memory of my husband, Arthur Clough, who fell asleep Oct. 1, 1904. "Oh, for a sound of the voice that is still."

Egerton.—In loving memory of Frank Egerton, who died Oct. 7, 1905.—Frank and Tessie Quinlan.

Egerton.—In loving memory of my dear brother, William Frederick Cullen Hughes (professionally known as Frank Egerton), son of the late Joseph Hughes, solicitor, who died Oct. 7, 1905. R.I.P.—Pattie Cuckow.

Howard.—In loving memory of our beloved mother Sarah Martin Howard, who departed from us Oct. 2, 1902. Never forgotten by her boys, Thomas, Andrew, James, and Lilian, her granddaughter. R.I.P.—The Marvellous Howards (Thomas and Lilian), and Brothers Howard, of mind-reading fame.

McBride.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Teddy McBride, late Graham and McBirde, who died Oct. 4, 1905. Gone, but not forgotten. R.I.P.—Mrs. McBride.

DEATHS OF THE MONTH.

Sept. 1. Mrs. Marie Coulson. Aged 61.
" 2. Laura Linden. Aged 49.
" 4. Gerald Biron.
" 4. Ada Royle.
" 6. Alice Emily Macmahone (Alice Melville). Aged 39.
" 7. Charles Danby Aged 43.
" 7. Barney Duffy.
" 8. W. T. Williams. Aged 72.
" 8. Henry Williams Jee (Harry Burnell). Aged 24.
" 9. Kennedy Johnson.
" 10. Mrs. Sophia Paradise. Aged 63.
" 11. William Clements.
" 13. Charles Long. Aged 49.
" 13. Georges Jacobi. Aged 66
" 13. Henry W. Brame. Aged 46.
" 21. Patrick McBan.
" 23. Mrs. Mary Ainsley.
" 30. Geo. A. E. Moore. Aged 27.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this List.

Ace, Mr. George
Ace, Mr. Harold
Addison, Mr. Bert
Aena
Alberto, Mr. F.
Alexander, Prince
Alexandra, Mr. S. King
Alright, Little
Andain, Mr. Derrick
Andre, Madame
Andressen, Brothers
Anson, Mr. Geo. W.
Archer, Miss Mabel
Artois Brothers
Ash, Miss Marie
Ashton, Mr. Dan
August and September
Baker, Mr. Edmund
Baldry, Mr. H.
Barry, Mr. Alexander
Bartlett Miss Lucy
Bentley, Mrs. Walter
Berg, Mr. Alf
Biddall Bros.
Bon Bon, Mr. Harry
Booker, Mr. Geo. A.
Brockbank, Mr. H.
Burnett, Prof. T. B.
Byron, Miss Maggie
Callan, Mr. John
Carson, Mrs. Dave
Casey, Miss Annie
Cavalazzi, Mme.
Chipperfield, Mr. J. W.
Clarke, Mme.
Clements, Miss Miriam
Cliffe, Mr. H. C.
Clifford, Mr. Nat
Clover, Miss Kitty
Collette, Miss Eva
Condron, Miss Ruby
Connell, Mr. James
Conroy, Mr. E. L.
Coopers, The Three
Costello, Mr. Tom
Coyne, Mr. Edgar
Craige, Miss Edna
Cross, Miss C.
Dallas, Mr. Henry
Danby, Mr. Gus
Day, Miss L.
Day, Mrs. Lilly
Deer, Mr. Geo. W.
De Ora, Mrs.
Dobbs, Miss Edith
D'Ostas, The
Doyle, Mr. B.
Dudley, Miss H.
Edgar, Miss Alice
Edgar, Mr. Ralph
Edney, Mr. George
Edwards, Mr. Tom
Eno, Mr. Tom
Etta, Miss Edna
Fairfax, Mr. C. Arthur
Finney, Mr. James
Fisher, Mr. Chas.
Ford, Mr. Edward
Forrester, Miss M.
Foster, Mr. Archie
Francis, Mr. Geo.
Fredericks, Conn
Gamble, Mr. E. C. W.
George, Mr. Dandy
Gerrard, Mr. C. H.
Gerard's Lions
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Giovanni, Verciam
Gordon, Mr. Arthur
Graham, Mr. Rowland
Grange, Mr. Bob Lake
Gray, Mr. George
Grey, Miss B.
Gribben, Mr. H. A.
Grover, Mr. Arthur
Handel, Miss Zette
Hanson, Mr. Beverley
Hast, Mr. Walter
Hayden, Miss Ethel
Hayden, Mr.
Henry, Mr. Percy
Hermann, Mr. Melot
Hesketh, Miss Edith
Hickman, Mr. Arthur
Hill, Mr. Hamilton
Hillias, Miss May
Hockaday, Mr. Henry
Hodges, Mr. Horace
Holden, Mr. James
Huddleston, Miss Jessie
Hughes, Miss Emily
Hurst, Mr. Terry
Jackson Family
Jordan, Mr. Gus
Lambar, Miss Kate
Langley, Mr. Chas.
Lauri, Madame
Lavigne, Miss Kitty
Lea, Mr. Shirley
Leyton, Mr. George
Lovel, Mr. Leigh
Lubert, Mr. R.
Luverne, Miss Maud
Lynn, Mr. H. A.
Mace, Mr. Fred
Manders, Miss Daisy
Marsh, Mr. Albert
Martinetti, Mr. C. K.
Maude, Miss Beatrice
Maxam, Mr. Harry
Mellon, Miss May W.
Metheringham, Mr. J. W.
Michel and Polo
Monti, Bros.
Moore, Miss Lucy
Morgan, Lieut.
Morgan, Miss Edna
Morison, Miss Marie
Nelson, Miss Annie
Newton, Mr. Cecil
Norman, Mr. Leslie
Paull, Mrs. William
Pelham, Mr. Paul
Penrose, Mr. Chas.
Phillips, Mr. Nath.
Prince, Mr.
Pringle, Mr. Ralph
Pryde, Miss Peggy
Rawson, Mr. T. W.
Raynham, Mr. Walter
Rivers, Mr. Bert
Robbins, Mrs. N. E.
Rooney, Mr. Michell
Russell, Mr. Harry
Sampson, Mr. C. A.
Sansbury, Mr. Vernon
Schubert, Miss Flo
Selbo, Mr.
Shine, Mrs.
Smith, Mr. Phil
Southgate, Mr. Russell
Sprays, Les
Stanert, Mr. Frank C.
Stanley, Miss Elsie
Starkey, Mr. Gordon
Stephens, Mr. Yorke
Stone, Miss Lottie
Stone, Mr. J. B.
Streeley, Mr.
Stuart, Miss Rosie
Tearle, Mr. Edmund
Testo, Mr. Felix
Theodore, Miss Stella
Thomas, Mr. A. D.
Thurlestone, Mrs. Wltr.
Toole, Miss Tricksey
Transfield, Mr. T. G.
Travers, Miss Helen
Tyrell, Miss Florence
Valdem, Bros.
"Vasco"
Vassar, Dr. Carl
Verger, Mr. Bam
Villion, Mrs. Gertrude
Wallace, Mr. Fred
Wallace, Mr. Tom
Walpole, Mr. E.
Walter, Mr. Reginald
Watts, Mr. Clive
Westlake and Clifford
Wilson, Miss M.
Winter, Miss R.
Wrigley, Mr. W. R.
Wyndham, Miss K.
Zenary, Brothers

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen :—

Leo Fontain—Saturday, Oct. 6.
Mabel Parker—Saturday, Oct. 6.
Ruth Zillwood—Saturday, Oct. 6.
Miss Bateman (Mrs. Crowe)—Sunday, Oct. 7.
Walter de Frece—Sunday, Oct. 7.
Laurence Grove—Sunday, Oct. 7.
Bronson Howard—Sunday, Oct. 7.
R. G. Knowles—Sunday, Oct. 7.
Queenie West—Sunday, Oct. 7.
Will Raymond—Monday, Oct. 8.
Harry Anderson—Tuesday, Oct. 9.
May Day—Tuesday, Oct. 9.
Charles Beresford—Tuesday, Oct. 9.
Adèle Liddon—Tuesday, Oct. 9.
Connie Meadows—Tuesday, Oct. 9.
Harriett Vernon—Tuesday, Oct. 9.
George Fox—Wednesday, Oct. 10.
Annie Hughes—Wednesday, Oct. 10.
Chinko—Wednesday, Oct. 10.
Marie Pascoe—Wednesday, Oct. 10.
Charles Warner—Wednesday, Oct. 10.
Frank Weathersby—Wednesday, Oct. 10.
Lucy Clarke—Thursday, Oct. 11.
Pollie Denville—Thursday, Oct. 11.
J. T. Grein—Thursday, Oct. 11.
Fred Kerr—Thursday, Oct. 11.
Geo. Mudie—Thursday, Oct. 11.
Nance Nicholls—Thursday, Oct. 11.
Eille Norwood—Thursday, Oct. 11.
Frank Radcliffe—Thursday, Oct. 11.
Lillian Ramsdale—Thursday, Oct. 11.
Claude Trevelyan—Thursday, Oct. 11
Charles Wilmott—Thursday, Oct. 11.
Louis Herman—Friday, Oct. 12.
Ethel Matthews—Friday, Oct. 12.

CRICKET.

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs v. Music Halls C.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on Saturday, Sept. 22. J. Leonard batted and bowled well for the Music Halls. Scores :—

Bristol X.L.C.R.—J. Lewis, b Leonard, 1; H. Belding, b Leonard, 8; H. Hare, c and b Leonard, 1; F. Stevens, b Leonard, 0; A. Hamlin, b Leonard, 0; A. E. Bailey, b Leonard, 17; H. Edwards, b Nicholls, 0; J. Aubrey, b Leonard, 7; S. Carter, b Leonard, 0; E. Palmer, b Leonard, 0; A. Mattock, not out, 0; extras, 9; total, 43.

Music Halls C.C.—P. Reardon, b Hare, 14; F. Hansford, b Hare, 3; F. B. Nicholls, b Belding, 5; F. Arni, b Hare, 0; R. Cullen, c Aubrey, b Hare, 0; J. Lacey, b Bailey, 12; T. Neagle, b Belding, 0; J. Leonard, not out, 63; extras, 6; total (for 7 wickets), 103. D. O'Connor, H. C. Douglas, and E. Denton did not bat.

The Christmas attraction at the West Pier, Brighton, will, for the fifth consecutive season, be under the direction of Mr. Trevor Lowe, who has hit upon the fairy play, *Little Hans Andersen*, by Basil Hood and Walter Slaughter. His previous subjects were *The Water Babies*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Bluebell in Fairyland*, and, last year, *The Cherry Girl*. The arrangements for the season are now complete.

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Down Trains.	E a.m.	A a.m.	F a.m.	noon	B p.m.	C p.m.	D p.m.	D.E. p.m.	A.F† p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Liverpool-street, depart	8.40	9.50	10.20	11.5	12. 0	2.35	4.15	4.30	5.12	8.20	
St. Pancras, "	..	..	9.45	10.18	..	12.20	2.40	4.10	..	5. 7	..
Newmarket, arrive	10.33	11.45	12.10	12.50	2.20	4.48	6. 5	6.19	7.17	10.18	
Up Trains.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Newmarket, depart	8. 3	8.59	10.42	12.30	3.57	4.10	4.10	4.15	5.30	5.50	6.15	7.47
St. Pancras, arrive	10.23	11.15	..	2.43	6.10	6. 5	6. 0	..	7.35	8. 0	8.35	..
Liverpool-street, "	10.15	10.56	12.40	2.47	6. 3	6. 5	..	6. 5	7.25	7.45	8.25	9.57

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual again makes its welcome appearance. I say welcome because, as a work of theatrical reference, it is always handy to have in the house—or office. In this connection I am glad to note that the lists of play-productions for the past year are given in better type and altogether in a much clearer manner. As of yore, there are sundry stories in prose and verse. The best of these include "Stage Superstitions," by Charles Warner; "Boy Bob at Sea," a poem by Louie Freear; "The Last Muster," a weird tragic military story, by Mr. Joseph Wilson, who has been a soldier himself; and "Nellie Bligh's Notices," a capital theatrical story, by Mr. Frank Desprez.—Referee, Jan. 28, 1906.

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Sung by Miss VESTA TILLEY.

"HE'S ONLY A LITTLE 'UN,"
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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
FOR
ACTOR AND COMPOSER,
BY
ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1906.

PLAYREADING IN PARIS.

The recent decision of M. JULES CLARETIE, the manager of the Comédie Française, calls attention to the changes which have taken place in the customs of that body within the last thirty years. M. CLARETIE had received a play called *Le Foyer*, written by M. OCTAVE MIRBEAU, the author of the original of *Business is Business*, and a collaborator. Amongst the characters in *Le Foyer* was an Academician, who was represented as leading a very base and disgraceful life. Out of respect for the Academy, M. CLARETIE refused the piece; whereupon the authors applied for redress to the Minister of Public Instruction, who, in France, is the head of theatrical government. The authors desired to appeal from M. CLARETIE'S decision to the *sociétaires* of the Française, who thereupon began to hope for a revival of the Reading Committee, which had long been abolished. This hope seems little likely to be realised. *Le Foyer* has been accepted at the Renaissance Theatre, and the aggrieved authors have been commissioned to write another play for the house of MOLIERE.

The Reading Committee of that theatre was a body unique in its way. The reading of a play to the committee of the Comédie Française in the days of NAPOLEON Premier was an event of importance in the little world of the theatre. The members assembled in a noble apartment hung with pictures of LOUIS QUATORZE, CORNEILLE, RACINE, and REGNARD—heirlooms of the Comédie. In the middle of the room was a table covered with green cloth. Here the members of the committee were entitled to sit; and as the body included such artists as RACHEL, BROHAN, REGNIER, and SAMSON, the jury was a rather formidable one. M. ARSENE HOUSSAYE, who was for some time the manager of the Comédie Française, gives an amusing description of one of these readings:

The proceedings are opened. The author unfolds his manuscript, and attempts to mesmerise his listenters with a look.

"'Gentlemen and ladies,' he says, bowing to them, 'the comedy which I'll have the honour to read to you is entitled *La Niaise* (The Simpleton).'

"'Who's going to play the part?' asks Mlle. Brohan, looking at everyone.

"'Don't be alarmed,' says M. Mazères, for he happens to be the author on that day; 'this simpleton hides her game, for she's very sharp-witted.'

"'Then it's you, Brohan,' says Anaïs.

"'I?' replies Brohan. 'I hide nothing at all; it's rather Mlle. Denain.'

"'Do you think that I look like a simpleton, madame?'

"'On the contrary, seeing that you hide your game (*i.e.*, conceal your talent).'

"'Hush!' says Provost, taking a pinch of snuff, 'hush, we are not "on" just now.'"

And so the reading goes on. There is a cross-fire of epigram on all sides; the director, who has not a bell, uses his hand instead to demand silence; Mlle. BROHAN offers Mlle. DENAIN some sweetmeats to atone for her witty but spiteful sally; Mlle. JUDITH sniffs at her flowers; BEAUVALLET, who has no part nor lot in M. MAZERES' plays, draws a caricature of the prefect. The latter begins to read in an official tone. He is evidently under the impression of presiding at an agricultural meeting; he emphasises each quasi-epigram; unfortunately he has forgotten to put wit into them. At the third scene, Mlle. ANAIS, who is very sly and clever, and who will not play "The Simpleton," asks whether the piece is in verse. M. MAZERES, who has not the least notion that he is being chaffed, replies that, in order to keep closer to the truth, he has written his piece in prose. The director calls Mlle. ANAIS to order. M. MAZERES continues. He is under the impression that his audience is a very cold one; but he is sure to break the ice, for he has no misgivings about his genius. No more has M. SAMSON, who dozes off in a vague little way.

"Mlle. Rachel looks hopelessly at the portrait of Molière, and says to Geffroy, who sits next to her, 'How bored he seems to be.'

"'I should think so, indeed,' whispers Brohan. 'It's bore in five acts.'

"'And he doesn't get a fee for listening, as we do,' concludes Judith.

"The director frowns. The scenes of the comedy succeed each other amidst a glacial silence. M. Mazères turns to me.

"'I am rather hoarse to-day, and reading very badly, I'm afraid.'

"'Not at all; on the contrary, you are really acting your piece.'

"'And such a twopenny piece,' mutters Beauvallet.

"M. Mazères, who is getting fidgety amidst all these whispers, reaches the end of his first act at last, while all his characters have been falling flat like so many cardboard figures. Regnier has not uttered a syllable; but, more cruel than the others, he wants to time the agony, and now he pulls out his watch.

"'You don't seem to be very much amused,' says Mazères, somewhat tetchily.

"'We'll talk about that at the finish. I was merely looking at my watch to see how long the first act would play.'

"The reply encourages M. Mazères; he attacks the second act without touching his glass of sweetened water.

BROHAN changes her seat, in the faint hope, perhaps, that M. MAZERES will change his tone. SAMSON has waked up for the other act. PROVOST gives him his snuffbox. ANAIS is munching sweetmeats. BEAUVALLET, who has finished his caricature, hands it to GEFFROY, who hides it under his hat. It represents MAZERES as a prefect. They have caught a glimpse of the portrait and are laughing. MAZERES is pleased, for he thinks they are laughing at his piece. The laughter continues, and he himself laughs. During the whole of the second act the laughter is kept up; at the end, the author, pleased with himself and his listeners, sips the glass of water.

"'You have noticed,' he says, 'that the second act explains the first, and lays the foundations for the third.' After which he plunges, as it were, into the third act. The laughter continues. They laugh because there isn't a sentence suggestive of laughter. They whisper to each other that it is the wit of a prefect of the third class. And MAZERES himself laughs also. The laughter is kept up till the end; MAZERES is cocksure of his success.

"The committee votes: five white balls and three black ones. We shall be compelled to play *The Simpleton*."

The abolition of the Reading Committee must have been a great relief—to dramatists.

PROMENADES AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The first of the season of Promenade Concerts was given at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday, when a large audience availed themselves of the opportunity of enjoying a well-selected programme of music. A large portion of the seats in the Centre Transept, where the concert took place, were free, and all these were occupied, while many others walked round the extensive arena, which was made very attractive by the fine floral exhibits of the National Chrysanthemum Society, which held its annual show this week. The instrumental portions of the concert were supplied by the Crystal Palace Military Band, conducted by Mr. Herbert Godfrey, which opened the proceedings with a spirited rendering of the Overture from Mendelssohn's *Ruy Blas*. The vocalists were Miss Edith Evans and Mr. Julien Henry, the latter of whom sang a ballad, "King Winter," by Florence Aylward, given for the first time. It has a striking melody, and was delivered by Mr. Henry in such manner as to gain him an encore. Mr. Henry's final contribution, the "Border Ballad," also left the audience well pleased, the martial characteristics of Cowen's stirring song being well emphasised. Miss Evans, a mezzo-soprano of great range and power, quite filled the vast auditorium with her singing of "A Song of Thanksgiving," by Frances Allitsen, responding to the enthusiastic encore with "If I built a world for you." Again was Miss Evans heard in a couple of graceful songs by Liddle, "To tell thee how I love" and "In My Garden," which she rendered with exquisite expression and taste. Miss Evans sings with admirable breadth and vigour, and the bell-like qualities of her voice are pleasingly apparent. The ballads were agreeably interspersed by performances by the Crystal Palace Band, who well sustained their reputation. A selection from Gounod's *Faust* was greatly appreciated, and the rendering of Sullivan's "Thou'rt passing hence" gained great applause, as did also the playing of Viviani's inspiring processional march "The Silver Trumpets," which is so celebrated a feature of St. Peter's at Rome.

COVENT GARDEN BALL.

If other signs were wanting of the arrival of autumn we should be reminded of it by the first fancy dress ball of the season at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, under the experienced direction of Messrs. Frank Rendle and Neil Forsyth. This took place on the night of the 28th ult., when the large and handsome theatre presented a scene of brilliancy and animation that augured well for another successful series of balls, one of the chief attractions of which are the varied fancy costumes worn by the dancers. Amongst the dresses which attracted special attention was one illustrative of the movements of the King. Of white satin, with mauve chiffon underskirts, it was trimmed with hand-painted panels showing King Edward in Marienbad, Doncaster, and even at Aberdeen. On a cloak of shaded satin was depicted the great banquet at the "Granite City," while a head-dress of the Royal crown, surmounted with the Prince of Wales's feathers, and a Court veil, completed the *tout ensemble*. Another dress, "Electricity," was very noticeable. It was made in the Princess style in electric-shaded sequins, the underskirt of chiffon bearing devices illustrative of the progress of electricity, on the shoulder a small electric car, while the massive head-dress glowed with electric lights. Mr. Dan Godfrey's admirable orchestra occupied its usual place on the stage; and, as usual, valuable prizes were offered by the management for the best and most original costumes.

Mr. W. Clarkson gained the first prize (second series) for ladies' dresses with "Events in a Sovereign's Life," also the first prize for gentlemen's dresses with "The Scotch Mail." He was awarded other prizes for "Electricity" (4th prize), "Witch," "Souvenirs," "The Last Post," &c., this bringing his record of first prizes to 123, a notable achievement for the popular "Willie."

MR. LENNOX BARRY is to be congratulated upon the successful result of the Coker benefit matinée, which he organised at the Hounslow Hippodrome last week. Despite the very short notice and the limited seating capacity of the house, the receipts amounted to £25, and Mr. Barry desires through these columns to thank all the artists who so kindly gave their services on that occasion.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"CINDERELLA,"
Fairy Play, in Forty-five Tableaux, by MM. Arthur Collins and Emile Herbel, produced at the Porte-Saint-Martin, on Sept. 29.

Le Prince Charmant ..MLLE. ARLETTE DORGERE
Cendrillon .....MLLE. JEANNE PETIT
La Fée .....MLLE. MATHILDE GILLAND
Hippolyte .....MLLE. MARFA DHERVILLY
Aénone .....MLLE. JEANNE FERNY
Philippe .....MLLE. D'HAUTANCOURT
La Reine des Lucioles .....MLLE. AUGE
Dandy .....M. MAYOL
Alphonse .....M. MORTON
La Baronne .....M. POGGI
Le Baron .....M. FAVEY
Le père Sacoche .....M. CATRIENS
Le Temps .....M. RAOUL

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, OCT. 4.—The book of the pantomime of *Cinderella* has been literally translated from the English text, and no fault can be found with the adaptation. The cast was a strong one. Mlle. Dorgère sang at times a little flat, but she looked so pretty and acted so sprightly that we attached little importance to this detail. She has something of the voice and the intonation of Mme. Jane Hading, and evidently cultivates that lady's style. It was Mlle. Jeanne Petit who impersonated Cinderella. She is an excellent vocalist, and I should not be surprised if we had occasion to applaud her one of these days on one of our lyric stages. M. Mayol is the well-known music-hall star. He was the attraction at the Scala and the Ambassadeurs, and as Dandy scored a huge success. M. Poggi—a sort of French Dan Leno—and M. Morton, both first-class artists, were also intensely droll.

"LA PLUS AMOUREUSE,"
Play, in Four Acts, by M. Lucien Besnard, produced at the Vaudeville on Oct. 4.

Marthe Mareil .....MME. ANDREE MEGARD
Yvonne Boissy .....MLLE. GABRIELLE DORZIAT
Georgette .....MLLE. J. MARIE-LAURENT
Gazeran .....M. LERAND
Pierre Boissy .....M. LOUIS GAUTHIER
Dumaine .....M. BARON *fils*
De Saint-Lhomer .....M. ROGER MONTEAUX
Léclancher .....M. JOFFRE
Julien Mareil .....M. ANDRE DUBOSC
Paris .....M. VICTOR BOUCHER

M. Lucien's new piece is in many respects incomplete; the dialogue frequently drags, but the work is nevertheless interesting because it supplies a curious study of that greatest of all mysteries—a woman's heart. The plot is not complicated. Pierre Boissy, a Sub-Prefect in a small provincial town, is the husband of Yvonne, whom he loves and who adores him. Pierre, before his marriage, has been a kind of Don Juan; his intrigues have been numerous, and his liaison with an actress from the Comédie-Française was known to everybody. Yvonne is justly proud of her handsome husband, but, somewhat cold and reticent, she does not always appear as loving as she feels. The Boissys' intimate friends are M. and Mme. Mareil. M. Mareil is a wealthy champagne-grower, and his wife, Marthe, one of Yvonne's school chums. Pierre admires Marthe for her beauty, but is not otherwise attracted towards her. Marthe, on the other hand, has fallen violently in love with Pierre, and in a strong scene—one of the best in the play—frankly declares her passion for him. Pierre is not proof against this declaration, and the two fall into one another's arms. Yvonne's suspicions, however, are awakened. She questions her husband, who, as may be expected, denies everything. When, however, she interrogates Marthe, the latter pluckily, and without any hesitation, confesses the truth. Stunned by this blow, the outraged Yvonne at once leaves her house to apply for a divorce. Marthe and Pierre, therefore, have a clear field, especially as Marthe's husband is absent on business. Fortunately, Pierre has an uncle, old Gazeran, a Cabinet Minister, who does not want his nephew to ruin his career and his social position in a commonplace love adventure. He brings Yvonne back to the house, and she shows herself so fascinating that Pierre, who succumbed through vanity and really loves Yvonne, is only too happy to be pardoned. He does not want to see Marthe again, and he and his wife start for the Pyrenees. This reconciliation between husband and wife falls like a thunderbolt on Marthe. More than ever in love with Pierre, she discovers whither he has gone, and starts off at once. Her interview with Pierre is painful. Pierre, who pities the woman, speaks to her of his affection for her, but there is a false ring in his voice, and Marthe understands that Pierre's love is all for Yvonne. She says farewell to him, and the next thing he hears is that she has committed suicide. The interpretation was capital. There are only two important woman's rôles, those of the women who fight for the possession of Pierre; and they were impersonated by Mlle. Dorziat (a charming Yvonne) and Mme. Mégard (a pathetic and passionate Marthe). MM. Gauthier and Lérand were admirable, the first as the indolent Pierre, the other as the shrewd and mundane old Cabinet Minister.

MM. FELIX LAGRANGE and DAUMERIE, directors of the Théâtre Trianon, have dissolved partnership. M. Daumerie will be most likely engaged at the Odéon, and M. Lagrange retains the sole management of the Trianon.

AT Antoine's they are busy rehearsing *Les Gaietés de l'Escadron*, the witty piece by M. Courteline, which has scored already such a huge success, and wherein M. Gémier interpreted the rôle of the old General. The first novelty there will be *Biribi*, by M. Darien, founded on the work of that name, which describes the sufferings of the wretched soldiers in the so-called "régiments de discipline" in Africa. Then follows *Chez les Zoacques*, by M. Sacha Guitry, the son of the famous actor-manager of the Renaissance. We are also promised *Anna Karanine*, an adaptation of Tolstoi's well-known novel.

AT Clerkenwell Sessions, on the 28th ult., William Mackenzie Frazer, a mining engineer, pleaded guilty to having obtained credit to the amount of £37 7s. from Alfred Hays, theatrical librarian, Royal Exchange-buildings, without informing him that he was an undischarged bankrupt. Prosecuting counsel said that in 1892 the prisoner was adjudicated bankrupt and again in 1894, and on neither occasion was any dividend paid to the creditors. For the third time he was made a bankrupt in November last, and in the course of the inquiry it was found that he had changed his name from "William Frazer" to "William Mackenzie Frazer." The prisoner was in the habit of getting boxes and stalls for theatres from Mr. Hays, and in May, 1904, he booked at 35 guineas a box at the grand stand, Epsom, for the Derby, but the bill was never met. Other cases in which the accused had obtained credit having been cited, he was sentenced to four months' hard labour.

PARISIAN entrepeneurs have been dilating in a French contemporary on the troubles that beset their path. M. Gailhard, the director of the Opéra, laments the fact that he arrives at his office at one o'clock in the afternoon and does not leave until one o'clock in the morning. M. Carré, of the Opéra Comique, regrets that there are too many composers of talent and not enough openings for them. He considers that a third lyric theatre is necessary. M. Porel finds fault with the facility with which "stars" can betake themselves abroad, while M. Franck writes down actors as great babies. One director there is who is content with his lot, namely, M. Jules Clarétie, of the Comédie-Française, who says: "My artists are all very nice, very amiable, and I like them very much."

"LURED TO LONDON."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by Edward Thane, produced at the New King's Theatre, Hoxton, on Monday, Oct. 1.

Rev. Leslie Carrington ....MR. RONALD ADAIR
Geoffrey Carrington .....MR. MURRAY YORKE
Jake Gamble .....MR. EDWARD THANE
P.C. Christopher Coppard..MR. HORACE BUCKLEY
Abe Sterling .....MR. HARRY BRISTOW
Squire Carrington .....MR. FRED BOUSTEAD
B. G. Stuart .....MR. RALPH ROYAL
Lily Sterling .....MISS LOUISE HAMPTON
Constance Stuart .....MISS LOUIE BRANDON
Rosannah Lovejoy .....MISS NELL INGRAM
Natty.....MISS KATIE NEVILLE

Mr. Edward Thane, who, by the way, is a capable character-actor, has before now given us evidence of his ability as a writer of sensational drama. He is the author of *The Mockery of Marriage*, *The Slave of Sin*, and *Every Inch a Man*, all of which have attained some degree of success on tour. In his latest piece, *Lured to London*, Mr. Thane tells an interesting story, in which at times we get quite a Dickensonian touch. The Rev. Leslie Carrington, "the people's parson," as he is nicknamed, is in love with Constance Stuart, and Constance, be it known, is in love with him. Leslie is anxious to relinquish his comfortable living in a country village in order to go forth into the slums of London, and there minister to folk who are really in need of all the moral and material assistance they can get. Constance's father, however, objects to Leslie taking his daughter into places where darkness and wickedness prevail, and gives that as a reason for opposing the marriage. However, Leslie carries out his determination, and he accordingly quits the village. And here, it should be mentioned, that Leslie is the heir of his uncle, Squire Carrington, who has practically disowned his blackguard son Geoffrey. At the Squire's death one Jake Gamble, a local wrong 'un who combines the trade of canal boatman with that of the profession of burglar, arranges with Natty, a boy, to steal the will. This, of course, puts matters right for Geoffrey. The latter lures Lily Sterling, the daughter of the local blacksmith, away from home, and contrives to get the blame for the deed fixed upon the parson. To cut the story short, Geoffrey enters into possession of his father's estates, and Leslie is so disgraced as to be compelled to leave his church. Finding that Lily may turn out troublesome, Geoffrey takes her to his accomplice, Jake, in the hope that the latter, who as a rule is a very accommodating person, and will hardly stop at anything, will put the girl out of the way. Jake refuses. Sterling eventually tracks his daughter to the old shanty by the canal, which forms Jake's headquarters. The girl attempts to escape, an effort to murder her is made by Geoffrey, she is rescued by her father—fight between him and Geoffrey—Sterling stunned and thrown into canal—rescued by Leslie, who also has been seeking the girl. Lily Sterling is placed on board a canal boat laden with petroleum, which is set fire to by Geoffrey. In imminent danger again, the girl is saved from the inferno by Leslie. In trying to escape Geoffrey is himself killed by the very means of destruction which he had planned for others. Of course, everything now comes to a happy conclusion.

The play, on the whole, is well presented, and the scenes are adequate for the purposes to which they will be put. So far as the cast is concerned, Mr. Ronald Adair impresses one with his virile impersonation of the Rev. Leslie Carrington, whose sturdy Christianity is a strong contrast to many of the effeminate types of clergymen that have been placed before us on the stage so often. Miss Louie Brandon quite takes one's fancy with her charming portrayal of the heroine, and her enunciation is sweet and clear. Mr. Murray Yorke is sufficiently objectionable as Geoffrey Carrington; and Mr. Edward Thane gives us an admirable sketch of a rough Bill Sikes sort of character in Jake Gamble. Miss Louise Hampton is dainty and engaging as Lily Sterling; and Miss Nell Ingram treats the house to a delightful study of Rosannah Lovejoy. A clever boy impersonator is found in Miss Katie Neville, who creditably acquits herself in the rôle of Natty. Mr. Fred Boustead is distinctly good as Squire Carrington, and the same remark may be said to apply to the blacksmith of Mr. Harry Bristow, the constable of Mr. Horace Buckley, and the heroine's father of Mr. Ralph Royal. Comedy is not lacking in the play, and in this department Messrs. Buckley and Thane and Miss Neville distinguish themselves.

NEW EDINBURGH THEATRE.

The new theatre at the corner of Leven-street and Tarvit-street, Edinburgh, will, it is expected, be opened in December next. The exterior is practically completed. The building has a frontage of 84 feet towards Leven-street, and 170 feet towards Tarvit-street, and presents a handsome appearance, the outer walls being built of red sandstone, taken from the Closeburn Quarry, Dumfriesshire. The principal façade towards Leven-street is symmetrically designed in a free treatment of the Italian Renaissance style. The central feature is the principal entrance, which is flanked by shafts having enriched Ionic capitals, surmounted by a central arch, the key-block of which carries a balcony supporting the central oriel window, two floors in height, and capped with an ornamental domed stone roof. The crowning central pediment is carried by twin engaged columns with elaborately carved Ionic capitals. These columns rest on piers on which are carved the lion rampant on crowned escutcheons. The windows on the second floor are capped with carved pediments, while the main wall-head is finished with a stone balustrade divided by panelled dies, which are supported by carved corbels, sculptured to represent Tragedy and Comedy. The Tarvit-street elevation is finished in a plainer manner, but is quite effective in its treatment, and has a pleasing appearance. It is proposed to erect ornamental verandahs at all the entrances and exits.

The principal entrances are from Leven-street, and a feature is the main central entrance-hall, which is about 33 feet by 20 feet. The decorative plaster work of this part of the building is being completed, and gives an idea of the elaborate and artistic manner in which the interior will be treated. The entrance to the pit floor and the galleries is from Tarvit-street, and a new feature in the planning of the theatre is the provision of narrow passage-ways formed at each of the entrances for the purpose of giving admittance at the early doors. The pit floor is 60 feet in width, and the back wall is about 70 feet distant from the curtain line. The dress circle will have eight rows of chairs, every one giving a direct view of the stage. In the second tier, the family circle, there are seven rows of seats, while the gallery will have fourteen rows. Eighteen boxes are being provided, nine on each side of the stage, arranged in three tiers. In the present condition of the building it is possible to fall in with the architects' view that there is not a seat in the house that has not an undisturbed view of the stage. The auditorium will give comfortable seating accommodation to 2,500 persons, representing one of the largest theatres in the provinces. The stage is 66 feet in width by 50 feet deep, and here, as elsewhere in the building, every possible precaution has been taken to render it fireproof. The stage is being fitted up with every equipment known to modern stagecraft, and the accessories are of the most complete character. The building has been designed and the plans prepared by the joint architects, Messrs. James Davidson, Coatbridge, and J. D. Swanston, Kirkcaldy, under whose personal supervision the work has been carried on.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The Music Hall Ladies' Guild is progressing apace. Mrs. Karno, an enthusiastic member, has placed her flat in Primrose Mansions at the Guild's service for a year; and Miss Lily Burnand, who is zealously advocating the claims of the young society to the support of the ladies of the profession, is furnishing it. The names of the founders and a list of donations will be published next week.

Mr. Oswald Stoll has returned from his American trip, and we are now waiting to hear the latest plans concerning the future of the Coliseum.

Mr. M. R. Morand, whose work as a comedian in later Savoy operas and in *The Earl and the Girl* will be well remembered by our readers, will make his appearance at the halls in a sketch known by the curious title of *Stopping the Clock on a Foggy Day*.

The "barring" business at the Paragon, which has created considerable stir in variety circles during the week, is referred to in an article on page 24. The best friends of the profession must regard it as a regrettable incident. The matter being *sub judice* precludes comment.

Mr. David Day, after spending a delightful holiday in New York in company with Mrs. Day and Mr. and Mrs. William Francis, has returned to England, and has brought with him some very interesting numbers, which will be duly placed on the British market. Among them may be mentioned "Echo," a delightful song by Edward Montagu and Leo Friedman; "My Irish Rosie," by the writers of "My Irish Molly" (Jerome and Schwartz); and "Alice, where art thou going?" by W. A. Heelan and Albert Gumble.

A correspondent writes:—"The dismal failure with the Thames steamboats should have warned the council of the danger of travelling outside its accepted area. The London County Council has absolute control over the music halls within its own jurisdiction, and the proposal that the council should enter into active competition with these greatly improved places of entertainment would be only ludicrous if it were not fraught with the probability of a needless waste of public money. The prices of admission to music halls, especially in the suburbs, are so low as to bring amusement within the reach of the poorest classes. The L.C.C. should let well alone."

Mr. Spencer Barry, the new stage-director at the Empire, has been very deservedly complimented on the ingenuity of his spectacular display in the new operetta by Mr. Gustave Kerker, *Burning to Sing*. The central idea of the fun is very humorously accentuated by the completeness of the stage equipment, and the way in which the ceiling is made to crackle and the wallpaper to curl up through the intense heat contributes largely to the success of the production. Mr. Gustave Kerker, who conducted on the first night, has now returned to New York.

A great London daily on Tuesday morning last spoke of the welcome accorded Miss Vesta Tilley the night prior at the Holloway Empire. As a matter of fact, a notice-board outside the house on Monday evening stated that Miss Tilley would be deputised for by Mr. Percy Honri and Messrs. Queen and Le Brun! On the same evening Miss Lil Hawthorne, through indisposition, was absent from the Hackney Empire.

Mr. Reginald W. Allan, the well-known musician, will, on Saturday next, be married to Miss Kathleen Marguerite Riley, and many professional friends will be present at the ceremony, which takes place at Christ Church, Albany-street, Regent's Park, at two o'clock. Mr. Allan, like his lamented and gifted brother Ernest, is renowned for his orchestration, and his services are much sought after by foremost producers of entertainments.

At the Alhambra on Monday, the pursuit, capture, and dissection of two huge whales—one measuring 84ft. and the other 78ft.—will be portrayed by Urbanora films. There will also be shown the setting out from the Tuileries Gardens of the sixteen balloons which took part in last Monday's French Aero Club race, not the least interesting incident of which is the exhibition of his detachable steering apparatus given by M. Santos-Dumont to the Urbanora operator—the very gear, by the way, which brought its plucky inventor to grief.

The next committee meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held on Wednesday next at two o'clock. Last Wednesday, on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. Pat Carey, the President of the society, the bride and bridegroom received a telegram from the secretary and management committee congratulating them on the happy event, and wishing them every happiness.

Now that song-writers and publishers have the law on their side, magistrates are showing no hesitation in protecting them to the full extent of their authority from what Mr. Paul Taylor described on Monday "as nothing less than trading in stolen property." In each of the prosecutions, which are reported in another column, heavy penalties were inflicted, and as fourteen of the prisoners could not pay, they are expiating their offences in gaol. This field-day will serve to advertise the fact that the new Copyright Act, introduced by Mr. T. P. O'Connor and passed by the Government, is now being rigidly applied, and that all the forces of law and order are being employed to put down a form of "highway" robbery which would never have been permitted to flourish had it not been for the narrow-mindedness of an obstinate Scotchman.

Towards the end of this month a unique exploring party will set out to traverse Africa from the Cape to Cairo. They will be armed with all the necessary impedimenta for taking animated photographs of the great sub-continent. British South Africa, Uganda, part of the Congo State, the country between Victoria Falls and Fashoda, Egypt, and the Nile Valley will all be visited. The leaders of the expedition, which will travel in four sections, are picked men of experience and resource and expert photographers. Two journalists, Mr. L. R. F. Cooke and Mr. B. M. Bellasis, will also accompany the expedition. The moving spirit in this daring enterprise is Mr. Charles Urban.

After their great victory over Kent at Blackheath, on Wednesday, the South African team paid a visit to the New Cross Empire, not so very far away from the scene of their great exploit. Representing the Moss Empires, Mr. Frank Allen personally met and welcomed the Springboks' manager, Mr. Carden, and his thirty stalwarts. Then Mr. Will Collins and Mr. Ernest Bridgen conducted the team to their boxes. The orchestra played "See, the Conquering Hero Comes," and the mighty audience who had assembled to see the Colonials roared out a welcome. After thoroughly enjoying the programme, "Auld Lang Syne" was sung by everyone, and the Springboks gave their deafening warhoop as a kind of parting "Good-night."

Mr. Frank Weir, who, until lately, in conjunction with his pretty and talented wife, Miss Lottie Poole, was delighting music-hall patrons with musical sketches, is now playing in the theatres Mr. Huntley Wright's original part of Barry, in *A Country Girl*, and is booked up for some time to come.

To Mr. Ernest Bridgen, manager of the New Cross Empire, belongs the honour of being the one man the Woolwich Arsenal officials have permitted to take a bioscope film of how work is done in the great Government arms manufactory. This film will be exclusively shown at the New Cross Empire next week, and is the sole property of Moss Empires, Ltd.

Miss Ethel Stansfield and Miss Decima Troughton, who, like Miss Victoria Monks, are Blackpool girls, have made much headway in the halls with their sketch, *The Serio and the Slavey*, specially written for them by Mr. T. W. Kay, that they have just been booked for the Moss and Stoll tour, and from now until the end of next April they have not a vacant date. They are known professionally as the Sisters Hope.

The Winter Gardens, Blackpool, on Saturday night, presented an extraordinary appearance for the time of the year. Opera house, ball-room, and pavilion—all were packed. It was, indeed, a magnificent "wind-up" to the Pavilion ballet season. *In Sunny Spain* has proved as popular as any of its predecessors, and the concluding performance was marked by special honours paid to those concerned in its production. A lovely diamond stud and breast-pin was presented to the musical director, Mr. R. Harwood, by Miss Jessie Templeton, on behalf of the whole of the ballet, and a valuable cabinet of cutlery was also presented to Mr. W. Smith, jun., the popular stage-manager.

When the curtain had been finally "rung down," and the floral fête in the Empress ball-room was over, a huge fraternal gathering of artists and staff, officials, and orchestras, took place in the Victoria Hall, where for the next three hours those who had devoted themselves during the season to the duty of entertaining were themselves royally entertained, in accordance with his usual custom, by the general-manager, Mr. Huddlestone. About 400 persons were present. Mr. Pearson, chairman of the directors, paid a high tribute to the respective heads of departments, and Mr. Huddlestone appropriately responded.

The Mansfield Hippodrome will reopen its doors on Monday. It is under the proprietorship of Messrs. Darnley and Jennings, with Mr. T. Jennings as resident-manager. The whole of the seating accommodation has been rearranged, with the result that room will now be found for close upon 2000 spectators. Miss Marie Loftus, who will top the bill for the opening week, will be supported by a good array of talent. Mr. Keino Johnstone will also make his début on a music-hall stage.

Mr. Alf. Graham, the lessee of the Hull Hippodrome, celebrated his first anniversary there on Monday, when a crowded and enthusiastic audience filled the house, which, under Mr. Graham's direction, has become the "popular" variety hall in the city. On behalf of the staff and friends, a handsome diamond ring was given to Mr. Graham, and Mr. Sheldon, the musical director, presented him with a large framed photo of the orchestra.

Miss Gwennie Hasto, the sensational dancer, had the misfortune to sprain her foot badly in Swansea last week, and, by the doctor's orders, is giving the injured member complete rest.

Messrs. Branland, Bath, and Danton, whose Waterloo Pierrots are one of the great attractions at Bridlington, have secured an extended lease of the Summer Gardens there, which they have occupied for the last two seasons. They intend to add greatly to the comfort and convenience of their patrons.

The Empire, Hull, was reopened on Monday by Mr. Alfred Selwyn, the new lessee, with Mr. Harry Slingsby as manager. The former gentleman was manager of the London Lyceum when that house, rebuilt by Mr. Thos. Barrasford, was reopened with variety on the twice-nightly plan on Dec. 31, 1904. Mr. Selwyn has also had considerable provincial experience. Mr. Slingsby was lately manager of the Palace, Greenock.

At a meeting of the Bangor City Council on Wednesday, the Borough Treasurer was authorised to engage Mr. Will Summerson to provide the entertainments on the pier for next season, conditional upon his personal responsibility for the management. Mr. Summerson has provided these entertainments for several years past, and this last season he carried them on in conjunction with entertainments at the neighbouring town of Menai Bridge, and also at Teignmouth.

The Opera House, Londonderry, will be converted into a Hippodrome for a short season, commencing in November, when the proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon, will run two houses per night up to Christmas, after which the house will revert to drama.

The season at the Happy Valley, Southend, closed on Saturday. An enormous "house" assembled to give Chirgwin's Concert Party a final "send-off," and the presents to the artists—Miss Beatrice Varley, Messrs. Charles Wood, Bert Dansie, Charles Osborne, Harry Rose, and F. S. Harris—were bewildering in their number and variety. Mr. Osborne, the manager, was also presented with a handsome travelling bag by the company. The additional artists included Messrs. Owen Way, Charles Miner, Charles Clark, and Gus Dallan, who shared the ovations that welcomed the "C.C.P." A triumphal season wound up with hearty handshaking all round and musical honours.

A very novel communication has been received by Dalton's Agency from an American turn, which reads as follows:—"Dear Sir,—We are still laid up in port. Our sails are ready to be hoisted to a fair wind and good pilot, so if you will favour us by taking the wheel in hand, we'll be sure of a good long, successful voyage; but, as I said before, we only want a good pilot. We shall meet the pirates later on, but they'll find us armed to the teeth. Our cargo of entertainment is of the best—unequalled and unrivalled; our crew determined and impatient—all with a long telescope in hand on the look-out for land with gold in it.

"P.S.—Methinks I scent the morning mail,
With contracts for our ship to sail;
So hurry up and let us know
Where it is we've got to go."

Miss Katie Butler, who is successfully singing "It's a sad, sad story," has been especially engaged by Mr. Stanley Rogers for a special part in his Sunderland pantomime.

Charles Riley, of no settled abode, appeared before the Mayor at the Wigan Borough Police court, on Friday, the 28th ult., charged with breaking and entering the Wigan Hippodrome. Prisoner had gained admission by smashing one of the windows, which he reached by means of the steel ladder fire escape. He was found sleeping on the bed used in a sketch entitled *The Collar Stud*, and when taken into custody he remarked, "Hold on, I've lost my collar stud." He was sent to gaol for two months.

Mr. Geo. Saphrini has now secured the Palace, Boston, on a lease for six years. He intends booking the best talent available, and hopes to make it even a bigger success than it is at present. Business continues to improve.

Miss Bessie Butt, who was appearing last week at the Ardwick Empire, was on Saturday last specially sent for to deputise for Lil Hawthorne, the top of the bill at the Manchester Hippodrome. The result was a complete success in every way.

In regard to the offer of Colonel Mapleson to purchase the Lyceum for £120,000, the secretary of the Twentieth Century Theatres (Limited) writes: "The theatre has been let to my company on lease, subject to the sanction of the Court being obtained to such lease, and an application to confirm this lease is now pending before the Master in Chancery."

Miss Winifred Hare had an exciting adventure at Bradford last week. The hotel at which she was staying—the Alexandra—took fire in the middle of the night, and Miss Hare only reached a place of safety by sliding down the fire-escape in her nightdress.

Miss Vesta Tilley, in consequence of a cold, caught at Newcastle-on-Tyne during the latter part of last week, was not able to appear at the Holloway Empire, on Monday.

Mr. George Edwardes contradicts the report that he has resigned his position on the board of the Empire. Some time ago he said he would have to give up some part of his duties, and this statement may have given currency to the rumour.

Miss Ada Reeve, who has for the present finished her London engagements, has just accepted offers to sing at leading variety theatres at Belfast, Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol, Southampton, Brighton, and Newcastle. In some of the towns the vivacious comedienne is assured a certainty of £300 a week; in others 60 per cent. of the gross receipts.

Miss Emily Soldene, the Drogan of that famous production, *Geneviève de Brabant*, at the Islington Philharmonic in 1871, is to be accorded a complimentary benefit on Tuesday, Nov. 13, at the Palace. At the head of an influential committee is Mme. Melba, while among others included in it are Earl Carrington, Lord Glenesk, Sir Douglas Straight, Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. R. C. McConnell, K.C., Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Frederick Harrison, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. Stefano Gatti, and Mr. Alfred Butt.

Mr. Harry Rickards, who reached Port Said on the 25th ult., reports to us that his passage down the Mediterranean has been glorious. He had, however, a very rough day in the Bay of Biscay, but the rest and change have done him an immense amount of good, and his friends will be glad to hear that he is very much better.

Mr. J. W. Wright, son of Harry Wright and Nellie Gannon, on Monday, Oct. 8, takes over the sole management of the Jubilee Hotel, High-street, Gravesend. Having travelled all over the world, his experience and fund of anecdote should make him an ideal host.

Dr. Walford Bodie is again creating a furore in London. "House full" has been nightly shown, both at the Euston and Empress, Brixton, his reception nightly being unprecedented. His lecture, arranged by Mr. George Adney Payne, entitled "What is a Miracle?" will be given at the Canterbury on Sunday night, Oct. 14, under the patronage of the doctors and clergy of London. The whole of the proceeds will be given to the Waterloo Hospital for Women and Children.

Friends will be wishing *bon voyage* to the members of Mr. Sydney Hyman's company, leaving Southampton by the Kildonan Castle to-day. Among the artists are Frank Seeley, a favourite comedian, who finds a fund of humour in the domestic happenings of the cockney ménage; Miss Winifred Ward, a young exponent of dainty comedy; Tony Wilson and Heloise, who display grace, beauty, and intrepidity in what is called a Continental trampolin bar act; and the Amoros Sisters, smart and pretty trapeze artists. Also of the company are Sullivan and Pasquelena, who go to Africa from the States, with a high reputation as a comedy duo.

Greetings to Miss May Moore Duprez, the lively Dutch girl; the Maples, a popular comedy couple; Herr Hagedorn, of "grotto" fame; Mr. Dan Paulton, comedian; Miss Rose Sylvester, soubrette; and Phil and Nettie Peters, who land in England to-day with many pleasant recollections of successful engagements in South Africa.

The Brothers Webb (Jojo and Ruté), the well-known musical clowns, who are at the Cirque Ciniselli, St. Petersburg, arrived there on Sept. 26. They received every courtesy from the Custom House officials on the frontier, the journey thence to the Russian capital taking twenty hours. They had every comfort. Director Ciniselli sent a man to meet them, and to interpret, which was very considerate on his part. They opened on the 28th, and the next day their engagement was prolonged for fifteen days longer, making six weeks in all. They have been out each day promenading. Everybody seems to be going about just the same as in any other Continental city, otherwise they would not have accepted the prolongation. The Cirque Ciniselli seats about 4000 persons, and has been full every night.

Mr. Algernon Syms, who was the original juvenile lead in the production at the Surrey, in October, 1882, of *For Ever*—the piece in which the late Geo. Conquest created the part of the Man Monkey—has been engaged by Mr. Fred Conquest to play in his successful sketch *The Freak's Revenge*, in which he (Mr. Fred Conquest) realistically impersonates his father's great character.

Mr. Austin Boyd and Miss Trixie Gilfain are just back from a very successful tour in South Africa, where Miss Gilfain made a tremendous hit with the bagpipes, for the inhabitants of the Rand and the colonists dearly love a wee bit skirl o' the pibroch. Miss Gilfain's motto should be, "I needs must pipe that you may sing." The happily associated pair are producing a new act in November.

Mr. Charles Norton, the mimic, in his new entertainment entitled *Pro's at the Races*, hits off the peculiarities and mannerisms of well-known artists to a nicety, and roars of laughter have followed the well-travestied snatches of song incidental to the morceau. For instance, when Mr. Joe Elvin wants Mr. 'Gene Stratton to back a certain horse, the latter sings, "I may be crazy, but I know you"; and Mr. Elen, when asked to partake of champagne, bursts into praises of his "'Arf a pint of ale." The trifle, which is of Mr. Norton's own writing, is a bit of well-thought-out comedy.

The Terriers' first social of the season will take place on Sunday at the headquarters, the Dover Castle Hotel, Westminster Bridge-road. Terrier Fred W. Millis will be in the chair.

At Bloomsbury County Court, on Wednesday, Miss Eva Erskine, an actress, of Hallam-street, W., sued Mr. Frank Danby, manager, for £3 15s., a fortnight's salary in lieu of notice, and railway fares.

Miss Erskine explained that she had been engaged by Mr. Danby to appear in a sketch called *The Chauffeur* for five weeks, from June 18. The first week she received 30s., but the second only 25s. The treasurer denied that she had received 30s. the week before, asserting that she had been engaged at 25s. a week. Judgment was given for the plaintiff for the amount claimed and costs.

"Three Thousand Years Ago," prior to its going on tour, will be produced in town at a well-known West-end house. Mr. Machin desires to point out that this sketch and others belonging to him are not governed, or being run, by a syndicate, but simply by himself and his manager, author, and producer, Mr. Charles M. Daly, who holds the legal copyright of every sketch.

Mr. E. W. Lurring, late the acting-manager of the Ealing Hippodrome, has been transferred by Mr. Walter Gibbons to the Grand, Clapham, where he has taken up the position of acting-manager under Mr. H. Ketteman.

Messrs. Cadles, music-hall agents, sued Mr. Richard Arthur Roberts, protean actor, on Tuesday, at the Westminster County Court, for £80, commission on certain contracts, and in the alternative for damages. In 1905 one of the plaintiffs cabled to his brother from America that he had secured a tour for Mr. Roberts, and that the contracts were following by post. When sent to him he had already signed contracts for the same tour, and almost the same dates, with another agent in London. Defendant denied that he authorised plaintiffs to act for him solely in America, although he knew that he was on their books. His Honour Judge Woodfall said the plaintiffs had not shown that they alone were entitled to obtain contracts for the defendant, and there must be judgment for him, with costs.

"Popple from Pippleton," which has been put on for the first time this week at the Hippodrome, Norwich, will be seen at the Middlesex on Monday. Mr. Fred Cullane, who is responsible for the production, has some special scenery with electrical effects.

Chirgwin has just completed a long tour. He announces his intention of not accepting in the future any engagements that would keep him "on the road" for a longer period than three weeks.

Miss Annette Kellerman, who hopes to repeat her Hippodrome triumph at Hengler's, is not only a wonderful swimmer, but a most charming girl. Frank, high-spirited, absolutely fearless, with her twentieth birthday still to come, she is the pride of New South Wales—the home of champion swimmers—and represents the finest class of physical culturists. It is needless to say that Annette is an enthusiast in her own work, but she goes in for other sports with characteristic energy with the exception of cycling, for though certain muscles are strengthened by work on the wheel, others are not used at all, and swimming requires an all-round development. She is past-mistress in the art of trick diving, from what she describes as "the slip into the water as clean as a whip to the great 'splosh.'"

Born in Sydney, she laughingly describes herself as of "German-English-American-Australian descent." She had few opportunities of "paddling about in the water" as a child, having been sent to boarding-school; but at fifteen she quickly got "into the swim," literally and figuratively, and won every race and every medal for which she could compete in the colony. It was a great amusement of hers to rescue other girls from the deep end of the swimming baths, although she confesses that they did not always see the joke, as it was necessary to use some strength and strategy in throwing them into the water before she bravely fished them out again! Miss Kellerman came to Europe about fifteen months ago, making her début as a swimmer in the Seine. She has twice attempted the Channel, and hopes to make a third effort next year. Hitherto her great trouble has been sea-sickness.

Mr. Clifford King has been appointed manager of the new Putney Hippodrome.

An interesting story is that told in the sketch entitled *The Drummer of the 76th*, written by Mr. Louis Coen, the author of several dramas, which is to be produced at the Palace, Camberwell, on Monday. Mr. Matthew Brodie, who will play Napoleon, possesses features that will lend realism to his impersonation of *le petit Caporal*. Mr. J. A. Rosier will be Marshal Lannes; and Miss Augusta Tulloch will act a heavy part; and a clever child, Dorothea Vivian, will be seen in the part of the drummer boy.

Mr. Harry Lauder will positively make a welcome reappearance at the Tivoli and the Paragon on Monday, after a protracted and somewhat troublesome illness. We are pleased to say Mr. Lauder is quite convalescent, and feels thoroughly fit for work again.

Some years since Mr. Hubert Bartlett wrote and copyrighted a duologue, *The Lady and the Lunatic*, which he has since played some 3000 times. It might be thought that the piece was inspired by *A Pair of Lunatics*, which has been presented under varying titles; but such is not the case. *The Lady and the Lunatic* is based on an actual experience of the present Earl of Dunraven.

"The New Knights of Olde" has caught on at the Richmond Theatre. The make-up of Harry the Eighth is as good as it is expensive, and there are many merry moments with the merry Monarch.

Mr. Michael Nolan, the well-known and favourite Irish comedian, writes that he and his wife, the popular Miss Agnes Hazel, have been scoring a gratifying success with their Hibernian humour and English comedy in both Norwich and Ipswich—towns to which they had hitherto been strangers professionally speaking, and yet they have appeared in most countries. Miss Hazel's health has much improved.

The second edition of *A Toff for Ten Minutes*, the bright little monologue enacted by Miss Constance Moxon, is meeting with greater success than ever.

At the Margate Hippodrome, by arrangement with Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece, on Thursday, a new play was produced at a special early morning performance. The production, for copyright purposes only, was a play in four acts, by Mr. Justin Huntly McCarthy, entitled *The Illustrious O'Hagan*.

Miss Lily Burnand deputised this week for Miss Marie Lloyd at the Paragon, where she received quite an ovation from her numerous East-End admirers.

Mr. Sid Cotterell is so elated with the success of that droll concoction, *The Substitute*, that he is by way of producing it on the Continent, and is securing companies of French and German artists for that purpose, and is also arranging for an American tour.

It was reported at the 483rd meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A., on Tuesday, that forty-four new members had joined during the week, and that the financial receipts for that period amounted to £45 7s. Mr. Douglas White, the hon. treasurer's statement for the past year showed that 1,000 new members had joined, making 6,075 active members. The total funds are: Reserve fund, £365 7s.; on deposit, £500; current account, £296 6s. 2d.; cash in hand, £20; making a total of £1,181 13s. 2d. The following members were present: Messrs. W. H. Clemart, Arthur Rigby, Fred Neiman, Douglas White (hon. treasurer), Harry Freeman, James Finney, John Alexander, Geo. A. Booker, Geo. Preston, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). Mr. W. H. Clemart (vice-chairman of the committee) presided.

In aid of the fund for the relief of needy survivors of the Light Brigade charge at Balaclava a matinée will be given at the Alhambra on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 27, at which Mrs. Clement Scott will recite Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade," assisted by buglers and drummers of the London Rifle Brigade, and surrounded by the survivors of the charge.

Mr. Charles Lee, after fifteen years' successful tours of the chief theatres and halls, will, with a contingent of his principal performers, including Tom Birchmore, now adopt music halls, where he will present one of the smartest bijou minstrel combinations before the public. Mr. Tom Shaw is his agent.

Messrs. Oliver and Holmes, the well-known variety agents, of Leicester-square, sought in the Westminster County Court on Tuesday to enforce payment of a judgment debt due from Miss Lillian Lowe, ballad vocalist, now engaged on the Stoll tour at South Shields. The plaintiffs said that the claim was for commission, and that the defendant had been receiving a salary of £450 a month for the past nine months. The defendant did not appear. His Honour made an order for payment of £5 a month, subject to committal for fourteen days in default.

Mr. Friel Lyons, of the Lyons troupe of acrobats, who have been performing at the Cardiff Empire, was being driven on Sunday in a motor-car, when apparently something went wrong with the steering-gear, and the car was upset on the embankment adjoining the railway bridge of the Porthcawl line at Pyle. Mr. Lyons was thrown thirty or forty yards, alighting on his shoulder, but he does not appear to have sustained any injury beyond a wrench of the finger. The chauffeur fell near the car, and was rather badly shaken, while the car was smashed. Mr. Lyons owes his escape from serious injury to his agility and smartness as an acrobat.

Colonel Denis Lorraine will present *La Vivandière* (founded on Ouida's famous novel "Under Two Flags") at the Hackney Empire on Monday next. Miss Derry, who plays the part of Cigarette, commenced her theatrical career in 1901 with Mrs. Lewis Waller in *Zaza*. Her longest engagement was with Miss Olga Nethersole in *Sapho* for nearly three years. Says Miss Derry: "I am a daughter of the regiment, army born and bred, my family having been in the Army and Navy for generations. I have eight brothers, you know—seven in the Army and one in the Navy. I was born in Poona, India, and didn't know a word of English till I was seven.

"I have travelled right across the Sahara on a camel, one of the most difficult animals imaginable to ride. The horses I use have been through the South African War, and if ever a horse deserved the V.C., 'Cigar,' as he is called, does. 'Cigar's' master, you must know, had gone back during an engagement to save one of his men. Both men, as they were mounting, got shot again and fell off the horse. 'Cigar' managed to clear his master from his dead comrade by dragging and carrying him back into safety."

Mr. George Scott contradicts the report that a new ballet at the Alhambra is under consideration to supersede *L'Amour*. Mrs. Hay Ritchie and Charles Wilson's charming work is still in the height of its popularity, large audiences still appreciating to the full the beautiful Assyrian setting and the fine dancing of Signorina Bordin.

Mr. Frank Gerald is naturally very grieved at the loss of his pet steed Wiapera, the faithful creature succumbing on Monday to an attack of congestion of the lungs. He was on the mare's back at Collins's on Saturday in the performance of the title-rôle in *Captain Starlight*, an adaptation of Rolf Boldrewood's *Robbery Under Arms*. Mr. Gerald purchased her twelve years ago, when she was four years old. For a time she was used for steeplechasing, and won many valuable prizes in Australia. Then she began her stage career as Black Bess to her master's Dick Turpin. She also figured as the steed which bore the unconscious form of *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* (Mr. Lewis Waller) back to the door of that lady's American mansion at the end of the first act, when that play was produced at the Imperial, April 16, 1904. Mr. Gerald has been elected manager of the V.A.F. by a majority of 21 votes.

Mr. Pat Carey, the popular Irish comedian, was married on Wednesday at St. Margaret's, Westminster, to Mrs. Claughton, of East Molesey. The bride was given away by her friend, Mr. W. J. Bradley, and the best man was Mr. T. C. Callaghan, the life-long friend of the bridegroom. There was also present Mrs. Fred Lane (Miss Issy Howard), Mr. Carey's daughter, and Mrs. Tilley (his sister), Mrs. Bradley, Mr. Fred Lane, and Mr. C. Douglas Stuart. After the ceremony the party, after a visit to the York Hotel, proceeded to Waterloo and travelled down in a specially-reserved saloon to East Molesey, where the wedding reception was held, and the numerous handsome presents were on view. Congratulatory telegrams were received from the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund, Mrs. Taylor (of Sandgate), May Tilley, F. D. Harris, Geo. Harrington, Judd Green, York Hotel, Millie Denham, Frank Leon, Tom Shaw, C. De Vere, Leonard Barry, Edgar Budden, Tom Brantford, Will Oliver, Pat Rafferty, Douglas White, Geo. Fairburn, Nelson Rutland, and Baugh, F. Marchant, and Hyram Travers, the last-mentioned being as follows: "Congratulations. Have you got Stoll's permission? Ba, ba, black sheep."

The London meeting of the International Artists' Lodge was held on Sunday last at the usual rendezvous. The question of the final drawing of the terms of affiliation between the I.A.L. and V.A.F. was discussed, and Brother 876 agreed to put into correct form the amendments and the original proposals, which had not yet been incorporated. The chairman then read the legal form of the petition to the Board of Agriculture against the present regulations for the quarantine of dogs in England. It was decided to lay this on the table till more proprietors of animal acts were present.

Brothers 1312 and 1396 asked questions concerning the ballot-papers received from the headquarters of the lodge at Berlin. The brothers complained that they had received the same, but had so far no knowledge of the candidates proposed. Brother 876 thought it dangerous to send out so far in advance ballot-papers of the names of the candidates. Brother 115 read, from the report of the meeting in Berlin, that Brother D'Oraetta had asked for the nominations for the election, and had said that it was necessary to abide by the decision of the Executive Committee. The nominations were to be sent to Berlin by outside meetings and the list completed by the Berlin meeting. Brother 115 proposed that nominations should be sent up from this meeting. Brothers 876 and 1312 pointed out that experience showed how necessary it was for the Executive Committee to have more English members, as when there were only four it was so difficult to get them in London all together.

The meeting therefore made the following nominations:—W. Lee, H. Mason, George Gray, W. H. Clemart, A. Schafer, Albert Voyce, Max Sterling, Will Poluski, W. Van Allen, Sam Albertus, Mayville, Orpheus, Hal Forde, Geraldo, J. Barton. Brother 1261 proposed, and it was passed unanimously, that this meeting draw up a letter to be sent to the Executive Committee in Berlin, pointing out the urgent necessity for more English members on the Executive Committee.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

ONE of the greatest successes ever made by the charming and popular Miss Ellaline Terriss is Messrs. Davis and Darewski's new composition, "Au revoir, my little Hyacinth," which Mr. Seymour Hicks and Messrs. B. Feldman and Co., the fortunate publishers, predict will become as big a rage as "The honeysuckle and the bee." Messrs. Feldman have arranged with Mr. Sidney Davis, the author, to write a few special lyrics which Mr. John Neat, the firm's clever pianist, will set. Artists in want of smart songs can meet Mr. Davis at Feldman's and discuss requirements.

THOSE prolific and successful writers, Messrs. Lipton and Murphy, have just published with B. Feldman and Co., their new descriptive ballad, entitled "As I stand by the old church door," of which report speaks highly.

MESSRS. MILLS AND SCOTT have again done the trick, their new number, "By the side of the Zuyder Zee," being proclaimed their masterpiece, and the enterprising Feldman has arranged with Mr. Seymour Hicks to feature the song in his production at the Aldwych, where it is now in active rehearsal.

MESSRS. B. FELDMAN AND CO. are actively preparing their pantomime parcels; and principal boys would be well advised to secure Arthur Reece's success, "When there isn't a girl about," published by that firm.

NEVER in the whole course of his forty years' stage experience, writes Mr. John F. Sheridan, from Sydney, has a song created such a furore as "Bombay" has done in Australia. A party of eighteen booked seats at Palmerston North from a neighbouring town especially to hear "Bombay." A native Maori waited on Mr. Sheridan at the station on the departure of the company entreating for a copy of the words if he could not get the music, it being intended to have the song chanted in "the native Pahs'" Meeting House.

A. J. MILLS and Bennett Scott, the popular songwriters, have this week established a record, "dashing off," among other little things, a musical and vocal mélange entitled "Just before the ball" for Miss Hilda Jacobsen, an up-to-date skit, "Have we lived before?" for Mr. George Mozart, and special numbers for George Lashwood, Tom Costello, J. E. Coyle, Florrie Forde, and Florrie Gallimore.

MISS DORA LYRIC, who is rapidly forging to the front, has scored a sensational hit at the Argyle, Birkenhead, with Castling and Scott's pretty domestic ballad, "All that glitters is not gold" (published by Francis and Day). Miss Lyric returns in two weeks to star at the Argyle, and has also secured six further dates at the same hall at a big increase.

MR. HAMILTON HILL sails on the Majestic for New York on the 17th inst., and will be absent from England a twelvemonth. Among the songs he will specially feature of Messrs. Francis and Day are "The Fireman's Song," "Can't you think of any other name but Baby?" and "Welcome home, boys, welcome home!" the latter a stirring march song by Fred W. Leigh and J. Airlie Dix.

MR. TOM LEO has this week published his second song with Mr. David Day. Of the "Short Stories" class, it is written by Maurice Scott, and is entitled "Pom te O! Pom te A!" There are a baker's dozen of verses.

MISS DAISY DORMER opens on Monday at the Palace, and will be heard in two numbers new to London, one being "You told me to go," by Charles Collins and Charles Ridgewell, and "Maizee, my Malagasy," by George Collins. Both songs have been enthusiastically received at the Dublin Tivoli.

SINCE the establishment in New York of a representative English music publishing firm, it is pleasant to record the success of British authors and composers whose songs have been dropped into Transatlantic musical plays. "Let me sing!" Wilkie Bard's quaint song, by Frank Leo, is causing a furore in *Sergeant Brue* in the hands of Mr. Frank Daniels; "When love comes knocking at the door" is a hit in *The Blue Moon;* and "Little Willie Brown," as sung by Mr. James Blakeley, is a special feature in *The Little Cherub.*

MESSRS. HARRINGTON AND TATE have certainly found two big winners in "Skyland," now being sung with success extraordinary by Charles McNaughton in the No. 1 company of *The Belle of Mayfair,* and "Rosie is waiting," an effective and melodious chorus-song, which promises to become the favourite pantomime number for principal boys. "Skyland" is a topical number, and Mr. John P. Harrington intends to have up-to-date verses for the Christmas season.

MISS LILIAN DOREEN is fortunate in being the first to exploit "Queen of Old Samara," published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company, of Berners-street. It is undoubtedly one of the finest melodies of the popular type that have been heard this year, and should prove a veritable gold mine to the author-composer, Mr. J. F. Lambe.

THE packing-rooms of the Monte Carlo Publishing Company are assuming a very busy aspect, and even the members of the firm are now to be seen daily busily packing and despatching parcels of their "Sixpenny Successes." There is little wonder that such gratifying results have been achieved when their catalogue includes such popular numbers as "Bamboo Bungalow," "March of the Men of Harlech," and "Somebody cares for you," the latter song being one of the happiest efforts of those clever writers, A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott.

THE Monte Carlo Publishing Company, of 3, Berners-street, have now got a number in the press which will be a "stormer for pantomime"—at least, that is what one of the foremost pantomime producers remarked when he heard it. The song is founded on a well-known motto, and it is predicted to become the best-known and most whistled melody that has been heard for years.

JAS. W. TATE, the musical editor of the Monte Carlo Publishing Company, has, during the week, received a letter from America stating that the firm's big song, "I've built a bamboo bungalow for you," is a "terrific success" in Mr. Frohman's latest production, *The Rich Mr. Hoggenheimer.* Mr. Fred Day is to be congratulated on having placed this song to such advantage in the States, where he is the manager for Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, who handle the Monte Carlo Publishing Company's publications in America.

MISS JESSIE PRESTON has scored an instantaneous success in her latest song, "Be admired by your father," at the Oxford, and continues to create hearty laughter in her "reply" to Harry Lauder's "My Scotch Bluebell." Both songs are by J. F. Lambe.

JOCK WHITEFORD is back again at the London Pavilion. He received an ovation on his appearance in "Keep on doing it, Sandy," which is from the pen of J. F. Lambe, who is fortunate enough to have had ten of his songs sung nightly during the week at the principal London music halls.

A GREAT number of applications have been made for the rights of Harry Castling's fine march song, "Boy Blue," and all who have heard it prophesy for it a success equal to "Bluebell."

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE CANTERBURY.

Amongst the turns in the current week's Canterbury bill of fare one of the most noteworthy is that given by the Abdullah Arabs. This troupe is by no means new to the halls, but the performance is one that can be witnessed over and over again without the spectator experiencing a feeling of weariness or boredom. The members of the troupe seem to so heartily enjoy the performance themselves that it gives additional delight to watch them. They work themselves into such a state of wild excitement that it requires the restraining hand of one of their number to prevent his fellows in their tumbling feats exceeding the prescribed limits of the stage, and precipitating themselves over the footlights into that portion of the house reserved for the gentlemen of the orchestra. One of their most marvellous feats is the quick formation of a human pyramid. The strong men, taking it in turn, are able to support in this way from six to a dozen other members of the troupe; it is, indeed, a surprising exhibition of muscular strength that cannot but excite the admiration of the audience. Their tumbling is also of an extraordinary character, and special mention should be made of the little girl called Fatima, who whirls round the stage at an amazingly rapid pace, and then comes up smiling to acknowledge the prolonged applause which proceeds from all parts of the house. The whole performance of these dusky sons and daughters of Arabia is indeed unique, and should on no account be missed.

Mr. Harry Randall, whose studies of Cockney character are always so highly appreciated, appeared on Monday and Tuesday evenings, but was obviously suffering from a severe cold; and on Wednesday the Poluski Brothers deputised for the popular comedian. Sam and Will were happily in their very best form, and while they held possession of the stage the rippling stream of merriment never once ceased to flow. The comedy duo, Clark and Hamilton, are well received. The gentleman's make-up is funny, and his conversation with the lady is still funnier. His pianoforte playing, into which the comic element is freely introduced, is greatly appreciated, and his fair partner not only gives able support in the comedy business, but sings and dances in pleasing style. Happy Fanny Fields, the American-Dutch girl, is as jolly as ever, and cracks her jokes with the same effective assumption of childlike simplicity and innocence. She meets with a flattering reception. So, too, does Miss Florrie Gallimore, a clever comedienne, with a style that commands admiration, and who, in her choice of songs, shows excellent judgment. Mr. T. E. Dunville, in his latest success, "The Channel Swimmers," maintains his popularity as a comic singer; and Miss Bijou Russell, who comes from America, excels as a coon singer and dancer. Mr. Arthur Conquest and company are here in the sketch, entitled *The Sioux,* which has been played with such marked success in halls in other parts of the great metropolis. The artistic merits of Mr. Conquest's embodiment of Chadi, the ape, we have pointed out in previous notices of the sketch, and Canterbury audiences have fully endorsed the favourable verdict already recorded. Nor is there anything new to be said concerning that favourite old sketch *Black Justice,* in which appear Big Ben Brown and Little George Le Clerq, supported by a capital company. Favourable mention has also to be made of the respective contributions of Miss Maud Esmond, burlesque artist; Drew and Alders, comedians; and Oakley and James (Bert and Polly). An additional attraction is supplied by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope pictures; while during the interval a popular selection, "Mr. Popple of Ippleton," is played by the orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Archie Howells. Mr. Fred Miller's genial presence in front of the house is always welcome.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday,
First Production of an Original Episode,
by Frederick Maxwell, entitled
"A PRODIGAL WIFE."

Andrew Allen ..... MR. FREDERICK MAXWELL
Robert Lavelle ..... MR. CHAS. LEVEY
Wilson ..... MR. GERALD BLAKE
Dr. Gibbs ..... MR. SAM HARCOURT
Baxter ..... MR. WILLIAM CLARE
Ena ..... MISS LOIS DU CANE

A vivid, well-written sketch, presented in artistic form, and admirably acted, *A Prodigal Wife* met with ready acceptance at the hands of a Standard audience on Monday evening. The leading character, Andrew Allen, has, by his own ability, combined with hard work and perseverance, carved his way to fortune, when he marries a woman who, in a few years, spends his accumulated wealth at such a rate that he figures in the Bankruptcy Court. But an even worse blow awaits him. He has always had the firmest trust in his wife, Ena, but certain rumours which reach his ears at the club arouse his suspicions, and, on the evening when the piece opens, he announces his intention of dining out, but remains concealed in the house. He is thus enabled to be present, though unseen, at an interview between his wife and his supposed friend, Robert Lavelle. The man is an unmitigated villain of whom Ena stands in fear. He pretends to be devotedly attached to her, and suggests that she should accompany him abroad, sharing with him the £7,000, which is all that remains of her husband's fortune, and which has been placed in an iron safe. Ena loves her husband, and has no desire to leave him, but promises to let Lavelle have the money on condition that he hands her certain compromising letters and leaves the country for ever. However, when she opens the door of the safe, she and Lavelle are confronted by her husband, who intimates that he has been a silent witness of all that has happened. He is shot and severely wounded by Lavelle, whose flight is prevented, and he is handed over to the police. He escapes, however, and with the notes in his possession reaches his own house. He is followed by Ena, whom he insults. She, in a moment of uncontrollable passion, fells him to the floor with a club, and quits the house, believing that she has killed him. But Wilson, Allen's private secretary, has a long-standing account to settle with Lavelle, having suffered a term of imprisonment for a crime committed by that gentleman. Finding that the man he hates is not dead, Wilson proceeds to deliberately murder him. Ena makes a full confession to her husband, and then leaves his house; but he subsequently learns from Wilson who really killed Lavelle. Mr. Frederick Maxwell plays the part of Andrew Allen with much feeling combined with dignity of demeanour in the midst of unmerited misfortune. Mr. Charles Levey as Robert Lavelle is a handsome villain, and acts with much intensity and power. Mr. Gerald Blake also embodies the secretary, Wilson, with commendable earnestness. Miss Lois du Cane is excellent as Ena; and minor characters are well sustained by Mr. Sam Harcourt and Mr. William Clare.

Amongst the most important engagements this week is that of Miss Daisy James, the favourite comedienne, who sings "Just the same as me" in a delightfully piquant style. She also introduces her "Gibson Girl" ditty with the most successful results. The Sisters Lytton are youthful duettists, who sing "Love's dream is o'er" and "Il Bacio" with pleasing effect; and another vocalist who meets with success is Miss Alice Blandford. She scores with "Sing me to sleep" and another popular item, "All the world to me." Mr. Frank Cass sings "How long will you be?" in good style, and then gives a capital song called "Vanity Fair." Mr. Frank Seeley is correctly described as an eccentric comedian; and Mr. John E. Coyle soon becomes a favourite with his amusing patter. The Elvio Comedy Trio are responsible for some smart work in the acrobatic absurdity entitled *Those Troublesome Slaveys.* Other notable turns include Miss Lily Esplin, comedienne; Terris and Bewley, comedians and whistlers; the Sisters Valli, in a musical and dancing act; Mr. Tod Lowen, eccentric comedian; and the Eight Goldflakes, comediennes and dancers. Mr. T. S. Dickie has an energetic assistant-manager in Mr. Maurice Volny.

CAMBERWELL EMPIRE.

Mr. Jesse Sparrow and Mr. Harry Bawn are reaping the reward of their spirited policy here by viewing "twice nightly" crowded audiences. In the current week's bill are Leslie and Anson, who are appearing in a duologue, entitled *The Cat's Eye,* from the resourceful pen that wrote *The Lady and the Parson.* In *The Cat's Eye,* a newly-married husband complains of the monotony of the honeymoon, and his pretty wife overhears him on the telephone expressing his regret to a chum that he cannot join him at the "Leger," and asking him whether the cat's-eye ring (the chum's gift to him) possesses the power of hypnotism. On being assured that it does, he determines to try its powers on his wife, but she is prepared. On his presenting her with the cat's eye, she feigns the hypnotic state, and not only makes things lively, but leads the husband to suppose she has many admirers. He becomes nearly distracted, but when quite contrite and submissive, she reveals to him her ruse. Most of the work falls on the lady's shapely shoulders, and she possesses a fund of humour. The husband also merits warm praise for a finished performance.

Mr. Harry Rogerson and his company of comedians, in the extravaganza, *Herne the Hunter,* have an amusing admixture of musical comedy and pantomime, which was fully noticed in these columns last week. Miss Lilian Doreen is responsible for a cultured rendering of "The Bonnie Brier Bush," which she supplements by a pretty ballad, "The dear little boy next door," and the excellent march-time ditty, "My Queen of Old Samara." Los Granadas, in a pretty set scene, give a novel, daring, and skilful parallel bar performance, which wins them hearty approval. Mme. Collard demonstrates complete mastery over her massive boarhounds, who, in their "wild animal burlesque," are docile and obedient. Ruby Aston, looking chic in her tasteful costumes, sings two good songs, "The Goose and Gander," and "All through a little bit of lace." Miss Nell Richardson is another comedienne who hits the tastes of the audience, being bewitching in a white wintry costume, in which she gives point and expression to her song, "Snowflakes." Another pretty number is "I know you'll dream of me." The Clarion Trio are good dancers; Fred Harrison is decidedly quaint in his songs, "I didn't get there in time," and "The Chinee Washerman"; and the Empire animated pictures are, as always, interesting. The popular acting-manager is Mr. Percy Ford.

MR. EDWARD H. DOBSON.

Mr. Edward H. Dobson, who had been manager of the Shepherd's Bush Empire from the opening

Photo by Nesbitt.

MR. E. H. DOBSON.

of that place of amusement until a few months ago, was on Saturday last given a benefit concert. The performance, which took place at the City of London Volunteer Drill Hall, Wood-lane, Shepherd's Bush, was organised by a number of prominent local people as a mark of esteem for the bénéficiaire. The function was well attended, there being present many of the most influential residents, including Mr. and Mrs. Stafford Northcote and Mr. and Mrs. Sutton. A capital programme was presented, the artists including Mr. R. Lloyd Morgan, Cedar and Elgar, and Master and Miss D'Elvo, in a sketch, entitled *Huntsman and Milkmaid.*

THE BEDFORD.

Mr. B. Pearce Lucas's later development of his enterprise at Bristol and on the South Coast seems to have enabled him to add to the attractiveness of the Bedford programmes, which invariably contain names of budding and promising artists. The hall at Camden Town indeed serves as a nursery of talent, and the turns winning their spurs there almost invariably possess ability that gains the suffrages of a larger public. Miss Alice Rossiter, who is termed a vaudeville artist, comes from America, and has all the energy and grace that distinguish the dancers of that country. She sings a most melodious number which we may call "I have no use for you, Mr. W.," and is loudly applauded.

The Maxim Trio justify their engagement by the novelty of their equilibristic performance and their juggling. The chief of them is responsible for a pretty trick, by which he supports a tripod table on the top of three cricket stumps, which in their turn find their base in the hollow of an inverted champagne magnum. The youngster of the three has a capital idea of clowning, and could certainly play a part. He and his more serious partner are also good acrobats. A comic singing turn that is quite in accordance with the tastes of the Bedfordians is contributed by Mr. W. J. Churchill, who states in his principal number that "If it wasn't for the men girls wouldn't be wanted at all." In his second item his remarks intensely amuse the fairer half of the audience.

The chief stars do not shine at the Bedford, but their lustre is reflected in excerpts from their répertoires given by Mr. Sid May in his capital series of imitations, which includes George Robey, Wilkie Bard, Harry Lauder, and Gus Elen—the last a strikingly correct copy. Cyrus Dare, in the early part of the evening, is responsible for some clever imitations of children; Max Duffek, who entertains as a musical contortionist, plays the autoharp with his feet round his neck; Bishop and Vale as humourists combine knockabout business of a fairly vigorous kind with cross-talk, and the mixture is a decidedly happy blend. The Bishop is anything but a solemn personage, and his partner has much too jolly a face to be regarded as a Vale of tears—unless they are those which result from the heartiest laughter.

It is very encouraging to note the hearty reception given by the Camden Town folk to the operatic episode *The Romany King,* the libretto of which is written by E. C. Matthews and the music composed by Clement Locknane. "His Majesty" in this case boasts no other throne than the gnarled root of an old oak, no palace but that walled by the forest trees, no roof but the canopy of heaven. As an Ishmaelite he scorns the effeminacy of the house-dweller, but he would not be worthy of his Oriental blood did he not yield to the tender passion. He has wooed and won Cynthia, a maiden of his tribe, who, however, is not altogether insensible to the flattering attentions of a certain Count Castilian. This scion of the aristocracy is urging the girl to fly with him in preference to marrying a chicken-stealer, when his highness, the wayside monarch, interrupts the *tête-à-tête.* A short struggle, in which the Count is disarmed and thrown to the ground, results, and Cynthia intervenes to prevent bloodshed and to assist in the final quartet. Mr. Lemprière Pringle makes an imposing and picturesque figure of "the Romany King," and his fine voice is heard to advantage in the music of his part. Miss Beatrice Edwards makes a delightful Cynthia, and sings with much brio and command of technique a difficult solo. Mr. J. C. Piddock, an excellent actor, is responsible for a good rendering of the Count. The sketch is well mounted. Other turns in the bill are contributed by Fred Clements and the Sisters Lee. Mr. A. F. Lovesey is a popular manager here.

DUCHESS, BALHAM.

A capital and well varied programme is being presented here this week, and the house on the evening of our visit presented a most animated appearance, standing room only being the order throughout. At the top of the bill are Messrs. Herbert Darnley and company in their latest skit, entitled *Muscles; or, Muscular Development Personified.* Although this is certainly not the most successful sketch that this company has produced, yet as a laughter-maker it attains to what is required from it. It is simply a skit on the latest fad of muscular development. The scene is an up-to-date school of muscular development, and the "dramatis personæ" include a colonel, who wants to "develop," two muscular maidens, an inebriated swell, a giddy parson, an ancient "auntie," and an old-fashioned "kid." The representatives of all these characters work hard for the success of the piece, and the result is about fifteen minutes' hearty laughter from the audience and plenty of applause at the finish. Undoubtedly the success of the evening is Frank Seeley, and, judging by his hearty reception he must be a very great favourite in Balham. He has a couple of capital numbers, both of which he renders quite cleverly. The applause he earns is most hearty. Another pleasing turn is that of Barlee and Smith, who appear in an episode entitled *A Rehearsal.* The lady sustains the character of an aspirant for the stage, and the gentleman plays a theatrical agent. In a duet they describe various ways of making love. The plaudits they obtain are well deserved. Miss Queenie May, who describes herself as a "juvenile prize packet," does an interesting turn, singing a couple of songs, into the renderings of which she puts plenty of life. Fred Holland, a popular Surrey cricketer, has a flattering reception. His two numbers, "The Fireman" and "The British Flag," are sung with plenty of energy, and he is many times called before the curtain. Clarissa Talbot and Albert Pearce, in their song-scena *The Spider and the Fly,* appear to much advantage; and John Callan has some amusing patter. Dezmonti and Mora, in a triple bar act, are a couple of gymnasts well above the average. Their style is neat and graceful in the extreme, and they perform the most difficult feats with an ease that is surprising. The Ten Dixie Girls are paying a return visit here, and sing and dance with their usual *abandon.* A-Ba-Be is also making a return visit with the successful novelty the postcard album, and a pleasant two hours' enjoyment is brought to a conclusion with some capital pictures on the Bioscope. The orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Charles Longmaid, is heard to advantage in the overture from *The Country Girl.* Mr. Bertram C. Ross is *au fait* with his duties in the front of the house, in which he receives valuable assistance from his acting-manager, Mr. A. W. Deer.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 1,
Production of a New Sketch, entitled
"A CASE FOR RECISION."

Charles ..... MR. GEORGE ROWLANDS
Lucy ..... MISS ETHEL GRENFELL
Mrs. Skinner ..... MRS. BERNARD PARKER

Mrs. Skinner, a highly-respectable Mrs. Gamp, is expecting her new lady lodger, Lucy, who a moment later appears, and, fatigued with the journey, seeks solace in a sleeping draught. Anon a quarrel ensues between Mrs. Skinner and the new lodger, Lucy, who promptly quits the house. But Mrs. Skinner finds a fresh occupant for the room lately vacated by the lady. This proves to be none other than Charles, Lucy's husband. He confides to the audience that in three days he is to obtain his divorce, though he admits his impetuosity in the matter. Anon there is the usual recrimination, and all ends *comme il faut,* it being explained that the lady's alleged misconduct was the result of somnambulism, and that the niceties of divorce do not permit parties to resume friendly relations during the time proceedings are pending. *A Case for Recision* is a fair sample of its type, but needs excision, and will improve with quickening a bit.

Miss Ethel Grenfell did very well as Lucy; Mrs. Bernard Parker was droll as the landlady whose husband was a "virgin" at the local church; Mr. George Rowlands was excellent as Charles.

The programme opens with some cleverly-executed dancing by Freda Gordon, described quite aptly as a dainty dancer, and no one will grudge her the compliment, indeed, the audience seemed to be unanimous on the point, and applauded her efforts quite liberally. Messrs. Cedar and Elgar, who deputised, proved a couple of truculent triflers. Donned in Middle Age costume, they got quite a lot of fun out of a story connected with a noble knight and his horse who seemed to have been involved in no end of trouble. As a couple of wags Messrs Cedar and Elgar may be hard to beat. Ruby Holly won a full measure of applause for her captivating method of handling her song "Jack and Jill," and at once established herself as one of the favourites of the evening. Her other contribution, "Mary," in which she invites one of the audience to "come up and try a waltz" with her, met with a response that amused the house immensely. M. Slippere, a blind pianist, gave a marvellous exhibition of his skill, and managed to extract music from a concert grand in every conceivable position. One of his feats was to sing "Rock'd in the Cradle of the Deep" and to play the accompaniment with his hands behind him. Mr. Niblo, of Palace fame, should rejoice, for here is a gentleman who can do anything in the way not intended by nature, so far, at least, as the piano is concerned. M. Slippere proved himself as able a violinist as a pianist. He is "assisted" by Miss Ramsey. A capital orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. F. R. Kinkee, contributed greatly to the success of the evening, and a piccolo solo was applauded to the echo. Macdonald and Huntingdon harmonise prettily, sing, dance, and give a fair sample of American humour, the gem of their performance being a Yankee coster's love serenade; but Miss Huntingdon's imitation of an American soubrette was distinctly clever, and she deservedly won the favour of the audience. The trouble that arise from a certain old apple tree are naïvely told by Mr. Fred Dunston, who follows up his success with several yarns of varied ages. Those extraordinarily precocious, yet vastly amusing, kiddies, Haley's Juveniles, appear in a quaint *mélange,* and roused the enthusiasm of the house to that stage when applause is deafening; let it be said that the approbation was well won, for Haley's kiddies are not only clever, but remarkably well trained. They demonstrate this in quite a variety of ways; whether as bare-footed coon maidens, maypole revellers, or dainty vocalists they were refreshingly clever, and prove quite a novel and excellent turn. Vernon's Bioscope continues to attract to a very considerable degree, and, all things considered, Mr. Kay Draco can, metaphorically, shake hands with himself on the all-round attractiveness of this week's bill.

"A LOVELY LIAR."

Farcical Sketch, in One Scene, by Herbert C. Sargent, produced for the first time at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday, Oct. 1.

Harold Pontifex ..... RALPH NAIRN
William Blood ..... STRATTON MILLS
Grace Graham ..... MINNIE BLANCHARD

Droll in conception and treatment, the little piece above-named has met with the success it well merits. The person to whom the distinctive title refers is William, the office-boy of Harold Pontifex, solicitor. William arrives at the office lamenting the fact that unless he pays the two instalments of half a crown due on his bicycle which he has purchased on the "hire system," the machine will be impounded. The boy hits upon the idea of impersonating his master, and thus obtaining the necessary coin. He puts the scheme into practice, but, unhappily, the first visitor is Pontifex himself, who is about to take part in some amateur theatricals, and has donned a lady's frock. William mistakes his master for a client, and after proffering advice, demands his fée, whereupon his irate master pulls off his hat and wig and reveals himself to the boy, who is immediately discharged. William re-enters with the announcement that Miss Graham, his master's fiancée, has arrived, and Pontifex, still in his feminine habiliments, rushes out of the room, not, however, in time to prevent the young lady from catching a view of the retreating skirt. In his desire for revenge for being discharged, William encourages her in the belief that there is another lady in the room, and declares that Pontifex is a scoundrel of the blackest type, and has already a wife and family. Pontifex, on his return, is loaded with reproaches by his sweetheart, but he gives her the reason for his strange attire, and assures her that she has been misled. The solicitor being suddenly called away on urgent business, William puts on the female habiliments, and comes forth as the wife to whom he had alluded. He thus convinces Miss Graham of her lover's perfidy, and seizes his opportunity to borrow the needful five shillings; but Pontifex soon returns, and penetrating his office-boy's disguise, pulls off the skirt, revealing the unmistakable male habiliments beneath. Both comedians of the cast exerted themselves fully to cause merriment, and laughter was incessant throughout. Mr. Ralph Nairn presented an amusing picture of the much-harried solicitor, and spoke his lines with the utmost point. The resourceful William was invested with droll characteristics by Mr. Stratton Mills, who cut a most eccentric figure at the close. Miss Minnie Blanchard acted in a refined and pleasing manner as Grace Graham.

Another new sketch of the extravagantly farcical character was the "pantomimical perpetration, accompanied by the band," by Harry Leighton and George Everard, entitled *The Buskers.* The scene represents a country inn, the host of which has retired for peace and quietness. So satisfied is he of having secured that comfort that he sings a song in which his rural retreat is favourably contrasted with the "Bustle of London Town." He is soon, however, undeceived, for the next moment strange sounds are heard, and a couple of itinerant vocalists join inharmoniously in a "coon" ballad. A rival soon after appears in a seedy-looking conjurer, while later on a Punch and Judy show contributes to the disturbance. Meanwhile, a brewer's dray has arrived upon the scene, and the carman mounts a barrel and delivers a lecture on intemperance. A "masher" and an inebriated lady who endeavours to sing serve to swell the crowd, till at length the host of the inn, bewildered by all the noise and confusion, rushes out with a keg of gunpowder, with which he blows the Punch and Judy show to atoms. The sketch, which is produced under the personal supervision of Mr. Nelson Francis, the genial manager of the Empress, is riotously funny, and is taken in a properly boisterous fashion by "Keita's kompany of komical komedians."

CAICEDO

AT THE THEATRE ROYAL, HALIFAX.
A REMARKABLE PERFORMANCE.

"THEATRE ROYAL.—A remarkable performance on the slack wire should attract large crowds to the Theatre Royal this week. Don Juan Caicedo, immediately the applause occasioned by his appearance subsides, begins to jump on the wire in a most original fashion. The little Continental artist turns somersaults and double somersaults, then repeats the feat in boots and spurs, and finally goes through the performance again without his balancing pole. He even balances the back legs of a chair on the wire and stands on that."—*Halifax Daily Guardian,* Sept. 25, 1906.

THE condition of Mr. Fred Locke, the well-known pantomime librettist, shows no improvement. He is, in fact, weaker than ever, and requiring more constant attention. Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow, acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following additional subscriptions to the "Fred Locke Fund": *Beast and the Beauty* Co., per Bernard Mervyn, £1 10s.; Joseph Barker, 2s.

MR. TOM RYLEY, who is producing *The Belle of Mayfair* in the United States at the end of the current month, has had to injunct Shubert Bros. for using a colourable imitation of Leslie Stuart's admired number "Come to Saint George's."

To the Sixpenny Pops of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have been added Mr. Harry Lauder's "We parted on the shore," Mr. Walter Munroe's "I'm coming back to Dublin," and "Come back to Borneo."

MISS FLORRIE FORDE produced at the Royal, Oldham, on the 2nd inst., "Float me, Charlie!" for the first time. The success of this new number by Jerome and Schwartz was instantaneous and complete, the audience had the chorus "in once," and great applause was accorded the lady. It is published by Mr. David Day.

AMONG recent acquisitions which Messrs. Francis and Day are placing on the market may be mentioned "How do, Matilda McGee?" (Mellor, Gifford, and Lawrance), "Because it's the fashion to do so" (Searson and Frampton), and "On the Prom-tiddley-om-pom-pom" (Murphy and Lipton). Mr. George Lashwood will feature the latter.

MR. HAMILTON HILL'S latest song by Charles Hilbury and Fred Murray, with music by Orlando Powell, has been purchased by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter for publication. It is entitled "Baby in Dreamland."

SEASIDE PERFORMERS IN LONDON.

PIERROT MATINEE AT HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

One has frequently heard complaints from the lesser-known variety artists that they are unable to induce managers to give them a trial show; or, if they do get a trial show, they are not given adequate opportunities of displaying their talents. Had some of the grumblers sat in the Holloway Empire on Monday afternoon and noted the consideration given to the trial acts of the seaside performers by Mr. William Collins, who is Mr. Oswald Stoll's district-manager, they would certainly not have indulged in adverse criticism upon the methods by which artists are selected, but would have been inclined to praise Mr. Collins for his patience and the thorough attention he bestowed upon each item on the programme. From a few minutes after two o'clock, when the entertainment opened, until the curtain had fallen at a quarter past five upon the concluding sketch, Mr. Collins sat in the centre of the circle and carefully watched each performer. Most of them he engaged for a full Moss and Stoll tour. In the case of others, where he was not quite certain as to how they would be received by the public, he took into account the fact that in an almost empty house an artist failed to receive that measure of encouragement which means so much to the artistic temperament, and afforded them opportunities of showing what they could do before a full house by giving a week's trial. Nothing could be more fair-minded than this, and unknown artists who possess ability may rest assured that they have a good friend in Mr. Collins.

The audience on Monday afternoon was a very select and a very limited one. The performances were given by several pierrot teams who have been playing in various seaside towns in England this summer, but who had never before appeared in London. Nearly all gave evidence of considerable talent and suitability for music-hall work, and, judging by what passed before our eyes, two or three of the artists should make a name themselves in the halls of dance and song. Miss Flossie Behrens was the first to face the footlights. She was described as a whistler, soloist, and vocalist. Miss Behrens has the advantage of a good presence, and her whistling and singing, especially in the "Cuckoo" song, was distinctly commendable. Mr. Nelson Hardy, the ventriloquist, came next. He understands the difficult art of vocal deception, and if he were to cut down the conversation between himself and his little figure his turn would be all the more acceptable. As it was, it was praiseworthy, and particularly pleasing was the latter part of his act, in which his dummy is an old farmer, who sings and walks. Miss Nora Hayward had a catchy melody with "The Gay Parisienne," a song she rendered with appropriate spirit and vivacity. She was admired, too, in a tricky Spanish dance. An attractive show was furnished by Mr. Arthur J. Hill's "living marionettes." These figures resemble a certain style of cartoon in which famous men are made to appear with big heads attached to diminutive bodies. One sees Mr. Hill's head on the shoulders of a doll, the contrivance being cleverly worked. He first takes the character of a gay Piccadilly Johnny, and later as an amorous Scotsman, who sings the praises of a lassie from Bonnie Dundee.

Another performer whose efforts received the approval of the spectators was Mr. Fred Frampton, who proved hugely entertaining in a burlesque tragedy in which he enacted four different characters. Mr. Dennis Drew had charge of a troupe of nine boys, the whole party being uniformed in neat white drill suits. Mr. Drew, who is the fortunate owner of a powerful voice, sang with fine effect the song, "Come, my boy, and be a soldier." The verses are of the inspiring order, and, sung as they were to the accompaniment of exercises by the lads, the martial melody was intensified. A capital animal and bird impersonator was found in Mr. Sydney Locklynne, who treated us to characteristic vocal imitations of members of the lower creation, and also reproduced the sounds caused by musical instruments. Then we had from Mr. Fred Daniels an amusing dissertation on faces one sees in the street. The same gentleman was responsible for an able imitation of Mr. R. G. Knowles in his song concerning a boy, an apple, a Bible, and half-a-crown. Cedar and Elgar, in warlike costumes that were a strange mixture of periods contemporary with and antecedent to the time of Queen Elizabeth, made merry with a burlesque duologue about a brave knight and a fair lady. The only people who donned pierrot dress were the Catlin Troupe, whose songs and dances and distinctive "business" formed an extremely agreeable act. A somewhat original turn was that of Versatillo. A gentleman steps forward to the footlights and announces on behalf of the management that an artist is not quite ready to go on. A "Johnnie" in evening dress seated in the stalls jumps up and offers his services. He says he can sing and do a lot of wonderful things; and this is the way in which Versatillo appears. He has a droll manner, and renders a song, "It's a rather serious matter, don't you know," and he is, in addition, an agile individual and a skilful instrumentalist. Others who performed during the afternoon were Mr. Archie Anderson, character vocalist; Mr. Barrie Keay, Scotch comedian; Miss Luna Wickenden, vocalist; Little Daisy, dancer; Mr. Harold Lawrence, 'cellist; Mr. Gurney Russell, comedian; Mr. Paul Florus, xylophone player; and Miss Griffiths, vocalist.

VARIETY THEATRES AND RATES.

In view of the interest which has been created by Sir Albert De Rutzen's recent decision in the cases of the Westminster City Council v. the Lyceum and the same body v. the Coliseum, the following list of music halls and their rateable values is interesting. The particulars are taken from the latest returns issued by the London County Council, published in January, 1904:—

	£		£
Alhambra	4750	Hammersmith Palace	1688
Balham Empire	393	Holloway Empire	1375
Battersea Empire	563	*Islington Empire	6500
Bedford Palace	667	London Coliseum	
Britannia	842	London Hippodrome	3000
Camberwell Palace	458	London	1167
Cambridge	884	London Pavilion	4584
Canterbury	1788	Metropolitan	1918
Charing Cross Music Hall (including restaurant)	1000	Middlesex	667
Chelsea Palace	1250	New Cross Empire	780
Collins'	1500	Oxford	3459
Duchess Palace, Balham	584	Palace, Bow	400
Empire, Kilburn	500	Palace, Greenwich	550
Empire (late Montpelier), Walworth	209	Palace, Cambridge-Circus	5000
Empire, Leicester Square	5834	Paragon	1042
Empress, Brixton	459	Queen's, Poplar	550
Euston	1100	Royal (now Holborn Empire)	1418
Foresters'	830	Sadler's Wells	304
Gatti's (Road)	500	Sebright	278
Grand, Clapham Junction	1250	Shepherd's Bush Empire	1209
Granville	859	South London	1167
Hackney Empire	1800	Standard, Pimlico	1469
		Star, Bermondsey	484
		Surrey	1569
		Tivoli	3617

*Islington Empire—These premises form part of the Agricultural Hall, and the rateable value of £6500 refers to the whole building.

DR. BODIE AT BRIXTON.

The name of Bodie is a power alike in town and country, and the famous "bloodless surgeon's" return to the Metropolis this week has been heartily welcomed at the Empress by houses crowded to the doors. Fresh features of interest are imported into the amusing side of the demonstration which is now presented first. A committee of four is invited to come on the stage from among the audience, in order to test the genuineness of the experiments. Under their observation the Doctor charges himself with an enormous voltage of the current, and by means of the fluid sets light to a cigarette, makes a linen handkerchief burst into flame, and ignites a number of gas-burners with a banana which he holds in his hand. Fun is then made with the members of the committee, whose chairs suddenly become bewitched, while one of them, who is called upon to take part in a fencing bout with the Doctor, is obliged to drop his rapier in terror. Shocks in the auditorium are then administered by means of a long cord to which handles are attached and passed over to any member of the audience who cares to take hold. The fun thus aroused grows fast and furious, the agonised shouts of the venturesome persons who grasp the handles, causing shrieks of laughter.

Before proceeding with the more practical part of his business, in which he endeavours to cure persons afflicted with paralysis, Dr. Bodie said the question was often put to him, "Are the cures lasting?" He replied that he could guarantee a radical cure provided his instructions were followed, otherwise it was no fault of his if the patient relapsed. Before he took a case in hand, he must have the assurance that it had been discharged as incurable from the leading London hospitals. Sixty to seventy per cent. of hopeless cases, the Doctor continued, had been successful under his treatment. In proof of the stability of the cure, several late sufferers from paralysis appeared in person. The first was a girl of nineteen years, who had been paralysed from birth. It was a very bad case, well known in Brixton, and was treated at the Canterbury two years ago. Another was that of a young girl who had been a victim to the dread disease for sixteen years. She had been treated in 1904, and now appeared in the fulness of health to thank the Doctor publicly. She explained that she had been paralysed down the whole of one side, and she had only Dr. Bodie to thank for being able to be present that night. An effective finale was provided in a little child of four, who, previous to the Doctor's treatment, had never stood or walked, but now was able to sing and dance. The Doctor took no credit for having given her a voice, but he did claim to have restored the power of her limbs. In proof of her return to robust health, the little mite executed a "cake-walk," to the great delight of the spectators.

The Doctor's skill in "bloodless surgery" was demonstrated in two instances on the night of our visit. Both were extreme cases, one that of a young woman, living in the locality, who had been paralysed from birth. She was carried on in the stalwart arms of an attendant, and seated in a chair. A powerful magnet was passed over the limb, and the Doctor took hold of the foot which hung limp and helpless; then with a sharp wrench the joints were loosened, the magnetic current applied, and the patient was able to walk off the stage. The other case was that of a youth of fourteen, whose right arm, withered to the bone, swung lifeless at his side. The same process was gone through, and the boy lifted his arm, and, grasping a 7lb. dumb-bell, cast it on to the stage. When the applause had subsided, Dr. Bodie said he would allow any medical man to inspect the patients, and if any evidence of sub-cutaneous hæmorrhage was found, he was prepared to hand over a cheque for £1,000 to any local charity. No acceptance of the challenge was forthcoming, and the Doctor retired amid the usual manifestations of goodwill.

MISS MARIE LOFTUS

AT THE PALACE THEATRE, DERBY.

No less a variety stage celebrity than Marie Loftus is at the Palace Theatre of Varieties this week, and such being the case crowded houses are pretty certain to be the rule. Long as this most popular of London favourites has been before the public, there is no question about her still retaining the greatest public favour, and it was with evident delight that Derby people gathered last night to renew her acquaintance. Marie Loftus is no stranger to local patrons of the music hall, and in Derby as elsewhere she enjoys an enviable reputation. Flattering in the extreme was the reception given her at each of the initial evening's performances, which attracted thronged houses, and ever of generous disposition in responding to the wishes of her admirers she last night graciously complied with encore demands more than once, and at the close repeatedly came forward and acknowledged what was quite an ovation. Marie Loftus is one of the most versatile of comediennes, and in her latest success, "Singers—Past and Present," she has afforded herself full scope for the play of her talents. In her inimitable style she introduces a great variety of characters in this, and though each necessitates a change of attire—really ludicrous are some, especially the old-time crinoline, which is of alarming proportions—she succeeds in presenting one after another, with quick-change-artist-like ability, keeping the audience in a state of the highest glee. In addition to presenting "Singers—Past and Present," last evening, she sang "Imagination" and "How ashamed I was."—*The Express.*

The programme at the Palace Theatre of Varieties this week is distinctly above the average, and it was thoroughly enjoyed by two crowded houses last night. The star turn is no less a personage than the well-known Marie Loftus, who was accorded a most flattering reception. She has a very extensive répertoire to select from, and her impersonation of singers past and present was very much appreciated, whilst her imitation of the much talked of Gibson Girl was very amusing. She seems to have an endless store of subjects with which to amuse her audience, and she gave a side-splitting imitation of the heavy stage villain and heroine which tickled the audience immensely. Those present showed their appreciation by loudly demanding an encore, to which she responded with an Indian scena, which was also well received.—*Daily Telegraph.*

CRICKET—THEATRES v. HALLS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Would it be possible to arrange a cricket match for next season—Theatres v. Music Halls? I think it would undoubtedly be a success, and might be of considerable financial assistance to the charities of both the music-hall and the theatrical professions.

I have spoken to several influential music-hall managers on the subject, and they seem to think it an excellent idea. What think the powers of the theatrical world? Perhaps Mr. Aubrey Smith will enter into the spirit of the thing? At all events, if it can be arranged, the music-hall profession are ready and willing to meet the theatrical profession in a friendly contest, and Mr. Fred Raugh (Mr. Macnaghten's general-manager) will be pleased to hear from our theatrical friends on the subject. Communications should be addressed to the Foresters' Music Hall, E.—Yours faithfully,

J. H. BROWNSON.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

CHAT WITH MR. FRED MILLER.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Amid all the tumult of loud-voiced anticipations and prophecies as to the continued, and even increased, prosperity of music-hall companies about which we have heard so much recently, a gentle note of warning is struck by a gentleman whose position and experience entitle his statements to be regarded as significant. The gentleman we refer to is Mr. Fred Miller, the general manager of the Canterbury and Paragon music halls.

Says Mr. Miller, "Our programmes are getting more and more expensive, the salaries paid to artists having reached exceedingly high proportions. This state of things, combined with the ever-increasing rivalry of newly-erected halls, renders the managing-directors' task an Herculean one, to engage that public drawing talent which is yearly getting so difficult to obtain, and as the artists' salaries are ever increasing. I do not at all suggest that music halls are on the decline, or that there is evidence of the withdrawal of public support. On the contrary, what I desire to urge is that the, in many cases, excessive prices paid for 'turns,' the immense outlay necessitated by the County Council's requirements, and the fact of our having so many music halls nowadays, every suburb and every district being more than sufficiently represented by them, that the populations of the various districts are hardly numerous enough to fill every hall nightly, nor rich enough to support them, act as influences against the making of huge dividends by variety concerns."

And now to be a little more personal. Mr. Miller may be able to derive some little pleasure from the fact that he is the manager of the oldest music hall in London. The Canterbury was opened on May 17, 1852. In mediæval times its site was occupied by an inn from which pilgrims started on their way to Canterbury to worship at the shrine of Thomas à Becket. So much for the history of the hall. As to the history of the individual, it may be mentioned that fifteen years ago Mr. Miller was given an appointment on the staff of the Paragon in the capacity of treasurer to Mr. Arthur Tressider, then manager of the Mile End-road house. Subsequently Mr. George Adney Payne and his co-directors entrusted to Mr. Miller the management of the Paragon, Mr. Charles Beecham being called from the South London Palace to act as Mr. Miller's secretary. With Mr. Miller's appointment the Paragon embarked on a new lease of life, and the establishment steadily progressed in the esteem of the public. Good entertainments, discreet supervision of details, the creation of a very fine orchestra, and an ever-watchful personal attention to the promenade steadily operated to the benefit of the house, which in a comparatively short space of time became exceedingly popular.

During his term of office at the Paragon many notable productions were introduced to the footlights, among them being Dennis M'Carthy's *Cheer Up!* in connection with which, it may be

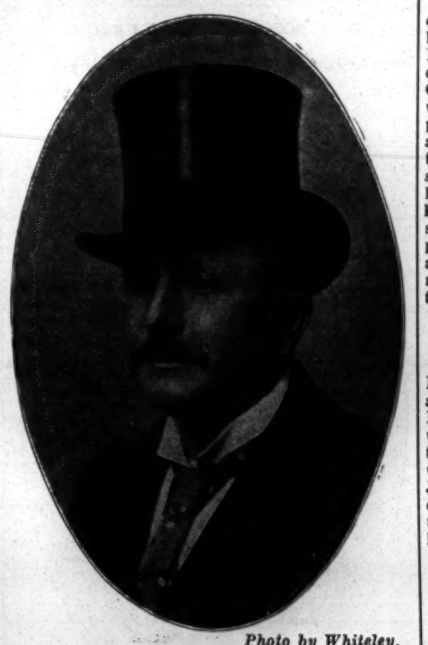

Photo by Whiteley.

MR. FRED MILLER.

remembered, a couple of bands performed on the stage. It was here, too, that Fred Karno produced his *Jail Birds*, Joe Elvin was first seen in *Toffy's Trotter* and *A Wrong House*, and Paul Martinetti brought out his sketch entitled *My Wife*; while Mr. A. C. Lilly's now famous dramatic military playlet, *Drummed Out*, received its first mark of public approval at this hall. Upon Mr. Fred Holden relinquishing the post of manager of the Canterbury Mr. Payne recommended to the directorate the selection of Mr. Miller as general manager of the Canterbury and the Paragon, a selection which was confirmed, and which, we venture to say, has been fully justified during the past six years. Since Mr. Miller took up the reins of government at the Canterbury the prices of admission have been cut down to suit the pockets of the patrons, and there has been a reconstruction of the stage as well as of the whole of the auditorium, which has given the greatest satisfaction all round. Both at the Canterbury and the Paragon Mr. Miller introduced the system of electrical advertisements without which a theatre nowadays is not complete.

Unquestionably the most memorable function associated with the history of Mr. Payne's Lambeth hall was the golden anniversary, which was celebrated in 1902. The late Mr. Charles Morton, who opened the Canterbury fifty-four years ago, was present on the occasion referred to, together with a rare congregation of the leading lights of the music-hall firmament and of famous literary and artistic people. Mr. Miller was for some time on the committee of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, but as he found he could not give that consideration and attention to the working of the Fund which he conscientiously believed was due from him as a committeeman, he resigned his seat on that body. As it is, there is more than sufficient to occupy his time and thoughts in the responsibilities and work involved in the general-managership of two of London's largest music halls.

The subject of this sketch hails from Gloucestershire, and is well known as a lover and a good judge of horses, his advice in this direction being frequently sought.

At the Palace-by-the-Sea, Clacton, on the 28th ult., a complimentary benefit was given to Mr. Henry Ford, the founder and builder, and, in addition to the ordinary bill, the following gave assistance:—Miss Vera Patey, Miss Fanny Emmerton, Miss Florence Munday, and Messrs. Edgar Curtis and Edgar Berte.

Miss Beatrice Kerr, another Australian lady swimmer, who has for some time past been giving daily exhibitions of diving and fancy swimming in the sea at the North Pier, Blackpool, has decided to stay the winter in England, as she is anxious to get used to the cold. Next summer she intends to make an attempt to beat the record for a lady staying in the sea in the Channel.

"THE BUSTLER OF BATH;" or, THE CRASH WITHOUT REASON."

A Folie Musicale, by H. G. Pelissier, Produced by the Follies, at the Tivoli, on Monday, Oct. 1.

The Duke of St. Vitus ..... Seymour Pelissier
Yours St. Cyrly ..... Maudi Mars
— Stick, Esq. ..... Lawrence Everard
A Railway Station Bun ..... Lily Walbrook
The Beauty of Bath ..... Ethaline Allandale
The Gibson Girl ..... Camille Sydney

The danger of burlesquing at a music hall well-known actors and actresses in successful plays lies in the unfamiliarity of variety audiences with the original performers or performances; but from the hearty laughter that punctuated the first representation on Monday by the Follies at the Tivoli of the burlesque *The Bustler of Bath; or, The Crash Without Reason*, it would seem that Mr. Seymour Hicks—whose methods are parodied by the author, Mr. Pelissier—and his plays are not caviare to the public finding its entertainment in our halls of mirth and melody. From the above title one naturally expects humorous references to both *The Catch of the Season* and *The Beauty of Bath*, and when the curtain lifts a staircase rears its head just by a pillar, to remind one of the youngest actor-manager's fondness for staircases in his mounting of musical plays. The first scene of the humorous trifle is nevertheless labelled "a bun shop," which of course it does not in the least resemble. The opening chorus of "Gibson buns" is headed by "Camille Sydney. When someone mispronounces her name, "Lewis" protests, "Don't call me camel; it's Edna May who has got the hump." Soon after Mr. "Seymour Pelissier" enters in a hurry and rushes up and down the stage to such an extent that he is termed a To-and-Fro(h)man. He is the Duke of St. Vitus—with a dance; but his exhibitions of fearsome energy are interrupted by the photographer, who complains that he is sold out of picture post-cards. Then do Mr. Seymour Pelissier and Miss Ethaline Allandale pose for a domestic picture with a doll placed between them. Dainty Miss Ethaline has a couple of topical songs. In the second act, in which the positions of the staircase and pillar are shifted from the p. to the o.p. side of the stage, Miss Maudi Mars, as Yours St. Cyrly, complains that she has to sing her song before the men have come up from the bars, confessing that she would not have had a song at all had not a great friend of hers been financing the play. The number "Make a Noise" promises to be one of the hits of the sketch. Here is a sample of its sarcasm:—

My dear, delightful darlings, though the pace may kill,
If I didn't keep you dancing, and you sat quite still,
The public couldn't start at your expensive underwear,
And then the poor old theatre wouldn't fill, fill, fill.

Mr. Pelissier's avoidupois is necessarily not concealed in his disguise as Mr. Seymour Hicks, but the make-up is decidedly clever nevertheless. Mr. Lewis Sydney as Camille has a decidedly droll conception of the willowy grace of the Dana Gibson female. Mr. Lawrence Everard is fitted with a part (— Stick, Esq.) which recalls his performance of the Baron in the pantomime skit; and Miss Lily Walbrook, to whose name is affixed the letters of the postal district E.C., plays the small part of a Railway Station Bun. As a preliminary to the skit the Follies present their well-known musi-comedy entertainment, which is always sure of a good reception. The best item of these prefatory "notes" is the refrain of the contented and podgy Teuton, who finds that the shekels flow more readily into his pocket on British soil than they do in "The Fatherland." The refrain runs:—

My fatherland, my fatherland,
I never more shall see;
I don't go back to Germany,
This is the place for me.

Mr. Grossmith was responsible some years ago for a similarly constituted song. In the above effusion Mr. Pelissier highly distinguishes himself, and would be certain of an engagement as a single turn if he could always find such amusing numbers wherein to display his talents as a comedian. Mr. Joseph Wilson, the manager, may be congratulated on his special engagement; and the Tivoli is just the house for what we may term "cabinet burlesque."

THE BARRING CLAUSE.

INCIDENT AT THE PARAGON.

The audience at the Paragon on Monday evening received something in the nature of a surprise when Mr. Charles Beecham, the manager, stepped before the footlights and informed them that no fewer than six turns which had been previously announced were prevented from appearing in consequence of an injunction which had been obtained against them by a rival music-hall company. The artists who were thus barred were Miss Marie Lloyd, the Poluskis, Miss Jessie Preston, Miss Maidee Scott, Mr. Ernest Shand, and Orpheus, and it will be readily understood that such names formed a not insignificant portion of the programme. The management, of course, did their best under the extraordinary circumstances, and with the aid of the telephone secured a number of attractive acts from other of the halls in Mr. Payne's syndicate. The substituted items were furnished by Winter and McGinty, ventriloquists; Lily Burnand, comedienne; T. Finglass, coon delineator; Harry Purcell; the Musical Howards; Miss Maud Esmond; Mr. Percy Honri; and the Courtiers, the well-known vaudeville entertainers. These turns proved highly agreeable, so that whilst the audience did not see what they had bargained for, they nevertheless departed in a satisfactory frame of mind.

Both Mr. Beecham and the injuncted artists were for the time being placed in an extremely awkward position, for the legal documents were not served upon them until about a couple of hours before the curtain was raised at the Paragon; and, indeed, some only received their injunctions just when they were starting in their broughams in order to do their first turn. The quarrel, it appears, was really between the London Music Hall, Shoreditch, and the Paragon, and the issuing of the injunctions by the London management was, as will shortly be seen, a case of "a Roland for an Oliver." Last week the management of the Paragon obtained an injunction against Mr. John Lawson preventing his appearance at the Shoreditch establishment, which is about 1½ miles away. In self-defence the London management felt compelled to retaliate, and so Mr. Walter Payne, instructed by Mr. Philip Rutland, made an application to Mr. Justice Bargrave Deane, the Vacation Judge, for an injunction, which his lordship granted, against all those artists on the Paragon bill who were under contract to appear at the London.

The London Music Hall Co., Ltd., and the "R.B." Syndicate, Ltd., applied to Mr. Justice Bargrave Deane on Thursday for the continuation of the interim injunctions granted on Monday against Miss Marie Lloyd, Mr. Ernest Shand, Miss Jessie Preston, The Poluskis, and Orpheus (Mr. Ben Sylvester), to restrain them from appearing at the Paragon. Mr. William H. Burney, managing-director of the London, said that a clause in Miss Lloyd's contract provided that she should not perform at any music hall, theatre, club, concert hall, or institute within a mile and a half of the London prior to the beginning or during the continuance of her engagement at the latter place. She insisted, however, on appearing at the Paragon, and the other artists mentioned also performed there. The summonses were adjourned, and the interim injunction was continued.

COPYRIGHT CONVICTIONS.

The first conviction under the new Musical Copyright Act was made on the 28th ult., when James Munro, newsvendor, of Strutton-ground, Westminster, was charged at Marlborough-street Police-court with selling a copy of, and exposing for sale copies of, pirated music. Prisoner was found selling pirated music on his stall in Great Pulteney-street by E. W. Church and A. Preston, agents of the Music Publishers' Association, of Regent-street. He sold them a copy of the "Trumpeter" song for 4d., and said that the copies, which were pirated, were getting scarce. He offered to let them have any copies of other pirated music that were not on his stall. He said that the new Act came into force in January.

Mr. Kennedy: Ah! that's where he was mistaken, it was Aug. 4.

Prisoner said he did not know it had come into force, or he would not have stood there. He was only minding the barrow for the owner, who had gone to dinner.

Munro was fined 40s. or fourteen days, the magistrate announcing his intention of increasing the fine to £5 in the next case brought before him.

Before Mr. Paul Taylor, at Marylebone, on Monday, William Jackson, 20, of Kensal-road; George Burns, 22, with no home; and William Lovell, 25, of Denmark-road, were charged with having in their possession and offering for sale 165 copies of pirated music.

Agents of the Musical Copyright Association found the prisoners in the High-road, Kilburn, offering for sale copies of well-known musical productions for 2d. or 4d. a copy, the net price of which at a shop would be 2s. or more.

In reply to the magistrate, the agent said this pirated music was supplied by a printer to a wholesale firm who distributed it to such men as the prisoners, who sold it.

The defence set up by the prisoners was that they did not know the recent Act of Parliament had come into force.

Having been told that all the prisoners had been in this class of trade for a long time, Mr. Paul Taylor remarked that he regarded the dealing of the prisoners as nothing less than trading in stolen property. He fined each of them £5, or one month's imprisonment.

Mr. Arthur Preston, an agent of the Music Publishers' Association, attended before Mr. Hopkins, at Lambeth, on Monday, to prosecute several men who had been caught offering pirated music for sale in the streets. There were six defendants in all, and with one exception (in which the prisoner was ordered to pay the mitigated penalty of 20s. in view of the fact that he was only minding the stall for the actual owner) they were each fined 40s. with the alternative of a month's imprisonment.

To one man, apparently of better education than the rest, but who, like the others, pleaded ignorance of the law, Mr. Hopkins remarked, "I guarantee that you know perfectly well that the Act was passed to shut you people up. It will certainly do so. Upon the next conviction you will be liable to imprisonment without a fine."

The copies of music seized from the men were confiscated.

At Greenwich, on Monday, John Harrison, 24, of Bethnal Green, was charged, before Mr. Baggallay, with selling and having in his possession at East Greenwich sixty-six copies of pirated music.

Police-constable Woolner, 45 R R, said the prisoner called at a house and offered music for sale. Asked if he had any pirated music for sale, he said, "Yes, it is all pirated except one copy." He said he was not aware the new Act was in force.

Frank Mabe, agent to the Music Publishers' Association, said sixty-five copies were pirated.

The Prisoner: I would not have bought the music only I didn't know the new Act was in.

Mr. Baggallay: The new Act came in force on Aug. 4.

The Prisoner: I was down in the country.

Mr. Baggallay: You have had a long holiday. I am afraid the law does not recognise such a long holiday. You and other persons who sell this music are liable to a penalty of £5. After that you are liable to two months without a fine, or to a fine. So now you know the law. Just to enforce it, and to remind you of the law, I will fine you 40s., or 21 days.

John Nixon, 30, of St. Luke's, was also charged at Greenwich with the possession of pieces of pirated music, 116 in number. He pleaded ignorance of the law.

Mr. Baggallay: Have you been away, too?

"No," said the prisoner; "I ain't sold any music for a long time. I sell postcards as well."

The prisoner was fined 40s., or 21 days.

Edward Adams was charged, on Tuesday, before Mr. Mead, with selling pirated music.

Henry Cooper, agent for the Music Publishers' Association, said he saw defendant with a stall in High-street, Whitechapel, offering a large quantity of music for sale. Much of it was pirated music, and he gave Adams into custody, under the Copyright Act, 1906. Defendant then said, "Well, Mr. Cooper, you know me. Don't be hard on me. Take my name and address, and let me go." On the stall were 167 pirated copies of different songs.

Defendant said he thought the new Act would not yet be in force, but he meant to discontinue selling pirated music. He hoped the magistrate would deal leniently with him.

Mr. Mead said he certainly would not do so, and rejoiced to see the Act passed, so that the nefarious trade could be stopped. He would be fined £3, or one month's hard labour.

For a similar offence Edward C. Regg, who admitted his copies of music were "duds," was ordered to pay 20s. or ten days.

Thomas Young had to pay 40s., or sixteen days, for a like offence.

"THE SCARECROW."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—*Re* Miss Bessie Butt's letter to you concerning a song anent the above, I would like to say that I wrote a song on this subject, and introduced it into my play *Great Temptations* as far back as January, 1900. I trust the two songs do not clash.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES CARTE

Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, Oct. 1, 1906.

FOOTBALL.

Bristol X.L.C.R. 2nd A.F.C. v. Shaftesbury Albions A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, Saturday, Sept. 22. During the first half of the game A. Lintern, of Shaftesbury Albions A.F.C., was injured, and had to retire, and E. Bowman (of Harry Hare's Orchestral Band A.F.C.) took his place. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. 2nd A.F.C.—B. Davies, goal; F. Thorne and B. Moore, backs; F. White, F. Austin, and H. Taylor, half-backs; A. English, E. Poole, A. Cox, E. Belding, and H. Clements, forwards.

Shaftesbury Albions A.F.C.—F. Horner, goal; G. Wills and H. Cummings, backs; A. Lintern, F. Groves, and F. Allen, half-backs; E. Collings, G. Adams, A. Hale, B. Tucker, and A. Edwards, forwards. Referee, L. Clayton; linesmen, W. J. Horton and B. Austin.

Result: Bristol X.L.C.R., 1; Shaftesbury Albions, 3 goals. A. English, A. Hale, and F. Groves (2) scored for their respective sides.

LIL HAWTHORNE.

GREAT SUCCESS IN LIVERPOOL.
OLYMPIA.

I would go far to see and hear an artist of the high abilities of Lil Hawthorne. I would even go farther than that if I couldn't get to listen to her any nearer. When one contrasts the refinement of methods, the high standard of ability, and the refreshing quality of the artist, as exemplified in Lil Hawthorne, with the shuddering, raucous, and "rorty" banalities of the female star of the long, long since, one gets a sharp, clear impression of the advancement in tone and wholesome excellence of the modern palace of varieties.

It is artists of the calibre of

LIL HAWTHORNE AND VESTA TILLEY

who have made the present-day music hall possible to the million. Who have drawn within its portals the well-living middle class, to whom at one time the music hall was only the resort of those a good deal

LOWER THAN THE ANGELS.

Now, bless us and save us, Darby tucks Joan's arm in his, and toddles off in his thousands to the Palaces and Empires with as much regularity and excellence of character and feeling as he goes to church. And, listening to Lil Hawthorne's delightful vocalism, and eyeing her equally agreeable presence, Darby nudges Joan and offers the opinion with a good-humoured chuckle that "Yon's a bonny 'un, and a pleasure to listen to. I'm glad we come, missus."

Lil submitted to us three songs, all with a singular

AFFINITY TO EACH OTHER.

The first was the affecting love story of a young lady who sang all day under a cactus tree. This, it appears, was her residence, and the only home she had. Draughty, to say the least of it, and one shudders to think of the complication of complaints she was liable to contract in wet weather, to say nothing of the prickly nature of her domicile.

The next ditty was given us as a glorified gipsy young gentleman in velvet and "shorts." This picturesque youth had a whole caravan to lay at the feet of "Rosie," with a canary, mind you, to beguile her waiting moments, what time the young gipsy was robbing the neighbouring hen roosts. Anyhow, the caravan was a decided advance on the castus tree, for Lil assured us that it was

"Snug and cosy for Rosie Posie,"

The next capped both, for the street urchin, in which character the artist next appeared, had absolutely nothing to offer his donah but a doorstep.

There was no walls,
And there was no chairs;
There was no roof,
And there was no stairs.

but only a humble doorstep. Well, to take your bride home and offer her the fascinating allurements of a doorstep as a bridal chamber seems no catch. Yet the advantages of it enshrined in a gush of true love seemed so seductive and engaging as sung by Lil Hawthorne, that, carried away by its sentimental character, the sympathetic audience seemed anxious to rush out into West Derby-road and its by-streets and take forcible possession of all the doorsteps they could seize, and start an ardent billing and cooing there and then.

Liverpool Press, Sept. 15, '06.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, AUG. 28.—Mr. Charles Holloway withdrew *Bleak House*, in which his daughter Beatrice made so firm an impression as Jo, in favour of *Shadows of a Great City*, on the 25th. In this revival, the chief impersonation is the Biddy Roonan of Mr. J. P. O'Neill. This clever actor, with whom your correspondent was associated in the early seventies, has a rich Hibernian flavour in all his work. His physique lends itself to portraying stout old women, and in this play he scores heavily. Tom Cooper, A.B., gives Mr. Robert Norman a chance at sailor-hero portraiture, and he is at home here. Miss Ethel Apperton as the heroine adds strength to the cast. Miss Beatrice Holloway makes Nellie Standish a sweet, attractive girl, her love scene being particularly good. Mr. Godfrey Cass—always careful—makes Benson sufficiently hard and callous; and Miss Hilda Fraser plays the fiery landlady to the life.

MISS TITTELL BRUNE finishes her *Dorothy Vernon* season at Her Majesty's on the 31st, and then goes with Mr. J. C. Williamson's dramatic company to New Zealand, returning here for the Christmas production of *Parsifal*, by the Rev. Hillhouse Taylor, at Her Majesty's. On Sept. 1 Mr. Williamson's Gilbert and Sullivan répertoire company will produce *Utopia, Limited*, for the first time in Sydney. The season will last for three weeks.

MR. HARRY RICKARDS provides the Tivoleans with such strong bills of fare that it would seem impossible to further strengthen them. Fancy an Antipodean audience getting in one programme Florrie Henderson, with dogs and monkey, Les Cabiacs, Seymour and Dupré, Alexander and Bertie, Kelly and Agnes, Tom Dawson, Vasco, Alf Chester, Nita Leete, Maud Faning, Olive Lenton, Victor Kelly, Baby Watson, George Bentley, Lizette Parkes, Howard Hall, Alice Lane, and Arthur Elliott, and then wanting more! But Mr. Rickards has this week added the greatest of sensations in La Moto Girl. This clever lady astonishes all.

MR. EDMUND HOLLOWAY died on the 18th. He was the oldest actor in Australia, having played such parts as William, in *Black-eyed Susan*, in the fifties A man of fine physique and stentorian voice, he was known as a conscientious actor, a great favourite with everybody, and at least eighty-five years old. He acted up to the very last in Mr. Alfred Dampier's company, his strongest part being the cannibal felon, Gabbett, in *The Term of His Natural Life*.

MELBOURNE, AUG. 28.—The Princess's Theatre was crowded on Saturday evening, when Mme. Blanche Arral gave the final operatic recital of the present season. This popular artist was accorded a most enthusiastic reception.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. Geo. Tallis).—*The Little Michus* continues to attract large audiences, and on Saturday evening there was not a vacant seat. Miss Alma Barber is exceptionally good, and her singing of "Dearest sister" nightly evokes great applause. The opera is beautifully mounted, and the orchestral work exceptionally good.

OPERA HOUSE (Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon).—Little Cliff continues prime favourite, his remarkably clever singing and dancing nightly meeting with genuine approval. Augustin and Hartley have added to their already very clever performance with barrels; Miss Cassie Walmer has introduced some new songs; Blake and Granby fairly bring down the house with their amusing farce, *He, She, and It*; while Elsie Brown, Nellie Kilburn, Fred Bluett, Tim Howard, and a host of other artists, contribute pleasing turns.

MR. EDWIN H. LIMMER is the new acting-manager of the London Shoreditch, and he has already established himself a firm favourite by means of his energetic efforts in front.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces

MR. JAMES CHAPPELL.

Mr. James Chappell, who is now in his seventy-seventh year, has had a most interesting and varied experience, as artist, manager, and managing-director and proprietor. It was at the early age of fourteen that he left home to join a troupe of travelling acrobats, accompanying Nelson Lee at the Standard and Ealing Theatres. After staying with this troupe for some time, he accepted an engagement with Mr. Benjamin Conquest, father of Mr. George Conquest, at the old Garrick Theatre, Whitechapel. When he had fulfilled a pantomime engagement, young Chappell joined a good all-round dramatic stock company at the old Effingham Saloon. Change of management, however, brought about the disbandment of the company, and Mr. Chappell, who was by this time a most accomplished pantomimist, accepted an engagement with Mr. Charles Freer at the Albert Music Hall, Shepherdess-walk, City-road, an establishment that has long disappeared. It was here that Mr. Chappell struck out a new line of business with performing dogs in dramatic pieces. In 1851 he left London to fulfil an engagement with Mr. T. Burton, of the Manchester Casino. About this time there were no fewer than five or six theatres and music halls at which *The Dumb Man of Manchester* was being played. In this noted piece of its day Mr. Chappell took the part of the hero. Mr. Chappell proved so excellent an exponent of his *rôle*, in a play founded on a factory story, that he not only played it with distinction at Manchester, but also in Bradford for Mr. Pullen, and in Leeds for Mr. J. Hobson.

During his tours Mr. Chappell appeared in almost every town in England, in theatres, circuses, and music halls. It was in Liverpool, while playing clown with Mr. Copeland at the Royal, that the late Mr. John Douglass, who was paying a visit, engaged him for the New Pavilion Theatre, London, to produce a pantomime and play clown, in 1859-60.

Some little time later Mr. Chappell became lessee of the Pavilion, and there he produced all the best dramas of the day, such as *The Dead Heart*, with Ben Webster and his company from the Adelphi Theatre, as well as the favourite pantomimes and English operas of the day. He also engaged the original Moore, Ritter, and Crocker Minstrels from the Polytechnique in King William-street, Strand, which afterwards became Toole's Theatre, these minstrels later on bearing the famous name of the Moore and Burgess. His last appearance on any stage was with Pyne and Harrison, at Her Majesty's Theatre. They engaged him as clown, in a pantomime called *The Lion and the Unicorn*. Subsequently Mr. Chappell became managing-director of the Cambridge Music Hall, London, which had just been built by Mr. Nugent, and he held that appointment for eleven years. Mr. Charles Greville was musical-director, under Mr. Chappell's management, and Mr. W. Knowles filled the chair, a post that he occupied for nearly a quarter of a century. When the Brothers Abrahams sold the Queen's Palace, Poplar, to a company in the spring of the year 1888 Mr. James Chappell became a large shareholder, and eventually was appointed managing-director, a position he relinquished on the purchase of the hall by Messrs. Tom Maltby, Wicks, and Williams.

On his retirement Mr. Chappell was accorded, on March 17, 1897, a complimentary benefit, which was very happily timed by being held on the same day as the fiftieth anniversary of his marriage. Such an auspicious event as the golden wedding of an old servant of the public, we may be quite sure, was not allowed to pass without several handsome and costly gifts from Mr. Chappell's numerous friends, which were presented to him on the stage of the Queen's by Mr. Henri Gros.

Mr. Chappell has for the last thirty years presented the attractive variety entertainments upon Yarmouth beach which are familiarly known as "Chappell's Ring." Their importance has increased in the ratio that Yarmouth has become more attractive to the excursionist and the holiday-maker, and they take rank now with the very best outdoor popular promenade concerts which can be found. During his more leisured years Mr. Chappell has taken the keenest interest in all the professional funds. He has been a most sympathetic supporter of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and also of the Music Hall Home Fund. When he retired from active business he chose Yarmouth as his home, and has resided there during the past six years. Mr. Chappell has taken an active interest in many of the local undertakings, and joined heartily in the town's sports and social activities.

L.C.C. AS AMUSEMENT CATERERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—On Sept. 22 the Chairman of the Parks Committee writes that my statement that music-hall artists have been approached with a view to singing in the parks and town halls is a narration which leaps from a "super-heated brain." While I accept Mr. Sankey's disavowal, so far as his knowledge goes, I am bound to say that my information comes to me from such a reliable source that I cannot entirely discard it. But whether that be so or not, the fact remains that the Council are about to seek Parliamentary powers to give indoor concerts and to add vocal entertainments to the bands in the parks, to unfairly compete with their constituents, ratepayers, and those whom they license. It is on that subject that I desire to awaken public opinion.

Mr. Sankey further states that I violently abused the Council. I scarcely think, Sir, that I would venture to send a letter to the Press which contained violent abuse. I have written strongly on behalf of those whose interests I represent in this case, but withal courteously, and with justification, I hope.

My nationality is further discussed by the Chairman of the Parks Committee, though I think this is scarcely interesting to the public. If it is a crime to be a Frenchman, I plead guilty to being the son of a very excellent and good Frenchman, and thus I am of French extraction; but it does not follow, as Mr. Sankey has it, that all Frenchmen are imaginative. I know several Frenchmen who are cool, practical, and collected, and I also know some Englishmen who are imaginative, and even some of my friends at Spring Gardens are "purely" imaginative, especially when they approach the public entertainment question. To reassure Mr. Sankey, I have personally arrived at that time of life when imagination has long since receded in the background, to make room for the stern reality of solid facts.

It may be unwise of the members of the London Entertainments Protection Association to have paid me the compliment of electing me as their president six years in succession, but then my members are not County Councillors, and consequently they are not infallible; and now that Mr. Sankey has pointed out their grievous mistake they no doubt will see the error of their ways, and not offend in future in this direction.

—Yours faithfully,
HENRI GROS,
President of the London Entertainments Protection Association,
1, Durham House-street, Strand,
Sept. 23.

THE Three Gilbert Girls, charming vocalists and dancers, have an excellent number in "Would you like to flirt with us?" which is enthusiastically received.

NEW EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Great enthusiasm was displayed in Sunderland on the afternoon of the 29th ult., when Miss Vesta Tilley journeyed to the thriving coal town for the purpose of laying the foundation-stone of Mr. Richard Thornton's New Empire Theatre, which is being erected on the old Bishopwearmouth Rectory site. The ceremony was attended by a large gathering, including the Mayor (Councillor Foster), Alderman Rudland, Alderman Smith, Councillors David Bell, Baxter, Hope, Shields, Rev. F. A. E. Leake, Mr. R. Thornton, Mr. Sidney Stone, Mr. Thos. Gillespie, Mr. C. E. Machin, Messrs. W. and T. R. Milburn (architects), Mr. J. W. White (builder), Mrs. Thornton, and Mr. Walter de Frece (husband of Miss Vesta Tilley).

The stone, which was placed in the tower at the south-east corner of the site, was inscribed:—"This stone was placed by Miss Vesta Tilley, Sept. 29, 1906." In a cavity under the stone was deposited a copy of the *Sunderland Echo*, the local newspaper, a copy of *The Era* as the representative newspaper devoted to the interests of the amusement professions, and coins of the realm Having seen that the stone was properly placed, Miss Tilley tapped each of the four corners with

Photo. by Guttenberg.

MISS VESTA TILLEY.

the mallet, saying, "I declare this stone to be well and truly laid, and I wish every success may attend the building of which it is part."

An adjournment was then made to the refreshment room, where Mr. W. Wilburn, on behalf of himself, his brother, and the builder, presented Miss Tilley with a beautifully designed jewel-casket and jewel-tray, the former being inscribed—"Presented to Miss Vesta Tilley on the occasion of her placing the foundation-stone of Mr. Richard Thornton's new Empire Theatre, Sept 29, 1906. W. and T. R. Milburn, F.R.I.B.A., architects, Mr. J. W. White, builder." Mr. Milburn said the ornamental portion of the building, so far as the exterior was concerned, would be the tower where the foundation-stone had been placed. The remainder would be plain, as far as the exterior went. The building would be practically isolated. It would have streets on each side, and would be arranged for the two-houses-a-night principle. When completed and properly equipped it would be absolutely up to date and behind nothing, either in the provinces or in London. These were the instructions of Mr. Thornton. It would be larger than any theatre in the immediate district. The auditorium would be 80ft. wide and 82ft. long, which was 7ft. or 8ft. larger than anything in Newcastle, and the seating accommodation would be for 3,500 persons.

The Mayor said it gave him great pleasure to propose a vote of thanks to Miss Tilley, and to ask the company to drink her health. Miss Tilley had that day laid the foundation stone of what would be a very handsome building, and an ornament to the town of Sunderland. The townspeople should feel proud that Mr. Thornton had thought it

MR. RICHARD THORNTON.

worth his while to place that building in their midst. For many years he had endeavoured to provide pure and good entertainment, and they knew how successful he had been in that respect. He wished the venture every success, and now would ask the gathering to accord a vote of thanks and drink the health of the gracious lady who had performed the ceremony that day. She had endeared herself to everybody, and the stone which she had placed in position bore on it a name that would always be loved—Miss Vesta Tilley. He asked them to thank her and drink her health, and he was glad to be able to announce that, when the building was ready, she would appear on the opening night.

The toast was drunk with musical honours, after which Miss Tilley modestly replied: "I thank you very much, and I feel very highly honoured." Subsequently Miss Tilley inspected the plans of the building, and wrote her autograph for a number of people, after which she drove away in her motor-car to Newcastle, followed by the hearty cheers of the people.

The theatre will be a three-tier house, the sightlines being arranged so that every seat will have a good view of the stage. The space usually occupied by side boxes is taken up by a continuation of the seating of the circle, the boxes being placed at the back thereof. The proscenium opening is particularly large, and will be protected by an asbestos fire-proof curtain. There will be two performances a night, and distinct entrances and exits, with convenient waiting-halls, being provided for each portion of the house. The whole of the building is to be fireproof, the floors of each tier, the flies to stage, and even the roof of the auditorium, staircases, &c., being all constructed of expanded metal and concrete. The main approaches and grand staircase to circle will have tiled dadoes and terrazzo floors and steps, the circle entrance tower being treated in ornamental tiles. The comfort of artists will be secured by good dressing-rooms, well lighted, ventilated, and heated, and the theatre itself will be heated by hot-water apparatus, an effective means of ventilation being obtained by the use of electric fans and sun burners.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, SEPT. 12.—"THE LITTLE CHERUB" has scored a substantial success at the Criterion Theatre. The piece was produced here during the month of August, several weeks before the public usually begins to think of theatre-going. During the hot weather it has to be tempted with no ordinary attraction before it can be made to turn its thoughts in that direction. That Messrs. Owen Hall and Ivan Caryll's musical comedy fulfilled this requirement was evident at the opening performance, and it has been evident on many a subsequent night when the temperature was such as to make sitting in a plush-covered chair for three hours at a stretch something unendurable under ordinary circumstances. Miss Hattie Williams appears as Molly Montrose. *The Little Cherub* was the vehicle chosen for her début as a star, and the choice was a happy one, for she has never been seen to better advantage. Her song, "Experience," the original version of which was sung by Yvette Guilbert, makes a great hit. Mr. Thomas Wise, as the Earl of Sanctobury, is as droll as he can be, and Mr. James Blakeley, as Algernon Southdown, is an indefatigable fun-maker. Mr. Will West, Mr. Andrew Higginson, Miss Winona Winter, and Miss Mabel Hollins are all very good in their respective parts, Miss Winter's imitation of Harry Lauder, the Scottish comedian, and of Vernon, the ventriloquist, surprising the audience and winning hearty applause.

NEW YORK, SEPT. 19.—Miss Grace George has begun what promises to be a prosperous engagement at the Manhattan Theatre, the play in which she is appearing having met with a very favourable reception. Its title is *Clothes*, and the authors are Channing Pollock and Avery Hopwood. Mr. Pollock is prominently associated with the Shuberts; Mr. Hopwood is a Cleveland journalist. The piece is a comedy-drama in four acts, and is a satire on the so-called "Smart Set" and its extravagance in dress. Woven into the fabric are two love stories—one homely and humorous, the other dainty and delightful. The scenes are laid at a country house within motoring distance of New York. Horace Watling, a wealthy publisher, formerly owner of a small newspaper in Omaha, is lonely in his luxury, for his wife is a fashionable butterfly whose one thought is the pursuit of pleasure. One of her friends, Mrs. Cathcart, is the aunt of Olivia Sherwood, an orphan, whose supposedly wealthy father has bequeathed to her some mining stock from which she derives her income. This stock is in the hands of Arnold West, a lawyer. West is a married man whose wife has gone to the bad, and he loves Olivia. For years he has paid her sums of money as dividends from the mining stock, but the money has been paid out of his own pocket, the stock being worthless. Olivia, who lives with her aunt, finds herself deeply in debt through her extravagance in dress, and begins to realise that there are other things in life besides clothes. Mrs. Cathcart tells her that she must marry a rich man, and suggests Richard Burbank, a wealthy young broker, who has paid her no little attention. In fact, the aunt tells her niece that if she lets Burbank "slip through her fingers" she must find a home elsewhere. West declares his passion for Olivia in an exceedingly ardent manner, and she refuses to listen to his proposal, dismissing him in anger. Watling finds himself in financial difficulties but, prompted by West, he has purchased some of Olivia's mining stock, and this, he tells his wife, will save them from actual want. Then it comes out that the stock has not paid a cent of dividend for years, and the fashionable Mrs. Watling, who neglects her sick child and lavishes her caresses on a lap-dog, turns on her husband and denounces him so bitterly that the poor old man tries to kill himself. This brings her to her senses and makes her see things so differently that "the simple life" no longer has any terrors for her. These incidents occur whilst a fancy dress ball is in progress at the Watlings'. West, who is among the guests, is intoxicated. He has received news of his wife's death, and feels that the joyous event calls for a celebration. In this condition he appears before Olivia, and insists on her becoming his wife. Being again repulsed, he breaks out into a violent tirade of abuse, and tells her that she is indebted to him for the clothes she wears and the food she eats. He is about to summon the guests and humiliate her before them, when the girl turns on him and hurls him down a stairway. Burbank, whose offer of marriage has been accepted in the meantime, comes in at this juncture, and the act ends with a striking scene between Olivia, West, and Burbank, in which the latter is forced to come to the conclusion that Olivia has agreed to marry him simply for his money. For the last act there is a pretty love scene, in which everything ends happily, at the open window of a darkened room in the wee sma' hours, the door of Mrs. Cathcart's bedroom being pushed open so that she may act as chaperone. The act is short, but very pretty and effective. Miss Grace George's Olivia is a sincere and winsome portrayal, that will more than sustain her popularity. Mr. Frank Worthing, Mr. Robert Haines, Mr. A. H. Stuart, Miss Louise Closser, Miss Jennie Eustace, and Miss Diana Huneker have important parts to play, and play them well.

"THE CHORUS LADY," a comedy in four acts, by James Forbes, has made a hit at the Savoy Theatre, and Miss Rose Stahl as Patricia O'Brien has repeated the success she won on the music hall stage in the same character, the comedy being an amplified version of the sketch in which Miss Stahl was recently seen at the Palace Theatre, London. The four scenes represent Dan Mallory's racing stables, a dressing-room in the Long Acre Theatre, the apartments of a man about town, and the New York home of Patricia. Miss Stahl's representation of the chorus girl whose manners are "tough" but whose head and heart are all right is one of the most diverting characterisations in current theatricals. Mr. Wilfred Lucas as Dan Mallory, the trainer, who loves the chorus girl, is capital; and two clever impersonations are the old Irish father and mother of Patricia, for which Mr. Giles Shine and Miss Alice Leigh are responsible.

MME. BERTHA KALICH is appearing at the Lyric Theatre, under the direction of Harrison Grey Fiske, presenting, for the first time in New York, Langdon Mitchell's English version of Jacob Gordin's drama *The Kreutzer Sonata*, which was written expressly for Mme. Kalich in the Yiddish tongue some years ago, and in which she made one of her most pronounced successes prior to her début last year as an English-speaking actress in *Monna Vanna*. Langdon Mitchell's version of the play differs but slightly from the version in which Miss Blanche Walsh recently appeared at the Manhattan Theatre. The play derives it name from the fact that the heroine is discovered reading Tolstoi's novel "The Kreutzer Sonata" by her father. In the book she has concealed her dead lover's picture and farewell letter. The story is not a pleasant one. Miriam Friedlander, a Jewish girl in Russia, being prevented by religious prejudice from marrying the man she loves, commits a social sin. Her father, with patriarchal authority, orders her to marry a dissolute musician who is aware of her condition. They emigrate to America, being followed soon after by both families. Here the musician subjects his wife and child to brutal treatment, and enters into a relationship with his wife's sister by which he places the latter on a similar immoral footing. On discovering this condition of affairs, the wife shoots the guilty pair.

Mme. Kalich's interpretation of the character of Miriam Friedlander has been highly praised by the critics. The climax of the play, in which she kills her husband and sister, is tremendously effective, and calls forth rounds of applause. The rôle of the musician, Gregor Randar, is well played by Mr. Giorgio Majeroni, whose name suggests a few reminiscences to an old play-goer and globe-trotter. He is the son of the late Signor and Signora Majeroni, who won fame in Australia thirty years ago, and whom the writer well remembers seeing at the Bijou Theatre, Melbourne, during the period when "Fritz" Emmett, Lytton Sothern, and Ada Ward were the reigning favourites of the Melbourne stage, and La Feuillade and Buckley's Minstrels were as popular as the Moore and Burgess troupe were in London. "Come, birdie, come and live with me," sung by the minstrels in a hall near the top of Bourke-street, and Emmett's "Lullaby" were the favourite songs of the day at that time. These recollections, irrelevant though they be, may interest a few "old-timers."

"THE DAUGHTERS OF MEN," by Charles Klein, author of *The Lion and the Mouse*, was performed for the first time at the Court-square Theatre, Springfield, Mass., on the 17th inst., under the direction of Mr. Henry B. Harris, and was very favourably received by the Press and the public. Mr. Klein has dealt with the subject of capital and labour and the widening gulf between the very rich and the "submerged tenth" in an original manner, being careful not to offend either class. The first act is rather "talky," but has a strong climax, in which Miss Effie Shannon carried off the honours. The second act is the strongest, and in this Miss Dorothy Donnelly was given an opportunity, which she fully improved, winning hearty applause. Mr. Herbert Kelcey, Mr. Orrin Johnson, Mr. Ralph Delmore, and Miss Grace Filkins all have excellent rôles.

"THE RICH MR. HOGGENHEIMER," a musical comedy, by Harry B. Smith and Ludwig Englander, in which the favourite comedian, Mr. Sam Bernard, reincarnates "Piggy" Hoggenheimer of *The Girl from Kay's*, was successfully produced at the Savoy Theatre, Atlantic City, on the 17th inst. As "Piggy of the second generation" Mr. Bernard kept the house in constant laughter, the situations giving him abundant opportunity for his peculiar brand of humour. Miss Georgie Caine as Flora Fair, an actress, around whom the complications revolve, made a hit.

THE new Astor Theatre, at the corner of Broadway and Forty-fifth-street, was to have been dedicated last Monday with a production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, with Miss Annie Russell as Puck, but the lessees, Messrs. Wagenhals and Kemper, failed to install a certain kind of pump approved by the Fire Department, and at the last moment permission to open the theatre was refused, a large audience being dismissed after it had waited for over an hour for the curtain to rise. The opening has been postponed for various reasons several times, and the lessees have suffered considerable loss in consequence.

"THE HOUSE OF MIRTH," a stage version of Miss Edith Wharton's novel, made by the authoress in collaboration with Mr. Clyde Fitch, was produced at the Opera House, Detroit, Mich., on the 17th inst. The play is a close reproduction of the book. Miss Fay Davis appeared in the leading feminine rôle, and won approval.

"ON PAROLE," by Louis Evan Shipman, presented for the first time at the New National Theatre, Washington, last Monday, is another Civil War play, treating of a love affair between a Southern woman and a Northern officer. Miss Charlotte Walker and Mr. Vincent Serrano appeared in the leading rôles, the former as Constance Pinckney, a young woman employed as a despatch bearer, and the latter as Major Dale, Chief of the Federal Intelligence Division, who discovers her identity, and promptly falls in love with her. He takes her parole, but scarcely is it given when he is captured by the Confederate forces, and he believes she has betrayed him. The third act ends with a stirring battle scene, which evoked enthusiastic applause.

THE GIBBONS'S "AT HOME."

In the Alexandra Room at the Trocadero, on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Walter Gibbons, the well-known music-hall proprietor, and Mrs. Gibbons held an At Home to celebrate the christening of their son and heir, Adney Walter Gibbons, who was born on Aug. 7. The child was baptised on Wednesday morning at Christ Church, Holborn-square, by the Rev. Glendinning Nash, the godfathers being Mr. George Adney Payne and Mr. Gibbons, the father. The godmother was Miss Payne, aunt to the child.

It was a very happy little party which assembled at the Trocadero to celebrate the arrival of the little stranger who will, it is hoped, in the years to come uphold the Gibbons dynasty. Mr. George Adney Payne, of course, was there in the double rôle of grandfather and godfather, and his daughter, Miss Ida Payne, was also present. Mr. and Mrs. Gibbons agreeably entertained their guests, most of whom, by the way, were relatives or intimate friends. There were Colonel, Mrs., and Master Bosworth, Mr. H. H. Tozer, Mr. Henry Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Sutton, Mr. Lindsay Sutton, Miss Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Marriott and Miss Marriott (Miss Helena Millais), Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Newson-Smith, Mrs. Cecil Newson-Smith, Mr. Amery Parkes, Mrs. Frank Smith, Mrs. Moore, Mr. St. John Brenon and Miss Brenon, Mrs. Emerton, Miss Byrne, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bull, Mr. and Mrs. Hartley Milburn, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Baker, Mr. Joseph Davis, Mrs. Richard Warner and Miss Warner, Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Warner, the Rev. Glendinning Nash, Mr. Ernest Steed, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ardley, and Mr. H. Chance Newton.

A magnificent christening cake, made by the Trocadero cooks, stood in the centre of a long table. Naturally, nobody went away without having tasted of the richness thereof, and wished, as he or she consumed it, all happiness and prosperity to Master Adney Walter Gibbons. A cleverly-worked little device on the top of the cake showed a cradle and a baby's face peeping out from the bed-clothes.

During the At Home, which lasted from three to five o'clock, a pleasant accompaniment to the buzz of conversation was furnished by an orchestra under the direction of Mr. Joseph Alfred Petersen, conductor at the Holborn Empire. The instrumentalists were taken from Mr. Gibbons's various establishments, and Mr. Petersen arranged a delightful musical programme, which included the overture to *Raymond* by Ambroise Thomas, "Laces and Graces," *The Shop Girl*, Suite "In Arcady," *Papillonne*, "Intermezzo Patrol," and "Amour Pictries."

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

The fairs ahead for next week are:—Abingdon, Cirencester, Great Grimsby, Halesowen, Houghton-le-Spring, St. Ives (Hunts.), Alcester, Barkerend Feast, Hartlepool, Kingsclere, Ledbury, Moreton-in-Marsh, Penryn, Chipping Norton, Colne, Gosport, Henley-in-Arden, Lancaster, Leicester, Mitcheldean, Northleach, Sherborne, Tavistock, Tetbury, Tewkesbury, Worksop, Ashford, Basingstoke, Burwell (Cambs.), Faversham, Highworth, Hingham, Hungerford, Hull, Lingfield, Lowestoft, Nuneaton, Thame, Torrington, Tring, Wooler, Bedford, Caistor (Lincs.), Hitchin, Needham Market, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwick, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Aylesbury, Basford (Notts.), Buckingham, Clay Cross, Crick, Farnsfield, Highworth, Hockley Heath, Ilmington, Luton, Middleton Stoney, Pinxton, Shipston-on-Stour, Tapron, and Wantage. In Scotland we have Forfar, Dundee, Galashiels, and Alloa; in Wales, Pontypool.

Among the amusements at Pontardawe (Wales) Fair were Henry Studt and Son's gondolas and motors, Baker's circus, Creecraft's lion show and bioscope, Haggar's new and up-to-date biograph, cokers, emmas, shooters, &c., by T. North and many others.

At Studley Mop were Clarke's racing motor-cars, Chipperfield's cinématograph and "laughing show," Clarke's shooting saloons, park swings, cokers, &c., bottle batteries and Japanese fisheries by Wilson and Chipperfield, and stalls and numerous amusements by Messrs. Clarke, Chipperfield, Tatlor, Kemp, and Herbert.

The news from Evesham is of considerable importance. We see from the Evesham newspapers that the Town Council purpose taking over the Fleece Meadow and making it into a public recreation ground.

This has afforded the Puritanical objectors to travelling shows their opportunity of showing their animus, the Fleece Meadow having been the locale for shows and other entertainments to stand. Whether or not under Corporation management, the Fleece Meadow will be available for travelling shows and roundabouts, it cannot in any way affect the annual statute fair due this week. It is the Home Secretary's wish that if Conservators, Town Councils, Corporations, &c., think it expedient, in the interests of the safety or convenience of the public to change the venue of a fair, that another suitable ground not too far away from the usual fair-ground be found for the showmen. The Home Secretary most emphatically expressed this wish to the Conservators of Mitcham Common, and refused to grant police interference with the showmen's and public's rights. We trust that if under the new conditions the Corporation close the Fleece Meadow to the travelling showmen they will allow them to stand on Merstow Green. This would be a considerable source of income, to the easement of public burdens, and we look forward with confidence that, if the Fleece Meadow is closed, another ground will be found, especially at the time of the regatta, and at all the Bank Holidays.

The ancient Devonshire city, Exeter, is the last important place to take up the modern enterprise of historical pageant. No English town has a better right to take its history seriously than has Caerwisc, Isca, Exanceaster, Excester, or Exeter—the City on the Water, as each name implies. There is not much doubt that its birth was actually in the dawn of the desire of prehistoric men to dwell in communities. It is as old as that.

But the events of over 2,000 years being too much to cover in a day's holiday, Exeter is restricting itself to the ten most picturesque and instructive incidents of the seven centuries that have gone since it obtained a charter from King John in 1206, and elected its first Mayor. Follow-that nameless Mayor, there is an unbroken record of 699, which includes the present, Mr. Thomas Linscott.

The first tableau will be a careful study in King John, Robin Hood (though it is not explained what that outlaw had to do with Exon's civic records), palmers, friars, and the people of the period. The second tableau will explain the usual row over common rights between the Church and the people, when Edward I. gave his decision, on a personal visit, to the indignant citizens. The next scene will catch another Mayor, Bymen, giving pleasing and frank "straight tips" to a presumptuous and insolent Earl of Devon, in which the common man was not struck dead for blasphemy, but lived to laugh some more.

Follows John Shillingford, another Mayor, and a common, sturdy man, who threw the gage to the powerful clergy of the cathedral, and humbled them. After a piece which includes Henry VII. will appear (of course) Gloriana, who honoured the Mayor and citizens in 1559. This naturally lets in the Devon Sea Dogs, who doubtless have been bursting with impatience, and the Merchant and Gentlemen Adventurers will, in the manner appointed (see "Westward Ho!"), snort defiance to all dons and "children of the devil."

There is a jump then to Charles II., who, impecunious and casual, as usual, granted a knighthood to the Mayor on the citizens paying £500. But it is admitted he would have made knights of all male Exeter over twenty-one for fourpence per head. Then the Prince of Orange, entering the West Gate, George III. on his visit to the city, Queen Victoria in 1856, and the visit of the present King, when will appear the two swords which the city possesses, presented by visiting monarchs, those of Edward IV. and Edward VII.

Being the most ancient town in England's favourite county, Exeter's great day is sure to attract visitors from everywhere to see Ancient Devon pass in review—a unique treat.

Those West of England entertainers of the people (long time before corporations went into the show business), Messrs. W. C. and S. Hancock, will ably co-operate, and, after the city pageant is over, the Devonians will hurry away to the fair-ground. There shall the shows and showmen play their time-honoured part in the people's carnival and holiday rejoicing.

Barton Fair is again held on the ground provided by the Corporation of Gloucester, and is more largely attended by the showmen and public than ever. The principal shows are John Studt's amusements, Jacob Studt's motors, &c., Symonds's switchbacks, Dooner's and Studt's bioscopes, Collins's amusements, Sedgwick's menagerie, Purchase's menagerie, Prince Samouda's illusions, and a host of other attractions.

At Folkestone there are at the fair S. Forrest's Japanese airship, Macklin's switchback railway, Henry Forrest's juvenile racers and turnover boats, Abnett's theatre of varieties and aeriel flyers, big swings by Forrest and Macklin, Sanders's fine art exhibition, pipe breakers by Messrs. Sanders, George Bolesworth and T. Bolesworth, and J. Pettegrove and Simons; cup-breakers by Waghorn and Simons; shooting saloon, by Macklin and Elliott; and other novelties by those well-known fun-providers, Bolesworth, Macklin, Sanders, Elliott, and others. Messrs. Forrest still retain the services of the Great Herman, who nightly performs on the high rope, and is a big attraction.

Tom Norman's Dahomey Warriors (from Earl's Court), numbering sixteen in all, are paying a short visit to the Corn Exchange, Luton, and opened on Saturday last to large and appreciative audiences, who watched with interest the various items on the programme, which included war dances, sword exercises, and fire eating.

During the early part of the week there has been a steady stream of showmen and others passing through Mansfield, en route for Nottingham Goose Fair.

Continuing our record of the Welsh fairs, Abergavenny had for its entertainments the splendid cinematograph theatres of Wadbrooke and Dooner and Son, and Carl Whyte's mysteries; John Studt's motor-cars and galloping horses, Whyte's varieties, including the power-chute. The gem horses, swings and motor-cars were by Bros. Butling, Odley, John Studt, and Mrs. Danter; and rifle saloons and the minor novelties, with throwing games, were provided by J. Fossett, Winsper, Freeman, Danter, Quires, Odley, Buss, Jones, and Butlin Bros.

The fairground at Llanfyllin was under the capable direction of the Shropshire showman, Greatorex, assisted by other caterers upon this border round.

At Uttoxeter were Farrell's cinematograph collseum, steam roundabouts, and throwing games; and with him was John Wright, who exhibited the up-to-date peep-show, shooters, bottle battery, and variety and doll frames.

Haslemere attracted a considerable crowd of fair-ground caterers. Steam circuses and manual swings were exhibited by R. Wall and A. Smith; the shooting galleries and bottle-smashers were those of Emmett, Davis, Edge, Wall, and Smith; throwing games and varieties by Matthews and Son, Smith, Hedges, Wall, and other caterers.

At Birmingham the principal shows were—P. Collins and Son's coliseum of varieties and animated photography; Mrs. F. Collins's similar show, the premier coliseum of the Midland circuit; Buff Bill's menagerie, "Ye cowboys' ranchers"; the famous Holloway's phantoscope and variety theatre, Sidney Graham with performing birds and the lady conjurer, and the boxing booths of Messrs. Harry Gess and H. Cullis. The electric and steam-driven roundabouts were provided by the ground lessee, Mr. T. Collins, and with him were—Messrs. Russell, Mercer, Chaplain, Cordwell, and Ford, with steam roundabout and gem sets of motor-cars, baby horses, and mountain ponies. Amongst the small army of amusement caterers with throwing games, variety stalls, cokers, Emmas, and pannum, we noticed Messrs. Powell, Mercer, Cooper, Young, Chaplain, Ingham, Cordwell, Mullock, Ford, Humphries, Hayes, Turner, Humphrey, jun., Hayes, Wagstaffe, Dunwell, Johnson, Dobson, Barker, Price, and, of course, that old-established Midland photographer, J. Caddick.

Amongst the many novelties at the famous seaside resort, Folkestone, for the annual Fair were the fairground enterprises of Forrest Bros. The exhibitions were those of Abbott and Saunders, and fairground varieties by the following caterers:—Bolesworth Bros., Waghorn, Elliott, Saunders, Macklin, Pettigrove, and other entertainers. The great free sight was Hermann, the high-rope performer.

A letter to hand addressed to the Rev. T. Horne by the relatives of the late James Dean will be of interest to our readers. Mr. Robert Dixon, speaking for himself and wife (the daughter of the late James Dean) and the other relatives, says:—"My wife, family, and I, in company with the other relatives of our honoured father, the late James Dean, have visited the grave on many occasions, and we are perfectly satisfied with the work that has been done. On behalf of the surviving members of the late James Dean's family, we beg to tender our heartfelt thanks to you, the committee, and all subscribers for the splendid monument that has been placed over the grave of our dear father."

Llanelly Fair was held on Monday and Tuesday, though the roundabouts of Messrs. H. Studt and Sons, the well-known bioscope show of Messrs. W. Haggar and Sons, Crecraft's lion show and cinematograph, Baker's circus, as well as the shooters, cokernut shies, Mollies, &c., &c., of Messrs. E. Booth, David Boswell, James Day, John Jones, W. Evans, &c., had been opened for some days previously. All did good business up to Monday night, but on Tuesday rain fell incessantly.

Kidwelly Great Fair is fixed for Oct. 29 and 30.

Yesterday was a very eventful and happy one for the Rev. Thomas Horne and his dearly-beloved wife. They celebrated a double event, namely, the birthday of the Rev. Thomas Horne and their wedding day. It is not often that both events happen on the same day.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

New Beginner.—*Undoubtedly, whichever part of the country you determine to work first, your best policy is to get in touch with the principal ground lessee of the district you commence with; for instance, if in the Midlands, correspond with P. Collins, Walsall. If in the Manchester district, John Whiting, The Anchorage, Urmston-lane, Stretford. The Liverpool district, Messrs. John Collins, H. J. Wallis, J. Berry, or Mitchell and Sons. If you let us know where you would like to commence we will furnish you with the address of the particular ground lessee that will suit your purpose.*

Quid Nunc.—*No, it is not so simple as you imagine; you cannot petition Parliament in so primitive a fashion as that. For example, to petition against a Private Bill, you (however that Bill might threaten your interests) could not go with a petition in your hand and invade the Committee of the House of Commons with the statement of your grievance. The work of Parliament could not be done if it were open to such interruptions. Briefly, the procedure is, you must employ a Parliamentary agent and a Parliamentary solicitor to draft your petition in accordance with the rules set down by the Speaker, and if your petition is in proper form you have then to employ a Parliamentary barrister to speak for you and to submit your evidence and witnesses. This, of course, means not only expert knowledge, but money—money at every step in the business.*

J. B.—*Will make enquiries.*

W. B.—*Keep us in touch with your route.*

J. B. (Stepney Green).—*Will make enquiries next week, and let you know.*

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following particulars have been supplied to us by Messrs. Hughes and Young, patent agents, 55-56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all patent matters:—

Mr. A. Winckler, of 41, Steinmetzstrasse, Berlin, has invented an illusion apparatus, which consists of a glass vessel resting on a table, under which is a chamber from which one or more persons can pass to the glass vessel by way of an opening while the conjurer holds a cloth in front of the vessel. The vessel is supported by means of bars, one of which is cut away to enlarge the opening. To increase the illusion, a drawer which fits in a hollow bottom and hollow sides of the table, is drawn out to give the idea that the drawer occupies the whole of the underside of the table. When the drawer is drawn out its bottom space is occupied by a cloth, which normally is folded in concertina form in a space in front of a wall of the chamber. To cause the table-top, &c., as a whole to appear shallow, fillets are arranged at the bottom of the vessel.

SHOULD NOTTINGHAM FAIR BE ABOLISHED?

Like the annual appearance of the sea serpent and the big gooseberry, someone in Nottingham raises the perennial bogey, "Shall we do away with the Goose Fair?" Thus speaks a grumbling ratepayer in the *Nottingham Daily Express*:—

GOOSE FAIR.

Sir,—The annual carnival of noise and frivolity is close upon us. Before many days are over our ears will be assailed by the harmony of a dozen steam organs playing different tunes at the same time. For three days the Market-place will be something in the nature of a pandemonium.

Now, I quite admit the sentimental interest that attaches to Goose Fair. In our young days we enjoyed it to the full. Its continuance is defended on the ground that it is a relic of the past—a link with old-time history.

That may be so; but I submit that it is out of date in this modern age. The Fair may have had come reason for its existence in days when railways and mail-coaches were non-existent, and when people came to it from all parts for supplies or general purposes of commerce. But to-day it has degenerated into three days of amusement and nothing else.

It may of course be argued that the Corporation make money out of the Fair by letting of sites to showmen. But is this really a benefit to the town in the long run? The showmen take the money and depart, and the only people who benefit are the publicans and keepers of eating-houses in the vicinity of the Market-place.

For the tradesmen round the Market-place, Goose Fair means a serious loss. They might as well shut their shops during the three days. Yet they are among the largest ratepayers. Is this fair? I ask your readers to judge, and hope others will take up the subject.—I am, &c.,

MARKET RATEPAYER.

Nothing loth, the Editor, to give the matter public ventilation, remarks:—

With the approach of Goose Fair the clamour of the controversial correspondent assails, as usual, our ears. The Nottingham carnival divides the city into two camps. On the one hand, there are those who tolerate and—shall we say—probably approve of the Fair; on the other, there are those, though we fear they are in a minority at present, who would like to see it swept out of existence. We publish to-day a letter from a "Market Ratepayer," who puts the case against the Fair with a great deal of force. He admits its sentimental side, remembering his own childish recollections, but he has come to the conclusion that it is out of place in this utilitarian age. He argues that the tradesmen in the vicinity of the Market-place are heavy losers by the Fair, pointing out also that they are at the same time among the largest ratepayers. In opposition to this view the advocates of the Fair will no doubt claim to have their say. They may argue that it brings a deal of money into the town, and that, after all, its historical associations count for something. For the moment we are content, so to speak, to "hold the stakes" between the supporters and the opponents of the Fair. We shall welcome expressions of opinion on the subject, for it is only by the voice of public opinion that the feeling of the community can be ascertained. "Market Ratepayer" will, we suspect, have a goodly number of supporters and not a few opponents.

Then the Rev. T. Horne contributes the reply for the showmen:—

To the Editor, "Nottingham Daily Express."

Sir,—The diatribe against the continuance of Nottingham Goose Fair by "Market Ratepayer" has been brought before the Committee of the Showmen's Guild, and I have been asked to state the case for the retention of the Fair, from the showman's point of view. It is to me very remarkable in these days of national progress, wider charity, and the fuller life, to hear anyone speak of the old historic Fair at Nottingham as being something in the nature of a "pandemonium." In fact, Sir, the quite recent revival of pageants, under the highest sanction and patronage, at places like Sherborne and Warwick, and also the adaptation all over the country of the fair under modern conditions, at times of national holiday, prove beyond all reasonable dispute that fairs as a means of recreation and amusement are deeply entrenched in the hearts of the British people. To call such times of common enjoyment a "pandemonium" is to misuse language. "Ratepayer's" second paragraph is so obviously based upon purely selfish considerations as to be almost too ridiculous for reasoned answer. If it means anything at all, it means that "I have had my fling, and I object in my old age to let the youth of to-day enjoy what I myself enjoyed to the full." The showmen of the Empire claim to be thoroughly up to date, and in fact a little bit before their time if anything in the nature of high-class shows and wonderful mechanical contrivances offered by them for the entertainment of England's toiling millions. There is only one sense in which shows and showmen and our pleasure fairs are linked to the past, and that is, that they have just the same rootage in the historic past and the growth and progress of the national life as any other distinctive trade or skilled industry. For more than thirty years past I have been in close association with the travelling show-people, and for sixteen years of that time I have acted as the Honorary Chaplain to their trade protection society, known as The Showmen's Guild. I may therefore be permitted to speak as an expert, having made their interests and welfare the special work of my life. It is a very sturdy relic of the past—a thriving, and vigorous, and very important relic of the past—this enterprise and industry of the fair-ground, and it may be news to "Market Ratepayer" and others to know that it touches the livelihood of 70,000 workers, directly engaged in providing the amusements or making the commodities sold at our fairs, and that it indirectly touches the daily bread of many, many thousands more—traders, manufacturers, and work-people—catering for the necessities of show and fair-ground life and entertainments. It has been proved before Committees of the House of Commons that in one branch alone of the business a quarter of a million of money is invested—I refer to roundabouts. Some of the most modern, expensive, and costly of these concerns will be on exhibition at Nottingham Goose Fair. When we remember that the Messrs. Bostock, the descendants of the celebrated George Wombwell, will bring one of their splendid menageries to your Fair, and that the same family at the present moment are running similar exhibitions on the Continent and in America, that alone is a very important refutation of the commonly thought decadence of the fair-ground business. The one menagerie of George Wombwell has at the present moment grown to four separate and distinct concerns at home and abroad. The same tale of progress can be told of every other kind of travelling show. There are more circuses, menageries, portable theatres, and other entertainments touring the United Kingdom to-day than at any other period of our national life. The greatest proof of this is found at your historic Fair, for if your Corporation had three times the space in the same admirable position, it would be fully occupied with concerns that would gladly come to swell its attractions. Let anyone who remembers the Fair forty years ago contrast the present with the past, and I challenge comparison in every department of the fair-ground business; and I am quite certain that such a witness will in justice admit that the British showman fully justifies his position as an integral factor in the well-being of the Commonwealth. I have no doubt that other correspondents will deal with the extremely narrow view of "Market Ratepayer" with regard to the loss suffered by himself and other ratepayers in the vicinity of the Fair. I believe I am right in saying that for the three days of their occupancy of the Market Ground the showmen pay a very large contribution to the public funds in the shape of tollage, to the easement of the very rates concerning which "Market Ratepayer" grumbles. In conclusion, Sir, I venture to submit that the fair serves an intensely human and humane purpose: it is the opportunity for relaxation from toil, and also for the enjoyment of popular open-air amusement; and if there is any truth in the economic theory that demand induces supply, then the showmen of the Empire may claim to be traders and skilled providers of commodities that the public throughout all the ages has required.

Yours ever, for God and for good,

T. Horne,

Honorary Chaplain, The Showman's Guild,

5, Tavistock-street, Strand, London, W.C.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD MEETING AT GLOUCESTER.

In pursuance of the plan to make the Guild and its work more widely known, the hon. chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, addressed a crowded meeting in Mr. Jacob Studt's grand coliseum on the fair-ground at Gloucester on Sunday afternoon last. Mr. Jacob Studt had obtained the consent of the Mayor to preside over the gathering, and also the patronage and presence of the City Sheriff (Alderman T. Blinkhorn), Alderman Hume, Alderman Jones, Councillor C. W. Poole, and other members, and the City Clerk (Mr. G. S. Blakeway). There were also present many local gentlemen interested in the fair and showpeople. Amongst these we noticed Mr. J. W. Bostock (from New York) and Messrs. Poole and Son, of the Palace Theatre, Gloucester, and of panorama fame. Every available seat was filled, and the gangways packed with eager listeners. Never before in the annals of the ancient cathedral town has such a sight been witnessed—the whole city roused and interested in the material, social, and spiritual well-being of the travelling show-people. For many centuries Gloucester has been interested in the itinerant entertainers and traders who attended their fairs; but outside of the interests of patron and player nothing of any moment has been done. The show-loving public had never been behind the scenes, as it were, or in the caravans. Now for the first time the city was to get to know of the life of the shows and show-people from the inside. The Mayor of Gloucester (Councillor George Peters) said that he had been asked to introduce the speaker—the Rev. T. Horne, chaplain to the Showmen's Guild—to them, but he doubted not that to many present Mr. Horne was better known than to himself, and this was obviously true of the show-people present. It was a pleasant duty that he had to perform, and it gave him great pleasure to know that the show-people were so well organised that they had a recognised chaplain to labour amongst them.

This, he felt sure, would tend to raise them in the esteem of the outside world and would also inevitably raise the character and tone of their entertainments. Through the agency of the Showmen's Guild public bodies would be brought more into direct touch with the work and daily life of the travelling entertainers who so ably maintained our fairs, and he could assure the showmen that the Corporation of Gloucester were anxious to do well by them, and they trusted that the show-people would appreciate their efforts by bringing them good and wholesome entertainments. In company with the town clerk he had been round the fair, and he testified, with great satisfaction, that there was nothing upon that well-supplied fair-ground to which the slightest exception could be taken. He would now call upon Mr. Horne to give his address on "British Shows and Showmen, with a Special Reference to the work of the Guild."

The Rev. T. Horne, on rising to deliver his address, was heartily cheered. He began by saying that to many people it might seem a strange thing that people like the travelling showmen of the Empire, whose very business led them to be independent of one another, and also extremely competitive in their enterprises one against another, should form themselves into a union or society in order to further their mutual interests and to better the entertainments they were offering to the people of the country. Such, however, was the fact. Seventeen years ago, when showmen were face to face with a serious danger from a Bill before Parliament which affected their interests very materially, they combined to protect themselves. The danger in the main was the attempt of certain misguided individuals and would-be public philanthropists to penalise the show business and to interfere, without any justice, in the domestic life of the showmen in their movable dwellings. No one, he felt sure, would willingly attack an industrious section of the community if they had full knowledge of the real life and character of the people they were attacking. Now it so happened that he was possessed of that intimate knowledge, for he had had many years of close acquaintance with the Bohemians who travelled from fair to fair to entertain the toil-worn workers. He did not wish to rake up and go over again the vile slanders and prejudice which he, amongst many other friends of the showmen, were able to refute. At that time he was serving a quiet country curacy in Yorkshire, and he was able, from his intimate knowledge of them and their life, to very materially assist them by defending them from attacks in the public Press and by speaking from many platforms in their defence.

Having taken his stand as their friend, it was not to be wondered at that they valued the work he had done, and very soon asked him to take part in their organised work of trade defence and betterment of the entertainments of the fair-ground. There was only one office that, consistent with his ministerial duties, he could occupy upon their executive council, and that was to become their honorary chaplain. He honestly held that the man of God must throw himself heart and soul into all the concerns of his people; he could not draw the line between things temporal and things eternal, and so he found from time to time that he had to stand in the gap and defend them in their business concerns as well as direct their thoughts to higher things. This he had persistently, and he trusted consistently, done. He started alone in this enterprise of bringing the Church as a real factor in the life of show-people seventeen years ago. He was now proud to say that many bishops, high dignitaries of the Church, and an ever-increasing crowd of the parochial clergy were taking part with him in this work. Wherever the local clergy were brought in touch with the travelling show-people there the Guild had made a link with the parish by asking the vicar to become a local honorary chaplain. The Vicar of St. Nicholas, the Rev. D. L. Duce, had consented to act in this capacity for the showmen because the fair-ground was part and parcel of his parish. They had similar honorary local chaplaincies in London, Manchester, Preston, King's Lynn, Rotherham, Killamarsh, Oxford, Burbage, Denton, and also at Porth and Treorchy in Wales. They were of course receiving valuable help in many enterprises of an uplifting and Christian character, from Christian men and women outside the obedience of the National Church; for these unities of Christian effort they were deeply thankful.

As a trade protection society they had defended the interests of showmen in the House of Commons and before many corporations and public bodies. He was glad to say that at the present time there was an immense awakening of public interest in the life and work of the travelling showman, and this he attributed almost entirely to the educational work which the Guild had done in supplying accurate information concerning the business of the fair-ground, and also in answering in the public Press the mistaken prejudice of those who misunderstood them and their avocation in life. Just consider, he argued, how very deep-rooted in the historic past is that intensely British institution—the fair. How did the fairs originate? Almost invariably around the feast of the patron saint of the parish. The people would come to keep the feast, friends and neighbours from adjoining parishes gathered together, not only inside the church to keep the feast proper, but also around the church for pleasurable intercourse and expression of neighbourly feeling. Then there would come to the crowd the people whose business in life it was to entertain or to trade with crowds—the mountebank, the posturer, the professional story-teller, the singer of the national ballads, the jester, the clown, the travelling quack doctor and astrologer, the scientific and mystery men of those days—and here you have the very genesis and birth of the pleasure fair and all other kinds of amusements that of necessity have grown therefrom. The showman boasts a long ancestry of honourable endeavour, and can point to-day to an ever-increasing necessity for his enterprise, talent, and persevering ability.

He was speaking to-day—and he was proud of the fact—to the "City Fathers" of Gloucester, and he congratulated them on their reasonable adaptation of the ancient fair, known as Barton Mop, to modern-day requirements. There were many other Corporations in the country who had neglected to provide for that reasonable demand of the people for open-air amusement such as well-ordered pleasure fairs provided. All honour, he said to Gloucester, for moving with the times and recognising that the provision of recreation for the people was a duty that no community can afford to ignore or neglect. They had the highest warrant for taking this progressive step. Sir James Crichton-Browne, one of our ablest scientists, only the other day, at a meeting of Sanitary Inspectors, pointed out the value of recreation as being mental hygiene, the clearing out of the clogged-up or the over-worked brain cells of mental rubbish, that if not cleared makes for dementia. The eminent scientist demonstrated that relaxation from toil was not sufficient, but that there must be amusement as well, and therefore he preached a gospel of recreation, and boldly asserted that it was the duty in these days of high pressure and specialisation for every doctor and for every social reformer to be preachers and teachers of the joy of life as expressed in recreation and amusement. Well, the showmen of the empire, he maintained, had been specialists for centuries past in the science and art of recreation, and it was something for them to-day to feel that, following upon their practical and successful work, the greatest of living scientists had come to their support by preaching mental hygiene as a necessity of daily life. That being so, he would ask them where can the toiling masses of the people be better provided with the means of relaxation and mental stimulus than upon the fairgrounds of the country? At half-past eight the previous night he stood upon the bridge and from that vantage ground surveyed all the glories (ever changing and wonderful) of Gloucester Fair—the careering horses, the dashing motors, the whirling wheels, the slippery slopes, the tunnel railway, the menageries, the cinematograph theatres, the side shows, and the hundred and one stalls, throwing games, and variety amusements. O the power of it, the joy of it, and all the life of it! For Gloucester was there in its multitudes, the ocean of life, with its cross currents, streamed before him. What wonder is it that such a sight draws and satisfies the people as no other sight or kind of amusement ever can?

In conclusion, he asked the people of Gloucester to help the showmen by demanding nothing short of the very best forms of amusement—to set their face sternly against all entertainments of a possibly vicious character. Showmen were prepared not only to meet every legitimate demand, but, judging from the high-class character of the shows upon that fairground, he thought it would be freely admitted that showmen were helping to create a better taste for higher forms of amusement amongst their patrons of the fair-ground. On Friday he had visited Birmingham Great Onion Fair, and great as the enterprise of the showmen of the Midland capital was, and magnificent and up to date as their entertainments were, he was glad to say that the shows and amusements of Gloucester Fair were quite equal to Birmingham Fair in both quality and quantity. The Corporation of Gloucester has been fortunate in securing the co-operation of so able a showman as Mr. Jacob Studt, who had succeeded in gathering together one of the finest aggregation of shows in the British Empire, for not only was Mr. Studt providing splendid motor roundabouts, but he also himself owned the magnificent theatre-pavilion in which he was now speaking; and his next-door neighbours were showmen of the type of Dooner and Son, Sedgwick, Purchase, and Prince Samouda (whose small show was one of the big features of the fair.) He had no hesitation in saying that whilst the fairground industry had such experts as these it would never fail in maintaining its hold upon the hearts of the British people. To his showmen hearers he repeated the homily he had so often delivered to them before—"Rise," he said, "to the full dignity of your work; and, calling in the economy of the national life, give of your best—your very best—to the amusement and recreation of the people; for every penny you receive give a pennyworth of the wares of your brain, or of your good right hand, and if you do that you will never have to fear, either the misrepresentations of your enemies, or the decrease of the warm-hearted appreciation of your work by the people to whom you so ably minister at the times of national or local holiday," and he invited every showman present to remain for the after meeting, which would be of an important business character, and open to show-people only.

Many times during the delivery of the address the speaker was interrupted by enthusiastic applause, and every point told with the highly-appreciative audience.

Mr. Jacob Studt proposed, and Mr. E. B. Jarvis (his manager) seconded, a vote of thanks to the Mayor, Sheriff, and the Town Clerk for their attendance. The Mayor, in responding, again expressed his gratification at being present, and he also heartily agreed with the position Mr. Horne had taken with regard to providing wholesome amusement for the people, and he thanked the proposers of the resolution and the meeting for the kind way in which they had received the resolution, and coupled with it the names of the Sheriff and his friend the Town Clerk.

Alderman Blinkhorn, City Sheriff, said that they were anxious, as members of the Corporation, to further the interests of the old feast, and anything that could be done to improve the conveniences for that object would, he was sure, be carried out.

After the dispersal of the crowd, the usual business meeting of the Committee of the Guild took place. Mr. Horne explained the dangerous character of the proposed Bill for the Education of Travelling Children, and great indignation was expressed at the crude and utterly cruel proposals of that measure, and it was unanimously resolved that it be opposed at every step. An interesting discussion took place on the best means of arousing greater interest and securing better support for the necessary work of public propaganda and Parliamentary defence. In this discussion Messrs. Jacob Studt, James W. Bostock, J. Johnson (of the theatre, Barry Dock), R. Dooner and Son, J. Fossett, E. B. Jarvis, and others took part, Mr. Horne being warmly thanked by all the showmen present for his continued interest in their concerns and unfailing championship of their interests.

The following members were enrolled and additional subscriptions received:—A. Purchase (of the menagerie), £1 1s.; Mr. Johnson (the theatre, Barry Dock), £1; Messrs. Sutton and Son, £1; W. Moore, 10s. 6d.; H. Freeman, 5s.; J. Warwick, 5s.; E. Smith, 5s.; J. Wilson, 5s.; W. Dobson, 5s. Additional subscriptions:—Jacob Studt and Son, £2 2s.; R. Dooner and Son, 10s.; J. Fossett, 5s.

In the morning the hon. chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, preached at the parish church of St. Nicholas, in Barton-street, in which narrow thoroughfare the fair used to be held, and in the evening (after church service), assisted by the Evangelistic Band of this church, the hon. chaplain conducted an open-air service on the front of Mr. Studt's show at the fair. This was attended not only by the show people, but by a great crowd of visitors.

BARTON MOP AT GLOUCESTER CITY.

By the Rev. T. Horne.

How intensely conservative (I mean in the best sense) the British people are! How wise are those leaders and rulers of ours who remember this, and in their work for the betterment of civic life provide for the innate conservatism of our race, and legislate to mend rather than to end historic institutions! "Barton Mop" is essentially a Gloucester institution. It has its roots in the dim and distant past, and it begins a new lease of vigorous life to-day, because the City Fathers have wisely and well determined to be practical and tactful in dealing with it. The City Corporation and its able clerk have dealt with Barton Hiring Fair, or "mop," in such a liberal way that the people of the grand old cathedral town began to take an increased pride in their old Charter fair; and, as I have already stated, Barton old fair has become, under the city's enlightened management and modern conditions, one of the very best of our great town fairs.

To showmen it will be of interest and moment if I tell the story of how the fast dying "Barton Mop," under the able rule of the Corporation, has been transformed into one of the finest fairs in the world.

Under the old charter Barton Mop was located upon a small site known as Barton Hill, in the Barton Ward, or suburb of Barton. In the course of time the fair was removed into Barton-street, a continuation of one of the main arteries of the city. This was done in order that the permanent traders, the shopkeepers, and dealers in Barton-street might have their share of the extra trade that the fair brought with it. When the change from out-of-the-way Barton Hill or Green was made it was to the convenience and business profit of all parties concerned. So the change of site was established by use and custom. So long as ancient conditions of industrial and civic life obtained, so long were these somewhat free and easy and most primitive arrangements possible; but the industrial revolution did not pass by Gloucester City. Quaint and reposeful as it is, there has been in Gloucester the quickening of the modern spirit and the growth of a more advanced and up-to-date civic government.

For instance, as I sat in St. Nicholas Church listening to the good vicar of the parish wherein the new, as well as the old, fair is situated, I heard the whirr of the city electric cars, and saw the brilliant flash of the passing illuminated tram through the painted windows of the dear old church. Ancient and modern life thus were illustrated in the very Barton-street in which the old fair was held.

The immense change that has passed over showland in the last thirty years, the coming of the huge steam-driven roundabout, and the big cinematograph and great shows brought home the fact in Gloucester, as elsewhere, that it is no longer possible, with any regard to modern town street traffic, to hold fairs in the open roads and streets of the town.

This practical difficulty was for a time met by the enterprise of the showmen in leasing a piece of land conveniently near to Barton-street, where the big concerns could stand, and leave the run of the streets to the smaller shows and stalls. Then it was that the increased congestion of the traffic became of necessity a town concern, for at this time the city inaugurated its splendid tramway service.

The Corporation, instead of making the blunder of trying to abolish the fair, determined to provide a new site, so good and so commodious that every possible expansion and improvement was provided for. The new ground, leased for a term of years to the principal showman on the Gloucester circuit, Mr. Jacob Studt, has been an immense success from its inception, and I anticipate that in the course of a year or two it will rank in business importance with Birmingham, Nottingham, and Hull. At the present fair, as regards the quality and the quantity of its entertainments for the people, it is no wise behind the very best of our big back-end fairs.

This result, so quickly attained, is due, as we have indicated, to the enlightened civic policy of the Corporation in providing for the pleasure fairs of the people of Gloucester; but in a large way it is also owing to the ability, enterprise, and sound business sense of the lessee, Mr. Jacob Studt.

"The Oxleaze" is the local name of the vast meadowland bounded on one side by the flowing Severn, and now turned into Gloucester City Fairground. From the City Cross you are rapidly taken in the sumptuous electric cars down to the fair, and as you pass over Barton Bridge the vast assemblage of splendid shows is spread out before you. An immense quadrangle of fairyland and endless delight. When I went down at night to see the people as well as the fair I stood and watched it all from the vantage ground of the bridge, and never in all my varied experience have I seen a more entrancing or bewilderingly beautiful sight. A dozen gigantic machines lit up by tens of thousands of coloured electric lights, all the gilded carved work of these huge revolving marvels studded with electric lamps, vying with each other in the rapid mutation of colour. Then the vast multitude of the people, the joyous, light-hearted, happy, show-loving people, all classes, all sorts and conditions of men and women, in a fellowship of pleasure and recreation, crowding, surging, crushing along in cross-streams of eager, exultant life. Such is the fair under the best modern conditions.

Soon I found myself in the vast throng of people, so full of the joy of life, yet so orderly, so well restrained in the mutuality of a common purpose—to see and to be seen at Barton Mop. The promenade of the fair-ground—the place where people most do congregate—was alive with a spirit of ready comradeship. There was no rudeness, no rowdy element—all alike entered in the fun and freedom and jollity of the thing. We were all neighbours; and I, the parson, passed through that throbbing, eager, quick-tongued crowd, and never a word was uttered that a parson might not freely repeat from the pulpit. Then I saw the shows. Sedgwick's menageric, fourteen wagon-loads of wild beasts, a good show, that reminded one that the glories of George Wombwell still remain, and that beside the Bostocks there are now on the road splendid menageries, and that Sedgwick, Purchase, the Chipperfields, and a dozen more menageries in the second rank still travel the fairs. In Sedgwick's I saw the extraordinary performance of Miss Sedgwick in a den of wolves, a show that if given in the London Hippodrome would have all the town talking about it. In addition to this two lion performers put lions through exhibitions of animal training and taming. I then saw the menagerie of Andrew Purchase (one of Britain's veteran showmen), and here again were given lion taming and performing turns under the most exciting conditions—a capital show, with a still existing link with the past in the shape of one caravan of wax figures, all that now remains of the splendid waxworks that Purchase's father travelled the country with over fifty years ago.

In the central position of the ground, side by side in the most friendly competition, stood two of the most modern of British shows—the cinematograph theatres of Jacob Studt and Messrs. Dooner and Son. Here I found on the front of both shows, and also at the inside performances, the best and the latest novelties in the ever-progressing art of "the living picture"; the magnificent Marenghi-built organs, in a blaze of parti-coloured electric light; the graceful dancing to tuneful music by the coryphees of the outside parade; the quaint humour of the comedians, concentrated the crowds before these up-to-date exhibitions; and it is no flattery to say that they both stand in the front rank of portable theatres or coliseums.

Amongst the interesting shows of a minor character (I allude entirely to size alone) I found Prince Samonda and his charming partner, "The Mystic Princess," in the best séance of second sight I have seen in recent years. Their great turn, however, is a clever variant on the box trick. I heartily congratulate this clever couple on a performance that stands without a peer on the road in the great world of shows. Warwick's laughing show, Luta, the Mystic Lady, and Wilson's fine art show were each good of its kind. Prof. Taylor, with school of boxers, supplied the necessary sports element of the fair; and Fossett, with photo booth, caught and fixed for numerous patrons the passing shadows—by sunlight and flashlight.

The gigantic steam and electric machines were Jacob Studt's magnificent motor-cars; John Studt's two sets, the motor track and the zoological carousel, birds and animals. Wm. Symonds (the Gloucester showman) exhibited two high-class machines, the Venetian gondolas and the galloping horses; Patrick Collins, jun., two machines, the twin ships in the air and the Japanese machine "the wheely-whirly"; Mr. White had the tunnel railway, slipping the slope, the aerial flight, gem swings, and overboats; Strickland (the Worcester showman) had steam horses, shooting ranges, and varieties. Mr. Fossett, in addition to the photo booth, had shooting ranges; and the other shooting gallery proprietors were Messrs. Sutton, Hill, Dobson, and Moore. The ranges of park swings were by Messrs. Sutton, Hanks, and Strickland; sets of gem motor-cars and ponies by Messrs. Sutton, Matthews, Butlin, and Wilson. The other caterers, with throwing games, strikers, varieties, doll, and other frames, stalls, &c., were by Messrs. Embling, Davies, Clarke, Freeman, Butlin, Strickland, Smith, Fletcher, and others.

The following concerns opened at Maesteg Fair on Saturday:—W. Ford's four-abreast mountain gallopers, T. Danter's switchback, Prof. Carl Whyte's exhibition of bloodless surgery and hypnotism, E. Stockton's fine art show, and the shooting galleries of Scott, Jones, and Stocton.

"Pathe Freres," the world-famous cinematograph experts, have opened new and more extensive premises—31-33, Charing Cross-road, W.C. Our showmen readers will do well to make a note of this.

The Mayor of Gloucester has received a cheque for £20 from Mr. Jacob Studt, the lessee of the Corporation showground on the Oxleaze, with a request that the amount should be divided equally between the Gloucester General Infirmary and the Mayor's City Distress Fund, and the amount has been applied accordingly.

King's Norton kept the fair with the able assistance of Messrs. Farrell, with electric cinematograph, swings, shooters, midget horses, and throwing, Gess's boxers, Wright's up-to-date peep-show, shooters, cokers, and varieties, with many of the minor novelties on the Midland Round.

The Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd., publishes to-day a film depicting the remarkable spectacle presented by the start of the competitors in the balloon race for the Gordon-Bennett Cup, as it occurred in Paris on Sunday last. The vicinity of the large pond in the Tuileries Gardens has almost the appearance of the paddocks of a racecourse on a big day, with monster balloons substituted for horses. Swaying and tugging at their restraining ropes, the sixteen giant globes seem almost fretting with eagerness to start. Every detail of this aerial field of huge racers is excellently depicted, and an unusual scene of great animation is presented.

Another subject illustrates operations in Atlantic whaling. The film carries us to where, as boys, we often longed to go—into the unknown in search of the almost impossible. The pictures give wonderful sea effects. From a whaling-boat we shoot a harpoon into a whale, fasten it alongside, bring it to shore, "flense" it, secure the whalebone, and almost play at housekeeping inside the skeleton.

An exceptionally large gathering of big shows attended Dumfries Rood Fair this year. Brilliant weather prevailed, and the town was *en fête*. Commencing at the bottom end was Biddall's famous ghost illusion and bioscope, which did capital business with a nice company and a clean little show. The next stand was Pinder Ord's royal circus, with a large array of circus artists, including a capital performance of the elephant and two ponies, in statue tricks, presented by Mr. George Pinder. Facing this show was Ralph and Pedley's new concern, Aya, the flying lady, with Mr. Leon Gould, who reports very good business, in charge. Then came Leo's modern American show of living pictures, under Mr. Leo's able management, which was sailing along merrily; Green's cinematograph show, under the management of Jim Styles, has been drawing crowded houses all the week; Prof. Moore, with his family of trained athletes, has also had a good share of the business; Willmot's and Green's motor-cars, Day's shooting saloons, James Lavin with his boxing booth, Coderell with his hobby-horses and motor-cars, Fred Miller's variety show, Mackney's ghost illusion, and Clarke's cinematograph and ghost show completed the attractions.

Mr. Geo. Bernard, character-vocalist, who has just concluded a lengthy season at Teignmouth, will resume business in the halls on Oct. 15.

After a long and weary illness Prof. Thos. Howard, of the Marvellous Howards, has recovered, and has commenced business again at the Empire, Merthyr Tydfil.

The part of Lord Boodle in the new sketch *The Woman Who Was*, produced at the Oxford on the 24th ult., was played by Mr. Chris Van Bern, not Chris Burn, as erroneously printed in our notice of the production in *The Era* of last week.

Jack M'Kenzie and company, including the Barcelona troupe of dancers, with *The Belle of Barcelona*, are fast booking ahead through the agency of Tom Shaw, and Mr. M'Kenzie's popularity is being much increased by the production.

Roma and Romani, the classical musicians, have returned from fascinating with their melody large and enthusiastic audiences on the Rand and elsewhere in our newest South African colonies, and are once again delighting London audiences. They have an extraordinary list of bookings, which run to the end of 1908, and are engaged to appear at every hall of repute in the United Kingdom.

Mr. G. S. Thomas, the chef d'orchestre of Collins's, had a cordial reception from the gentlemen of the orchestra, and from friends in front, on Monday last, on resuming the conductor's chair after his successful season at Clacton's new palace.

An entirely novel turn, entitled Hy Mack, the Good-tempered Man, has been secured by Mr. G. Adrey Payne, through the agency of C. St. John Denton, and opens at the Euston on Monday. Managers loking out for a novelty will do well to see this act.

Mr. Lennox Barry has forwarded to the hon. secretary of the Music Hall Home fund a cheque for £3 2s. 6d., this being the amount collected by him during his term of management at the Wolverhampton Hippodrome.

FRED KARNO'S COMPANIES.

LONDON.
HOLBORN. "Moses and Sons."

NEW YORK, U.S.A.
GOTHAM. "Mumming Birds."

CARDIFF.
EMPIRE. "Early Birds."

NEW YORK, U.S.A.
HAMMERSTEIN'S. "Early Birds."

KETTERING.
AVENUE. "His Majesty's Guests."

WORCESTER.
ROYAL. "Saturday to Monday."

GLASGOW.
GRAND. Pantomime Season, 1906-7.

MANCHESTER.
PALACE. "The Football Match," Christmas, 1906.

AMERICA.
"Moses and Sons" Shortly.

AUSTRALIA.
Repertoire Tour of all Plays & Sketches.

SOUTH AFRICA.
Repertoire Tours of all Productions.

COMEDIANS, &c., now appearing:
Fred Kitchen
Billie Reeves
Rolando Martin
George Hestor
Harry Royston
James Le Fre
Chas. Emerald
Albert Bruno
Fred Palmer
R. H. Kitchen
James Russell
George Welch
Johnny Clegg
Bob Lewis
Herbert Landeck
James Fletch
Harry Howe
Arthur Dandoe
Sidney Chaplin
Will Moran
T. Ellis-Buxton
Dick Harcourt
Tom Manardo
Fred Whittaker
W. Crackles
H Lappo
Frank Morton
Will Lorenzi
Jack Osborne
Bert Williams
Anthony Gordon
J. W. Bradbury
Chas. Usher
Will Stanley
Fred Bendo
Will Fern
J. Springshon
T. McDonagh
Chas. Sewell
George Craig
Ernest Stone
Reed Almonti
Gipsy Dolin
V. H. Crawford
Alec Munro
Albert Layton
Bertie Crew
Chas. Sivado
F. Melroyd
J. Aubrey
Geo. Cooper
Sydney Lansdown
Bernardo Katz
N. Goodman
Frank Lester
Nat Lewis
H. Myers
D. Asher
Phil Sinclair
W. Davis
Sid Bolton
Sam Gossling
Arnold Harley
Herbert Summers

COMEDIENNES, &c., now appearing:
Leah Morris
Amy Rogerson
Leonora Castelle
May Yetman
Madge Rockingham
Ada Minister
Rosie Fenton
Janet Reeve
Minna Dixon
Ada Maskell
Sara Dudley
Violet De Grey
Amy Minister
Kittie Brunton
Amy Forrest
E. Silvee
Daisy Stone
Florence Medway
Nancy Hathaway
Rosa Abrahams
Bessie Shelton
Hilda Gordon
Hetty Ray
Blanche Newman
Bertha Hymans
Kat Hymans
C. Doncaster
Ruby Brown
Alys Harvey
Nellie Webster
Ethel Carlton
Ivy Lodge
Olga Sorrell
Lydia Weber
Cora Renard
Valetta Rushton
Lucy Walden
Mabel Clark
Lulu Lillian
Berenice Maxwell
Muriel Palmer
Annie Wright
Cloey Johnson
Maud Ruby
Ethel Gosling
Amy Hermance
Evie Naughton
Louie De Cubas
Lillian White
Rosie Moran
Dorothy Cleveland
Dollie Ardell
Cissy Truman
Gertie De Vere
Maud Clarence
Violet Jackson
Lilian Girvan
Minnie Constance
Ethel Lascelles
Marie McGregor
Dora Trent
Daisy Delaforce
Laura Mead
Freda Grant

MANAGERS:
John B. Helm, Harry A. Dooley, Lyndon Greenwood, Alf Reeves, Arthur Forrest, C. Sewell.

MUSICAL DIRECTORS:
Dudley Powell, F. H. J. Moran, Alan D'Albert.

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CAMBERWELL, S.E.

The Magnificent NEW WING just added to the above, comprising a Paint Room, Rehearsal Room, and Storage Dock, is now complete. The new Paint Room is furnished with Two Frames capable of carrying any Cloths. The new Rehearsal Room, splendidly lighted, ventilated, and heated, is 72 feet long, 21 feet wide, and owing to its exceptional height (26 feet 6 inches) can be used as a Practice Room for any Gymnastic or Aerial Acts. The huge Storage Dock, thoroughly ventilated and dry, covers an area of 316 square yards, and has a cubic space of 32,648 feet.

GENERAL STAGE DIRECTOR, AUTHOR, and PRODUCER, Harold L. Hilliard.
GENERAL BOOKING MANAGER, CONTROLLER, ADVERTISING, and ADVANCE DEPARTMENTS, Joseph Hindle.
SECRETARY FOR ALL COMPANIES, W. H. Chippendale.
ACCOUNTANTS, T. S. Bell and A. Jennaway.
SOLICITORS, Stanley, Woodhouse, and Hedderwick, E.C.

Sole Proprietor and Director,
MR. FRED KARNO.

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Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell." Telephone, Nos. 2341, 2341a Hop.

FLOREAT LAURI.

Starring Provincial Tour, After an Absence of Five Years from the English Stage on a World Tour, of Mr.

EDWARD LAURI

(of the Original Lauri Family, of Covent Garden, Drury Lane, Lyceum, Her Majesty's, and Garrick Theatres, London, and the Eden Theatre and Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris),

In a Musical, Protean Melange, entitled

IN HER BOUDOIR.
IN HER BOUDOIR.

This Melange is composed of the finest ingredients of Opera, Musical Comedy, and Farce, absolutely free from vulgarity or horseplay. This immediate huge success was instantly booked by the World's Greatest Combine, Messrs. Moss and Stoll, Ltd.

IN HER BOUDOIR.

Special Starring Engagement of Australasia's Premier Opera Bouffe Artist,

MISS MAY BEATTY

One of New Zealand's Valuable Assets.

MISS NINA OSBORNE

Another Sweet Songstress from Australia.

Tour
(under the direction of Mr. Hartley Milburn.)

Conclude To-night,
GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.

Oct. 15, Richmond.
,, 22, Hackney.
,, 29, Glasgow.
Nov. 5, Liverpool.
,, 12, Shepherd's Bush.
,, 19, Edinburgh.
,, 26, Newcastle.
Dec. 3, Manchester.
,, 10, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
,, 17, ,, ,, ,,
,, 24, ,, ,, ,,
,, 31, ,, ,, ,,
1907.
Jan. 7, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
,, 14, ,, ,, ,,
,, 21, ,, ,, ,,
,, 28, ,, ,, ,,
Feb. 4, Opera House, Cork.
,, 11, ,, ,, ,,
,, 18, ,, ,, ,,
,, 25, ,, ,, ,,
Mar. 4, Dublin.
,, 11, Birmingham.
,, 18, Walsall.

London, New York, and Australasia to follow.

Mr. Lauri
Will Produce Next Spring
a Musical Play Without Words,
Entitled,

A GARDENER'S DREAM.

by ANDREW MACCUNN and GEORGE LAURI.

Also a Duologue
by CHARLES H. TAYLOR,
Entitled,

"WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH OUR GIRLS?"

EDWARD LAURI.

Communications:
Mr. Milburn, 22, Leicester Square, W.C.

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ROMA AND ROMANI

The Classical Musical Turn.

HOME FROM AFRICA,
where they scored the Greatest Success ever made by any turn in their line.

PRESS NOTICES
would take a newspaper to reprint.

APPEARING NIGHTLY—
GRANVILLE, Walham Green.

MONDAY NEXT—
CAMBERWELL PALACE.

ROMA & ROMANI

Point with pride to the undermentioned bookings, booked by one who has had to pay his own railway fares and studies journeys:

Oct. 1.—Walham Green.
,, 8.—The Palace, Camberwell.
,, 15.—Hippodrome, Brighton.
,, 22.—Gaiety, Chatham.
,, 29.—Alhambra, Paris.
Nov. 5.— ,, ,,
,, 12.— ,, ,,
,, 19.— ,, ,,
,, 26.— ,, ,,
Dec. 3.—Vacant.
,, 10.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
,, 17.—Tivoli, Barrow.
,, 24.—Oxford, Middlesbro'.
,, 31.—The Palace, Carlisle.
1907.
Jan. 7.—Theatre Royal, Oldham.
,, 14.—Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.
,, 21.—London, Shoreditch.
,, 28.—Collins'.
Feb. 4.—Hippodrome, Norwich.
,, 11.—Hippodrome, Ipswich.
,, 18.—Hippodrome, Brighton.
,, 25.—Empire, Hackney.
March 4.—Empire, Holloway.
,, 11.—Empire, New Cross.
,, 18.—Empire, Shepherd's Bush.
,, 25.—Empire, Stratford.
April 1.—Empire, Cardiff.
,, 8.—Empire, Swansea.
,, 15.—Empire, Newport.
,, 22.—Empire, Birmingham.
,, 29.—Empire, Nottingham.
May 6.—Palace, Derby.
,, 13.—Empire, Leicester.
,, 20.—Palace, Grimsby.
,, 27.—Empire, Newcastle.
June 3.—Empire, South Shields.
,, 10.—Empire, Edinburgh.
,, 17.—Empire, Glasgow.
,, 24.—Empire, Belfast.
July 1.—Empire, Dublin.
,, 8.—Empire, Liverpool.
,, 15.—Empire, Manchester.
,, 22.—Empire, Sheffield.
,, 29.—Empire, Bradford.
Aug. 5.—Empire, Hull.
,, 12.—Empire, Leeds.
,, 19.—Hippodrome, Stoke.
,, 26.—Palace, Blackpool.
Sept. 2.—Grand, Gravesend.
,, 9.—Gaiety, Chatham.
,, 16.—Empire, Portsmouth.
,, 23.—Hippodrome, Brighton.
,, 30.—Alhambra, Paris.
Oct. 7.— ,, ,,
,, 14.— ,, ,,
,, 21.— ,, ,,
,, 28.— ,, ,,
Nov. 4.—Grand, Stockton.
,, 11.—Tivoli, Barrow.
,, 18.—Palace, Carlisle.
,, 25.—Hippodrome, Leeds.
Dec. 2.—Hippodrome, Liverpool.
,, 9.—Pavilion, Newcastle.
,, 16.—Palace, Glasgow.
,, 23.—Hippodrome, Birmingham.
,, 30.—Grand Varieties, Bolton.

ROMA & ROMANI,

as will be seen above,
Have ONE WEEK (Dec. 3, 1906) vacant.
The only week vacant until Jan., 1908.
Every one of the above have been made and judiciously arranged by
Our Only Agent—
WILL OLIVER,
1, Cranbourn St., W.C.

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"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

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TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 29, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17,
Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Nov. 5, Feb. 4, 18, 25, March 4, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Dec. 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, 11, 25, April 1, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Feb. 18, 25, March 4, on
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 19, Dec. 10, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Dec. 24.
Christmas week, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, 18, March 4, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Oct. 29, Feb. 11, 18, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Feb. 25, March 4, 25, April 1, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Oct 8, 22, Nov. 1, 12 (three nights each), Nov. 26, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Dalston, Oct. 29, Dec. 10, 17.
Reading, Nov. 5; Northampton, Oct. 29;
Chester, Nov. 5; Wolverhampton, Nov. 19;
Leamington, Oct. 8, 22, Nov. 1 and 12 (three nights each).
Wire, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Nov. 26. Wire.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
Nov. 12. Wire.
Address,
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Oct. 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 17, 24, Jan. 7, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 19, 26, and 'Xmas.
Address, E. Graham-Falcon, County T., Bedford.

HOWARD and WYNDHAM, LIMITED.
WANTED (through transferring), First-class Attraction, Nov. 26, Royalty Theatre, Glasgow. Address,
Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, Oct. 22 and 29. Wire,
Samuel James,
Grand Theatre, N.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Attraction, Dec. 17 and 31.
E. H. Page.

CARLTON THEATRE,
BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attraction. A few Spring Dates open.
Address,
James Alexander.

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.
WANTED, Known. Vacant for good No. 1 Attractions, Dec. 3, 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, and on, to Whit.
R. Addison, Limited.

THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE.
WANTED, Oct. 22, Oct. 22, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, First-class Attractions only. Fred Granville, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Nov. 26, on.
Apply, Hugh Robertson, T. R., Jarrow.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
WANTED, Really Good Companies, for Dec. 3, 17, and 24, on.
All applications for dates
to Hugh Robertson, T. R., Jarrow.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Dec. 10 and 17; also Good Pantos. for January. Address, E. B. Goulden.

PRINCE OF WALES'S T., MEXBORO'.
WANTED, First-class Attraction (Musical), Jan. 21. Address, W. H. Melton.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Feb. 25, March 25, April 8, and onwards, with exceptions. Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING.
WANTED, First-Class Company, three nights, one matinée, Nov. 1, and Sun., 7th, onwards. Apply, Seebold, Worthing.

GRAND T'S., CHORLEY and RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Big Musical and Farcical Comedies, something to draw the Public. Last week, "Miss Lancashire, Ltd.," £258; "Destroyer of Men," Aug. 20, £158; Frank Denman-Wood, £309; John Walters' Juveniles, £124; "Fatal Wedding," £240; Pardoe, £219. These are absolute facts. Open time, Radcliffe, for something new is Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 7; also Oct. 29, Nov. 19, 26, on, with exceptions. Grand, Chorley. Address, Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING, CO. DURHAM.
WANTED, good Dramas, for Oct. 22, unexpectedly vacant; also Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, and onwards. Wire for Oct. 22, pay week. Apply, P. Wilson.

LYCEUM THEATRE, GOVAN, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Good Attraction for Nov. 5, only vacant date this year. Address,
Rich Waldon, as above.

WANTED, Good Pantomime or Musical Comedy for Xmas and New Year.,
Dumfries and Hawick.
W. Payne Seddon, Opera House, Londonderry.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec. 3 and 10. Apply,
Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Companies,
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT,
Dec. 17, Jan. 21, and Feb. 25.
THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE,
Dec. 10, Jan. 14, 28, and Feb. 18.
Address, Charles Revill, Stockport.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Dec. 3, Jan. 28 (?), March 11, onward.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant April 22, onward.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY,
Vacant Oct. 22, onward.
(Three or six nights).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBORO',
Vacant Nov. 5, onward.
(Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant Dec. 3, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Nov. 5 (three nights), Nov. 12 (three nights), onward.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Nov. 8 (three nights), Nov. 12, onward.

"SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant Oct. 15, Dec. 24, onward.
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S" COMPANY,
Vacant Oct. 22, onward.

All Communications,
Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District, the Holding Capacity of which is nearly Double that of any other Place of Amusement in the Town. Visited and Re-visited by most of the No. 1 Attractions Touring.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, for the above, Jan. 21, Feb. 18, and March 11. on, with exceptions.
The following is a list of future (not past) bookings and pencillings for the ensuing season, viz.:—"Beauty and the Barge," Frederick Melville Co., J. W. Turner's Grand Opera Company, "When It was Dark," "La Poupee," "Lucky Durham," Norman V. Norman, Durward Lely and William Mollison's "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," Paumier and Howard's "Midnight Wedding," Hilliard Vox's "Alaska," Frank Bertram's "The Breed of the Treshams," Fredk. Mouillot's "Message from Mars" (fifth visit), William Greet's "The Earl and the Girl," Lingford Carson's Répertoire Company and "The Power of the Cross," Louis Calvert's "Sunday," Fred Karno's "Saturday to Monday," Charles Chard's and James Kiddie's Pantomimes "Goody Two Shoes" and "Dick Whittington," E. Hill-Mitchelson's "The Traitor," Lionel Rignold and Ada Blanche in "What the Butler Saw," "Human Hearts," "A Warning to Women," "The Night of the Party," George Dance's Companies in "The Duchess of Dantzic" and "Veronique." Some of the above are second and third visits to the Royalty.
Apply, Hugh Robertson, Jarrow.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
Nov. 19 (?), Dec. 17, 31 (?), Jan. 7 (Pantomime), Feb. 4, 11, March 4, on.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Dec. 31, Feb. 4, 11, March 4, 11.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Oct. 29, Oct. 29;
also Dec. 24 and 31 (panto. preferred).
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager,
Oct. 8, H. M. T., Barrow-in-Furness.

THEATRE ROYAL, DUMFRIES,
and NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
WANTED, Good Companies, December and January, three days each theatre. Alternate weeks already booked. Owing to the increase in business, three days per week will now be booked at each place.
Vacant Dec. 10, 24 (Xmas day at Dumfries), Jan. 14 and 28.
W. Payne Seddon, Opera House, Londonderry.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Nov. 19 (three nights),
Dec. 3, 17 (?).
Required, Big Attraction for Xmas and New Year weeks.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Co's., Musical preferred, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. Potts.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Jan. 28, Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, 1907.
All dates filled 1906.
Apply, James Kiernan, Owner and Manager.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, GREAT HALL.
WANTED, a Strong Attraction (any kind), Oct. 22, 23, 24. The Opera House Orchestra will be available, as the Opera House will not be open to the public on these days.
Charles Carey,
Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedies for few remaining dates.
Vacant Nov. 12, Nov. 12.
Address as above.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO; QUEEN'S PAL., RHYL; PUBLIC HALL, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Good Attractions, Musical preferred. Oct. 22, on, with exceptions, two nights each town; Xmas vacant. Apply, Chas. Chaplin, Sea View, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, to book Theatre Royal, Inverness. A few vacant dates, Oct., onwards. Cameron Burgess, Manager.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Musical preferred, for Christmas week, at Drill Hall, Hereford (Holding Capacity 1400.) A. Lovesey, Offa-street, Hereford.

WANTED, Musical Plays and Attractions (no dramas) for Grand T., West Hartlepool. Vacant Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3. F. Granville, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, Companies, Immediately, for Theatre Royal, Dereham, under new management. This week, F. H. Neville, "Silent Witness." Write, Royle and Mervin, Theatre, Dereham.

SANDY.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Magnificent New Town Hall, moderate rental, permanent stage, excellent accommodation. F. W. Western, Sandy, Beds.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Yeadon, good Companies, for three nights, Oct. 11, 12, 13, Nov. 8, 22, and 29, Dec. 13; also a First-Class Company for Xmas.
Wire for Oct. 11. Only vacant dates this year.
Geo. Bailey, Sec.

WANTED, Small, Smart, Up-to-date Companies Victoria Hall, Rhyl, Oct. 15, on, good crowd, good business, shares. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Peckham Public Hall, Rye-lane, S.E. Licensed for Music and Dancing by L.C.C. For vacant dates, apply Proprietor.

COMPANIES WANTED.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-Class Companies,

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE,
Feb. 4, 11, March 4, and various onwards.

CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND,
Nov. 1, Jan. 10, and various onwards.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
March 4, 11, and various onwards.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE,
Nov. 19, 26, and onwards, with exceptions.

William Martin,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, Companies, Nov. 29 (three nights), Dec. 13 (three nights),
Jan. 21, Feb. 4, March 4, April 8 (weeks), and several Spring Season Dates.
Also Sept. 9 and Oct. 14 next Year.
Charles Carey.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies,
Nov. 26 and Dec. 10.
Address, Gerald Harding.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Good Attractions, March and on, with exceptions. Apply,
Mark H. Lindon.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

WANTED, for Bordon Camp, Good Companies, immediate and future dates. Up-to-date pictures do well. Address, Manager, Theatre, Bordon Camp, Hants.

WANTED, for Large Hall, near London, First-class Fit-up Pantomime, Jan. or Feb., three or four nights, first in. Box 3,819, "The Era."

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Oct. 15, Nov. 26.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 24, 31.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22 and Nov. 5, Dec. 31.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 31
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Oct. 22, Oct. 22.
Christmas Week Vacant.
Douglas Bruce, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, weeks of Nov. 19 and 26.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
WANTED, Theatres, for this Genuine Success, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, Christmas, on.
Charles Harrington,
Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres,
Nov. 19, 26, on, Christmas.
Theatre Royal, Worthing.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO. in the Romantic Irish Musical Play,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Theatre for Oct. 15, Vacant owing to sudden closing of Grand T., Edinburgh; Oct. 8, Paisley Theatre, Paisley (six nights). Grand production, "Rollicking Rory," Autumn, 1907.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Dec. 16,
Dec. 10.
Address, J. W. Cordiner,
Oct. 8, GRAND THEATRE, RAWTENSTALL.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Oct. 22. 29,
between P., Blackburn (return) and T. R., Middlesbrough; and Nov. 12, between Middlesbrough and Junction, Manchester (return),
only open dates this year.
Managers with Good Spring and Autumn Vacancies 1907 are invited to forward
Dates to
Charles A. Leicester,
This, P.O.W., Grimsby; next, T. R., Barnsley.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO.. "JUDY."
WANTED, Oct. 22 (between Salford and London), Nov. 5, 12 (London or Midlands).
Charles A. Leicester,
This, P.O.W., Grimsby; next, T. R., Barnsley.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, Xmas week, also Jan. 28, Feb. 4.

"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER,"
Vacant Nov. 5, 19.
Eugene Bertram, T. K., Bristol.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, First-class Theatres for the above Magnificent Success.
Oct. 22, Oct. 22, Oct. 22,
Oct. 22, Oct. 22, Oct. 22,
also,
Dec. 3 and 24, Dec. 3 and 24,
Dec. 3 and 24, Dec. 3 and 24,
Jan. 21, 23, and on, with exceptions.
Most elaborately dressed and mounted, superb scenery. Eighteen artists.
Attractive printing. Everything carried.
Address, Frank Bateman, Theatre Royal, Bilston.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Oct. 15, Oct. 15, Oct. 15, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company, in the above successful drama. Wire, to-day, Leonard Dalrymple, Theatre Royal, Castleford; next, Alexandra, Hull.

"A WIFE'S TRIUMPH."
Ernest R. Abbott and Star Company.
WANTED, Oct. 22 and 29, between Chesterfield and London; also Nov. 26 and Xmas (?). An all-round artistic triumph. 22nd month of tour. Sutton Vane's successful Sporting and Domestic Drama. Playing eight return visits this autumn. Address, Ernest R. Abbott, to-day, T. R., Glossop; next week, T. R., Leeds (return).

E. A'DELL AND CHABOT'S COMPANIES.
"THE ROMANY'S REVENGE,"
Second Year of Tour.
WANTED, Nov. 5 and 12, to follow London.
"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR,"
by Eva Elwes. Vacant Jan. 7, 21, on.
Wire, A'Dell, Maesteg; next, Abertillery.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, Good Theatres,
Oct. 29.
Nov. 12.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.
Wire, James Bell, Theatre, Darlington.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, and Xmas.
George Denham, this, Chorley; next, Chester
WANTED, Good Theatre, Oct. 22, to follow Birmingham, for "In Sight of St. Paul's."
Wire, Carlton, Worcester.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Immediate Dates, as follows:—
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
including Miss Edith Blande,
Oct. 15 (follow Shakespeare, Clapham), 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19 (?), 26, on.

"A WOMAN'S PAST,"
Nov. 19, 26, various, on.

"WORLD'S VERDICT,"
Successfully Produced Metropole, Glasgow, Monday last.
Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 26, Dec. 10 (?), on.

DR. WALFORD BODIE,
The Pay-box Magnet,
Now Booking 1907-8.
Jan. 7, various on.
Theatres or Halls. Share, certainty, or salary.
Address,
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.
Telegrams, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres,

"FLORODORA,"
Nov. 26 (three nights), March 18, April 1, 8, 15, and various onwards.

"OLIVER TWIST,"
Oct. 29, Dec. 3 (three nights), 31, Jan. 7, 14, 28, April 1.

"THE SILVER KING,"
(by arrangement with Messrs. Polini and Melford).
Nov. 12, 19 (three nights each).

William Martin,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S
"BLUEBEARD" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Jan. 14, 21, and various onwards, with exceptions.
William Martin, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
by Hall Caine and Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, Best Theatres for this Sterling Attraction, Nov. 19 and Dec. 3,
also Dec. 24 and 31.
Rapidly booking, 1907.
Albert T., Brighouse, Oct. 7.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY AND MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO.,
in
"THE FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Oct. 29,
Nov. 12 (three nights).
Address, Mr. Silvanus Dauncey, T. R., Bournemouth.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Colossal Gorgeous Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Jan. 21, Feb. 4, and onwards.
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
Vacant Feb. 18, Lancs. or Yorks.
"ALADDIN,"
"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Feb. 18, Midlands.
Address,
James Kiddie, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, good Theatres, Oct. 22, Nov. 26, and Christmas.
Enormous success at Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Return date booked Sept. 30, 1907.
Every Scene and Property carried.
Harry Foxwell, Metropole Theatre, Devonport.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26. Xmas.
E. Carter Liversey,
The Athenæum, Lancaster.

"THE PRODIGAL PARSON."
WANTED, Theatre, New Year's Week, through obliging. W. V. Garrod, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres for this Dramatic Novelty. Vacant Feb. 18 (South), March 18, 25, April 1. Opened to full house here, in spite of big opposition (Moody-Manners and Hackenschmidt). Managers in doubt kindly refer C. Machin, Esq. Sante, T. R., Sunderland; T. R., Hartlepool.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Enormous Success.
Miss V. St. Lawrence as Fiend.
WANTED, for this Attraction, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 19, Xmas, and New Year, Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 18, 25, March 18, 25, April 15, 22, 29, and on, with exceptions. Montague Breadyn,
Next, Royal, West London.

New and Grand Production of "CLAUDIAN."
WANTED, Large Theatres, for Christmas, New Year, and Easter. See Companies Pages.
William Maclaren, Avenue, Sunderland.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Fifty-eighth week of present tour.
Booked and re-booked into Oct., 1907.
Cast, printing, and scenery A1.
WANTED, Oct. 22. Wire for Oct. 22.
Wire, terms, printing required, Oct. 22.
Everything free per return.
Frank Ayrton, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
WANTED, Theatres, for Oct. 22, "For Better or Worse," beautifully mounted, splendidly played. Dates, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, Theatres, "Mr. Hopkinson," Oct. 8, Nov. 5 and 19; "Mr. Popple," Nov. 19 and 26; "Are You a Mason?" Oct. 31 (four nights). All communications to Chas. Macdona, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

Enormous Success of
Mr. JAMES WELCH
and FULL LONDON COMPANY, in
"WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 5 and Dec. 10.
All coms., J. Nelson,
Lyceum Theatre, Newport.

"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
WANTED, Jan. 14, 21, and 28, Feb. 11 (only vacant dates). E. Vivian Edmonds, T. R., Leicester.

"WOMAN AND WINE."
WANTED, only Dates, Dec. 31 (?), Feb. 25 (?).
E. Vivian Edmonds, T. R., Leicester.

"MAN'S ENEMY."
WANTED, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, precede Yarmouth, Feb. 25, follow Lowestoft; March 18, follow Cardiff; April 1, follow Croydon; April 22, precede West London; June 3, precede Sunderland. John Power, 71, Weymouth-street, W.

"THE TRAITOR."
E. HILL-MITCHELSON and
HARRIS FINEBERG'S PRODUCTION.
WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26. E. Hill-Mitchelson, T. R., Sunderland.

"AT CRIPPLE CREEK."
WANTED, Xmas, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, Feb. 4, 11, March 4.
Blow, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

"UNDER TWO FLAGS."
WANTED, Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 25, March.
Mark Blow,
11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

WANTED, Theatres for "Did She Sin?" a play of strong human interest.
Watch for further announcements.

WANTED, Theatres, for "Her Lost Self," by Nita Rae. "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by the late E. A. Scudamore. Wanted Oct. 8, Nov. 5, 12, Xmas. Wire, Frances Delaval, Metropole, Abertillery; next week, address, Grand, Walsall.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Oct. 15, Oct. 15, Oct. 15, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company, in the above successful drama. Wire, to-day, Leonard Dalrymple, Theatre Royal, Castleford; next, Alexandra, Hull.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Nov. 19, between Jarrow and Brighouse. Dickie Clare, Queen's, Keighley.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
The Riot Scene,
The Attack on the Church,
The Easter Palace, with the Charge by the Bluejackets.
Pronounced "triumph of realism."
Vacant
Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 31, Jan. 21.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates for this Great Play.
Wins golden opinions on all sides.
Dec. 10, 24, 31, Jan. 7, 21.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates for this Human Play.
Vacant
Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, 24.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MISS MARIE DAGMAR AND
MR. FRED C. SOMERFIELD'S PLAY,
"A
BEAUTIFUL CRIMINAL."
Specially Complimented Monday Night by Sheriff Howard, Esq., on Splendid Play and Company.
After Seeing the Piece, Wm. Morton, Esq., Booked it for Whitsuntide Attraction, for Alexandra Theatre, Hull.
Will other Managers come and see the Play now?
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Oct. 22, Xmas, New Year, January.
Fred C. Somerfield, 17, Borneo-street, Walsall.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
WANTED, First-class Theatres only. Only Vacant Date this Year, Nov. 19.
Spring Entirely Filled, except March 4 (between Avenue, Sunderland, and Royalty, Glasgow) and April 1 (to follow Tyne, Newcastle).
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.
E. Graham-Falcon,
County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Nov. 19, Jan. 7, 14, Nov. 19, Jan. 7, 14,
MR. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Magnificent Production of
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
A Solid Success.
Address, F. S. Jennings, Lyric T., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 10, 31,
MR. SAMUEL JAMES'S CO.,
Entirely New Production of
"WHY WOMAN SINS."
Magnificent New Scenery and Uniforms.
Address, F. S. Jennings, Lyric T., Hammersmith.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Cardiff Pantomime; all new scenery, painted especially for this production.
Samuel James,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Croydon Pantomime. All new scenery, painted especially for this production.
Samuel James,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

EDWARD BRADFORD and COMPANY
submit
the World-Famed Domestic Drama,
"THE LOVE OF WOMAN,"
"THE LOVE OF WOMAN,"
"THE LOVE OF WOMAN,"
Under the Direction of
Messrs. Gore Ouseley and Langley Wyatt.
A Drama of Man's Desire and Woman's Devotion, Appealing to all Classes.
The Finest Domestic Drama of Modern Times.
Magnificent Plant of Printing by Messrs. Stafford and Co.,
Elaborate Scenery, Specially Painted for this Production by Messrs. Sayer, of Croydon,
Powerful Cast of Recognised Artists.
Everything New,
Everything Bright,
Everything Smart,
Everything Carried.
Everybody Satisfied.
WANTED, Nov. 12 and 19 (Midlands).
Langley Wyatt, 37, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart in the Title-Rôle.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres Nov. 12 (North),
Dec. 3 and 31.
Walter J. Baylis, New Theatre, Cambridge.

GRANVILLE and THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, Oct. 15, between Brighton and South Wales. Wire for Oct. 15, Oct. 15; also Xmas and on.
Fred Granville, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Oct. 8, 15, between London and Manchester. Oct. 29, Nov. 12, various, on. Refer this week, Wm. Coutts, Esq. W. J. Miller, Grand Theatre, Forest Gate.

WANTED, Oct. 22, Stanley Carlton's Cos "A Life's Story" and "A Marriage of Vengeance," by arrangement with Fred Benton. Next, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Xmas and Easter Week.
Fred Bulmer, Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Nov 5 (precede Portsmouth).
Fred Bulmer, Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Xmas week, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer, Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank.

"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Jan. 7, Feb. 4, 11, 18. H. A. Jordison, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Oct. 15, Oct. 15, Oct. 15, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company, in the above successful drama. Wire, to-day, Leonard Dalrymple, Theatre Royal, Castleford; next, Alexandra, Hull.

THE FAMOUS NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA.
THE FAMOUS NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA.
THE FAMOUS NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA.
THE FAMOUS NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA.
WANTED, Wanted. Theatres,
All arrangements complete for this week, with the exception of one week, commencing Oct. 29 (between Cheltenham and Burnley preferred).
Wire or write to Sole Managers,
Messrs. Jones and Douglass, 21, Water-street; or 14, Dale-street. Telephones, 5650 and 2499 Central.
Telegrams, "Motherland, Liverpool."

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, Circuses, or any place where money can be made, immediately, and onwards, for Prof. Robson's Royal Bioscope and Monster Vaudeville Company of Star Artists. Every turn fit to top a bill. I pay salaries, so I carry no duds. Best of printing obtainable. No expense spared to assure success.
Reply to
Professor Robson,
23, Promenade, Portobello, N.B.

WANTED, Dec. 24 and 31, Theatres or Town Halls, for E. G. Cumberland's Variety Co. Please state size of stage and if electric lights. Oct. 8 Hippo., Exeter; Oct. 15, Hippo., Wakefield; Oct. 22, Empire, Stockport.

WILL ONDA'S TOUR.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 15, 22, and Nov. 19, for the most Successful Variety Combination on the Road. Wire,
Onda, Hippodrome, Rochdale.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Artists who have Played in "The Chinese Honeymoon," and who are disengaged for tour commencing at Christmas, communicate with C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
WANTED, Spring Tour,
Leading Lady, Lilian Grant;
Heavy Man, Michael Severn;
Character Comedian, Dixon.
Character Actor, combine Management;
Chambermaid, The Tearer;
Young Chambermaid, Victoria Alexandra.
Address, with photograph (name written behind), last two references, terms, E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, Theatre Royal, Leicester. Letters marked "The Golden Ladder."

"WOMAN AND WINE."
WANTED, Spring Tour, Artists for the following Characters:
Marcel Kigadout, tall, powerful actress.
La Colombe, tall, robust, heavy lady.
Janet, Chambermaid, dance, capable of speaking dramatic lines.
Wardrobe Mistress, to speak lines.
Hugh Seymour, robust, aristocratic old man.
Alphonse, tall, handsome, heavy man, combine acting management.
Prof. Sawter and Charles Sawter, comedians.
Good responsible actors, ladies and gentlemen choristers (speak lines), troupe of dancers.
Ladies and gentlemen to walk on and understudy.
Carpenter and Baggagemen, small parts.
Address all communications, with latest photographs (name and address written behind), last two references, terms, height, age, E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, T. R., Leicester. Letters marked "Woman and Wine."

WANTED, Lead, Heavy, Juvenile, and Character; also Leading Lady, Chambermaid, &c., for No. 1 Tour of Drama. All Artists paid on sharing terms in proportionate ratio to importance of parts. Management of company under direction of committee elected by artists. Box 3,822, "The Era."

WANTED, by Guildford Dramatic Society, for Oct. 23 and 24 (rehearsal 22nd), a Lady for Lady Dedlock in "Lady Dedlock's Secret." Quote inclusive terms, photo. GEORGE S. TANNER, The Knoll, Godalming.

WANTED, for week Oct. 15, young, petite, English Actress, to play girl of 18 at a Moss Empire Glasgow; very small but important part in short duologue. Rehearse 12th, Glasgow. Full particulars, height, and names of last two parts in first instance, to Box 3,823, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady for Irish Chambermaid parts, must have genuine accent; able to sing, &c. Address, with photo., height, references, where not known. WHITBREAD, Scalby, Scarborough.

MR. SAMUEL JAMES'S TOUR.
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
WANTED, at Once, Good Juvenile Lady.
F. S. JENNINGS,
Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, Good Amateur (Lady) to play small but important part (title-rôle), in first-class Drama. Address, Box 3,811, "The Era."

"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
WANTED, at Once, First-class Actor, for Sir Robert Llewellyn, tall, good voice and appearance; must be capable of intensity. Wire, MORTON POWELL,
this, Grand, Birmingham; Mon., Royalty, Barrow.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, thoroughly experienced Heavy Man (Marius); must be young, and able to dress part really well, height not over 5ft. 9in., rehearse immediately. State age, exact height, weight, enclose recent photos. (stamped envelope for return), last two references (with present addresses), which will be applied for. Lowest terms for long tour through Xmas if suitable.
SANTE, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

"£1,000 REWARD" CO.
WANTED, Good Heavy Man, for Gilbert Lisle. Age, height, photo., last two references, and absolute lowest terms, PITT and HALLING, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

WANTED, immediately, for Long Stock Season, First-class Experienced Character Actor. Rehearse Tuesday next. Send full particulars, photo., and lowest terms, PERCY WILLIAMS, Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

WANTED, a Good Actor, tall, to play elderly gentleman in Sketch.
E. EDMUNDS,
127, Camberwell-road, S.E.

WANTED, Tall Juvenile Gentleman, Lord Rockingham, "Under Two Flags." State height, references, parts played, terms, MARK BLOW, Crown Theatre, Peckham.

WANTED, a Juvenile Gentleman for one week, good appearance, accustomed to Farcical Comedy. Terms, photos., references, to GEORGE UNWIN, 92, Oaklands-grove, Shepherd's Bush. No interviews.

WANTED, Known, a Vacancy occurs for an Amateur Gentleman in a First-class Dramatic Company, to play light comedy part and learn duties acting-manager; thorough tuition. Apply, full particulars, enclosing photograph, to Box 3,785, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Lady and Gentlemen Amateurs can be received in Company touring West-End Success, to walk on, and in some cases understudy. No premium required, and small salary paid to refined, well-dressed people. Photographs, references, all particulars, Box 3,809, "The Era."

WANTED, Two Good Amateurs, for small but important parts in first-class Drama, Autumn and Spring Tour. Address, Box 3,812, "The Era."

"THE FLOOD."
OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, for eight weeks, commencing Nov. 12, Comedian (Bert Gilbert's part of Best Man at Wedding), Juvenile Lady,
and Chambermaid.
Particulars, terms, &c. (ladies please send photos.), to W. MOWBRAY HARLE, Empire Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, immediately, First-Class Basso or Baritone, as Interlocutor, also Tenor Robusto; long engagement. State experience, age, and absolute terms, to CHARLES DARE, 296, Old Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, Boy Vocalists, age 14 to 16, Stage Experience preferred; good salary. Address well known Professional Troupe, The Elm Farm, Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex.

WANTED, immediately, Trio or Quartette of First-Class Speciality Dancers, Clever Children, who can sing and dance, and Wardrobe Mistress, who can cut out and make. Age, height, references, lowest terms, photos., E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, at once, Acrobatic Dancers for Troupe (song and dance), only first-class talented and good-figured young girls need apply. Address letter only, with photo., full length,
G. L., 104, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Two Young and Pretty Ladies, for quick high-kicking acrobatic dancing; must be experts.
Address, terms, &c, to CHARLES MAJILTON,
Post Office, Glasgow.

WANTED, tall, experienced Dancers, for Quartette, high kicking, cartwheels essential. Photos., height, lowest terms to EMMIE MILSTED, Grand Varieties, Sheffield.

WANTED, Smart Lady Dancers. Call 12 o'clock, Monday, Oct. 8,
14, Panton-street, Haymarket.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ethel Lonsdale, just concluded thirty weeks' engagement with Charles Parker's Co.; also the original "Ferdie's Ma-in-Law," with Plockton Foster's Sketch. Vac. for Sketch or Panto. Next week, Palace, Hammersmith.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists in all Lines; also tall Chorus and Show Ladies.
Apply,
C. ST. JOHN DENTON,
34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, for Pantomime,
Artists in all Lines,
and Choristers.
KELSON TRUEMAN,
Regent House, 233a, Regent-street.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S AGENCY, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Good Ballet Dancers, for Provincial Pantomime. Photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S AGENCY, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Fifty Chorus Ladies, for Provincial Pantomime; height not less than 5ft. 6in. Good money paid to the right people. Apply with photo. in tights, to GEORGE COOPER,
Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, DANCERS,
Good-looking and Smart,
for Troupes and Pantomimes.
Apply by letter,
stating full particulars,
and enclosing photograph,
to JOHN TILLER AND CO.,
15, LIME-GROVE, OXFORD-RD., MANCHESTER.

WANTED, Artists, for "Cinderella."
Send terms, particulars,
H. A. JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, London and Provinces. Apply, Tuesday and Thursday, 2 to 3, EDWARD CRANSTON (2nd Floor), Rule's, Maiden-lane.

WANTED, Musical Director, Dame, and Speciality for Pantomime. EDWARD CRANSTON, 8a, Oxford and Cambridge-mansions, Edgware-rd.

WANTED, Known, George Conquest, Empire Theatre, Southend, open to negotiate for production of Aerial Ballets. Address as above.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Miss Daisy Morell, the popular Principal Boy, at Lib. for Panto. Monday, Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, Known, Miss Amiee Vetta, at Liberty for Pantomime, Principal Girl. Speciality, fine Drum Solo, Own Original Song and Dance. C/o WARWICK, Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Louie Hurman, at Liberty, Principal Boy, last year West London Theatre. Permanent, 7, Canonbury-avenue, Highbury, London, N.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Jonie West, Scotch Comedian, Dancer, last season, Dame, with Fred J. Little. 139, South Wellington-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Fred Clements, Comedian at Liberty for Pantomime.
This, The Bedford; next, Middlesex.

WANTED, Known Mabel Hind, at Liberty for Pantomime.
This, Grand, Bolton; next, Hippo., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Frank Keegan and Co., Funniest Knockabout Act on the Road, at Liberty for Panto., Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21. Com., 8, Somerleyton-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Pantomime, by A.G.L.R.A., the Miniature Belvedere, in an Extraordinary and Herculean Act of Physical Strength; an act with drawing powers. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known The Melroses, Comedy Artists and Sand Dancers, vacant for Pantomime, Second Girl and Dame. First-class references. Oct. 8, South London; 15th, Euston.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Pantomime, Alf Bert and Marie Curtis, Principal Girl and Comedian; both good voice. This and next week, Shaftesbury Hall, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Known, Novel Speciality for "Robinson Crusoe," Beatty and Bentley, "Darkest Africa," featured, two years Howard and Wyndham. BLACKMORE'S Agency.

WANTED, by Onzelo and Onro, Eccentric Juggling Equilibrists and Comedy Trapeze Experts, Oct. 22, Pantos. or Halls. Perm., 75, Cobourg-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Hastings and Fields, Comedians, Vocalists, Patterers, and Dancers, Liberty Panto. Address, 66, St. Stephen-st., Salford.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, Pantomime. Last six seasons
Mr. Milton Bode, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot,
Messrs. Ernest Stevens, and R. C. Buchanan.
Address, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement as Musical-Director with First-Class Pantomime; Composer and Arranger; highest credentials. Address, DIRECTOR, 110, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE AND CO., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram open to accept Contract or Salary; can arrange painting of Pantomime Production. Address, C/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address, 44, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, an Engagement or Contract. Address, ALFRED FORD, Scenic Artist, 110, Wenlock-street, New North-road, Islington, N.

WANTED, Contracts, Theatre Fit-ups, Repainting, &c.; experienced. Low terms. Note address, 104, Loughborough-park. W. HENRY, Scenic Artist.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

Stage.
WANTED, Finance, for a West-end Production, on tour, of a farcical comedy by reputable author. Certain success. Paris open. Genuine applications please address, COMEDY, c/o Anderson's Advertising Agency, 14, King William-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Assistant Acting-Manager, for important suburban theatre, fully experienced in shorthand and typewriting, book-keeping, and general theatrical business duties. State salary required, appearance, age, and references, to Box 3,818, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Syndicate or Investor, with £3,000, for Provincial Theatre; unique opportunity. Particulars, Box 3,820, "The Era."

WANTED, for Suburban Hippodrome,
Acting Manager and Treasurer;
must deposit £100 to £200.
Principals only address,
Messrs. GRINLEY and GRINLEY,
106, High-road, Lee, S.E.

WANTED, Young Man, capable of prope., lime, and generally useful. Preference to one who can touch up and keep scenery in repair. Lowest terms, references, particulars, MANAGER, Assembly Room Theatre, Normanton, Yorks.

Billposter.
WANTED, Steady, Single Young Man, for permanency; used to the Slides. Wages, 25s. weekly. State age and reference from last employer to WILLING and Co., Ltd., 28, Castle-street, Hastings.

WANTED, Young Man as Billposter, steady, reliable, and capable. Age, wage required, and refs. to BILLPOSTING Co., LTD., Barnsley.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress. Send age, last two references, lowest salary required, to ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

WANTED, Position to learn Acting-Management, by Young Gentleman, 23; excellent references. Box 3,799, "The Era."

Private Secretary.
WANTED, by Young Gentleman, aged 21, thoroughly reliable, position as above, to Artist of repute, or Manager good Theatre or Hall, resident or tour. Expert shorthand-typist (own typewriter), book-keeper, and experienced in box-office. Highest references. Box 3,787, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, young gentleman, 24, well educated, good appearance, seeks Engagement as Amanuensis or in any other capacity; competent book-keeper, correspondent, &c.; good pianist; would not object to travel; ex. ref. C., 69, Arcadian-gardens, Bowes Park, N.

WANTED, Known, Louis M. Dacre, on fortnight's holiday, thanks Henry Silvani, Esq., for four years' comfortable engagement, three Advance, one (1906) Business-Manager. Per., 37, Upper Dorset-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Engagement by Practical Electrician and Operator; excellent references; open at once. Write, HAMILTON, c/o 104, Ryland-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Bill Inspector, Disengaged, willing to assist Management; last ref., six years. Apply, BERT PECK, 2, Gowan-avenue, Fulham.

WANTED, by Court Dressmaker, ten years' West-end experience as cutter, fitter, designer, &c., position as travelling companion to professional lady, reliable, and very energetic, age 25 years. Write, Miss WEBB, 16, Offley-rd., Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Situation by reliable young person, as Maid or Dresser; good knowledge of dressmaking. W. H., 83, Umfreville-road, Harringay, N.

WANTED, by Young Man, 22, Situation, any capacity, four years' experience; good refs.; 5ft. 6in. F. F., 453A, Seven Sisters-road, N.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Conductor, Violin, or Piano, thoroughly experienced in Variety and Dramatic work, to open in November.
Also Good Band, complete,
for Open-air Promenade, July and August.
Give lowest terms, references, and permanent address,
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

LITTLE and DARCY'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, First-Class Musical Director, to compose and arrange.
Full particulars and references to
FRED J. LITTLE,
Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S
ROYAL CIRCUS,
EDINBURGH.
WANTED, First Violin, Flute and Piccolo, Trombone, and Drums, with all effects, to complete orchestra, all to open Monday, Oct. 15. Lowest terms in first letter, to save time, also last two references. Applications to HARRY WAMBA, c/o Dale, 7, Glen-street, Edinburgh.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Violinist, to act as Conductor when required. Address, with terms and references, to C. B. FOUNTAINE, Royalty T., Chester.

WANTED, Violinist, 'Cellist, Pianist (ladies), refined, experienced artists, for permanent engagement and deputising. Write, with photo., &c., Miss E. MONTEITH WEBB, Directress, 87, Shepherd's Bush-rd, W.

WANTED, Second Violin, Second Cornet, and Second Clarionet; grumblers and incompetents please save stamps. Apply, BANDMASTER, Circus, Biggleswade, Beds.

WANTED, for Grand Opera, three nights, Oct. 4, 5, 6, 1st Violin, Cornet, Bass, various others to augment. Probable permanency. Good family band write. Absolute inclusive terms, references, and full particulars, MANAGER, Assembly Room Theatre, Normanton, Yorks.

WANTED, to Complete Band, for Palace, Kilmarnock, commence Oct. 29, First Violin, Cornet, Bass, Drummer, with own effects. Lowest terms, with references, to J. CUMMINGS, 66, Whitevale, Dennistoun, Glasgow.

WANTED, to commence Monday, Oct. 15, First Violin;
must be experienced player.
Latest reference to J. C. IMESON,
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, First Violin, Second Violin, Bass, Flute and Clarionet, Double-handed, open Ohmy's Circus, Barrow-in-Furness, Oct. 15. Address, FRANK FISHBURN, 55, Brentnall-st., Stockport.

WANTED, First-Class Cornet Player,
for Stage, to join Oct. 22,
Empire, Bradford;
all travelling expenses paid after joining;
must be single, steady, and reliable.
Permanency to suitable man.
State age, references, and salary required.
Bob King write to
MANAGER, Ten Loonies,
Oct. 8, E., Dublin; Oct. 15, E. Belfast.

LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM, COLNEY HATCH, NEW SOUTHGATE, N.
WANTED, Musician Attendant (Solo Cornet). Candidates must be single, and from 21 to 35 years of age. Wages commence at £29, increasing £1 per annum to £35, together with £2 good conduct money, and special payment for band duty; also uniform, board, lodging, and washing. Forms of application can be obtained from the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

WANTED, for Mrs. E. Pinder Ord's Royal Circus and Menagerie, Cornet Player, also Euphonium; long engagement for suitable people. All letters, address, Sanquhar, Dumfriesshire.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, or Side Drummer, as an Attendant in a County Asylum. Salary commencing £34, increasing to £48, together with board, lodging, and uniform; single man.
Apply, with testimonials, to
W. GRAINGER,
County Asylum, Stafford.

WANTED, Solo Cornet,
to Double String preferred.
ALEX. CORRIGON,
Conductor, Penzance Military Band.

BAND, QUEEN'S WESTMINSTER VOLS.
WANTED, for above,
Good Clarionets, Bassoon, Cornets, Horns, Baritone, Solo Euphonium, and Bass Drummer.
London men only.
Apply, B. M., 58, Buckingham-gate, S.W.

WANTED, E Flat Bombardon, for small pitching Band. Terms Shares. E. ROBINS, 2, Gillmore-cottages, Ashfield-place, Ashley-road, Bristol.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, good Viola, to open Oct. 15, permanent. Apply, with age, terms, and references, to CHAS. ELPHINSTONE, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

WANTED, reliable 'Cellist, must have had experience in Music Hall work, open 15th. Apply with references, MANAGER, Hippodrome, Hastings.

WANTED, Good 'Cello and Second Cornet. Apply, 11.30, Saturday, 6th inst.,
Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe.

WANTED, Lady Pianist, Violinist, and 'Cello Player, for Quartette, experienced in Orchestral work, indoor engagement, for about six months. State age, last place, &c., to Box 3,798, "The Era."

WANTED, Pianist, to Travel, Singer preferred, Good Vamper and Sight-reader; permanency suitable man. MARSHALL'S Auction Tent, Market Ground, Heywood, Lancashire.

WANTED, for Comic Opera Co., a thorough good Pianiste, to play for Rehearsals in Town; long engagement if suitable. Apply Monday, Oct. 8, between 11 and 12, to LAWRENCE, Percy Hall, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road, W.C.

WEST RIDING ASYLUM.
SCALEBOR PARK,
BURLEY-IN-WHARFEDALE.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, to form Small Orchestra (including Piano). Salary commences at £30 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing, and band pay.
Apply, stating age and experience, to the CLERK and STEWARD.

WANTED, Orchestral Musicians (ladies), immediately. Photo .and particulars to Box 3,806, "The Era."

WANTED, Musician, First, Second Violin, Flute, Trombone, Double Bass, Drums, and other Instruments. Full particulars, MANAGER, Pictures, Colston Hall, Bristol.

WANTED, Musicians, before Accepting Engagements in Glasgow, to communicate with Mr. J. BARTLEY,
717, New City-road, Glasgow.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement. 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, concluding long engagement with Jules Richeux, Esq, Pavilion, Ramsgate, at Liberty now and Xmas.

WANTED, Known, T. C. Poyser, late Musical-Director, Grand Theatre, Leeds, Disengaged. Address, 98, Gordon-hill, Enfield, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader, or First Violin, experienced in any business; last place 4 years. Address, 43 Warren-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Musical Director, in first-class varieties, or theatre. Highest credentials. Address, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 110, Kennington-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, shortly Disengaged, really First-class Conductor, smart, experienced, and reliable, Expert Violinist and Pianist. Permanent address, LEONARD SPOHR TUTE, 31, Marle Hill-parade, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Known, can join at once, Circus, Menagerie, &c., the Bros. Stubbs, Leader and Solo Cornet, thirteen years Newsome's Hippodrome, can supply complete Band (Brass). Address, 26, Lime-grove, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Ethel B. Coda (Henderson), violinist and accompanist, at Liberty at once, any business. 139, Park-rd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Lady Violinist, an Engagement in Theatrical or other Orchestra (not Leader). NESBITT, Day's, Newsagent, Effra-parade, Brixton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Violin, and Double Bass, together or separate, at Lib. Oct. 22. Address, VIOLINIST, 3, Roseford-terrace, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist and Harpist, good répertoire of music, hotel or restaurant. J. F. STEWART, 2, Howden-terrace, Leeds.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Engagement, as First Violin, previous experience in ladies' bands. Now at liberty. VIOLINIST, 60, Kimberley-gdns., Harringay Park, N.

WANTED, Known, Lady Violinist, at Liberty, experienced Soloist and Orchestra, Vocalist, can play piano, for Pictures or Dramatic. VIOLINIST, 1, Hill-square, Edinburgh.

WANTED, by Amateur, Engagement, any place as First or Second Violin, Theatre preferred; salary no object; good sight reader. W. FAIRLEY, 46, Lauriston-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet (late Band 4th Royal Fusiliers), any business. Good refs. Add., DICKINS, 35, Brown's-rd., Walthamstow.

WANTED, by Good Cornet, Engagement, Theatre or Variety; start at once. A. LAUNDER, No. 6, Wharton-road, Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Cornet, experienced, Variety and Theatre; can open at once. J. ROBSON, 2, Ring o' Bells-yard, Halifax.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, experienced; finishing season Matlock.
Address, ABBOTT, Robinson-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, in theatre or music hall. Will terminate shortly, Band, Aberystwyth. Address, W. KAYE, 133, Gordon-st., Leigh, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement, by Miss Ethel Barrs, cornet soloist, experienced, any business. Splendid references. A. L. HOLMES, 23, Strand, Blaengarw, Glam., S. Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, by First or Second Cornet, Orchestra. CLEARBORE, 16, Birkbeck-grove, Acton.

WANTED, at Once, Engagement, as Cornet, with Circus or any kind of Business. Will A. Gray write? ROBT. TAYLOR, 27, Newton-road, Newton-le-Willows, Lowton, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement, as reliable First or Second Cornet; can join at once. Address, CLARENCE BURROWS, 7, Stone-street, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, any Business, theatre preferred, experienced and very reliable. Liberty now. Box 3,813, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Clarionet, any business, shares or wages; sober and reliable; good refer. Apply J. GAUB, 11, Bury-road, Birkdale, Southport.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Clarionetist, Engagement, any business, bonâ fide refs., total abstainer, season finished, West Pier. MCCORMICK, 8, Cleveland-rd., Brighton.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Engagement, Theatre or Variety; experienced and reliable; good refs. Address, CHAS. MANTLE, 1, Kensington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Clarionettist, any business, London or suburbs preferred; good refs., &c. KELLY, 293, Munster-road, Fulham, London.

WANTED, by reliable Clarionet, Engagement, any business; good refs. H. JEFFORD, 140, Hampton-road, Southport.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bassoonist, experienced and reliable, theatre or music hall, &c. Address, RUSSELL, 50, Eglinton-road, Plumstead, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Bassoonist and 'Cellist, deputising or permanency, any business; good refs. Address, 3, Benedict-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED by Bassoon, Engagement, any line; experienced and reliable; good refs. 10, Orchard-st., West Didsbury, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, experienced in theatre work, musical comedies, or varieties. T. EDWARDS, Pier Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, String Bass, any business, Disengaged Oct. 7. P. BROWN, West Pier Orchestra, Brighton.

WANTED, by Double Bass, experienced, Engagement or Deputising, any business. Apply, BASSIST, 1, Honeybrook-rd, Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, late Principal Trombone, Riviere's Orchestra, good soloist, season terminated, any business. Address, TROMBONE, 459, Caledonian-road, N.

WANTED, Engagement, for good Trombone; steady and reliable, any business; good refs., &c. TROMBONIST, 14, Clift-terrace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Situation as Trombone, Theatre or Music Hall; London or Suburbs preferred; good references. HURST, 105, Culford-rd., Dalston, N.

WANTED, by Trombone, Experienced and Reliable, Engagement, any business, music hall preferred, W. MORRIS, Guide, near Blackburn.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, or Deputising, any business, join at once. W. J. SMITH, 23, Hampton-st., Walworth, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as French Horn or Second Violin. Good refs.
Box 3,801, "The Era."

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by an experienced 'Cellist, Engagement, in Tea Room or Hotel. Address, Miss ANGLESS, 41, Tyrrell-road, East Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, by experienced Lady 'Cellist, Evening Engagement in London, Sundays excepted. References on application. 'CELLIST, 118, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo 'Cellist; highest experience and references. Address, P. S., 78, Palatine-rd., Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, by Oboe, Engagement, Orchestra or Military.
J. P., 303, Albany-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, age 19
All letters, c/o 7, Provost-rd., Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Known, Æneas Gibson, Harpist, Pianist, Disengaged, abroad preferred; long experience, sight reader, reliable; references. Age 31, single. Musical Instrument Dealer, Ilkley.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Flute and Piccolo, thoroughly experienced and reliable, can open Monday. Best refs. Address, FLAUTIST, 110, Kennington-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Flute and Piccolo; excellent refs. Address, E. FRASSINI, 41, Cambridge-street, Edgware-road, W.

WANTED, Engagements, Flute and Clarionet, any business, experienced, good references. T. and C., 25, Guildford-road, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, by experienced Pianist, Engagement, Orchestral, Variety, Accompanist, &c., London preferred. THOMPSON, 42, Holsworthy square, Gray's Inn, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement as Pianist, Music Hall or Theatre, used to Variety, and good reader. Address, ERNEST GILPIN, 49, Swan-street, Trinity-square, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, Orchestral or Concert; excellent accompanist and reader, abstainer; good references. R. W., 4, Church-road, Seaford.

WANTED, by a Young Lady, Engagements (as Pianist), for Dances, with Orchestra or without. Write, K. RUSSELL, 49, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement as Pianist, combine Second Violin; experienced, steady; excellent refs.; Orchestral, Variety. MANTON, 1, Romney-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Pianist, used to any business; excellent refs.; can open at once. Address, STOLL, 30, Egerton-street, Middlesbrough, Yorks.

WANTED, by First-class Pianist, Immediate Re-engagement, any business, quick reader, transposer, young. CAMPBELL, 45, Edward-st., Bury.

WANTED, Engagement as Pianist, by Newton Robinson, any business; steady, reliable; Orches. or self.; good refs.; any distance. G.P.O., Wakefield.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced Variety preferred; references; now disengaged. A. LILLE, 93, Queen's-road, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, as Drummer and Tympanist, with own Tympanis; highest references. DRUMMER, 87, Caledonian-road, King's Cross.

WANTED, Known, Madame H. E. Anglees's celebrated Ladies' Orchestra, now disengaged. Address, 78, Norwood-road, Herne Hill, S.E.

To Pier Managers, Corporations, &c.
WANTED, Known, a First-Class Italian Orchestra or Military Band, at Liberty for next summer season; best picked soloists; smart uniforms; répertoire includes all the latest English selections. MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Box 3,765, "The Era."

WANTED, by Romano's Italian Instrumental Quartette (in native costume), Engagement, Hotel or Restaurant; choice and extensive répertoire; excellent references. Address, ROMANO, 4, Vine-street, St. Heliers, Jersey.

WANTED, Known, Rosabel Ladies' Military Band, for ex Theatres, &c. Miss ROSA TREE, care of Hart and Son, 28, Wardour-st., London.

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands, apply, Bureau, 3, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to Dec. Quartet now Disengaged.

WANTED, Engagements, the White Ladies' Orchestra, 8 to 22 performers. Highest references. Conductor, Miss GASCOYNE OLD, 238, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, Known, the Orchestral Association is prepared to provide Managers and Conductors with Professional Players, from Single Performers to Complete Orchestras, for First-class London or Provincial Theatres, Concerts, or Balls, &c.; or Military Bands of any number, including Conductor if required. None but bonâ fide professional musicians are admitted to membership. For particulars, apply SECRETARY, 28, Gerrard-street, London, W. Telephone, 4469 Central. Telegrams, "Harmonists, London."

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

WANTED, the very best Circus Artists, at once, to open Oct. 15, all must be up-to-date, and please state when last appeared in the town. All Artists engaged will have the option of being engaged for Ohmy's Grand new Circus, which will open Dec. 20, in one of the largest towns in Lancashire. Address, KING OHMY, 111, Raikes-rd., Blackpool.

WANTED, Some Young Ladies, Coloured preferred, to learn gymnastics. For particulars, apply, PROFESSOR OF GYMNASTICS, Box 3,821, "The Era."

WANTED, a Young Man, Top-mounter, about 9st., for acrobatic comedy act. Write, with details, Box 3,804, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Dec., onwards, for winter season, the refined John Scott Family of Male and Female Equestrians, &c., including Poor Billy, the King of the Ring; all are specially invited to witness our numbers.
Address,
12, Charles-place, Holwells, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, the Yeldings, the Yeldings, the Yeldings,
at Liberty Monday, Oct. 14, with a number of first-class equestrian acts, including double and single jockeys, doing all the new and novel jumps. We lead all; second to none. With own horses. All letters, &c., address, the YELDINGS, General P.O., Belfast, Ireland.

WANTED, Known, Tudor's Four Champion Trick Ponies, five acts, Liberty, with or without Riding Goat and Turpin Mare. Hippo., Blyth.

WANTED, Known, the Stephenson Family of Circus Artists, will be at Liberty November, onwards, with a number of acts, including splendid troupe of dogs, also horses and ponies, &c. Can produce spectacles, &c., or could find full circus company if required. For terms, address, F. STEPHENSON, Post Office, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Zampo and Clown, Novelty Number.
Sanger's Hippodrome, on Tour.

WANTED, Known, Flora Steckel and Funny Stock, refined gymnastic Speciality, vacant Dec. 24. Agent, STEBBINGS. Permanent, 12, Seymour-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, the Maros, Comedy Bar Performers, Liberty Oct. 8, 15. Address, 126, Porter-street, Hull, or STEBBINGS'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., Touring Ireland, Hanneford's Canadian Circus wants following dates: Nov. 12, Dec. 3, 10, 17. All coms., 10, Fillwood-road, Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, smartest of all Lady and Gent. Gymnastic Pot-pourri Acts, free Nov. 5, 26, Dec. 10, on. Address, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, Oct. 8, 15, and 22, the only vacant dates till 1908, by Les Babusio, the World's Greatest Staircase Performers and Balancers extraordinary. Wire, Empress, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Oct. 22 and 29, Miss Lilian, Contortionist, assisted by clown agouste. Tour required. This, Hippo., Dartford; next, Empire, Dover.

WANTED, Known, Almero, of Aerial Norwegian Spar Fame, vacant Oct. 29, onwards. Permanent, 142, Fernhead-road, St. Peter's Park, Paddington, London.

WANTED, Alecias, Wonderful Rolling Globe Performance, quite novel and new, a few dates vacant. Address, Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Bert Leonard Trio, Herculean Acrobats, Equilibrists, and Roman Rings, on tour, Duffy's Circus, Ireland. Lib. Nov. 5, also Pantos. Agent wanted. 140, Oak-st., Norwich.

WANTED, Oct. 8, 15, Phinas and Aida, Revolving Equilibrists; Noel, Versatile Artist; one or two distinct turns. Hippo., Dewsbury.

WANTED, Known, Kavados, Juggler, First-class Act, Liberty Oct. 8, 15. Wire, 2, Rosamond-place, Upper Brook-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement as Trainer or Keeper, in Zoological Gardens, at home or abroad; fifteen years' character. Box 3,797, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists.
RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY,
RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY,
RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY,
RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY,
Representing the Best Establishments.
The Best Numbers Required.
Pleased to see any turn.
30, Maiden-lane, Strand. 6704 Central.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Nothing too big. Send full particulars, with lithos. (if any), to MORGAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Oct. 15, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for the CHAS. W. POOLE'S
NEW IMPERIAL MYRIORAMA,
under the direction of John R. Poole.,
for 6 months' tour, commencing Dec. 3,
Artists in all Lines (those who have visited the Palace, Gloucester, please write).
Band: 1st Violin (Musical Director), Second Violin, Bass, Cornet, Trombone, Flute and Piccolo, Clarionet, Drums and Effects.
Staff: Picture Workers, and Smart Effect Workers, and Bill Men (those who have been with Sanger's or Barnum and Bailey preferred).
Sobriety indispensable.

All applications from artists to be addressed,
J. R. POOLE, Drill Hall, Wigan.
Applications, Band and Staff, to C. F. COUPER,
Drill Hall, Wigan.
Silence polite negative.

WANTED, Artists, in Every Line, Big and Small. I can book you. Those wishing to be booked for the North, Oct. 8, or later, write at once. I also book for the South. Big Bookings this week. DREW BAYLEY, Agent (The Early Bird), 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Monday, and onwards. Terms must be low; hall small.
MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29. CHARLES A JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists for Glasgow Concerts. Lowest terms and permanent address to the SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Saturday Nights only; those in the district preferred. CARR and CARR, 23, Wellington-street, Portobello.

PALACE, LANCASTER.
WANTED, Artists all Lines.
JOHN FELL, Proprietor.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
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Big Variety Turns.

Something New and Up-to-Date.
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Something New and Up-to-Date.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.

For Immediate and Future Dates.

Send at once, Terms, Dates, and Lithos.
Those having a Good Act can rely on Immediate Work
I can give you nine months' solid work.
WILL SLEY,
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WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street,
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Manchester.
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Manchester.
Manchester.
Telephone 09144

Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,

DALTON'S AGENCY. Note new Address,
DALTON'S AGENCY. Note new Address,
DALTON'S AGENCY. Note new Address,
DALTON'S AGENCY. A feature in connection with this Agency will be Artists Vacant "Monday next," also "Artists Vacant Immediate Dates," and Artists are requested to post me if open Monday next, and mention at same time any immediate vacancies; but "Monday next" being a feature in the future, a penny stamp may mean a shop. Please note to always send private address where staying in the respective towns for early delivery of telegrams. Tele., "Granbeste Withington." Telephone. 193 Didsbury. 29, Maulideth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Engagements Waiting. Continental Artists send photos. and posters to INTERNATIONAL FOREIGN AGENCY, 64, Fleet-street, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Artists wishing to be Booked for First-class Music Hall Engagements, please Communicate with BROOKS'S AGENCY, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now on. Apply,
Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, especially big comic acts, for immediate dates. Price no object. 31, Islington, Liverpool. Contract waiting for the Hugo Troupe. Kindly wire address.

WANTED, Artists, Oct. 15 and 22; also Good Combinations, Nov. 19, onwards.
Palace Theatre, Oldbury.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Oct. 8, on. FRED DURHAM'S AGENCY, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone, 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, also Doubles doing Singles, and Good Combinations. TOM KELLEY, New Central Hall, Colne, Lancs.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, for Oct. 15, 22, and 29,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities,
Nothing too Big,
to Communicate,
D. BARNARD'S AGENCY, 24, Islington, Liverpool.
Telephone No. 1114 Royal.

WANTED, Big Stars, Oct. 15, onwards. Terms, lithos., bookings,
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Stebbings, Manchester."
Telephone, 09261.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S AGENCY, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Big Stars, Oct. 15, onwards, full up for small numbers.
State lowest terms, bookings, &c.
JESS VERNO'S Agency,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Drawing Stars, Oct. 20 (seven nights), Refined Artists, Oct. 22, onwards, new to Macclesfield. Lithos. particulars, lowest. J. ROLMAX, Manager, Harrell-Palmer Co., Victoria Hall, Glossop.

WANTED, Two Star Turns, for Oct. 29, through releasing artists going abroad. Address, full particulars, &c., to WORSWICK, Hippodrome, Wigan.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
Rehearsal, Monday next, 2 o'clock, for John Higgins, Bessie Willow, Jack Hylton, Bros. Onda, Tom Parker, Nancy Renshaw, Lester, Vernon's Bioscope, Will Rain and Co.
WANTED, Variety Talent. Share or salary. Letters, SMITH and Co.,
Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

WANTED, Immediate and Future Dates.
Talent in all Lines.
JAMES FIONI'S AGENCY,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Mlle. Florence, Globe Walker, wire address.

WANTED, for Palace, Kilmarnock, Oct. 29, on Star Acts all Lines. Absolute lowest; once nightly. J. CUMMINGS, 66, Whitevale, Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

ROYAL
HIPPODROME,
BELFAST.
Now in course of erection,
and
when
finished
will
be
the
largest
and
Handsomest
Building
in
Ireland.

WANTED, February,
onward,
all
the
Finest
Acts
in
the
World.
Price no object
New
and
Novel
Turns
of
every
Variety.
The above is booked
in conjunction with
TIVOLI THEATRE,
DUBLIN.

WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

ALHAMBRA VARIETIES, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Talent, all Lines, Sketches, Comedians, Comedy Acts, &c., &c.
JAMES FIONI'S AGENCY,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Mlle. Vanda, Juggler, wire address.

WANTED, Known, any Star Acts who have odd weeks vacant should send list of vacancies to FRANK LYNNE, Empire, Leeds. (AITOUN'S Agency.)

WANTED, Special Acts, in all Lines, Oct. 15, 22, Nov. 5, 12, and Xmas Week.
MARTINO'S AGENCY, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 17, 24, onwards, Speciality and Variety Acts, Serios, Sisters. T. GANNON, Agent, West Grove, Bristol.

WANTED, First-Class Refined Acts, Monday, four weeks certain, for the Biograph Provincial Co. Lowest and particulars, DAVIS, Corporation Theatre, Chesterfield.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
PALACE THEATRE, CORK.

Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.

WANTED, Oct. 15, 22, and onward,

Big Specialities,
Star Comedians,
Jugglers,
Illusions,
Ballad Vocalists,
Cycle Acts,
Animal Shows.

Nothing too Big.

Must be refined or useless.

Lowest terms and lithos.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wiggesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

PALACE, BOSTON.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. GEO. SAPHRINI.
WANTED, Top Liners, Star Comedians, Star Comediennes, Star Specialities, nothing too big; share or salary; Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 12. Wire for 15th.

WANTED, Top-liners, Top-liners, Comedy Acts, Specialities, &c., for first-class houses, Oct. 15, and on. LEO FRITZ'S AGENCY, 211, Parade, York-rd., Leeds.

WANTED, the Cream of the Profession, to send lithos., memos., bookings, vacant dates, and lowest terms. Address, BILLY HENDERSON, 30, Handforth-road, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, immediately, good Soprano Vocalist, also Musical Turn and Bioscope Operator, combine Baggage for Tour if suitable. Terms must be low, money sure.
A good Pianist Required.
Apply, PROFESSOR ROBSON.
23, Promenade, Portobello, N.B.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, Good Musicians, to join couple in first-class musical illusion act, everything ready. MYSTICS, 29, York-street, Blackley, Manchester.

WANTED, Sisters doing Singles, Sing, Dance, and Play Piano; refs. Photos., lowest terms for long tour. H. SYLVESTER, King's Hall, Grimsby.

PERCY HONRI in "CONCORDIA."
WANTED, smart, handsome Young Lady; lines, sing, dance. Photo., age, height, lowest terms (state if musical). Letters only, PERCY HONRI, London Pavilion, W.

WANTED, Young Lady, no previous experience, willing to learn, to join Comedian. Write or send photo. to Mr. LEONARD, Mitcham, Surrey.

PERCY HONRI in "CONCORDIA."
WANTED, Knockabout Comedian, sing, dance. Photo., age, height, lowest terms (state if musical). Letters only, PERCY HONRI, London Pavilion.

WANTED, First-Class Comedian, for funny Tragedian's part, Music Hall Sketch. Address THOMPSON, 140, Gassiott-rd., Upper Tooting, London.

WANTED, Juvenile Comedians, Juvenile Vocalists, Juvenile Acrobats, Juvenile Dancers, Juveniles in all Lines. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, Society Entertainer, also to accompany Pictures. State lowest salary. P. OXTOBY, Post Office, Doncaster.

WANTED, Juggler, or Musical Show, New to Rochdale, Oct. 15. PARDOE, T. H., Leek; after Sunday, Palace, Bridlington.

WANTED, a really good Sand Dancer, to arrange a dance and show a few steps. Terms, &c. DANCER, 19, Mark-mansions, Westville-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Good Lecturer and Effect Worker, combine stage-manager, for picture show. Latest refs., lowest terms. J. CUMMINGS, 66, Whitevale, Dennistoun, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Cinématograph, Electric and Lime, good supply of pictures, one hour's show, steady and reliable man, references indispensable, six months 'comfortable engagement, money certain. MANAGER, 3, Lebanon-gardens, Wandsworth, London, S.W.

WANTED, two thoroughly experienced Bioscope Operators, alternating and continuous currents.
State salary required and references.
VERNON'S Bioscope,
Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, with machine and latest films, to act as light baggageman. Terms, refs., &c., Mr. HARRY LISTON, P.O., Thorne, Doncaster.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, lime and electric. State lowest salary and give last two references. P. OXTOBY, Post Office, Doncaster.

WANTED, Commence Oct. 29, Palace, Kilmarnock, Experienced Operator, for Bioscope, electric and lime. Latest refs., lowest terms, J. CUMMINGS, 66, Whitevale, Dennistoun, Glasgow.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by Sheila McNeil, Scotch Comedy Artist, Monday, through obliging. Wire, Palace, N. Shields; after, NIVEN, 15, Chapel-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, by Sisters Beatrice, Duettists and Dancers, Monday next, and on. Wire or write, 35, Florence-st., Islington. Thanks Mrs. Lawson for contracts.

WANTED, Monday next, also 15th, by Sisters Ely, the pretty Talented Duettists. To save time, wire 74, Cobough-street, Leeds.

WANTED, by Cento, the Man in the Monkey's Skin, for his Speciality The Cycling Monkey. Oct. 29, to follow Hippodrome, Dartford. All coms., 6, Middle Market-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Oct., and on, by Trippello, refined musical act (challenges all saxophonists), burlesque bassoon, expert xylophonist, great tubular bell peal, &c. Address, 224, Alfreton-rd., Nottingham.

WANTED, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, 26, Dec. 3, by Cull Pitt, "Funny Fakir and Facialist." Phenomenal success on the Stoll Circuit. Address, Oct. 8, Empire, Nottingham.

WANTED, Oct. 15 and 22, Midlands, by Martinengo, solo 'cellist and baritone, scena, "The Unemployed Musician." This, Palace, Perth; next, P., Gloucester.

WANTED, by Charles Danton, Character Comedian, in speciality song, "The Policeman," introducing struggle with burglar. Wire for Monday, Palace, Boston.

WANTED, Known, Neville Delmar, the Whistling Dandy of New York, at Liberty Monday for Tour. 19, Mark-mansions, Westville-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Oct. 8, on, by Spearman Potts, Illusionist, with Mistletoe Bough, the Greatest Mystery on Earth. This week, bottom of bill, King's, Gateshead. Re-booked after first performance Monday, at increase. Sensational, and different from all others. Managers, don't believe me; see the show. Four people, and the best throwaways on earth. Address,
16, Day-street, Newcastle; or,
Mr. JOE MAY, King's, Gateshead,
who knows a good thing.

WANTED, Oct. 15 and on, by Parkie Roberts, Ecc. Comedian, Halls, Sketches, &c. Thanks L. Thiel, Esq. This, G., Blyth; next, P., Oldbury.

WANTED, by Carl Hershal, Up-to-date Magician and Bioscope Operator, dates, 1907. Perm. Address, 27, Minto-street, Ashton-u-Lyne.

WANTED, Oct. 15, 22, 29, the Great Original Kyoto, Comedy Japanese, Mysterious Box, Contortionist, &c., a funny but clever act; May Geraldine, Chic Dancing Comedienne. Success, Hippo., Scarboro'. Monday, Oct. 8, Gaiety T. of Varieties, Blyth. Wire.

WANTED, Oct. 15, 29, on, by Trick and Trixie, comedy musical artists. Terrific success everywhere. Oct. 8, Palace, Lancaster.

WANTED, Known, The Bohemians, Will and Madge, Instrumentalists.
Palace, Lancaster. Vacant Oct. 15.

WANTED, Monday next, by Lee and Arden (Phil and Lily), in comedy duologue. Wire, Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, Monday and Oct. 15, by The Monck-tons, in uproariously funny Musical Comedy Duologues. 5, Kerfield-crescent, Grove-lane, Camberwell.

WANTED, Monday next, wire Clyo and Rochelle, 61, Higher Temple-street, Ardwick, Manchester. Please note our future new name, viz., Wall and Robson.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Monday next, also Oct. 15. The Melias, the Dancing Professors, Vocal Duettists, Coon, Sand, Ragtime. Wire, 9, Mains-street, off Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Oct. 22, 29, for Duncan and Brasque's refined musical dramatic duologue. Highly complimented by every manager. Address, Empire, Bristol.

WANTED, Monday next, also 15th, Sword and Robb, Comedians and Dancers.
Wire, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

WANTED, Monday, by Chant and Chant, Comedy Vocalists, Patterers, &c.; also Oct. 15, on. 87, Wollaton-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, The New Harmony Quartette (mixed voices); good répertoire. Terms, &c., c/o MILGROM BROS., 28, Mile End-road.

WANTED, Dec. 24, Jan. 21, by Los Granadas, world's greatest trampolin comedy novelty. Empire Theatre, Hackney. Agent, TOM SHAW.

WANTED, Known, Three Cheers, original speciality, special scenery, chimes, introducing wonderful Performing Cats. Vacant Oct. 15, 22, 29. CHEERS, Post Office, Watford.

WANTED, Oct. 22, 29, also Panto., Three Orchids, in "Funniosities at the Refreshment Bar." Can appoint agent. C/o "The Era."

WANTED, by the Prinellas, Monday next, beautiful scena, "A Country Flirtation"; also single. Wire, Pier; or, 7, Warwick-road, Worthing.

WANTED, offers for one week, Oct. 15, 1906, by Stanley's Urchins. Wire or write offers. Regent Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, by Floria, Equilibrist of Extraordinary Strength, in his Comique Transformation Slack-wire Act, assisted by Musical Lorelei.
New, novel, clever, refined,
Comique and serious.
Great success on the Continent and South America. First time in England. Descending on my hands with the wire. This wonderful feat of equilibrium is performed only by me. C/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Oct. 15, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist. A genuine novelty; always successful. Thanks Messrs. Fortune and Granville and Edgar Stebbings for Contracts during past week. Monday, Hippo., Dewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, Karl Birvell, F.O.S., Ventriloquist and Mimic, Refined and Original, Liberty Monday. Wire, Pleasure Gardens, Stapenhill, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Kriss, Ventriloquial Scotsman, Vacant Oct. 15, 22, 29, two turns if required. Wire or write, KRISS, Leven.

WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 26, for "The Plucky Nipper." EDWARD SURREY, to-day, Pavilion, Altrincham; next, St. James', Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, also Oct 15, by Billy Ross and Co., Greatest Comedy Act on the Stage. Starring, Hippodrome, Sheerness. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippo., the Top-liner. Big stage set, novel spectacle. Vacant Oct. 29, and Nov. 19, only dates previous to London season. Managers wanted. Sure success, and well staged, dressed, and up-to-date turn. Address, 2 weeks, Colston Hall, Bristol.

WANTED, Alice Fontainbleau's Famous Troupe of Trick Somersault and Highest-leaping Dogs in England, entirely away from others, a few dates between Oct. 12 and Dec. 15. London Xmas. Address, Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Sergt.-Major Williams's Dogs, that drill like soldiers, the masterpiece of training, engaged pantomime season, 1906-7, Liberty Oct. 8, onward. 24, Belgrave-st., Leeds.

WANTED, immediate Dates, share or salary, the most Sensational Act ever seen. Handsome costume and stage set, great Street Parade with Dogs. CHARD'S 14 Trained Dogs, 52, George-street, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Trick Cyclist, can do single tricks, good bearer, own machine; would entertain Lady Partner. Address, Box 3,814, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Comedian and Pantomimist, part in Sketch or Drama; good reference. Com., LINGARD, 3, Clement-st., Lower Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, by Pantomimist, Equilibrist, and Comedy Tumbler, Engagement in Troupe or with partner; good references. Letters, CADEROS 1, Reed-street, West Hartlepool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Continental Acrobatic Pantomimist, age 22, height 5ft. 4in.
AMIABLE, 7, Inkerman-st., Collyhurst-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, by Young Man (22), Assistant to Artist, or take comic part. CLARKE, 22, Rawstorne-street, Goswell-road, E.C.

WANTED, Known, a young Trick and Knockabout Comedy Cyclist wants to join another or troupe; has own machines and props. Box 3,795, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Young Man, Experienced, smart, willing, and steady, seeks Engagement as assistant to illusionist or juggler, to combine baggage, &c., permanency preferred. ALBERT, E. FARMER, 103A, Garrison-lane, Birmingham.

WANTED, a Permanent Engagement, by Le Clair, with the latest Urban Bioscope. Change of pictures weekly. 76th week at Pier Pavilion, Southend.

WANTED, Engagements, public or private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 336, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Dates for Lingwood Bioscope and Illustrated Songs, films changed weekly. Electric or Lime. LINGWOOD, 31, Watcombe-road, South Norwood.

WANTED, Dates, for the New Pictures of the Century, good two hours' show.
MANAGER, Victoria Hall, Rhyl.

WANTED, Permanent Resident Engagement, by Operator, lime, electric, with own machine or without, three years' reference, thoroughly reliable. Apply, best offers, CLAY, Post Office, Burnley.

WANTED, Bookings, by Bioscope Operator, with or without machine. WALKER, 1, Lorne-street, Fairfield, Liverpool.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Electrical, Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture four and six pole Showmen's Dynamos (improved pattern), also new Flame Arc Lamps, geared motors, for driving organs and roundabouts, large stocks, cable, carbons, globes, incandescents, all classes of repairs; new line, direct coupled portable electric plants, driven by paraffin.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is going ahead with up-to-date Lines in Field Glasses, Fancy Goods, Clocks, Jewellery, &c.

WANTED, Known, Bunn and Co., 18, Dagnall-place, Brady-street, London, E.,

Butter Scotch Packets, marked 3d. Per Packet every Packet, 5s. 6d. a gross.
The Small Butter Scotch, 2s. 6d. a gross.
Best Quality only.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

WANTED, Known, to Market Men, Pitchers, Exhibition Stall Holders, and others, the Balmoral Confectionery Company, 20s, Diana-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne, are now making Bank's Royal Edinburgh White Milk Butterscotch, four large tablets in each packet, edged with all the latest tartan colours. The quickest selling packet on the market, marked 3d. per packet; also same size packet in Swiss Milk Chocolate. We are now sending sample packets out to the trade. Big packets. Big packets. Quick and prompt delivery. White Milk Butterscotch, 6s. per gross; Milk Chocolate, 7s. per gross.
Carriage forward. Cases free.

WANTED, Known.—A Word to the Wise is Sufficient. A Client writing June 25, 1906, says:—Bag puncher took £300 in a little over three months. For price, write Sole Agents to the Makers, viz., the Mills Novelty Co. MINERVA AUTOMATIC Co., 120, York-rd., King's Cross, London, N. Largest Variety of Automatic Machines in the trade. No Junk. Don't buy worn-out machines of old pattern; get a genuine Mills 1906 pattern.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., the largest Tent Manufacturers in the World have removed their Tent Loft from Wisbech to Lowestoft. Sole Manufacturers of the Rotproof and Waterproof Tent Canvas, "Birkmyres Cloth," in colours, green, brown, black, khaki, and white. Most durable and waterproof for Showmen's Tents, Tilts, &c. GOUROCK ROPEWORK Co., LTD., Lancaster-place, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Circus, and Roundabout Proprietors, that De Salis and Co., of Leighton Buzzard, are manufacturers of Showmen's Colours, Paints, and Varnishes, suitable for Switchbacks, Galloping Horses, Rounding Boards, Swings, &c., &c. Specially recommended by Mr. A. Higgins, Artist, of Totterdown, Bristol, and others.
All Showmen should send for price list and samples.
Specialities.
"New Royal Red."
"Salisello," a perfect white enamel.
Extra Pale Durable Body, and White Copal Varnishes.

WANTED, Known, Showman's Letter Cloths, Artistically and Strikingly painted in fancy colours. ROCHE, Artist, 22, Lansdown-rd., Lee, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Cheapest House for .22 ammunition, targets, guns, all Rifle Range requirements and Fair Goods. STACEY and Co., Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, Good Novelties, to Open on Saturday, Oct. 15, for Scotch Exhibition, Lowestoft, Sixth Annual. One week here and one week at Yarmouth; distance ten miles. Also wanted, Handkerchief Embroidering Machine, on hire, for two months. One Space to Let, for monograms. Good business done. Apply, MANAGER, Sea View Exhibition, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Novelties and Freaks, for Nov. and Dec.
PICKARD'S American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties, Tattooer, and Lady Palmist, shares or salaries. Apply, OWEN BAGAN, 48, North-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Good Quick-showing Novelty, to work Side-show, out of Menagerie, on sharing terms. Will Alf and Florrie write? Address, "The Era" Letter-box.

WANTED, Quick Showing Novelty, with Paintings, open Oct. 18, salary or shares. Capt. TEXAS, Lorne Arcade, Ayr.

WANTED, Good Freaks, Living Novelties, open at once. Sale of books, also post-cards, allowed. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks, Dublin.

WANTED, two good Living Freaks or Novelties, to open Dec. 24, eight or ten weeks. FREDK. STEWART, 124, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Zeta, Character Reader, Disengaged, concluded four months' brilliant season, New Spa, Bridlington. Address, 14, Courriers-lane, Ipswich.

WANTED, Character Reader, Best Position, High-class Block, Permanent Exhibition, 8 and 9, Arcade, Lord-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Tattoo Artist and Character Reader at Morrison's Rifle Range.
197, Cowcaddens-street, Glasgow.
Splendid position.

WANTED, Planksman and Comedian, one who can handsell preferred; good shop to sober, reliable man. Box 3,800, "The Era."

WANTED, several smart Doorsmen, to wear uniform, smart appearance, good delivery. Letters only, C. WILSON, 22, Low-hill, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Joe Andy, Comedian and Planksman, at Liberty, steady and reliable. Wire or write, 5, St. Stephen's-st., Chapel-st., Salford.

WANTED, Known, Harry Renard, Handseller and Entertainer, at Liberty for Auction Marts. Wire or write, RENARD, 9, West-road, Lancaster.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a Complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS FOR OCTOBER, 1906.
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ENGLAND.

Oct. 6. Amesbury (1,000)
Oct. 6 Brough Hill (1,000)
Oct. 6. Glodwich (it 000)
Oct. 6. Ilkeston (25,383)
Oct. 6 Marlboro' (3,046)
Oct. 6. Pilsley (2,347)
Oct. 6. Winchcomb (2,964)
Oct. 8. Abingdon (6,480)
Oct. 8. Cirencester (7,536)
Oct. 8. Great Grimsby (63,138)
Oct. 8. Halesowen (9,000)
Oct. 8. Houghton-le-Spring (8,000)
Oct. 8. St. Ives (Hunts.) (6,700)
Oct. 9. Alcester (2,500)
Oct. 9. Barkerend Feast
Oct. 9 Hartlepool (22,737)
Oct. 9. Kingsclere (2,000)
Oct. 9. Ledbury (3,259)
Oct. 9. Moreton-in-Marsh (1,559)
Oct. 9. Penryn (3,190)
Oct. 10. Chipping Norton (3,780)
Oct. 10. Colne (23,000)
Oct. 10. Gosport (29,000)
Oct. 10 Henley-in-Arden (1,000)
Oct. 10. Lancaster (40,329)
Oct. 10. Leicester (211,574)
Oct. 10. Mitcheldean (750)
Oct. 10. Northleach (180)
Oct. 10. Sherborne (6,000)
Oct. 10. Tavistock (4,728)
Oct 10. Tetbury (1,989)
Oct. 10. Tewkesbury (5,419)
Oct. 10. Worksop (16,112)
Oct. 11. Ashford (12,808
Oct. 11. Basingstoke (9,793)
Oct. 11. Burwell (Cambs.) (2,000)
Oct. 11. Faversham (11,300)
Oct. 11. Henley-in-Arden
Oct. 11. Highworth (2,500)
Oct. 11. Hingham (1,564)
Oct. 11. Hungerford (5,000)
Oct. 11. Hull (240,618)
Oct. 11. Lingfield (3,200)
Oct. 11. Lowestoft (29,842)
Oct. 11. Nuneaton (25,000)
Oct. 11 Ramsbury (2,200)
Oct. 11. Thame (2,911)
Oct. 11. Torrington (3,006)
Oct. 11. Tring (4,368)
Oct. 11. Wooler (1,500)
Oct. 12. Bedford (35,144)
Oct. 12. Caistor (Lincs.) (2,000)
Oct. 12 Hitchin (10,072)
Oct. 12. Needham Market (1,300)
Oct. 12. Stratford-on-Avon (8,310)
Oct. 12. Warwick (11,889)
Oct. 13. Ashton-in-Makerfield (18,695)
Oct. 13. Aylesbury (9,244)
Oct. 13. Basford (Notts.) (11,600)
Oct. 13 Buckingham (3,400)
Oct. 13. Clay Cross (8,348)
Oct. 13. Crick (624)
Oct. 13. Highworth (2,500)
Oct. 13. Farnsfield (942)
Oct. 13. Hockley Heath (755)
Oct. 13. Ilmington (705)
Oct. 13. Luton (36,400)
Oct 13. Middleton (Stoney) (300)
Oct. 13. Pinxton (2,412)
Oct. 13. Shipston-on-Stour (1,700)
Oct. 13. Tapton (229)
Oct. 13. Wantage (3,765)
Oct. 15. Bakewell (2,850)
Oct. 15. Faseley (1,800)
Oct. 15. Southam (1,800)
Oct. 16. Burley-in-Wharfedale Feast (3,310)
Oct 16. City Road (Bradford) Feast
Oct. 16. Hereford (21,382)
Oct. 16. Salisbury (17,117)
Oct. 16. Shipton-on-Stour
Oct. 17. Axminster (3,500)
Oct. 17. Banbury (12,967)
Oct. 17. Ivinghoe (1,300)
Oct. 17. Maidstone (33,516)
Oct. 17. Market Bosworth (911)
Oct. 17. Newbury (11,061)
Oct. 17. Wigan (60,770)
Oct. 18. Daventry (3,780)
Oct. 18. Hatfield (4,000)
Oct. 20. Arnold (8,757)
Oct. 20. Chichester (12,241)
Oct. 20. Clitheroe (11,414)
Oct. 20. Devizes (6,532)
Oct. 20. Leek (15,484)
Oct. 20. Oundle (2,404)
Oct. 20. Princes Risboro' (3,000)
Oct. 20. Sawbridgeworth (2,085)
Oct. 20. Sleaford (5,467)
Oct. 20. St. Austell (11,712)
Oct. 22. Bridlington (12,473)
Oct. 22. Blyth (Notts.) (1,629)
Oct. 23. Gainsboro' (17,660)
Oct. 24. Cinderford (5,000)
Oct. 24. Market Drayton (6,000)
Oct. 24. Skegness (2,140)
Oct. 24. Stow-on-the-Wold (1,386)
Oct. 24. Upper Ottery (763)
Oct. 25. Bingham (1,604)
Oct. 25. Ely (7,713)
Oct. 26. Warminster (5,547)
Oct. 27. Edwinstowe (1,560)
Oct. 27. Heath (9,441)
Oct. 27. Holmfirth (8,976)
Oct. 27. Horncastle (4,038)
Oct. 27. Kirkby (10,318)
Oct. 27. Oxcroft
Oct. 27. Stanfree
Oct. 27. Totnes (4,036)
Oct. 27. Wellington (6,273)
Oct. 27. Winferworth (382)
Oct. 29. Great Marlow (6,000)
Oct. 29. Wellingboro' (18,412)
Oct. 29. Hindon (500)
Oct. 29. Kidwelly Great Fair
Oct. 30. Falmouth (11,773)
Oct. 30. St. Just (5,633)
Oct. 31. Belper (10,934)

SCOTLAND.

Oct. 8. Forfar (12,061)
Oct. 9. Dundee (153,066)
Oct. 11. Galashiels (13,508)
Oct. 13. Alloa (11,417)
Oct. 29. Edinburgh (208,069)
Oct. 31. Selkirk (5,488)

WALES.

Oct. 6. Pembroke (16,000)
Oct. 10. Pontypool (6,000)
Oct. 20. Llandovery (1,809)

WANTED, Known, Grand Industrial Trades Exhibition will be held on Nov. 19 to 23 at the Town Hall, Stratford, London. To be opened by the present Mayor of West Ham. Spaces to Let for Working Exhibits, Novelties, &c. Apply, SECRETARY, Trades Exhibition, 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford. The Exhibition will be extensively advertised. 5,000 to 10,000 visitors daily anticipated.

WANTED, Known, Grand Xmas and New Year's Carnival, Dundee. Spaces to Let, for side shows, cokernut stalls, games, &c.; also set galloping horses or motor-cars; must be up-to-date, and in good condition. Terms moderate. The ground covers, inside and out, 468ft. by 80ft. Will be extensively advertised. The whole place lit by electricity, and beautifully decorated throughout. Add., F. H. HOBBS, Drill Hall, Dundee.

SECOND ANNUAL TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING, Nov. 12 to Dec. 8.

WANTED, to Let, a few more Spaces for Fancy Stalls and Working Exhibits. All Side-shows filled excepting Distorting Mirrors. Would share, rent, or buy reasonable. SEEBOLD, Worthing.

WANTED, to Let, piece of ground, for Round-about, Swings, Shooter, at Margate; 20yds. from Sea Front, and in between two stations. What offers? Can open at once, and have ground for three years. Apply, J. Hurley, 112 Waterloo-road, S.E.

CHESTER-LE-STREET MARKET GROUND.
Lessee, MARK H. LINDON.

NEW THEATRE, STANLEY, CO. DURHAM.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces, for Shows, &c., of all descriptions. Apply,
C. W. CLARKE,
9, Adelaide-street, Chester-le-Street (Agent).

WANTED, Known, Ground to Let, at Falkirk and Bathgate Fairs. Apply, J. EVANS, JUN., Show Ground, Peebles.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces, Arcadia, Drill Hall, Portsmouth, working exhibits, stalls, games, shooting range, side shows, &c., 5th year, opening Dec. 1, six weeks. MANAGER, 5, Denning-rd., Hampstead.

WANTED, Known, a few Spaces to Let in the original Scenic Touring Exhibition, Drill Hall, Barrow, Oct. 24 to Nov. 3; the sixty-eighth Exhibition of unbroken tour. Special advantages to attractive exhibits. Address, MANAGER, Exhibition, Alexandra Hall, Lancaster.

WANTED, to Let, with immediate possession, Large Auction Mart, with Show and Stock Rooms; situated in Central Thoroughfare of the Town; well known amongst all classes, especially Fishing Class. Season now started. Particulars, apply, W. BENJAFIELD, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Room to Let, suit Medical Electrician or Beauty Specialist. Terms, CHARLES A. JAMES, visited by the Elite, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Good Freaks write in.

WANTED, in Touring Trades Exhibition, Space for Smart Stand, Gold Wire Jewellery, and Engraving. Write, WIRE KING, P.O., Swansea.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, and 102a, Houndsditch, has a Special Dept.
for Secondhand Watches
and Unredeemed Pledges.
There is no Cheaper House.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Fortune Machines, Money-takers, one to six drawers, cheap. Catalogue; samples free. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, London.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, of every description, best and cheapest. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-rd., West Kensington, London. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Slot Machines, all kinds, genuine bargains, new and second-hand. Largest stock in the trade. MASON, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Splendid Road Living Van, beautifully fitted up. Exchange for Midget Motors, or anything useful. H. REYNOLDS, Broseley, Salop.

WANTED, to Sell, a Bargain, Shuttered Show, 40ft. by 30ft., new tilt, lamps, gallery, seats, front stage, &c., £15. LITTLEFIELD, 2, Prince-st., Deptford.

WANTED, to Sell, an Auction Tent, in good condition, 60 by 50, to be sold cheap. Apply R. WILLIAMS, Auction Mart, Treherbert, South Wales.

WANTED, to Sell, Single Tube Gallery, complete; also Road Living Waggon, 9ft. 6in., light, handy, fitted up for use. H. STRUDWICK, Burton Latimer, Kettering.

WANTED, to Sell, Eight Switchback Gondola Cars, the best ever made, only been used six months, made by Spooner and Orton, Burton-on-Trent; will sell very cheap to a cash buyer. These gondolas are as good as new, beautifully designed fronts and backs, with splendid carved wheelboard; they are one mass of carving and gold. For price and where can be seen apply, T. CLARKE,
29, New-road, Kidderminster.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Toboggan Slide, shown at Southend Kursaal this season. Price £10. LARCHER, 30, Pimlico-road, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Waxworks Exhibition, forty fine figures, dressed, scenery, paybox, drapery, curtains. Bargain, £30. MASON, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Fish Pond, large, £4; Puncher, 60s.; Weighing Chair, 80s.; set nine Cosmoras, glass, mounted, 50s. MASON, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Buy, Miniature Working Model of Coal Mining, Miniature Groups of Waxwork, must be in order. Box 3,796, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, Shuttered Booth, about 50 by 30, for cash. No rubbish. Particulars, WILL LLOYD, Empire Theatre, Epsom, Surrey.

WANTED, to Purchase, Distorting Mirrors. Send sizes, full particulars, and lowest cash price, Box 3,788, "The Era."

WANTED, Agents, Managers, and Roundabout Proprietors to note that the Great Invincible Herman, owing to enormous success this season with Forrest Brothers, has been re-engaged for the next twelve months. All business applications to S. FORREST, Winchelsea Cottage, Winchelsea-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed, according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street Strand W.C

WANTED TO SELL.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, to Sell, as a going concern, to dissolve a partnership, a Successful Music Hall, in good Provincial town; playing to big business; no opposition; part might remain on mortgage. Apply, with bankers' references, Box 3,738, "The Era."

To Theatre, Music Hall Proprietors, Syndicates, and Capitalists.

WANTED, Known, one of the Finest Sites in the City of Bradford can be acquired on reasonable terms, for erection of theatre, or music hall, and shops. Part capital arranged. For plans and particulars, address, BUTTERFIELD and HARTMAN, Chartered Accountants, Bradford.

Close of Season.
Bradford Original Al-Fresco Pavilion.
4 minutes' walk from Frizinghall Station.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Arthur Haley is favoured with instructions from the proprietors, to avoid storage, to Sell by Auction, on Wednesday, Oct. 10, 1906, at 11.30 a.m., the surplus Appointments, comprising 500 Various Chairs, 60 Long Seats with backs, various lengths, quantity of plain and glazed Doors and Partitioning, &c., &c.; also a Canvas Awning, about 75ft. by 60ft., with iron fittings, blocks, &c., only used one season. All on view up to time of sale.
Auctioneer's Offices,
Westgate, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Wanted, to Sell, 10,000 square yards of Canvas for Scene Painting,

used recently in an important Exhibition,

and is in splendid condition.

Must be Sold by Monday, Oct. 8.

No reasonable offer refused.

Particulars can be obtained and arrangements for inspection made upon application in writing to

E. M. P.,
Care of Hastings Bros., Ltd.,
1, Arundel-street, Strand,
London, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Handsome State Coaches (the property of the late Duke of Cambridge), excellent advertising medium, together with four-in-hand harness, cheap. K., 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Private Omnibus, carry six inside and six out, for one or two horses, by Allen, Long Acre, suitable for troupe, in good condition. Apply, CHARLES CASSIE, Comedian, Staines, Middlesex.

WANTED, to Sell, 144 Tip-up Chairs and 26 Benches, 19ft. long, whole upholstered in crimson plush, good condition. HORNER, Empire Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, to Sell, Undetectable Leg Paddings, Tights, Animal Skins, Blondin Donkeys, Elephants, Cows, &c. MAYERS, 22, Shepperton-road, Islington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Self-acting Pianoforte, two barrels, twenty tunes, perfect condition, cost £44. What offers? MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, a Quantity of Up-to-date Films. Particulars, BOLTON, Cinématographist, Pontefract.

WANTED, to Sell, Genuine Midget Shetland Ponies, matched pairs, from 26in. to 29in., from £6 each, carriage paid; fully warranted. JOHN SINCLAIR, Viewbank Cottage, Cults, near Aberdeen.

WANTED, to Sell, a Small, Very Stylish, Smooth Fox Terrier Dog Puppy, ten months, over distemper, nice companion for lady or gentleman. Pedigree, apply, JAS. E. OWEN, 122, Lewis-street, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, to Sell, Front Leg Hand Balancing Dog, also two other clever Performing Dogs. CLACKSON, 9, Kosoman-street, Clerkenwell, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, a Bargain, Type Machine (Munster), in good condition, £3. Apply to H. M. Beryl, 108 Hollingbury-park-avenue, Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, Vent. Figures, Old Man and Woman, life size, condition perfect; also life size Walking Figure. RICHARDSON TAYLOR, Low Moor, Clitheroe.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Coloured Song Slides; 12 Excelsior, 5s.; 11 Volunteer Organist, 5s.; 6 Killarney, 2s. 6d.; 8 Anchored, 3s. 6d.. Bioscope engagements wanted. MORRIS, 18, Tweed-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Revolving Table, suit Ponies or Dogs; also Crossbred Young Poodle and Pom, good dress and hind leg dog; cheap. MANAGER, 2, The Avenue, New Brighton.

WANTED, to Sell, Revolving Table, for Dogs. Give away first postal order 30s.; cheap at £4. CHARD, 52, George-street, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, to Sell, Miscellaneous Wardrobe, suitable to Manager producing small Pantomimes, also twenty sets of Ladies' Armour. Particulars from FRED J. LITTLE, Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.

WANTED, to Sell, Three Horizontal Bars, 6ft. long, 1in. steel cores, brass ends, cheap. WILSON, 103, Eswyn-road, Tooting, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Trick Musical Instruments, Pantomimes, Ballets, supplied with Musical Surprises. Sole British Manufacturer, LISLE, 5, Cuthill-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, to Sell, Score and Band Parts of "Cinderella," suit any Panto. MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, to Sell, Sole Rights of Two Songs, by F. V. St. Clair. Sure pantomime hits. REGINALD PAYNE, Metropole Theatre, Hoyland.

WANTED, to Sell, Good Comic Soldier's Song, with full band parts, cheap. F., 41, Fairfax-road, Bedford Park, Chiswick, W.

WANTED TO BUY.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, established Music Hall or Theatre, long lease or buy outright. Full particulars to PH. BENNETT, 82, Cleethorpe-road, Grimsby.

Reversion, Assurance, Annuity, or other Property.

WANTED, to Purchase promptly, no complications must exist, principals only; agents will not be replied to.
R. D. YELVERTON, Esq.,
Barrister-at-Law, 3, Pump-court, Temple, London.
Tel. 12773 Central.

WANTED, Complete Production of "Babes in the Wood," scenery, costumes, and properties; must be suitable for good theatres. FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, Immediately, one dozen Girls' Pantomime Dresses, in first-class condition, representing flies, gnats, wasps, gad-flies, &c. Address, LAMBERT, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

WANTED, Complete Bioscope Outfit. Payment by instalment, or lowest cash price, on approval. HURST, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, to Purchase, one or two really good Trick Dogs; lowest price. SPENCER, Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Buy, a Sound Bareback Horse, about 14 hands 2½in., to go for jockey, and trick act, for a lady.
Address all particulars,
B. GAERTNER, Forepaugh Sell Show, Columbus, Ohio, America.

WANTED, to Buy Secondhand Scenery, Flats 14ft., Cloths 20ft. by 16ft., Stage Cloths, Baize, Daybill Frames, Cylinders, and complete Lime Outfit; must be in good condition and on approval. Lowest cash prices and full particulars, MANAGER, Assembly Room Theatre, Normanton, Yorks.

WANTED, to Buy, some Wild Indian Dresses, Cheap. Address,
Capt. G. TEXAS, Lorne Arcade, Ayr, N.B.

WANTED, to Buy, a secondhand set of Chimes, must be in good condition. NORMAN V. NORMAN, Pavilion, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

WANTED, immediately, 10,000ft. Good Secondhand Films, for abroad, Hackenschmidt, San Francisco, "Dreadnought," "Spanish Wedding." In good condition. Lowest price for cash, full particulars, BIOSCOPE, 14, Regent-square, Bloomsbury, London.

WANTED, a few thousand feet of good secondhand Films, must be perfect and up-to-date, would like "The Miner's Daughter," "The Life of Christ," "The Life of Moses," and other subjects; must be up-to-date. Particulars to ATTACK, Johnson-terrace, Morley, near Leeds.

WANTED, to Buy, "Sailor's Wedding" and other First-class Subjects; also Good Cinematograph. REYNOLDS, Town Hall, Wincanton.

WANTED, Good Films, Train Wreckers, Squire's Daughter, Sailor's Wedding, Smugglers' Dogs, Saved by a Horse. STANTON, Post Office. Iron Acton, Bristol.

WANTED, to Purchase, Large Quantities of Up-to-date Second-hand Films.
SHEFFIELD PHOTO. CO.,
95, Norfolk-street, Sheffield.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, to Let, on Building Lease, the grandest and most perfectly-positioned Music Hall Site in South London, main road frontage of 112ft. to Tooting-road (close to the tram junction which will ultimately connect up the City and West-end trams with Wimbledon, Croydon, and Putney), and side frontages of 167ft. to Lessingham-avenue, and 161ft. to Derrington-road. The scheme has lately been stopped by the death of projector. Plans have been approved by and certificate for licence granted by London County Council. Small premium asked for a ninety-nine years' lease at £220 per annum. Plans at Messrs. Rings and Myers, Architects, 21, London Bridge Approach, S.E. Particulars of Messrs. WALTON and LEE (sole agents), 10, Mount-street, W.

WANTED, to Let, the Grimsby Hippodrome, Now at Liberty, on Lease or otherwise. Licensed for Dramatic Plays. well furnished; electric lighted. Seating 1,800. Terms to M. DOWSE, 12, Heneage-road, Grimsby.

WANTED to Let (Rental), Bycullah Athenæum, Enfield. Any kind of Entertainment. Scenery. Address, MANAGER, as above.

ABERDARE CONSTITUTIONAL HALL.

WANTED, to Let, the above Hall, full Dramatic licence, and well adapted for Variety and Dramatic Entertainments. Offers for tenancy of twelve months to be addressed, SECRETARY, Constitutional Club, Aberdare.

WANTED, to Let, Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham, seat 1,000. Vacant, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, Dec. 3 and 10. Minstrel Troupe write. Dramatic licence.

WANTED, to Let, Clapham, Rehearsal Theatre, 1s. hourly, or season. Assembly Rooms, Gauden-rd. (facing Clapham-rd. Station); trams pass.

Rehearsals, Meetings, &c.

WANTED, to Let, Large Room, with Dressing-room adjoining, and telephone fixed, Central West-End position, suitable for Variety Agent. Terms by arrangement. Apply on premises, 96 Long-acre, W.C.

WANTED, to Let, small well furnished House, near Mortlake Station, six rooms, bath (h. and c.), good garden, conservatory. Box 3,815, "The Era."

Counterweighted Paint Frame.

WANTED, to Let, for any period, perfect light, rent £2 per week. MOODY-MANNERS STORES, The Hyde, Hendon, Middlesex.

"THE KLONDYKE NUGGET."

WANTED, to Let or Sell, All Rights in above Western American Drama, together with 2 Trained Horses, some scenery, and large plant of printing by David Allen and Sons. A sure Money-maker. All coms., S. F. CODY, "Pinehurst," Frimley, Surrey.

WANTED, to Let, the Fit-up Rights of Splendid Drama, with large plant of printing. BURROWS, 28, Worcester-street, Gloucester.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Hire, at Xmas next, Dresses, suitable for the following Pantomimes: "Jack and Beanstalk," "Sinbad the Sailor," "Robinson Crusoe."
SAMUEL JAMES, Grand Theatre, Islington.

WANTED, to Hire, about 5,000ft. of Up-to-date Films, weekly.
Contract for six months.
Price, particulars, &c., apply,
Box 3,802, "The Era."

WANTED, to Hire, several large Distorting Mirrors, from Nov. 12 to Dec. 8, or would buy reasonably. State full particulars to SEEBOLD, Theatre, Worthing.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, £50.—Well-known Actor, with Powerful and Highly Successful Sketch, requires Partner (lady or gentleman), with above capital. Long tour commences shortly. A certain money magnet. References given and required. Address, FORTUNE, 14, Alderville-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Proprietor of Music Hall, with Licensed House attached (both doing profitable business), seeks experienced Partner. Long lease at moderate rental; populous Midland district. References given and required. Every investigation courted. Capital necessary, £1,000 to £1,500. Exceptional investment for capable man conversant with Profession. Apply, BOSWELL and TOMLINS, F.A.I., Valuers, Wolverhampton.

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FRAS. M. BOWEY,
Town Clerk.

October 3, 1906.

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Wires: "Twigsome, London"

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"The Earthquake," Busch's Dwarf Horse and Agouste, Techow's Cats, Two Butterflies, Griffiths Brothers, O. K. Sato, Indian Fakirs, De Wynne Brothers, Kitafukas, Ten Genis, Gordon Highlanders, Frank and Jen Latona, Yuma, Lavater Lee, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
Bella and Bijou, Bioscope, J. H. Milburn, Hillman and Russell, Leo Tell, Ella Retford, Two Tees, Ben Albert, Naynon's Birds, The Wedburns, Buddha's Blackboard.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Joe Elvin and Co., Bioscope, Moon and Morris, Toney and Spring, Albertine Melich, Lucia and Viata, Jack Woods, Daisy O'Malley, Young Vento, Stelling and Revell.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Harry Tate's No. 1 Co. in "Motoring," Bioscope, Bros. Obo, De Paci Bros., Xley and Hamilton, Beatrice Willey, Hanvaar and Lee, Bert Woodward, Primrose Quartette, Matthews and Reece.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Tiller's "Mad Minstrels," Bioscope, Redmond Bros., Marion Scott, Prof. Dunning, Kahn and Kahn, Mike Cray, Terry and Lambert.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
George Lashwood, Hanid Alexander, Joly, Burley and Burley, Lora, Lilian Lowe, Alf Gibson, Frank Sylvo, Ernest Ball, Boswell's Circus.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
The Rossotts, Jean Seul, Spry and Austin, Josh Dixon, Jas. H. Jee, Walter Curtis, Vivian Co., Chas. J. Johnson, Three Sisters Finney.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Wilkie Bard, Nellie Stratton, The Mezzettis, Bioscope, Eight of Hearts, Atroy, Frank Lynne, Violi, Anartos, Sanford and Lyons.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Laurie's Kindergarten, Eric, Canary Co., Maxwell and Francis, May Henderson, Pierce and Maizee, Albert Le Fre, Rosie Bartlett, Clarice Netta, The Haytors.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Winifred Hare, E. J. Sheldon, Henri Taylor Trio, Lee Voces, Annie Abbott, Johnny Gilmore, Mark Melford and Co., Goodfellow and Gregson, Marba and Verity, Selbinis.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Willie Edouin, A-Ba-Be, Binns and Binns, Albertus and Bartram, Daisy James, Harry Marte, Wyndham and Kitty, Harry Maynard, Bioscope, Bob Hutt and Co., in "Welcome Home."

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Peggy Pryde, Bioscope, Fox and Melville, Lupino Bros., Esta Stella, Datas, Lord, Murray, and Lord, Nipper Lane.

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Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Tschernoff's Dogs, Bioscope, Bessie Butt, Flo D'Orville, Bisera Troupe, Wilson and Waring, Sidney Bros., C. L. Fletcher, "Harum Scarum."

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
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EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
McNaughtons, Alice Lloyd, Park's Eton Boys, Mlle. De Dio, Jake Friedman, Forest and King, Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, Kitts and Windrum, Bioscope.

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Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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"PERU,"
By the writers of "Don't cry, little girl."

"I WANT MOLLY, AND SHE WANTS ME,"
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By the writer of "On the dear old shore."

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Rehearsal, at 2 o'clock, for
Lillie Soutter, W. G. Webber, Sisters Morgan, Terry and Bentley, Cora Caselli, The Pavoscope, Alskarno Trio.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow 14 days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their contract cancelled. By order, SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager

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Sole Proprietor and Manager, RICH. WALDON.
All Bookings are now made direct from above Hall.
All Contracts made on behalf of the Palace, Glasgow, on or before April 7, 1906, and not yet completed, will be carried out.
Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.

CALL, Monday, Oct. 8, at 12 o'clock.—Vesta Victoria, Fred Land, Violet Morgan, Mac and Hill, Jenny Johns, Jack Neil, Will Van Allen, Five Whiteleys, J. W. Hall.

Address, HARRY MCKELVIE, Business-Manager.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.
NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL, Monday, Oct. 8. Rehearsal 1 o'clock, for Hinton and Wooton, Nellie Nora, Bros. Brooks, Amy Elcock, Sisters Brand, Florry St. Roy, Fred Lyndo, Letta and Minni, Raymond's Bio-tableaux. For dates, apply, Sole Representative, H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

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ROYAL CIRCUS,
EDINBURGH.
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FOR WEEK COMMENCING
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SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12-0 sharp.

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Llewellyn, Nettas, Mabel Le Roy, Rita Resdan, Davis and Gledhill, Johnson and Pelham, Pallister's Bioscope, Olive Trio.

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Five Bon Bons, Will Musgrave, Emma Don and Co., Bowman and Morton, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Andie Caine, Will Driscoll, Stirling and Cashen, Nina Martino.

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PALACE, BRADFORD.
Harry Weldon, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Harry Walker, Helen Martin, "Belle of Barcelona," Flo Challis, Angelo.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Harry Thurston, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Æolians, 3 Bros. Curran, Kit Keen, Davenports, Almon, Hall and Earle, Austin Rudd.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
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PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Sterling and Love, Dan Conroy, Du Gros Trio, Harry Pleon, Raimond's Bio-tableaux, Sisters Gilbert, Ted Saunders, Geo. Collins, Les Rallis.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
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THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
Walter King, Fields and Lewis, Harry Village, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, the Little Wonder, "Betrayed Friendship," the Wakeman Quartette, "Office Hours," Roze and Calvert, Ada Martine, Lewis Kerico.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Vincent, Fyne and Hurley, Cullen, Carthy, and Cluley, Harry Vardon, Nora Beverley, Millie Howell, Fred Southern and Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Vaudeville Sketch Co., the Two Kays, E. W. Selman, Ivy Galard.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
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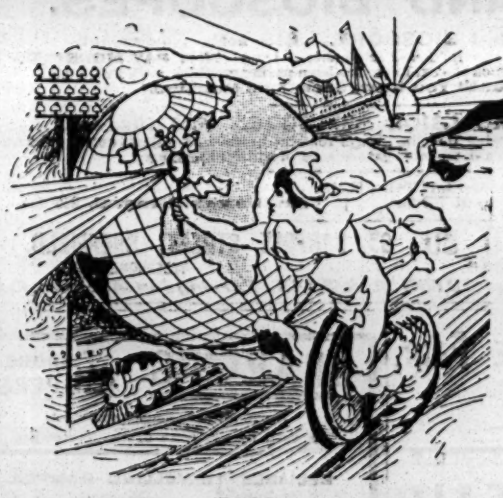

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A whale is sighted; the harpoon-gun is fired, and we see that the harpoon has found its mark, a long distance ahead.

In corroboration, the whale is next shown, stiff and rigid, in the tossing waters. The monster is now made fast to the ship, and we see—almost feel—him towed alongside: a weird spectacle, with his scaly back, longitudinally marked.

The sea-scape is a marvel of photography, and the effects secured in this connection alone would amply recompense an enterprising firm for its reproduction.

Our destination being reached, as we ride at anchor we casually notice what appear to be two islands covered with sea-birds; but a second glance assures us that these "islands" are in reality dead whales—our own being one.

We now disembark and, in a cove of the sea, are shown the operation of "flensing," or the removal of the hide, blubber, and whalebone from the carcass.

A man runs up the head of one of the dead animals and makes an incision, others score its sides with long, sharp knives, a rope and pulley arrangement is secured to the incision at the head, a winch is started, and a long strip of hide is drawn from the body, from head to tail.

The process is repeated, until the huge animal is entirely denuded of its hide, and disembowelling takes place.

This accomplished, men now cut up the blubber into pieces about a foot square, which are piled in readiness for the further processes of oil extraction.

The skeleton only remains, and this structure is so light that one man is seen to sway it backwards and forwards with a single hand.

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All the balloons sport their national flags, and scenes of great animation are depicted as balloon after balloon, released from restraining bonds, soars gracefully away.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual, 1906, is welcome as containing carefully compiled lists of the pieces produced during the past year in London, the suburbs, and the provinces, in Paris, and in Berlin. The rest of it is curious and entertaining reading. There is the almanack with its "memorabilia of theatrical events occurrences, &c." There are besides a score of stories and other articles contributed by theatricals a very good one being Miss Louie Freear's set of verses, "Boy Bob" at Sea," which has humour, feeling, and swing. The book contains many theatrical portraits. As a book of reference the Annual is of great use and value, and while some of its contents doubtless appeal more keenly to the professional than to the outsider, any thoughtful person may derive from its study much amusement and no little insight into the conditions, the magnitude, and the complexity of the English theatre of to-day.—Morning Post, Jan. 22.

TO SHOWMEN ENTREPRENEURS,
AND CINEMATOGRAPH SHOW EXPLOITERS.

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CAICEDO, King of the Wire. Care of "The Era."

CAMBO, the Musical Monkey, On Tour with W. F. Frame. Vacant Nov. 5. 59, Urquhart-road, Aberdeen.

CAMERON, LOUDOUN, The Celebrated Conjurer, wants Oct. 22. Oct. 8, Palace, Gloucester.

CAMERONS, THE (JIM and MARIE), Comedy Acts, "Plough Boy and Lady Guide," Nurse and Baby." Next, Grand, Sheffield.

CARINA, MADAME, (Mrs. James Wedburn, The Wedburns) indisposed. Perm., 65, Elsenham-rd., Southfields, S.W.

CARL and CARR, the Refined Comedians. Panto., Metropole T., Devonport. Third season. 23, Wellington-street, Portobello.

CARLTON, HENRY, No Immediate Vacancies.

CARMEN, HARRY, DAISY LANE, Finish to-night, our success, E., Stockport. Oct. 8, Tivoli, Barrow.

CARNEY, TOM, Just Concluded fourteen weeks Pavilion, Gorleston; Oct. 8, Sandgate; return Hip., Gt. Yarmouth, Nov. 19, 26.

CASSIE, CHARLES, Eccentric Comedian, with Speciality, "The Tramp Doll." At liberty. Cassie, Staines, Middx. 'Phone, 21 Staines.

CEDAR and ELGAR, Big Success of New Act. Many thanks for offers. Panto. settled. This week, Richmond Theatre.

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS, Great, New and Novel Stage Set. 52, George-street, Weston-super-Mare. At Liberyt.

CHALLIS, FLO, Palace, Bradford. Halifax to Follow.

CHARNLEYS, THE (ANNIE and EDIE). Monday, Empire, Bristol. Thanks T. R. Gannon, Esq., for contracts.

CHESTER and LEE'S New Electric Fantoches. Monday, Palace, Boston.

CHEVALIER, MISS FLO, Vocalist and Comedienne. Concludes to-night, Britannia. Monday, Surrey.

CHIRGWIN, V.A.F., Resting. Fishing.

CLAYTON, MISS KITTY, Fi Fi, "A Chinese Honeymoon." Vacant Panto. Principal Boy or Special Low Comedy. Aberdare.

CLAYTON'S BIOSCOPE, Third Season, Palace, Attercliffe. Always reliable and up-to-date. Terms, Palace, Attercliffe.

CLEMENTS, VENIE, as a Baby and Other People, in a Musical Scena, "A Trial Trip"; next, Hippodrome, Margate.

CLIFF and KEAN, in smart Singing Comedy and High-Class Dancing Act. Aberdeen; next, Pal., N. Shields.

CLIFFORD, CHARLES, C.D.D., the Renowned Harpist and Humorist, on Tour. 15, Priory-gardens, Highgate, London, N.

CLIFFORD, MASTER, Terrific Success at Oldham. Re-booked. The boy with his feet in his Clogs.

COLLINS, DAVID, General Manager, &c.; ETHEL DOUGLAS' Soubrettes, Boys. 16, Prince's-sq., Kennington.

COLLINS, GEO., The Quaint Comedian, Palace, West Hartlepool. GEO. BARCLAY and Co.

CONDER, ALF, Comedian. Sixty years of successful Life and Luck. Conder Villa, Palatine-road, Blackpool.

CONLIN, HARRY, and ROSIE COLEMAN. 18, Walcot-gardens, London.

CONQUEST, FRED, "The Freak's Revenge." Kenilworth, Worcester Villas, Hove.

CONQUEST and CO., ARTHUR, in "The Sioux," Islington Empire, Twice Nightly.

CONWAY and GARLAND, in their Screaming Burlesque Absurdity, "Left in Charge." Oct. 8, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

CORA, SISTERS, This week, Hippo., Accrington. Oct. 8, Grand, Bolton, in their successful scena, "Sweethearts."

CORNISH, WILL, in his Unique Musical Bell Act. This week, Zoo Hip., Glasgow. Next, Empire, Belfast.

COSTELLO, THE BROS., in Their New Act, "Go, Go Out, Sonny, or I Put You Out." Great Success on Tour.

COTTERELL, SID, and CO., in the world's greatest Comedy Sketch, "The Substitute." Hip., Stoke. Next, Pal., Attercliffe.

COVENTRY, LUCY, Comedienne and Dancer. This, Surrey Theatre; next, Palace, Bow. Vacant Panto.

CRAGGS, THE, in New Act, "Billy." Hippodrome, St. Helens.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG, A Trio of the World's Leading Athletes. Care of "The Era."

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Staley's Transformation Co., Grand, Clapham.

CULLANE'S COMEDY QUARTETTE in "Pipple, from Popplejon," a mirthful, musical mixture; special scenery. Hippo., Norwich.

CULLEN and CARTHY, and LITTLE CLULEY, Kings of Comedy Island and the Joker. Foresters', Canning Town.

CULL-PITT, Funny Fakir and Facialist, assisted by ADELE. Oct. 8, Empire, Nottingham. Coms. ANGER and BAUER.

CURRY, PERCY, Comedian. "Patchwork," by Nat Clifford. This, Hippo., Salford; next, Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester.

CUSTANCES, THE, in their Bright and sparkling comedy-duologue, "A Game for Two." Oct. 8, Tivoli, Barrow.

DALE and VALE, Skilful and Artistic Dancing. Specialité this week, C. P., N. Shields. Oct. 8, P., Gloucester.

DANIELS, THE TWO. Managers looking for a clean negro versatile act, with novel specialities, address Clarendon Hall, Watford.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, Australian Cyclists (Monarchs of the Wheel). Oct. 8, Middlesex.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, Scala Theatre, Den Haag, Holland.

DELEVINES, THE, In New and Original Comedy Act, "Flipp and Flopp." Hippo., Coventry.

DENE and DAWSON, Monday, Empire, Camberwell. Managers and Agents invited. Vacant Panto.

DENT, BERT, Manager, Barnard's Palace, Greenwich, S.E. Palace Buffet open on Sundays.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., J. H. HAWTREY, The Lady Foli. Actor-Vocalist. Queen's Park Hippodrome.

DE VOYE, JAMES, and BILLY, the Educated Horse, the Marvel. Oct. 8, Hippo., Brighton. No vacancies this year.

DE ZELLO, the Juggler on a Slack Wire. Director, JOHN TREWAR. Perm. add., 230, Sumner-road, Peckham, S.E.

DIXON, CHARLEY, KATE LYND, Successful. Charley Dixon. Kate Lynd.

DOLF, MRS. SIDNEY, in a Conjuring Act without assistants. Permanent, 121, Kennington-road, S.E. Juggling Memos. for sale.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, The Famous Factory Nightingales. Again starring. Mon., H., Ashton, Lancs.

DOVE, MISS ETHEL, Hippodrome, Eastbourne. At Liberty for Panto. Principal Boy or Girl.

DOYLE and GIBSON, Comedians and Dancers, T. R., Middleton. Next, Grand Theatre, Doncaster. Agent, H. BURNS, Hartlepool.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Dainty Male Impersonator and Dancer. Perm., 11, Arnold-street, Liverpool.

DUNCAN and BRASQUE, (CORA.) (ALBERT.) Address, Empire, Bristol (six nights).

DUNNING, and KAHN and KAHN, Two Splendid and Unique Acts. Monday, Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

DUNCAN and MORTON thank Grapho and Jackson for comfortable twenty weeks' engagement (sixth year); also Contract for 1907.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 15, Brixton. 14, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MLLE., Palace, Camberwell. Next week, Oct. 8, Regent Theatre, Salford. Panto. settled. T. R., Bradford.

ELCOCK, AMY, & FLORRIE ST. ROY, Success, Alhambra, Brighton; Mon., Hippo., Burton-on-Trent. Vac. Oct. 29; also Panto.

ELDINES, LES (Marie, Ella, and Minnie), in scena, "The American Belles," on Tour. C/o "The Era."

ELLA'S, MISS, Best Existing Lion Show. Cirque Alegria, Barcelona, Spain.

ELLERTON, Songs, &c., Author Dunville's "Swimmer," Tich's "Twenty-third." Sheridan's "Mottoes." 90, Vassall-rd., Brixton, S.W.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Hippodrome, Wakefield.

ELSWORTHY, MISS DOLLY, Sole Proprietress "Orange Girl" Co. Next week, Empire, Nottingham.

ELTON and ELMA, Comedy Bar Act. Monday, Palace, Southampton.

EPLETT, JESSIE, Character Vocalist, Solo Drummer, Speciality Dancer. Vac. C/o "Era."

ERNESTINE TROUPE of Acrobatic Dancers and Vocalists, Belvedere, Tunis, One Month's Return Engagement. Dis. for Panto.

EUSTACE, FRED. "Our Curate," "The Amber Light," "La Belle Parisienne," FORTUNE and GRANVILLE.

FANSHAW'S FUNNY FOUR, Comedians, in a great sketch, "Actor's Chase for Life." Lib. Mon., onwards. 2, Jubilee-st., Liverpool.

FIMANS, THE, In an Act of their own. Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, booked for Dec.

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." 'Phone, 1,686 Royal.

FLORADORA GIRLS, Enormous success in "Shining Star," and "Rival Sweethearts." Mon., G., Clapham. DE VERE.

FORD, MISS RAY, Refined Comedienne and Dancer, Palace, Aberdeen, next week. Coms., Theatre Royal, Oldham.

FORD and HANSON, The American Musical Millionaires. Permanent, Midland Hotel, Hull.

FORDYCES, THE, singers and dancers extraordinary.—Vide Press. Touring with C. W. Poole's Myriorama. Drill Hall, Wigan.

FORREST'S, EDGAR, Comedy Company, Always a Success. Vacant Oct. 15 and 22. Agent, GEO. BARCLAY.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE, Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Waggishly," 'Phone, 1,309 Gerrard.

FOX, Ventriloquist, "The Yokel and his Dog." Scoring heavily, more than the ordinary. Empire, Hull. Vac. 15th. Offers Invited.

FRASETTIS, LES, Empire, Holborn. Hammersmith.

FREDRICKS, CARL, Palace of Illusions, six in number. Success everywhere. Town Hall, Brierly Hill.

GALINO, PERCI, Genuine success of new Musical Act. Vacant for Panto only. Parthenon, Liverpool.

GANNON, NELLIE, Monday, Queen's Theatre, Glasgow. Peggy Pame ditto, Harry Wright the same. Thanks.

GARDEN'S QUINTETTE, Vocalists, Pipers, and Dancers, in special scena, wants Oct. 15, also Panto. Wire, 315, Argyle-st., Glasgow.

GERMAINE, the Wizard, Oct. 8, Empire, Holborn.

GERONDE, THREE SISTERS, Vocalists and Expert Dancers. Monday next, Oct. 8, Empire, Dudley.

GILBERT GIRLS, Vacant Panto. Agents, R. WARNER and Co. Perm. address, 69, Wiltshire-road, Brixton.

GLENN, MARY, The Premier Vocalist. Vac. Monday and Oct. 15. Wire Empire, Burnley.

GLENNIE'S MARIONETTES, Cape Town off. Early date wanted. Address, c/o "Era" Office, London, W.C.

GODFREY, FRED, Song-writer. Artists requiring first-class numbers write or call, 29, Kennington Park-gardens, S.E.

GOLD, HARRY, Comedian. At Liberty, Dec. 3, onwards. 2, Jessamine-villas, Percy-road, Ramsgate.

GRAHAM, the Human Marionette, London Pavilion. 'Phone 849 Brixton. Business representative, GEO. BARCLAY.

GRANADAS, LOS, Moss and Stoll Tour. Monday, Empire Theatre, Hackney.

GRANT and ALLEN, Oct. 8, Hippodrome, Eastbourne.

GRANTLEY and COLEMAN (CHAS., LILLIE), Comedian, Songstress. 8th, Empire, Camberwell. I wonder who they are?

GRANVILLE, GUS, Comedian, This, Palace, Gloucester; Next, Palace, Porth.

GRAPHO and JACKSON, Concluding Successful Season at Northampton. Coms., 58, High-st., Hartlepool.

GREEN, MR. TOM, "The Original." 106, Fairholme-road, Croydon.

GULLIVER, GEO., Another Success at Derby. Fifth visit. Monday, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

HALL, CLIFTON, Vocalist, Vacant Oct. 8 and 15, Wire. Harbour Green Pavilion, Portobello, N.B.

HALL, HETTIE, Refined Musical Act, Rapidly Coming to the Front. Next Week, Tivoli, Dublin. Coms., WILL SLEY.

HALLAM and STANTON, Refined Entertainers, in Musical Comedietta, "A Broken Journey," Pavilion, Newcastle.

HANVARR and ANNA LEE, "The Golfer and the Maid." Hippodrome, Glasgow.

HARRIS and WORTH, Empire, York.

HART and CO., Dramatic and Variety Agents. 7, Lancaster-house, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton. Tele., 116 Brixton.

HASTINGS and FIELDS, Comedians, Vocalists, Patterers, and Dancers. Coms. to 66, St. Stephen-street, Salford.

HAYDE, Grand, Bolton.

HECTO, REX, and MDLLE. OLIVE NOVELLA. Debonair, Spectacular, Strength, Success, in charming Classical Creations. "Era."

HENDERSON, FAMOUS, Blind Musical Genius. This week, the talk of Gloucester. Monday, Empire, Merthyr Tydvil.

HENDERSON, LADE, Monday, Queen's, Glasgow. All coms. to BILLY HENDERSON, 30, Handforth-rd., Brixton-rd., London.

HENDERSON and STANLEY QUARTETTE, the Best Act in the Business. Free, Now and on. 50, Shepherd-st., Bury, Lancs.

HERBERT, FRED, Premier Topical Vocalist Pavilion, Newcastle.

HILL, ROWLAND, The Curious Comedian. Monday, Palace, Southampton. Panto. settled, Ye Dame.

HILTON, FLORENCE, London's Ideal Male Impersonator. Starring and Enormous Success, Middlesbrough. Mon., Empire, Belfast.

HINTON and WOOTON, Conclude one month, Hippo., Scarborough. Monday, Hippodrome, Burton-on-Trent.

HOOZEE? Ventriloquial Humorist. Terrific success, Palace, Bridlington. Mon., T. R., Tyldesley; vacant 1908 onwards.

HOWARDS, THE (RALPH and NELLIE). London Pavilion, W. (Second Week.)

HULA, SISTERS, Liberty Monday, also 15th, onwards. Wire till Sunday, Palace, Boston; After, 66, Kensington-street, Leicester.

HULBERT, Ventriloquist, and DE LIL, Illusionist; two smart Acts; Vacant Nov. 5, on. Letters, 5 Union-road, Macclesfield.

HUMBER, FANNIE, Concludes, Aquarium, Scarborough. Address, 62 Embden-street, Manchester.

HUNTER, G. W., Comedian and Raconteur. Oct. 8, Palace, Plymouth.

HUXTER, THREE BROS., Oct. 1 till 31, Favarosi Orpheum, Budapest. Perm., 10, Middle-st., Worcester.

JAQUES. T. C., Versatile Comedian. Vacant Oct. 15 and 22. This week, Royal Theatre, Warrington.

JAYS, THE TWO, Patter Comedians. Oct. 8, The Cambridge.

JUDGE, SISTERS, with Their Marvellous Performing Cockatoos, Parrots, and Macaws. Public Hall, Preston.

KAIL, ALBERT, Comedian and Eccentric Dancer. Finished successful season. Happy Valley, Llandudno.

KAVADOS, Juggler; FLO MELVILLE, Burlesque Artist. F. M. liberty panto. Whitworth House, Whitworth Park, Manchester.

KEEBLE, HARRY, Versatile Comedian. This, Pal., Bridlington; Mon., T. R., Tyldesley. Will buy clean, funny songs.

KEIR and KEMPTON, (Donald, Mabel), the Premier Vocal Duettists. Next, T. H., Derby. No vacancies till 1908.

KEITHS, THE ORIGINAL MUSICAL (CARLINA and CHARLIE). Monday, Oct. 8, Palace, Gloucester.

KELLERMANN, MISS ANNETTE, The Lady Channel Swimmer. Training at Broadstairs.

KEMBLE, BERT, The Fellow who Sings and Talks. Regent Theatre, Salford, Manchester.

KENDAL, ALEC, Hippo., Wigan. Panto. settled J. Kiddie, Esq. Oct. 8, Removing 794, Durning-rd., Edge-hill, Liverpool.

KINGSLEY, Manager, and Musical Speciality, "Life in Canada," Cinematograph Company. Add., 73, Saltoun-rd, Brixton, London.

KYOTO, the Original One; MAY GERALDINE, Comedienne; Hippo., Scarboro'. Mon., Oct. 8, G., Blyth; Vac. Oct. 15, 22, 29.

LAKE'S, LEW, CO.'S. "Burglars," Varieties, Leeds. "Muggins, V.C.," Hippodrome, Liverpool.

LA MARA, CHUMMIE, WILL SERGEANT. Hippodrome, Wakefield.

LAMBERTS, THE, British Picture Songs, Myrioscope, and Society Entertainers, This and Next, Corn Exchange, Kilmarnock.

LASSAH, LILLIE, This week, Pavilion, Newcastle; next week, Oct. 8, Hippo., Liverpool.

LA TOSCA, MLLE., Premier Artist's Model. "The Venus of the Halls," Symmetrically and Physically. Coms., Newsboy LYNN. "Era."

LE BRETON, LILLIE, Lady Trapeze Artist. Success Hippodrome, Huddersfield. Next week, Circus, Bury.

LE BRUN and IRENE, Novel Equilibrists and Double Jugglers. Vac. Oct. 22 and 29. Address Hippodrome, Wigan.

LEE and ARDEN, "The Scotchman in London." Tremendous Success, Tivoli, Dublin.

LEE, THREE SISTERS, the Original, Big Success Bedford, Camden Town. Next week, City Varieties, Leeds.

LE FRE, ALBERT, Empire, Bradford.

LEIGHTON, CHARLES, This week, Hippodrome, Coventry. Monday, Oct. 8, Empire, York.

LEONS, TWO, and MITZI, on Tour. Cheltenham. Also MELITA. Private address, 53, Third-avenue, Manor Park, Essex.

LESLEY, HARRY, Comedian. Vacant Monday. Wire, 1, Sunterrace, Shooter's Hill-road, Blackheath, London.

LESLIE BROS., Australia's Representative Musical Comedians Empire, Shepherd's Bush.

LEVAINE, HARRY, Eccentric Comedian. Oct. 8, Palace, Attercliffe. First vacant date, April, '07. Agent, VERNO.

LEVEY SISTERS Present, "The Ideal." Oct. Vacant Panto. Address, c/o SOMERS and WARNER.

LINTON, Novelty Wire Artist. Somersaults on wire with and without balance-pole. Vac. Oct. 29, Nov. 5. Hippodrome, Southampton.

LISTON, MR. HARRY, and MISS LUMLEY'S "Merry Moments," Touring Lincs. Wanted, London Bookings. St. George's Hall, W.

LIZZETTE, THE FOUR SISTERS, Lady Acrobats; ELSIE RUBINA, Wire Dancer. 36, Albany-rd., Kensington, Liverpool.

LLOYD, BABS, Star Artist; also NELLIE VAN, Comedy Artist, Big Hit, R., Hull; Monday, Hippo., Wakefield. Vac. 15th.

LORD, MURRAY, and LORD, Moss and Stoll Tour. Palace, Bordesley. FORTUNE and GRANVILLE.

LOTTO, LILO, and OTTO, Trick Cyclists. 2, Lambeth Palace-road, S.E.

LOVELACES, THE, American Song-Illustrators. Great Success this, Empire, Ashton. Next, Hippo., Accrington.

LUCRETIA, MLLE., thanks G. H. Dudley Bennet, Esq., Shakespeare T., Clapham, for Panto. offer. Prin. Boy. Mon., R., Halifax.

LUMIERE'S, MDLLE., Original Electrical Fairy Grotto. Monday, P. H., Barnsley; 15th, Palace, Grimsby. No Vacancies.

LYNCH, AGNESE and ARTHUR, in American Picture Songs. This, Dewsbury; Monday, Gaiety, Chatham.

LYNDO, FRED, the Greatest of all Burlesque Comedians. Hit of the Bill Scarboro'. Next, New Hippo., Buxton.

LYNDON, BEATTIE, Refined Comedienne and Dancer. Metropolitan. Panto settled.

LYNDOS, FOUR, in Their Great Pot-Pourri Act. Vacant Oct. 22. Coms. to FRED LYNDO, Hippo., Burton-on-Trent.

LYNN, CARL, King of Animal Mimics. This, E., Hartlepool; next, Grand, Stockton. Coms., Wm. HALL, 11, Market-place, Hyde.

LYTTON, BERT, the Swell Comique, Concludes most successful week Circus, Rochdale. Next week, Empire, Burnley (return).

MACS, THE NEW, Comedians. Mon., Oct. 8, Empire, Stratford, E.

MAGNA, In beautiful and artistic poses, one of the finest acts on the stage. Mon., Palace, Boston.

MALCOLM, MR. FRED, Manager for Miss Kate Carney. Fourth year.

MARJUTTI, MDLLE., The Flexible Venus and Lissom Lady. Coms., Longfield Cottage, Urmston, Manchester.

MAROS, THE, Quaintest Three Bar Comedians. Away from all others. Liberty 8th, 15th. Wire, 126, Porter-street, Hull.

MARTIN, MISS HELEN, Palace, Blackburn. Oct. 8, Palace, Bradford.

MAXWELL and FRANCES, TOM and (his Daughter) VIRGINIA. Oct. 8, Empire, Bradford.

MAY, ALICE, "Tranquility." Per. address, 15, Rupert-st., W.

MAYE, PERCY, What a success! Special Starring Engagement. Public Hall, Urmston, Manchester. Above, or DAY'S.

MAYNALL, ALF, Concluded Successful Summer at Margate Jetty. Letters, 209, Ladbroke-grove, London, W.

MAYNE, ERNIE, of Cupid Fame. Indisposed. Ivy Glen, Stockwell Park-crescent, S.W.

MOASKELL, Touring Ireland, with Poole's Myriorama, Rotunda, Dublin.

MCNEIL, SHEILA, Scotch Comedy Artist. Palace, North Shields. Vacant Monday. Wire.

MEIER and MORA, This week, Hippodrome, Wigan. Next week, Middlesex, London.

MEPHISTO, The Ideal Contortionist. This, K., Manchester. Next, Q. P. Hip., Manchester. Vac. Dec. 17.

MFALL, JOHN E., Gardeners' Arms, 10, Market-st., and 5, Manse-lane, Greenock. Opposite Empire Theatre. "The Era," &c., kept.

MILES-STAVORDALE QUINTETTE (the Original Act). Oct. 8, Hippodrome, Lancaster. Anger and Bauer, 50, Rupert-street, W.

MILLARD, JACK, George Hotel, West Derby-rd., Liverpool. Close to Hippodrome. Everything of the best. Barney Vox's headquarters.

MILSTED, EMMIE, and JOE BELL The Indian Maid and the Jolly Jack Tar. Oct. 8, Grand Music Hall, Sheffield.

MILTON'S MARIONETTES, On Tour. Coms., "The Era" Office, London.

MILTONS, THE, World's Greatest Comic Skaters. CLEM LISBON, Comedian. Panto, F. Mouillot, Esq. Hippo., Scarboro'.

MOHAMED BEN MOHAMED, THE, TROUPE of Eight Real Soussa Arabs. Circus Corty, Althoff, Münster-i.-W., Germany.

MONTAGUE, LEO, Touring India, with Gardner-Brown, New Co., Great Reception on his Return to Poona.

MORE, REUBEN, Comedian and Song-writer, conc. Season, Pier, Hastings, 18 weeks. Vac. Pan.; can Stage-man. 141, Percy-rd, Southsea.

MORELL, MISS DAISY, Palace, Southampton. Thanks S. James, Esq., Grand, Islington, for offer. Still vacant Panto.

MORGAN, LLOYD, Week commencing Oct. 8. The Empire, Holborn, London, W.C.

MORRIS, J. C., Droll Comedian and Raconteur. Success E., Dublin. Coms. Oct. 8, Temperance H., Derby.

MOXON BROS., THREE, Acrobatic Comedians. This Week, En Route; Next, Aquarium, Scarboro'.

MUIR and BARTLETT thank Frank Allen, Esq., for further Contracts per Macdermott and Sheldon. First vac. Nov. 26.

MULVEY, MR. FRED, and MISS MINNIE MIRIAM, "In the Studio." Address, 21, Broadhinton-road, S.W.

MURRAY, LESLIE H., Magician. Vacant April 15, '07, to follow Portsmouth.

MYERS, ERNIE, and LILY LONSDALE, Starring Pavilion, Southport. Next week, Pal., Hammersmith, and Hip., Ealing.

MYLES and MAY, "The Merrie Huntsmen." Great Success of New Act, by W. H. Wallis. Hippo., Oldham.

NEIMAN'S VENTRILOQUIAL MINSTRELS, Palace, Tottenham, Every Evening.

NELSON and THOMAS, "On the Ra Ta." Vacant, Oct. 15. Wire Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

NORA, NELLIE, Dainty Instrumental Act. This, Hippo., Blyth. Next, Hippo., Burton-on-Trent. Offers direct, or Claxton.

OBO, BROS., The Laughing Comedians. This, Empire, Belfast. Oct. 8, Empire, Glasgow.

O'CONNOR and BRADY, Still at Liberty Xmas Panto. Numerous offers. Perm., 83, Crescent, South Tottenham.

ODLIN, TOM, the Odd Comedian, at Liberty Oct. 8 and 15. 54, Russell-street, Middlesbrough.

O'MALLEY and BROWN, Enormous Hit, Tivoli, Grimsby. Oct. 15, Empire, Birmingham.

ONDA BROS., and WILL ONDA and Company, in "Motor Maniac." Circus, Rochdale.

ONDA and LEON, Conversational Gymnasts. Oct. 8, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

ORCHIDS, THREE, Funnyosities at the Refreshment Bar. Vacant Oct. 22, and 29; also Panto. C/o. "The Era."

PACEY and REEVES, Variety Agents, 186, Brixton-road, S.W. Grams, Parthenon, London. 'Phone, No. 87 Brixton.

PALETTE, the Artist and His Dog. Few Vacant Dates, Concludes Palace, Boston. Permanent, 28, Amberley-street, Bradford.

PALMERS, THE MUSICAL. Monday next, New Empire, Hull; also Miss DAISY PALMER, Serio and Dancer.

PANLO BROS., Comedy Acrobats, &c. Success, Empire, Hull. Next, King's Theatre, Gainsborough. Thank Rosen and Bliss. Vac. 22nd.

PARLATO, Facialist and Impersonator. Oddfellows' Hall, Brotton, R.S.O.

PATEY, MISS LOLA, the Dainty Comedienne Vocalist. Palace, Manchester. Agents, G. and F. Pell.

PATRICE, MLLE., in her Society Entertainment of Magic and Thought Reading. 3, Church-row, London, S.W.

PEARL, MISS DAISY, Dainty Comedienne. This, Empire, Rochdale; next, Hip., Dewsbury. Returns. Agent, Stebbings, Manchester.

PHILLIPS and TERRY, Empire Palace, Newcastle. Next, Empire, South Shields.

PICKARD, A. E., American Museum, Glasgow. Britannia Panopticon and Theatre of Varieties, Glasgow.

PIRMANS, THREE, Big, Hippodrome, Lancaster; Monday, Palace, Grimsby.

PLANT, HARRY, Just Concluded 18 weeks' with Buxton's Pierrots, Douglas, at Lib. Monday, on. Witton Park, co. Durham.

POOLE, DAVID, Ventriloquist, wishes it known that Harry Weldon, his brother, is now a father. Com., Empire, Rochdale.

POOLE, LOTTIE, and FRANK WEIR, Lady Anchester and Barry, "Country Girl" Royal T., Kirkcaldy.

POOLE, SISTERS (ADA and LETTA), T. R., Halifax. Oct. 8, Hippo., Southampton. Vacant, Nov. 5 and 12.

POYNTON, MR. ALFRED, The Great Facial Mimic. All coms., Blenheim House, Marlboro'-pl., Brighton.

PRICHARD, TOM, Proprietor, Palace, Oldbury, near Birmingham. Pleased to see old friends.

PRIMAVESI, Unique Juggler. This, G., Doncaster; next, Tivoli, Grimsby. Both booked through Leo Fritz.

PRIMROSE QUARTETTE, Male Vocalists, Oct. 8, Zoo-Hippodrome, Glasgow.

RALHIS, LES, The Artist and His Monkey. Palace, West Hartlepool.

RAY, HARRY, and LILLIE CALDEN, Enormous success, Palace, Plymouth; Oct. 8, Palace, Bristol.

REAYS, THE, Equilibrists and Silver Chain Acrobats. Terrific hit Hippo., Wakefield. Free Oct. 15. Address Empire, Hull.

REDMOND, BROS., Empire, Glasgow. Panto., Willie Green and Johnny Stout, with Robert Arthur, Theatre Royal, Aberdeen.

REGAN and RYAN, This week, Pavilion, Newcastle; next week, Hippodrome, Leeds.

RENEE, MLLE., Refined Drawing-room Musical Act. Vacant 8th and 15th. 25, Brightside-rd., Hither Green.

RENSHAW, NANCY, Laughing Negro Comedienne and Bone Soloist. Usual success, Cork. The Circus, Rochdale.

RESDAN, MISS RITA, London's Favourite Male Impersonator. Concludes P., West Hartlepool. Monday, Pavilion, Leicester.

REZENE and ROBINI, Greatest Comic Gymnasts in the World. Few vacancies 1907. Coms. en route, or R. Warner.

RICH and RICH, Palace, Halifax. Agents, G. Barclay.

RICHARDS, ARTHUR, RENEE WALON, Reliable Performers. Finish Empire, Dudley, Pal., Boston. Mon., Empire, Hull.

RIOGOKU FAMILY, THE, Manager, Y. Hamamura, Corso Theatre, Zurich, Switzerland.

RUBY, ELSIE, Palace, Halifax. Agents, G. Barclay.

ROCHESTER, MISS VICTORIA, Soprano with illustrated Songs. Oct. 5, Town Hall, Thetford, Norfolk.

ROWLEY, MR. J. W., Lynton House, Durand-gardens, Clapham, S.W. Wires, "Comedian, London." Also for Ella Dean.

ROZE and CALVERT, Sadler's Wells and Britannia. Sadler's Wells and Britannia.

RUBYS, THE THREE, Pot-Pourri Act. Thanks for Numerous Offers. No Vacancies. Panto. Settled. Tiv., Manchester, Monday.

RUGBY GIRLS, THREE, Expert Instrumentalists. New production, "Camping Out." All coms., "Era."

RYLAND, CLIFF, Monday, Stoll Tour for Six Months. Nothing on his mind, but Hair.

SABINO, the Man of Many Instruments, concludes to-night Palace, Aberdeen. Monday next, Palace, Dundee.

SALAMBOS, THE, "Dreamland," Melbourne, Australia. Indefinitely.

SANDY and CARL, Comedians, Hippodrome, Ashton. Next week, Empire, Stockport.

SAUTERON, the Expert Champion Jumper. Temperance Hall, Leicester. Coms. to B. Henderson, 30, Handforth-rd, Brixton.

SCOTT, GREAT, Success, Tour Hollandias. Next Middlesex. Barrasford tour to follow. Letters, 67 Lancaster-st., S.E.

SCOTT, GEORGE, Adam and Eve, High-st., Peckham. House of Call for Professionals. Nr. Crown T. Cars pass door.

SCOTT, MISS WINNIE, Thanks E. Graham-Falcon, Arthur Gibbons, and Chas. Chard for Panto offers. Principal Girl.

SHELDON, NELLIE, the Girl with a Dial Worth Looking At, Hippo., Sheerness; also BILLY ROSS, Starring, Lib. Monday. Wire.

SHENTON, TOM, Comedian and Dancer. Queen's, Glasgow. Next, Palace, Dundee. All coms.

SHERLOCK, FRANK, Address, 54, Gassiott-road, Tooting, S.W.

SHIPLEY, SAM, Comedian and Dancer. In Song and Story. Vac. Oct. 8, 15. Wire, 1, Goodwin-street, Pendleton, Manchester.

SILCOTT, THREE SISTERS, Metropolitan. Metropolitan.

SILL and SILLCOTT, Silent Comedians. Oxford Palace, Middlesbrough.

SILVO, MUSICAL, Oct. 8, Grand Theatre, Hanley.

SINCLAIR, Agent, Author, and Composer. A few Panto. Hits on hand. Call, 118, Kennington-rd., London, S.E.

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SMYTHSONS, THE, This, Empire, Dublin. Next, Oct. 8, Empire, Liverpool.

STACEY, ARTHUR, the Original Comedian and Dancer, Palace, North Shields. Next week, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

STANLEY'S URCHINS, Just Finished Messrs. Broadhead's full tour. Monday, Oct. 8, Regent Theatre, Salford. Vacant Oct. 15.

STEBBINGS, EDGAR, Variety Agent; 23 Egerton-street, Hulme, Manchester. 'Phone 09251. Wires, "Stebbing, Manchester."

STEINWAY QUARTETTE: Vacant Nov. 12 and (through misunderstanding) Xmas week. Oct. 8, Palace, Bath.

STELFANE, Lady Magician, Vacant Oct. 8, onward. Wire, to-night, Hippodrome, Maidstone; after, 121, Kennington-rd., London, S.E.

STELLING and His Canine Wonder Kiswaski. Vacant Monday. Circus, Exeter. Pell, Granville House, Arundel-st., Strand.

STERLING and CASHEN, Comedy Duo and World's Champion Dancers. This, Palace, Halifax, next, Palace, Lincoln.

ST. JOHNS, THE TWO (GALE and FRANK), Xylophones, Hand-bells, Patter, Mon., Palace, Cork. At Liberty Oct. 15, on.

STOWE BROS., THE GREAT, Boy Wonders. No Vacancies. Burns' Agency; exclusive representative.

STRATTON, SISTERS, Hippodrome, Hastings. Day's Agency.

STUART, MR. BARNEY, This, Parthenon, Liverpool. Next, Lyric, Liverpool.

STUART and WORTH (NELLIE and TEDDIE), Refined Comedy Entertainers. Vac. Oct. 29, Nov. 5. Perm., Bernard Cottage, Dewsbury.

STYLO, Wonderful Juggling with Hoops; BEATRICE BONNIE, Comedienne. Hippo., Glasgow, Oct. 8. Return, E., Stockport.

SWAN, BERT, and MARIE VESTA, "In Nelson's Days." Big Success Bombay. Touring in India.

SYLVESTO, MDLLE., Speciality Contortionist. This, Merthyr; next, Grand, Gravesend; Liberty Nov. 26. Agents, De Vere.

TAFF, HARRY, London Pavilion and Granville.

TAIT, "SILENT," Vacant Nov. 26, 1906. America, 1907. Empire, Cardiff.

TALLY-HO TRIO (Erne Chester, Wm. Doust, and Eric Farr). Chelsea.

TAMAMOTO, O., the Japanese Blondin on the Perpendicular Pole, at St. George's Hall, Langham Place, W., daily at 3 and 8.

TEMPLES, THREE ROYAL, including LOUIE GILBERT. This, King's, Longsight, Manchester; next, Met. T., Manchester.

TERRY and SNOWDON, also "Little" DORIS SNOWDON; two distinct Acts, Lib. Nov. 26 and Panto. 13, Deritend, Birmingham.

THOMAS, ALFRED, Comedian, Who can shake the midriff of despair with laughter. At Lib. 68, Truro-rd., Wood Green.

THORPE and COE, in "My Burglar." Artistic Comedietta, Vac. Oct. 22, Refer Management. Aq., Scarboro'. Oct. 8, Hip., Wakefield.

TRANSFIELDS, THREE, Refined Musical Speciality. Splendid Stage Set. Vacant Oct. 22, Nov. 12. Mon., Hippo., Ipswich.

TRAVIS, BESSIE, Lieut. Travis's Daughter. Vac. Monday and Oct. 15. 39, Mount Pleasant-road, Sheffield.

TRENT, MISS CISSY, The Original Dainty Dancing Doll. On tour. Coms., 4, Kelso-place, Kensington, W.

UNTHAN, C. H., Oct. 8, Barnard's Palace, Chatham. Tom Shaw.

URMA, THREE SISTERS Unbounded success of new act at Grenoble. Now, Palais de Cristal, Marseilles.

VALVO, CHARLES, The Military Ventriloquist. Vacant Monday, also 15th. Wire, Grand, Doncaster.

VERNON, HARRY, Descriptive Baritone Vocalist. Vacant Oct. 15 and Panto. On Tour. All coms. c/o "The Era."

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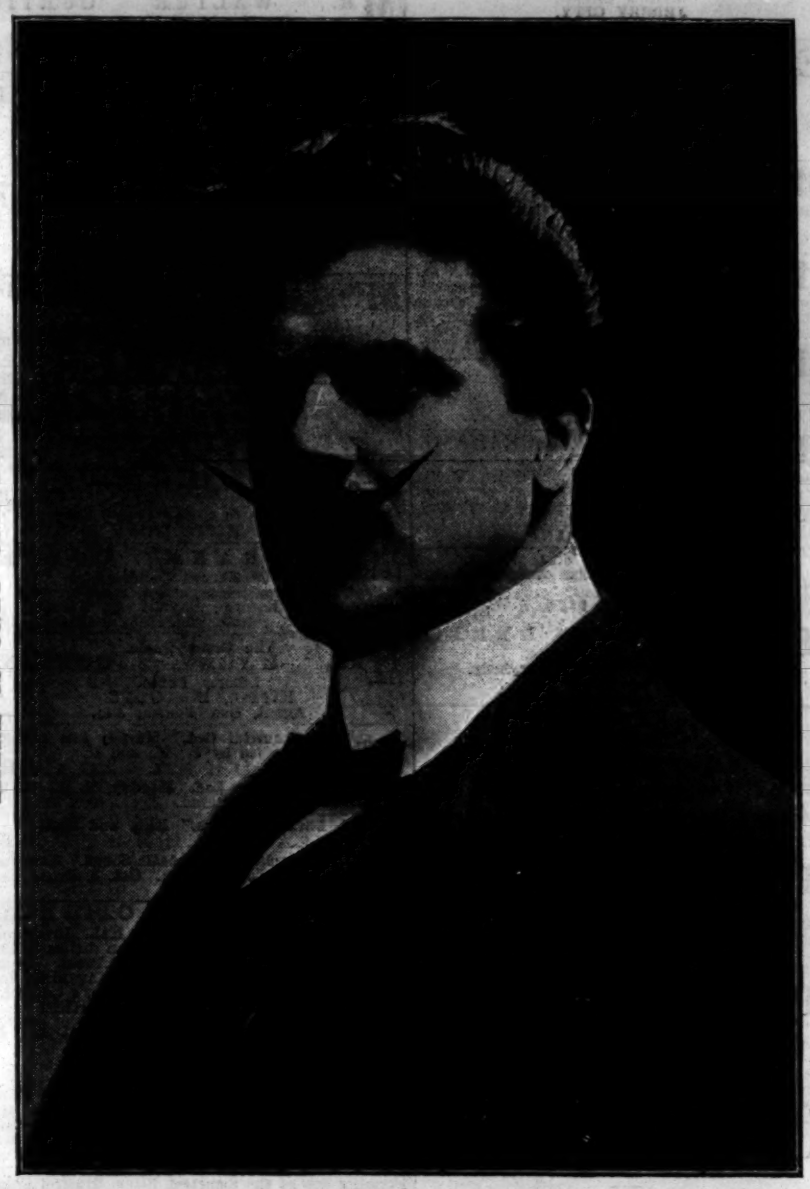

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LAROLA,
the Funny Man with Funny Ways,
ROSE CABANI, Comedienne and Dancer. This week, Hip., Margate. Oct. 8, STAR, BERMONDSEY. Agents, BARCLAY, PACEY and REEVES.

BERT DANSON,
U.S. * * *
U.S. * * *
This, Hippo., Ashton; next, HIPPO., SHEERNESS. Oct. 15 and 22, Plymouth and Bristol. Then town till Xmas.

"Your Daddy Doesn't Love You Better than Mine Loves Me," by G. Harrington.

"When You Leave Your Friends,"
and
"Waves, Waves, Waves,"
by Herbert Rule and Newton Butts.

"All That Glitters is not Gold."
by Bennett Scott and Castling."

The Chorus Songs of the Season.
Sung with Enormous Success.

MISS DORA LYRIC,
MISS DORA LYRIC,

MISS DORA LYRIC,

MISS DORA LYRIC,
MISS DORA LYRIC,
the Refined Comedienne.
Songs Sung and Whistled by Everybody in each Town I have appeared.
Opened at the Palace, Manchester, Sept. 10 last,
and created such a Success
that the Top of the Bill could not perform until I made a re-appearance on the Stage with them.

Opened at the Argyle, Birkenhead, Sept. 17, when I received an offer from Mr. Clark to remain the second week; but being billed at Bolton, Mr. J. F. Elliston could not release me, although offered a big price by Mr. Clark

I return to Birkenhead Oct. 8,
after two weeks' absence,
at double my salary,
and also secured
for a great number of dates
until 1912,
at big increases.

Opened at the Grand, Bolton, Sept. 24, and after appearing at the Matinée on Monday, Double Crown Bills were out by six o'clock in the evening, as follows:

ENORMOUS SUCCESS OF
MISS DORA LYRIC,
NOT THE COMING STAR, BUT THE STAR THAT HAS COME.

Return to Bolton Sept. 9, 1907.

Thanks to J. L. Graydon, Esq.,
for ten Return Dates,
and J. De Frece, Esq.,
for three Tours,
all at double my salary.

Secured by the
London and Collins' and Cambridge until 1912, three and four times yearly, at big increases.

This week,
Starring at the
REGENT, SALFORD.

Return July 8, 1907, and April 6, 1908, at increases.

Monday next,
Starring at the
ARGYLE, BIRKENHEAD,
after two weeks' absence.

Thanks to Chas. Barnard, Esq., for releasing me from Wolverhampton, to allow me to perform at Birkenhead.

Also thanks for Panto. offers, but am fully booked.

All communications
to be addressed to my
Sole Agent,
WALTER BENTLEY,
Cromwell House, Surrey-street, Strand, London, W.C.

Telephone, 12105 Central.
Telegrams, "Yellneb, London."

BERT COOTE'S
IRISH-INDIAN MAIDS.
The Smartest Troupe of Girls on the Halls.

Booked solid to September, 1907.

ON THE CONTINENT UNTIL SEPT., 1908
Oct. 1 to 15, Circus Carre, Amsterdam;
Oct. 16 to 31, Circus Variete, Rotterdam;
Nov. 1 to 31, Circus Variete, Copenhagen.
Tremendous Success at Amsterdam.
SIX CURTAIN CALLS ON OPENING NIGHT.
Refer Manager, Van Harlaan, Circus Carre, Amsterda

BERT COOTE'S
YANKIDOODLE GIRLS.
An entirely New Novel Turn, introducing 12 Splendidly Trained Girls in American Spectacular Songs and Dances.

Beautiful Costumes by John Hyman and Co.

Booked Solid (excepting Pantomime 1906-7) to November, 1908.

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12 PARIS GIRLS 12
SPECIALLY ENGAGED
FOR THE NEW REVIEW
AT
LA SCALA THEATRE, PARIS.
to open OCTOBER 12.
For the above attractions address,
BERT COOTE, 150, OXFORD STREET, W.

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BOYD (AUSTIN) and GILFAIN (TRIXIE)
He of the Tenor voice, and She of the Bagpipes, are producing a New Musical Comedietta, entitled "SUNNY SPAIN" (the idea by Miss Gilfain), Early in November.
New Serenade. New Dialect Song.
New Dramatic Burlesque, and New Bagpipe Solos.
All communications to BARCLAY or PEEL.

THE CARLS,
Comedy Trampoline Act,
Big Success; Roars of Laughter and Applause.
WALHALLA THEATRE, HALLE, GERMANY.
For terms and dates, 76, Willes-rd., London, N.W.

London's Favourite Duettists and Dancers.
THE LANNONS,
The only Champion Dancers in the World, in their New and Original Comedy Act.
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Treasurer, Mrs. F. KARNO.
Secretary, Miss A. DE GREY.
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CANTERBURY,
and GRANVILLE.
Hugh Jay Didcott, Sole Representative.

"Caroline! will you love the gipsy man?"
Sung nightly by
MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE,
at
TIVOLI, SOUTH LONDON, and PARAGON.

A Vesta that strikes everywhere.
MISS VESTA VICTORIA,
the Greatest Success ever made in America.
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THE OXFORD.
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Great success of new song.
"Always Give and Take a Little Bit."
MISS SABLE FERN,
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Frank Leo. G. and F. Pehl.

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"A Toff for Ten Minutes," Musical Monologue, Appealing Alike to a West or East End audience. "Some spark of human nature lies hidden in every heart." 1, Arodene-road, Brixton, S.W.

ETHEL RA-LESLIE,
Character Vocalist.
Originality.
Grand Success, EMPIRE, HOLBORN.
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FANNY ROBINA, FLORRY COOPER.
Record week at the Richmond Theatre our visit (nuf sed). Only two weeks vacant, Oct. 29, Nov. 12. Who wants top and bottom of bill and money; don't dwell, book the above. Address QUEEN'S PALACE, POPLAR.

De Première Qualité.
MISS MARGARET ASHTON,
Indisposed.
All immediate engagements cancelled.

MARIE EMPRESS,
The Clever Comedienne.
New songs by Nat Clifford. Superb dresses, pretty and dainty. Open for panto. girl. Come and see her, Oct. 15, Queen's, Poplar. Per. address, 34, Upper Bedford-place, Russell-square, W.C.

MISS MAUDE MORTIMER,
Everybody's Favourite. Off to Scotland.
PALACE, ABERDEEN.
Specially Engaged for South Africa, sail Dec. 29.
All letters re engagements to Uncle Bill Oliver.

The Australian Nightingale.
MADAME ADA COLLEY,
Prima Donna.
All communications, Leo. Dryden,
Business Manager en route.

FLORRIE FORDE,
England's Premier Burlesque Actress.
Vacant for Panto.
Address, c/o "The Era."

MISS MILLIE PAYNE
"Oh! Oh! Oh!" Another Winner.
Another Capture at Newport, 3 Songs Each House.
Monday Next,
PALACE, DERBY.
Millie is the Lady O. Stoll, Esq., describes as refreshing. Millie is Booked up for Years to Come. Millie has been partly made by Agents and Pros. Pulling her to pieces and Spot picking 'em up. Millie is the concentrated essence of refined comedy. Contract Maker and Comedy Pusher, Will Oliver.

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Monday next, GRAND, CLAPHAM.
Sole Agents, Somers and Warner.

MISS KATIE MARSH,
In Her Entertainment, "Grave and Gay,"
Will resume Business in Town Oct. 22.
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and
COLLINS'S.
Sole Business Agent, Will Oliver.

The Phenomenal Dramatic Soprano.
GHITA CORRI, in Own Character
Song-Scena, "Waiting." The only Artist having an Unbroken Range of 3 Octaves and 5 Notes. Another triumph at PALACE, GLASGOW. A wonderful vocal performance.—Glasgow Record and Mail. Chief interest centred in Ghita Corri.—Evening Citizen. Fairly brough down the house.—Evening Times.
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Agent, E. De Vere.

"Emmie's Christmas Tree."
Another Novelty! Another Novelty!
EMMIE AMES,
Terrific Success, Empire, Portsmouth.
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An actress of the Nellie Farren type.
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Great Success of "Vote for Mrs. Scroggins," by Robson and Hyde. Dames in Pantomimes, don't miss this song. Thanks Hugh J. Didcott, Esq., for return contracts for the Metropolitan and Chelsea Palace until 1910. Gaiety, Chatham.

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"A Marriage of Convenience." An emphatic hit.
By George Arthurs and Orlando Powell.
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Success. Success.
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Scotch Character Ballad Vocalist.
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Starring at the
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Enormous Success of New
Vocal Absurdity,
"THE LADY MEMBER."
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Liberty Panto.

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Free for Pantomime.
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MISS HARRIETT VERNON,
England's Greatest Burlesque Artist.
This week, EMPIRE, BRISTOL.
Representative, Leslie Race.
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Oct. 8,
EMPIRE, OLDHAM.

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"A Dressing-Room Dream."
Shrigley Hall, Killyleigh, co. Down, Ireland.

Singer of Novelty Songs.
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Bottom of the Bill, Tivoli, Dublin.
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DUCHESS, BALHAM.
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MISS BILLIE BARLOW,
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LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Panto settled, Gretchen, "Mother Goose."
Crown Theatre, Peckham.
Agents, G. and F. Pehl.

"The Brighton Promenade,"
"The Brighton Promenade,"
"The Brighton Promenade,"
"The Brighton Promenade,"
"The Brighton Promenade,"
MISS KATE CARNEY,
Terrific Success of "The Brighton Promenade."
Terrific Success of "The Brighton Promenade."
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GERTIE GITANA
Booked until 1912, with W. Gibbons, Esq.,
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Oct. 15, Queen's, Poplar.
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MISS LILLIE SOUTTER,
Portrayer of Comedy Characters.
Monday next, GREENOCK.
Vacant for Pantomime, 1906-7.
Didcott's Agency only. 6, John-st., Adelphi W.C.

A Favourite Everywhere. "I'm His Daisy."
MISS JESSIE PRESTON,
OXFORD, 8.30.
PARAGON, 9.30.
Another Success. "Be Advised by Father," by J. Lambe. Greater Success than ever, "Mary, His Scotch Bluebell," by kind permission of H. Lauder.
Agent, G. Foster;
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Entirely New Répertoire by Harrington and Tate.
MISS CLARICE MAYNE,
The Dainty Comedienne and Mimic,
PALACE, SHAFTESBURY-AVENUE, nightly.

MISS DAISY JAMES,
The "Gibson Girl."
In all her Latest Successes.
Moss and Stoll's Tour.
Next week, Oct. 8,
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Following week, Oct. 15,
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MISS DAISY JAMES.
Coms., 65, Sudbourne-road, Brixton Hill.

Big Success of
NELLIE COLEMAN
in America.
Starring,
KEENEY'S THEATRE,
BROOKLYN.
Address, c/o Marinelli,
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BONNIE MAUD MARLOW and
JOLLY J. H. CREW.
Conclude Successful Return Gaiety, Chatham.
Return again Oct., 1907.
Monday, Return, GRAND, GRAVESEND.
In new Songs, by A. Ellerton, Esq.
Agent, Will Oliver, Esq., 1, Cranbourn-st., W.C.

ELSIE EARLE,
The Holly Girl, in her successful scena, "Holly and Mistletoe." Acknowledged by Press and Public to be the finest stage setting and chorus song of the day. Vacant for one Hall in London, Oct. 15, 29. This week, H., Norwich. Monday, H., IPSWICH.

Unapproachable Baby Mimics.
Universal Favourites.
SISTERS TERRY,
Oct. 8,
JARROW.

Instantaneous Success of New Golfing Trio.
SISTERS (THREE) SPRIGHTLY
Usual Success, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.
Occupying Stage over Forty Minutes Nightly.
A crowded house turned out at the Palace Theatre last night. The three Sisters Sprightly headed the bill, and, as usual, met with a great reception. They have added several new items to their repertoire, notably golf, female suffrage, and the doll songs.—Aberdeen Free Press, Oct. 2.
There was a large audience anxious to renew acquaintance with the Three Sisters Sprightly, who have nowhere more enthusiastic admirers than in Aberdeen. As burlesque artists these clever ladies take a very high rank indeed, and their versatility is shown by frequent additions to a repertoire that has become extensive.—Aberdeen Daily Journal, Oct. 2.
At this time of day it is almost superfluous to say anything about these clever burlesque comediennes—the Sisters Sprightly—whose name on a bill is synonymous with an overflowing house, nor is their popularity difficult to explain. Everything they undertake is marked by originality and a genuine sense of humour, entirely different from the stock imitation that so often does duty on the variety stage.—Bon Accord, Oct. 4.
Monday next, PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.

Talent. Refinement. Comedy.
THE THREE PRESTONS
(George, Jock, and Joey),
"LIFTMAN'S RISE,"
Enormous Success.
LONDON PAVILION.
Agent, George Barclay, or 47, Jeffery-rd., Clapham.

THE THREE RUBYS
may be said to be as clever and as graceful acrobatic artists as have been seen on the boards here. All three excel in the art, and exceptionally clever is the senior lady, who performs some remarkable feats of a contortionist character, with the smallest degree of effort.—Derby Express.
TIVOLI, MANCHESTER.

The Smartest Trio Extant.
THE CALIFORNIAN GIRLS,
HAMMERSMITH PALACE.
Sparrow and Bawn's Agency.

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"A Complete Triumph all along the line."
Concludes to-night terrific success Palace, Derby.
See Press opinions on a preceding page.
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Address, 28, Brixton-hill, S.W.

Lively Lillie Who Can't Keep Still.
MISS L. LANGTRY,
who infects all with her Volatile Spirts and Vivacious Songs, is really better than ever.—Swansea press. Lillie Langtry, a particular favourite in Cardiff, always secures a great reception.—The Era. Stoll's Tour, EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

The Inimitable
PATTY YOLE,
Usual Success this Week, Queen's, Gateshead.
Coms., Geo. Regan, Hippodrome, Leeds.

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Representative, John E. Nash,
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The world's great sand dancer.—Vide Oswald Stoll.
The World's Original Barefoot Sand Dancer.
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Bawn's Agency. 'Phone, 905, Brixton.

MISS LILY SEVILLE,
Keith's Circuit,
JERSEY CITY,
U.S.A.

EILEEN DOUGLAS
Next week,
HIPPODROME,
BIRMINGHAM.
Sole Business Managers, G. and F. Pehl.

MISS AGNES HAZEL,
Comedienne.
"Something went wrong with the motor-car," tuneful and successful, by Mills and Scott.
Three lovely dresses, and three songs to match.

MISS MAY HENDERSON,
The Dusky Comedy Queen. Usual Success.
Monday, EMPIRE, BRADFORD. Next vacant date, Oct. 5, 1908. All coms. to Billy Henderson, 30, Handforth-road, Brixton-road, London.

MISS JESSIE ALBINI,
PALACE,
BLACKPOOL.

MISS GRACIE GRAHAME
(The Original).
Great success of new song by Gilbert Wells, "I've changed my mind," "Fishing; or, Come Into My Net," by Bert Delmar, going as great as ever. Tivoli and Camberwell.
Next, TIVOLI, STRAND.

Not the Coming Star,
But the Star that has come.
See preceding page.

MISS DORA LYRIC,
The Refined Comedienne.
Songs Sung and Whistled by everybody.
See preceding page.

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My Sole Agent:
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'Phone, 12,706, Cent. Telegrams, "Yeltneb, London."
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Quaint Comedienne.
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A Refined Singer of Refined Songs.
THE FORESTERS'.
Miss H. has scored at every Hall she has appeared and always re-engaged. Booked by D. J. Clarke, Esq., until 1910 at an increase each year. First open date April 1, 1907. Business rep., Will (Spot) Oliver.

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James Fiori, Agent.

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the Somewhat Different Comedians,
Bookings Extend into 1912.
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Exclusive representatives, Geo. Barclay and Co.

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RUBIE,
PALACE THEATRE, DUNDEE.
"OUT OF BARRACKS."
"OUT OF BARRACKS."

MAGGIE TOM J.
BOWMAN and MORTON.
"She Loved a Policeman."
Thank three Managers for Panto. offers. Still Vacant. Next week, PALACE, LINCOLN.

BREWSTERS,
Continental Tour.
Address: Pasco Colon 4, Barcelona, Spain.
Pantomime settled. Parts and Specialities.

THE DAGODETS
will in future be known by their own name.
RUBY and ARTHUR AISTON,
RUBY and ARTHUR AISTON.
Roscommon; next, LYRIC, LIVERPOOL.

In their own line.
TED and MAY HOPKINS,
the Popular Welsh Comedian
and his Charming Sister.
This, Empire, Liverpool.
Next, EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.

WEDBURNS,
Comedians, Vocalists, &c.
Big Success at S. Shields this week.
EMPIRE, EDINBURGH.
Agents, Fortune and Granville.

"You're Still a Friend of Mine."
O'MALLEY and BROWN,
Enormous Success, Tivoli, Grimsby. Personally complimented by Mr. Curry. Oct. 15, EMPIRE, BIRMINGHAM. Representative, Will Oliver.

HERBERT CARMEN
LENTON and LA MORENA,
In "Los Espanolas,"
A refined, novel, and unique performance.
Monday next, PALACE, BLACKPOOL.
At Liberty Oct. 15. Address as above.

TOM LEAMORE,
LEAMORE. Concludes to-night a most
LEAMORE. successful week,
LEAMORE. Empire, Portsmouth,
LEAMORE. after seven years' absence.
LEAMORE. House packed
LEAMORE. every night,
LEAMORE. and record
LEAMORE. Matinee.
LEAMORE. Screams and roars
LEAMORE. of laughter.
LEAMORE. At Liberty
LEAMORE. Monday Next.
LEAMORE. Oct. 15, EMPIRE, CORK.
LEAMORE. Oct. 22, PALACE, BELFAST.
LEAMORE. Oct. 29, LONDON PAVILION.
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LEAMORE. Brixton.

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TIVOLI and CAMBERWELL.
Communications to Expert G. Foster, or Direct.

"He's Only a Little 'un," E. W. Rogers.
Published by Francis, Day, and Hunter.
MR. ARTHUR LENNARD,
Monday next,
EMPIRE, BRISTOL.
"Songs of the Future," Albert Hall.
"If I'd Have Been Born a Girl," Murray and Hilbury.
"Songs of the Future," Albert Hall.
"If I'd Have Been Born a Girl," Murray and Hilbury.
Agents, Messrs. Tom Shaw and Co.

"Would you mind passing the salt?" Lester Reekie.
"He Got the Job," Barnes-Weston.
MR. GEORGE BROOKS
and MISS LIZZIE DANIELS,
EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Agent, Mr. Fred Higham.

MR. ALF GIBSON,
Open to Purchase Quaint Songs,
or Good Patter Songs.
EMPIRE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
Business-Managers, G. and F. Pehl.

And another thing, my wenches.
W. J. CHURCHILL
SURREY THEATRE, Oct. 8.
Letters, 102, Falmouth-road, New Kent-rd., London.

MR. WALTER CURTIS,
the Merriment Merchant,
at Liberty for Concerts,
Christmas and New Year weeks.
PALACE, HULL.

MR. ARTHUR SLATER,
The Whistling Man in White.
Notice. Only Agent,
E. De Vere, Esq., 72, Waterloo-road, S.E.

MR. LEO DRYDEN,
Vocal Character Actor.
PAVILION.
GLASGOW.
All coms. as above.

MR. FRED W. MILLIS,
Ventriloquist and Humorist,
Open for engagement.
All Communications, 21, Stonor-road, West Kensington, W.

That Prince amongst Irish Comedians.—The Era.
MR. MICHAEL NOLAN,
Who stands in a class by himself.—Swansea News. Hippodrome, Ipswich.
Monday, PALACE, NORTHAMPTON.

"A Shoeblack Hero." A pronounced success.
A draw, a hit, at Bolton.
MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR.
Has no time to write "Coon" Songs.
Monday, THE HIPPODROME, WIGAN.

MR. FRANK COYLE,
the Continuous Comedian,
Concludes Tivoli, Manchester, same Success.
Reception, Encores, Eight Songs Nightly.
Monday next, return, EMPIRE, ROCHDALE.

The Great Dame.
MR. HARRY CONLIN,
Liberty Panto.
HIPPO., BOSCOMBE.
Agent, Geo. Foster, Esq.

"Beautiful, Beautiful Bed," Murphy and Lipton.
Published by F., D., and H.
MR. MORNY CASH,
the Lancashire Lad. Monday, T. R., WARRINGTON. Lib. for Panto. Agent, Tom Shaw.

"A Dark Blue Eye," Mills and Scott.
T. E. JOHNSTONE,
in Humorous and Dramatic Songs. Hear his Great Character Topical Song. Oct. 8, Broadhead Tour.

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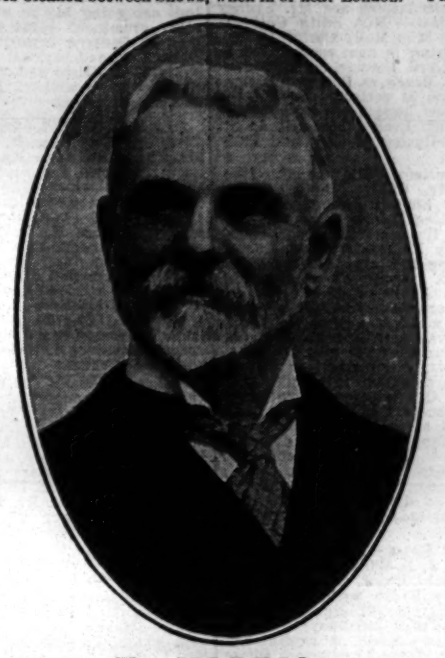

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THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, OCT. 11.—We have had an exceptionally busy week. No less than three theatres have launched their novelties, the first among them the Palais-Royal, which, under the new management of M. Judic—son of the well-known actress—has imitated the little outside playhouses, and instead of a piece in three acts, has given us what is styled here a "spectacle coupé," i.e., several plays in one act. The first, *Heureux Père*, is by M. Léon Abric. A lady is expecting an increase in her family, and her husband and the latter's mother-in-law are seated in the drawing-room awaiting events. The nurse enters and announces the birth of a boy, whereupon the elderly lady congratulates her son-in-law. A moment later another son is announced, and the lady no longer smiles. When, however, the arrival of a third youngster is recorded the mother-in-law gives the luckless father a sound beating. It is also delicately conveyed to us that a certain Oscar, the young wife's cousin, has collaborated with the husband with regard to these triplets.

"L'EXTRA" is by M. Pierre Véber. A few months ago this same author gave us a very amusing piece called *Gonsague*, wherein a piano-tuner was compelled by circumstances to play the part of a nobleman. This time the rôles are reversed. The Baron de Hennequeville, a young rake, in order to revenge himself on his family for having disowned him, hires himself out to wait at table, and is sent by the firm who employ him to a rich merchant who gives a ball. Whilst he serves behind the buffet he sees his friend Desvalettes and the latter's cousin Marianne. He at once throws down his serviette, places a flower in his button-hole, talks with Desvalettes, and dances with Marianne, until the head waiter, catching sight of him, calls him back and severely reprimands him for undue familiarity with the guests. This funny little act raised roars of laughter. The remaining three pieces—one of them a small revue—are too insignificant to be worth describing.

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Couzan	M. COLOMBEY
Frontignac	M. LANDRIN

When the cat's away. . . . We have no longer a censor, and our playwrights now give free scope to their imagination. This, no doubt, is delightful to the authors and to the case-hardened portion of the playgoing public. But what about the unfortunate critic who is expected to relate the story of a play that defies description? Such a piece, alas! is *N'avez-vous rien à déclarer?* the new work just produced at the Nouveautés. I will attempt to give a faint idea of the peppery plot. M. and Mme. Dupont have an only daughter—Paulette—married to the Comte de Trivelin, and when the story opens the young people are expected back from their honeymoon trip. Mme. Dupont is very excited to see Paulette, and so is La Baule. This La Baule has for years been in love with Paulette, and ever since the girl married he has been shedding copious tears. He cries over dinner; he cries when he sleeps. A few moments later the young couple are announced, and whilst Mme. Dupont takes her daughter into another room, Trivelin makes a dreadful communication to his father-in-law. "I am married to Paulette," he says, "and yet she is not my wife." And then he tells how, when in the train to Brussels alone in the compartment with his wife, he suddenly took her in his arms, and just as he was going to kiss her a gruff voice called out, "Have you anything to declare?" It was the Belgian Custom House officer This apparition at such an inopportune moment gave Trivelin such a shock that whenever he wants to offer the slightest caress to his wife he always fancies hearing a voice—"Have you anything to declare?" and he is seized with a fit of trembling. Before M. Dupont can offer any consolation or advice Mme. Dupont enters, and, in a severe tone, says to her son-in-law, "Young man, you have three days to settle outstanding matters. Past that delay I will ask my daughter to apply for a divorce, and she will marry M. La Baule." When La Baule hears what has occurred he cries again, but this time with joy. And he at once thinks of a hellish device. He will take care that the three days' grace shall not avail Trivelin anything. He secures a Custom House officer's uniform, hides himself in the house, knocks at Trivelin's dressing-room door, and, when the latter opens the door, calls out, "Have you anything to declare?" And now I must bring my narrative to an end. Many more things occur, but they cannot be described in honest English. For the benefit of those interested in Trivelin's fate I will say that, as in all farces, everything comes right in the end, except, perhaps, for La Baule, who has his ears boxed by the charming Paulette, and gets into trouble all round. The work, excellently played by the efficient Nouveautés company, was received with much laughter.

THE well-established reputation of Messrs. A. R. Dean and Sons as theatre furnishers and decorators is not by any means confined to one continent. The famous Birmingham firm have not only furnished and decorated upwards of eighty-five per cent. of the theatres and halls erected in Great Britain, as well as a great many Continental places of amusement, but have also successfully carried out quite a large number of contracts in South Africa, America, and Australia. The contracts booked and in hand for the current year are far too numerous to mention in detail; they include Terry's Theatre, Strand; the magnificent Albert Hall, Southport; the Empire, Birmingham; Hippodrome, Wolverhampton; Hippodrome, Margate; Theatre Royal, Margate; Standard Theatre, Shoreditch; Tivoli Palace, Dublin; Opera House, York; Hippodrome, Birmingham; Hippodrome, Brighton; County Theatre, Guildford; New Palace-by-the-Sea, Clacton; Royal Hippodrome, Portsmouth; Theatre Royal, West Bromwich; Hippodrome, Lancaster; Empire, Burnley; Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames; Tivoli Theatre, Leeds; New Hippodrome, West Bromwich; and the Royal Albert Palace, Canning Town. The firm direct special attention to their new "Non Pareil" tip-up chairs in British velvet. Materials and workmanship are alike admirable and sound. Messrs. Dean and Co. have won a high reputation for their fibrous plaster decorations, and supply stage carpets, marble-top tables, floor coverings, band stands, stage furniture, and every kind of al-fresco seating. The firm still retain the services of Mr. A. F. Windibank as manager of the theatre department, who has superintended the fitting-up of more theatres than any man in the trade; Mr. C. Bardell, manager of the decoration department; and Mr. L. R. Beck, manager and superintendent of the factories. Architects, proprietors, managers, lessees, &c., are invited to write for the firm's new catalogue of theatre decorations and furnishings.

MR. FRANK LAWTON being unable to appear last Saturday evening in his part in *The Belle of New York* at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, owing to severe indisposition, the management wired to Mr. Charles Watkins in the morning to play the character, which he did with considerable success.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

ABERDARE.—New Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here this week in *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Mr. C. F. Howard as Tom Hatherton is very successful; Mr. James Wilson is decidedly good as Hang Chow; Mr. Edwin Sykes as Hi Lung and Mr. Louis Ashmeade as Chippie Chop are deserving of special praise; Mr. Lindsay Harman is a thorough success as Mr. Pineapple; Miss Frances Oigar as Soo Soo is charming, her singing being most artistic; Miss Florence Wilton is quite captivating as Mrs. Pineapple; Miss Kitty Clayton is an excellent Fifi; Miss Alma Bolton as Mrs. Brown is quaint and amusing; Miss S. Ross and Miss D. Greatwich are worthy of special mention as the Bridesmaids. The chorus is excellent, and the orchestra is under the direction of Mr. O. H. Bamberger.

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. R. Barnes.—*Hoodman Blind* is renewing acquaintance with Accringtonians at the above house this week, Mr. Arnold Bell's company giving an entirely satisfactory interpretation. Mr. Bell submits an earnest embodiment of Jack Yeulett; Mr. Cuthbert Imrie is dully callous and blackguardly as Mark Lezzard; Mr. F. C. Carlile contributes a well-defined sketch. Mr. of Kridge; Mr. H. Fuller must be complimented on his performance of Ben Chibbles; Mr. Guy Morville is responsible for the clever character-acting of Tom Lattiker. Miss Frances Campbell, in the dual rôle of Nance and Jess, acts with sympathy and charm; Miss L. Vyner is effective as Tom Tit, a waif; and Polly Chibbles is capitally delineated by Miss Violet Campbell.

Hippodrome — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Parsons.—Mr. C. Morritt heads the bill here, and fairly mystifies his audience by his clever tricks. Miss Olive Armidale is a dainty comedienne; Clive and Clark bring down the house by their clever dancing; the Three Seabornes are smart acrobats; the Lovelaces are pleasing; and Harry Grey, as local entertainer, is a host in himself. The Hippodrome Bioscope gives some interesting pictures.

ALDERSHOT.—Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—A return visit is being paid here by Mr. Lester Collingwood's company with the drama *When London Sleeps*. Miss M. Scudamore and Miss Maude Yorke do well as Queenie and Hilda respectively; and Messrs. C. P. Wentworth, Sam Arthur, and Frank Howard are seen to advantage in the prominent rôles of Rodney, David, and Bertie; whilst Mr. D. Kelway provides the comedy as Sammy.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—English opera is attracting lovers of music to the Theatre Royal this week. Mr. J. W. Turner's company opened with *Il Trovatore*, the tragic story of the troubadour enlisting the attention of a good house. Mr. F. J. Hargrave appeared as Manrico, and sang and acted the troubadour with vocal power and vigour of impersonation. Miss Kitty Brownless gave to the delineation of Leonora the required grace and dignity, and sang with good effect, the Miserere scene being repeated in reply to an encore. Miss Beatrice Hill scored as Azucena; her voice, light and flexible, told admirably in all the music, "Home to our mountains" being encored and repeated. Mr. T. Griffiths made an admirable Count di Luna, his powerful baritone and expressive methods being much admired. Minor rôles were in capable hands, and good work was done by chorus and orchestra. On Tuesday *The Daughter of the Regiment* was performed; on Wednesday *Satanella*, with Mr. Turner as Count Rupert; on Thursday *Old Knockles*, a one-act opera by Caldicott, and *The Waterman*; and on Friday *The Bohemian Girl*.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—A capital combination of variety "stars" are here for the current week, including three comedians of varied styles: Mr. T. E. Johnstone, who appeals to patriotic sentiment, Hardy Palm, who convulses the house with his "Potted Meat," and Monty Walker, an admirable "Silly Billy"; Baby Ladybelle is a clever juvenile; the Levitts are a couple of expert vaulters; the Montaldos are remarkably adroit slack wire artists; Reed and Co. give a melodramatic sketch, *The Right Road*, in which father and daughter meet as burglars; the Seven Woolfronas are a smart troupe of acrobats; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the singing box makers are a pleasing feature; they give a musical turn of a novel kind; the Eight Lancashire Lads are old favourites here, and their harmony in chorus is very effective. The Bioscope pictures are not the least entertaining "turn" of the evening.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—Mr. John H. Tomkinson's *Royal Gipsy* company is the attraction here this week. Miss Flora Buxton is a contralto singer of rare power; and the violin solos of Miss Minnie Richardson are received with applause; whilst Miss Annie Knowles deserves praise for her trombone solos; a pleasing turn is furnished by Miss Buxton and Mr. Fred Dobito in old-fashioned melody; other commendable items are given by La Belle Tosca on the tight-wire; the Recars, Chinese acrobats; Mlle. Vanda, a clever juggler, on a revolving globe; Mr. Dan Whitley, comedian; Little Vio Lette, male impersonator; Miss Evie Lynn in tambourine dance; and the Rizarelis, smart juvenile trapeze performers.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—Mr. Sid Cotterell and his company head this week's bill with a mirth-provoking sketch entitled *The Substitute*; Mr. L. B. Athol, character actor, is heartily applauded for his song-scena, "An Old Man and his Pipe"; the Ettenas give a smart show as rolling globe artists; Miss Ruby with her "merry mannikins" is a source of much merriment; Mr. E. C. Clayton is still to the fore with his Attergraph pictures. Other items are furnished by Miss Alice Maud, mimic and male impersonator; the Sisters Brooklands, comediennes and dancers; and Mr. H. Levaine.

AYR.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—This week the theatre is occupied by Mr. George Dance's own company in the musical play, *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Of special excellence is the portrayal of Sergt. François Lefebvre, afterwards Duke of Dantzic, by Mr. Leonard F. Griffiths, who sings and acts with great dramatic power, and looks and dresses his part so well. Mr. Alfred Ibberson is the Napoleon, and he brings out that overbearing monarch's strong and weak points to perfection. Miss Blanche Lynd imbues the part of Sans Gêné with that life and abandon and just that touch of humour and mischief to save the play from a fault of too seriousness. She gives a most creditable interpretation of the part. Papillon is admirably taken by Mr. Arthur Ferris. The Vicomte Bethune has a manly portrayal from Mr. Cecil W. Parke, and the Lisette of Miss Hettie Ludlow is brought into prominence by capable acting and singing.

BACUP. — New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Mr. Frank R. Burdett's company is appearing here this week with *The Indian Mutiny*. Mr. George Steel as Lieut. Manley gives a forcible and telling performance; Mr. Cyril Harrison is excellent as Captain Manley; and as Major Ingleby Mr. John Davidson is quite satisfactory. Mr. Villiers Stanley as Nebu Singh is a capable exponent of the rôle, and Mr. J. S. Sheddon as Abul Khan is all that could be desired. Mr. Charles Boult gives a capable rendering of Ra. Goongs. Miss F. Melrose Milleti presents a highly commendable impersonation of Ghuz-nah; Miss Agnes Kingston is an effective Kate Ingleby; and Miss Lillie Grey plays well as Mrs. Ingleby. The humour of the drama is well sustained by Mr. Cecil Morant.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mrs. Morton Powell's company in *When It Was Dark* is here. Mrs. Powell herself acts the part of Helena Byars with spirit, and Miss Mabel Mannering is exceedingly effective in the difficult part of Gertrude Hunt. Mr. Cyril Austin is good as the Rev. Basil Gortre, and Mr. George H. Pitt is clever as Constantine Schwabe. Mr. Riddell Robinson gives a powerful study of Sir Robert Llewellyn; Mr. Henry Heller is a capable Rev. Mr. Byars; and Mr. A. Carrington does well as Harold Spence.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Julian Malvern's company in *I Defy the World* is here. Mr. Percy Ballard gives a careful and effective interpretation of the part of Leon Darville, and Miss Violet Crawford is exceedingly skilful as Blanche Darville. Mr. Charles Wilton makes his mark as the Count, and the Laroche of Mr. Chas. Conway is convincing, while Miss Rosalie Heath is good as Pauline.

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties. — Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—Mr. Harry Tate's company in *Motoring* makes a great hit. Mr. J. A. Wilson, the original black oracle, is entertaining; Gilbert Girard is a clever animal and instrumental mimic; Daisy Lane, comedienne, is pleasing; Harry Carmen, vocal comedian, sings well; and the Constances in a comedy duologue, *A Game for Two*, are successful.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—On Monday Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company began a third visit to Bath, with *The Walls of Jericho*, which once again drew a capital audience. Fortunately Mr. Herbert Bunstan, Mr. George A. Brandram, and Miss Florence Jackson are at hand to enact the rôles of Jack Frobisher, Nankey Bannister, and Lady Alethea, and these talented artists continue to portray these characters with all their old success. Others who are repeating excellent impersonations are Mr. Sydney Hamilton (Harry Dallas). Miss Edith Cuthbert (Miss Mornington), and Miss Molly Carton (Lucy). The Marquis of Steventon is now represented in finished style by Mr. Cyril Baleine, another newcomer being Mr. E. F. Meads as Bertram Hannaford. Miss Lydia Busch is certainly one of the best Lady Westerbys we have seen; while Miss Rita Milman and Miss Evelyn Maxwell do all that is possible as the Duches of Skye and Lady Parchester.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Mr. Macnaghten (who was himself present on Tuesday evening) is presenting this week as his leading attraction Dronza, the marvellous mechanical talking head, which by its mystery has created great wonderment among the large audiences that twice nightly assemble. Quite an ovation has been accorded to Miss Annie Schuberth for her delightful vocalism; her song-scena, *Josephine's Welcome to Napoleon*, which she gives this week for the first time, is well arranged and tuneful, and is sure to be popular wherever heard. Prince Kokin, Japanese juggler, is an adept in all his difficult feats, and his reception is cordial to a degree; the Steinway Quartette of Gentlemen Vocalists score a big success in their solo and concerted scena "Songs of the Sea"; Frank and Free create plenty of laughter in their domestic musical squabble; Geo. C. Doughty and company give an amusing comedy sketch, *Capt. Cupid*; Ruth Lytton is smart as a Scotch comedienne; Maude Vera, vocalist and dancer, is a favourite; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux have new and interesting films to show.

BATLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Whitty.—*A Woman's Past* is here this week. Mr. J. Myron-Howard plays the part of David Heath with earnestness and conviction; Mr. David Phillips is bright, cheery, and effective as Frank Delauney; Mr. Clifton Earle is energetic as Craven. A capital embodiment is that of Miss Irene Carrington, whose admirable study of Clara Darrel is appreciated; Miss Doris Cameron gives a neat study of Dorothy Heath; and Miss Dorothy Wallace is also successful in her part.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week, by special arrangement with Mr. Tree, Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company presents J. Comyns Carr's version of *Oliver Twist*. Mr. Stanley Drewitt undertakes with entire success the trying rôle of Fagin; Miss Edith Anton Laing pathetically represents the character of Nancy; Mr. James Shea as Bill Sikes leaves nothing to be desired; and Mr. Charlie Clark as the Artful Dodger, Mr. R. C. Hunter as Charlie Bates, and Mr. J. Johns as Tom Chitling well maintain the humour of the piece. Mr. Arthur Klein submits an admirable impersonation of Barney; Mr. Fred Penley cleverly interprets the rôle of Mr. Brownlow; Mr. W. H. Rotherham capitally enacts the rôles of Mr. Grimwig and Monks; and Mr. Paige Lawrence ably depicts the refined gentlemanly character of Harry Maylie. Miss Dorothy Marsdin enlists the sympathy of her audience by her pathetic rendering of Oliver Twist; Miss A. Lingham as Mrs. Maylie acts capitally; and Miss Dorothy Mayhew makes a charming Rose Maylie.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Durward Lely and Mr. William Mollison's company is paying a welcome return visit to this city, and on Monday produced with marked success Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's fine play, *The Middleman*. Mr. William Mollison must be congratulated on his clever impersonation of Cyrus Blenkarn, being deservedly recalled at the end of each act; Miss Evelyn McNay was charming as Mary; Mr. John Clyde appeared to great advantage as Joseph Challender; and Mr. Alec F. Thompson acquitted himself with distinction as Jesse Pegg; Miss Edith Blair Staples furnished a humorous interpretation of Nancy; and Mr. Durward Lely was all that could be desired as Sir Seton Umfraville; Mr. Archie W. Chappell was the young lover, Captain Julian Chandler, to the life; and other rôles were cleverly sustained by Miss Gladys Fare, Miss Alice Francis, Miss Josephine Woodward, and Messrs. A. Macpherson, Hyam Twyson, D. Lyall, &c. On Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and last night, *Beside the Bonny Brier Bush* was produced with every element of success.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Messrs. Colby and May top the bill, and have been most successful with their ventriloquial act; Miss Alice Hollander's lovely contralto voice has been heard to great advantage in several songs; the Six Brothers Luck appear in a new and original pantomime entitled *Blazes, or the Private Fire Brigade*, which evokes shrieks of laughter; the jumping feats of Fioretti and Miss Elly have caused much amazement, and Miss Florence Deighton sings several songs with much taste; Kisbey, the call boy, is certainly very smart, and a good reception has been extended to that clever character actor, Mr. Tom Stuart; also here are Miss Adey Spencer, Miss Nellie Adrienne, comedienne and whistler, and the Palace Pictures.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The star here this week is the popular Belfast favourite, Mr. Mark Sheridan, whose reception on Monday must have been most gratifying to this clever comedian. A good reception has also been extended to the Scottish Meisters for their capital vocal and comedy act. Mr. R. H. Douglas upholds his reputation as one of the smartest entertainers on the boards, and Miss Florence Esdale is a delightful vocalist; the feats of the Picquays, consisting of head and hand balancing, have created quite a sensation; Fielding and Hull, vocal entertainers, have made a big hit; and also here are Miss Flo Hilton, male impersonator, and Mr. Will Cornish, with his silver bells and chimes.

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The Alhambra Dramatic Company presents this week, with unqualified success, the drama, *The Mockery of Marriage*. Chief honours are due to that charming actress, Miss Nina Blake-Adams, for her delightful impersonation of Rose Vernham; Mr. Percy M. Stevenson acquitted himself with high distinction as the villainous Dick Kenyon; and nothing but praise must be accorded Mr. Horace Denton for his clever impersonation of the dual rôle of Jack and Ned Stanley; Mr. Cyril Grier skilfully interpreted the part of Seth Pearce; and the same may be said of Mr. Henry Elmore Frith, who impersonated Joseph Vernham; Miss Norah Caronne had a difficult part to sustain in Alvo Kenyon, but she played it with much credit to herself. The humour of the piece was in the hands of Mr. Tom H. Solly, who was excellent as Toby Wright; and Miss Alice Clarke, who was decidedly funny as Mary Ann; Mr. H. Arnold Allen, who was capital as Old Pete, completes the fine cast.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Battersby.—Owing to the sudden death of Mr. Frank Bateman, and the utter prostration, in consequence, of Mrs. Bateman (Miss Lizzie Montague), changes at the last moment had to be made in the cast of *No Wedding Bells for Her*, the drama of the week. The part of Lola Delaspierre is being undertaken by Miss Louie Adair, and this lady proves a very worthy understudy; Mr. Fred Garton is Dick, the detective, and his portrayal of the part is most commendable; Mr. Stuart Lomath plays the Rev. Frank Hatherleigh excellently; the Horatio Fane of Mr. Harry Belford fits him like a glove.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. George Dance's company in *The Cingalee* is presenting an attractive entertainment. Mr. Jack Crichton plays Chambuddy Ram with infinite humour; Mr. Cyril Dane scores heavily as the Hon. Harry Vereker; and Mr. Ethelbert Edwards is a decided success as Bobby Warren. Mr. Helier le Maistre is to be complimented on an excellent rendering of Boobhamba; Sir Peter Loftus is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Grafton Williams; Miss Georgina Middleton invests Nanoya with vivacity and chic; Lady Patricia Vane is admirably impersonated by Miss Marjory Clark; and Miss Gladys Guy is an unexceptionable Peggy Sabine.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Miss Dora Lyric, a comedienne and descriptive vocalist of exceptional ability, has returned after a short absence and meets with a cordial reception; Mr. Jack Pleasant, a genuinely funny comedian, has made a hit; and the Motramos are renewing previous successes. Bernar's Marionettes are marvels of mechanical skill; Mr. J. W. Rickaby is a comedian of resource; the Two Bostons are going big in a humorous interlude; and other prominent turns are supplied by Mr. Norman B. Osborne (ventriloquist); Miss May Moore Duprez (the American Dutch girl); the Sisters Neilson, duettists and dancers; and Merton and Ryder, variety artists. Brown's Royal Bioscope is also an attraction.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Mr. Martin Harvey's appearance this week has produced great scenes of enthusiasm, in which Miss N. De Silva has shared. On Monday, a big audience cheered to the echo Mr. Harvey's fine performance as Brian in *Boy O'Carroll*. Miss N. De Silva was admired in the rôle of Paudheen; and Mr. Chas. J. Cameron as Major Yarrington, Miss Mary Rorke as Lady Honoria Vere, and Miss Maud Rivers as Lettice Yarrington, received much applause. On Tuesday, *A Cigarette-Maker's Romance* was given; and *Hamlet* and *The Only Way* have also been presented. Wednesday evening was marked by a grand revival of *The Corsican Brothers*, which is noticed elsewhere.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—Mr. Lewis Waller is scoring here as Brigadier Gerard, a part that he invests with delightful braggadocio. Miss Evelyn Millard, looking lovely, and acting superbly as the Comtesse, has her share in the ovation that comes at the end. Mr. A. E. George makes a commanding figure of Napoleon; Mr. Edward O'Neill acts with subtlety and power as Talleyrand; and Messrs. Eric Scott, Shiel Barry, R. C. Smith, and Herbert Yyvian distinguish themselves. Mr. Waller also appears as Philip Challoner in the monologue, *Fortune's Fool*, which serves as a curtain-raiser.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—This week, Mr. George Dance's company presents *A Country Girl*, with which the patrons here appear well pleased. Mr. Coningsby Brierley is well received for his bright and brisk acting as Barry; Mr. F. J. Booney makes an imposing Rajah; Mr. John M. Hay as Geoffrey Challoner is liberally applauded; and Mr. Arthur Jackson as Sir Joseph Verity, Mr. Chas. Stafford as Douglas Verity, Mr. H. W. Hewlett as Lord Anchester, and Mr. H. A. Mather as Granfer Mummery, are well appreciated. Miss Ellaline Thorne is charming and piquant as Nan; Miss Barbara Babington as Marjory displays a winning presence and tuneful voice; Miss Ernestine Desborough gains admiration for her presentation of the Princess; and Miss Cissie Sephton as Madame Sophie sings and dances with vivacity and charm. Miss Muriel Johnson is also praiseworthy as Lady St. Quinton; and the chorus is adequate.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chris Felton.—Mr. Lingford Carson's répertoire company is here on a return visit. On Monday, *The Heart of a Hero* held attention, and Mr. Charles Draycott was once more acclaimed for his acting as Jem Resdale. Miss Muriel Thompson graced the rôle of Nell Resdale with many artistic touches; Mr. Ernest J. Fare portrayed the schemer; Wilfred Marl, with skill; Mr. Sidney C. Cranston was eminently satisfactory in the rôle of Jack Collinson; Mr. J. Dobson Clyde was duly appreciated for his work as Mark Marl; Mr. Arthur Byron made a diverting Timothy Heighno; Miss Daisy Norman a humorous Susie Slack, Miss Marie Robson a successful May Ryder, and Miss Louise Millward acted cleverly in a dual rôle. On Wednesday, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* was played, and *The Octoroon* was down for Thursday and Friday.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company, including Miss Ward, is appearing here. Miss Ward is sympathetic as Honor Symes; Miss Adelaide Raby depicts Bella de Lara with callousness and abandon; Mr. George M. Newall is an admirable Mark Desmond; Mr. Wilson Coleman, a clever Gilbert Fernside; and Miss Audrey Sutherland, a pathetic Little Leonard. Miss Kate Newman does well with the part of Sal Jenkins; and a quintette of comedy rôles are effectively played by Mr. T. Edward Ward as Jonathan Buckstone; Mr. Sydney Bryant as Dicky Bird; Mr. Claude Paget as the postman, Treadaway; Miss Gertie Reid as Kitty; and Miss Ettie Spalding as Martha Sprigwell.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley. — General-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company is here, in *Honour Thy Father*. Mr. Walter M. Cameron makes a powerful Gabriel Garth; Mr. Bertram Ross, an effective Jack Halyard; and Mr. W. R. Winning, a successful Sir Duncan Bly. Miss Kate Newton acts with sympathy in the rôle of Gertrude Garth; Miss Winnie Donavon is an effective Mercy Merry; Miss Mabel Coleman, an excellent Lillian Garth; Mr. W. H. Melrose, a humorous Ned Pennycomquick; and further comicalities are provided by Mr. Fred Rolls as Mike, Mr. Claude Merton as Bloggs, and Miss Lizzie Morley as Poppy Cornleigh.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. B. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—Mr. Samuel James's company is here in *As Good as Gold*. Mr. William Heilbron is responsible for a dashing portrayal of Jack Stanton; Mr. Richard Ferris bears a distinguished appearance as Sir Richard Wharncliffe; Mr. H. H. Barrington acts forcibly as Mark; Miss Gertrude Bonser is a charming Nora; Miss Kate Froud a capable Kate D'Arville; Miss Irene Tracey a clever "Kipper"; and much mirth comes of the efforts of Mr. Norman Hall as Spanker, Mr. Fred May as Simpson, and Miss Ella Seton as Madge. Mr. F. Thorpe Tracey as Timothy Nias and Miss Florence Lovell as Anna Nias also contribute to the success.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Willie Edouin heads a brilliant programme here, his pathetic and amusing character studies being loudly applauded; Bob Hutt and company are appearing in a pantomimic absurdity, *Welcome Home*, which is well staged; the wire act, by Wyndham and Kitty is daring and clever; Daisy James sings herself into favour; as also does Harry Marte and Harry Maynard; Binns and Binns, musical comedians, are well applauded; A-Ba-Be, a novel picture post-card album, and Alburtus and Bartram, who are expert at club-swinging and juggling, complete the bill.

Gaiety Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Florrie Forde is here again. She certainly appears to be one of the Gaiety's greatest favourites, her songs being contributed in her happiest manner. The Three Laurels present a sensational gymnastic performance; Dora Martini gives a clever gymnastic turn; Edie Gray and her White Coons, the Violas, Cyril Carle, Millie Denham; Assaf, Byron, and Shaw, Chas. Sloman, and J. H. McCann are also in the bill.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Collinson's company of juveniles is appearing in a sketch, *The Topsy-Turvy School*, which is highly amusing; Grant and Grant, a pair of octoroons, also come in for a good share of applause. The trick cycle act of the Villions is decidedly clever; while the novel feats of strength of the Lavalis are far above the average. Other popular turns are Eileen Douglass, Baroux and Bion, Lauri Wylie, Edna Latonne, Harry Zetter, and Sammy Shields.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Peggy Pride is scoring a great success here; another smart turn is Lupino Lane, a juvenile comedian; Datas, the marvellous man of memory, and Fox and Melville are well applauded; Lord, Murray, and Lord are old favourites, as also are the Lupino Bros.; Esta Stella is encored for her songs.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Eden Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. Herbert Ralland's company is here in the comic opera *La Poupée*. Great praise is due to Miss Mysie Devine for her clever rendering of Alesia; in Mr. Arthur Cozens is seen a brilliant exponent of Launcelot; Mr. Harry Brayne is humorous and entertaining as Hilarius; a clever portrayal of Father Maxime is given by Mr. Walter Balfour; Loremois is well played by Mr. Arthur Dennis; Mr. Fuller Allen is successful in the rôle of Baron Chanterelle; Miss Edith Hunter makes an excellent Mme Hilarius; and Miss Doris Dickens a pleasing Henri.

BLACKBURN. — Theatre Royal.— Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—Mr. Mouillot's company in *The Toreador* is appearing here with much success. Miss Rose Helene is a dainty Nancy and makes a big hit with her "bouquet" song in the first act; Miss Zoe Gilfillan as Dora Selby is also charming; as is Miss Katie May as Susan; Miss Florence Burdett as the much-married Mrs. Malton Hoppings invests her part with a vein of humour; Mr. Harry Buss as Sammy Gigg is exceedingly funny; and Mr. Howard Cridland as Sir Archibald Slackett introduces comicality which fairly captures the house. Mr. Fred Fowler as Pettifer is also a capable laughter-maker; Mr. H. M. White as Carajolo should be mentioned for his fine rendering of the Toreador's song; and Miss Marie Adair acts and sings well as the disappointed Donna Teresa.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. H. Marriott-Watson's company is appearing here in *A False Wife*. The company is a good one, and Miss Florence E. Florence acts finely as Estelle de Lusan.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—A variety show of all-round merit is contributed to by the Six Æolians, singers and dancers—a bright and interesting turn; Austin Rudd, an old favourite, is as humorous as ever; Hall and Earle are eccentric acrobats; and the Davonports, a pair of dexterous and amazing conjurers. Kit Keen, a coloured coon artist; Almon, contortionist; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are also among the attractions.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone. — *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*, played by Mr. Lionel Glenister and Mr. Wood-Ingram's company is the pleasing fare provided here this week. The title-rôle is played by Miss Decima Moore, whose delightful acting is the principal charm of the play. Miss Annie Brophy scores at all points as Mrs. O'Mara, and Miss Kate Wingfield carries conviction as Lady Crackenthorpe; Miss Violet Barton-Astor makes a good impression as the Hon. Millicent Keppel, whilst Miss Estelle Despa scores a veritable triumph as the Hon. Mrs. Colquhoun. Mr. Frank Bayley contributes a careful study of Lord Crackenthorpe, Mr. Lionel Glenister is satisfactory as the Hon. Jimmy Keppel, Mr. Henderson Bland is responsible for Major Phipps, and Mr. Harold Weston is good as Jack Menzies.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*The Orchid*, played by Mr. George Dance's company, is proving a great attraction here. Mr. Colin Campbell as Meakin, Mr. Fred Thompson as Guy Scrymgeour, and Mr. Harry Ray as Zaccary provide endless fun, whilst the vocalisation of Miss Mabel Sealby (Lady Violet), Miss Florence Vie (Caroline Vokins), and Miss Gladys War (Josephine) materially assist to make the play successful. There is a strong chorus, and the dresses and mounting are highly commendable.

Palace. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—George Gilbey tops a capital bill here this week. Other popular turns are Dunningarto, conjurer; Jessie Albini, comedienne; Herbert Lenton and Carmen La Morena, in a Spanish scena; Ross and Grayson, in a mélange of music and dancing; Sidney Dolf, juggler; Maude Marshall, vocalist; and the Royal Ando Troupe of Japanese jugglers.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. Fred L. Connynghame, supported by an excellent company, has paid a successful visit with the domestic drama, *A Mother's Love*. Mr. Arthur Mervyn undertook the part of Paul Wingate, and gave a fine impersonation; as Geoffrey Mannering, Mr. Arthur E. Pringle achieved a decided success; Mr. Fred Connynghame was a prominent figure as Mat Ruddock; as Ralph Mervin, Mr. S. Clifton won favour; Miss Rosa Mervyn was successful as the Vicar's wife; Miss Holly Haselwood made a charming picture as the Vicar's child; Miss Dorothy Monkhouse as Mary Smart was commendable; whilst Miss M. Lavinia Ellis left nothing to be desired as Elaine Mervin.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. George E. Good.—The star turn here is supplied by Mr. George Bohee, who gives a most accomplished performance on the banjo. Other artists also appear, and the animated pictures continue to draw good audiences.

Gaiety.—Proprietor, Councillor John Grantham, J.P.; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur James.—Kyoto, the wonderful Japanese juggler, is the chief attraction here. The bill also includes the Landor Bros., acrobats; J. H. Clark, tenor; Williams and Laidler, comedy gymnasts; May Geraldine, a pleasing comedienne and dancer, and the Gaiety Bioscope in a series of fine pictures.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—Mr. George Dance's principal company with *Veronique* (richly dressed and superbly staged) made its initial appearance in Bolton on Monday. Miss Nellie Wigley gives inexpressible charm to the title-rôle, her pleasing and tuneful voice in the swing song "While I'm Waiting" being used with good effect; Mr. J. Warren-Foster sings and acts well as Florestan; Miss Agnes Tandy is vivacious and fascinating as Mme. Coquenard, her rendering of the song, "The Apple Tree," being loudly encored; Mr. Ellis Holland as Mons. Coquenard is extremely comical, his antics frequently convulsing the house; and Messrs. Tom Seymour (as Mons. Loustot, the bailiff) and Scott Cullen (as Seraphin, the groom) make much diversion. Miss Edith Devonshire as the Countess de Champ d'Azur has a voice of much charm, which is heard to advantage in her song, "The Garden of Love"; Miss Maude Leonard makes a capable Aunt Benoit and Miss Neste Laurel plays the part of Denise with ability. The chorus and augmented orchestra are under the able direction of Mr. Clement Locknane.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A "big bill" here comprises the following clever turns:—Chung Ling Soo, Chinese magician; the Sisters Cora, duettists and dancers; Harry Nelson, comedian; Bella Braham, in illustrated song pictures; Walker and May, coloured comedians and dancers; Mlle. Haydee's miniature vaudeville theatre, introducing the latest creation, a grand spectacular Chinese scena, "The great little Chung Ling Soo"; H. O. Wills, low comedian; Frank and Violet Payte, in their successful racing sketch, *Also Ran*; Alex Victor Duo, juvenile duettists; Clown Zertho and his troupe of wonderful performing dogs; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE.—Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—There is an excellent variety company here this week, the top of the bill being occupied by Mr. Harry Calden's company, in a dramatic Irish sketch, entitled *A Sprig of Shamrock*. The same company is responsible for a musical comedy extravaganza, played for the first time, entitled *The Dandy Duke*, from the pen of Mr. Harry Calden, and music by Mr. Albert Wilson, conductor of the orchestra. This is a bright and laughable sketch, and Mr. Calden as Roaming Roger is exceedingly funny. A feature of the piece is the delightful choruses and dancing, which are much enjoyed. Other items in the programme include the Sisters Douglas, comediennes and dancers; Godfrey and Barnard, in a comedy duologue; Harry Rouston, vocal comedian; Geo. Barr, comedian; Dulcie Milner; also Boon and Bradley, clever comedians and dancers, who are enthusiastically received. On Thursday the anniversary night was celebrated, when turns from the principal halls appeared.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietors, David Allen and Son.—Sole Lessee Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's company in *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt* is paying a first visit here this week. Mr. Reginald Dance plays the title-rôle in fine dashing style, and divides the honours of the piece with Miss Gladys Mason, who gives a skilful rendering of Lady Clarice. Mr. H. Lawrence Layton is admirable as Colonel Rayner; and Mr. G. A. Seager as Sir Bartholomew Cardick, and Mr. Russell Barry as Mr. Goddlestone, present two familiar studies of humorous types of character; while other strong support comes from Mr. Edward Coutts as Lord Woolham. Mr. George Percy as Mr. Langston, Miss E. Titheradge as Aggie Coles, Miss M. Weigall as the Marchioness, Miss May Brook as Lady Clementina, Miss A. Gunn as Miss Pelling, and Miss Dorothy Haigh as Mrs. Brevell. The play is preceded by the excellent one-act drama entitled *The Drums of Oude*, in which Mr. Reginald Dance, Mr. Edward Coutts, and Miss Gladys Mason shine conspicuously.

BRADFORD. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Hall Caine's dramatised version of his popular novel, "The Prodigal Son," was presented here on Monday night. Miss Lily Hall Caine, who doubles the parts of Thora and Thora's child, was refined and convincing in her acting in the first two acts, and later in the play her artlessness was delightful. Miss Cecil Cromwell with artistic skill portrayed Helga Neilson; Mr. Henry George gave a fine performance of Stephen Magnusson; Anna, his wife, Miss Alma Murray represented with genuine earnestness

Sarah Williams; Mr. Franklyn Graham's Major Colden deserves commendation; and Miss Phyllis Back is a winsome Molly Edwards.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Mr. Harold V. Neilson and company submit a triple bill here this week. In *Dream Faces* Mr. Neilson as Robert Lumley and Miss Dorothy Milne as Margaret are especially effective. In *The Light that Failed* Mr. Neilson gives a fine impersonation of Dick Helder and Miss Dorothy Milne is a charming Maisie, while the parts of Torpenhow and Bessie are ably sustained by Mr. W. Lemmon Warde and Miss Hilda Sims respectively. *A Pair of Lunatics* is capitally sustained by Mr. Neilson and Miss Dorothy Milne.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson are here for the week. On Monday *Much Ado About Nothing* was staged in a liberal manner. Both Mr. and Mrs. Benson were highly successful in their respective parts of Benedick and Beatrice; Miss Helen Haye presented a pleasing and sympathetic study of Hero; Don Pedro, Don John, Claudio, Leonato, and Antonio had excellent exponents in Messrs. Clarence Derwent, John Carrington, George Buchanan, Edward A. Warburton, and J. P. Wilson; Mr. George R. Weir was amusing as Dogberry, having excellent support by Mr. H. O. Nicholson, as Verges, and Mr. Charles Warburton. Miss Gwladys Wynne was pleasing as Balthazar, doing full justice to her song; and other parts were satisfactorily taken by Mr. Hannam Clark, Mr. Stanley Howlett, Mr. P. D. Owen, Mr. J. M. Johnston, Miss Estelle Stead, Miss Gwladys Wynne, and Miss Leah Hanman. *As you Like It* was the attraction for Tuesday. The comedy was well staged, the Forest of Arden scenes being delightfully picturesque and realistic. Mrs. F. R. Benson presented an artistic and charmingly interesting exposition of Rosalind; Mr. Benson did excellently as Orlando. The other members of the company also acquitted themselves satisfactorily, and Miss Gladys Wynne successfully contributed songs in the Forest of Arden scenes. *Macbeth, Henry the Fifth, School for Scandal, Hamlet,* and *Richard the Second* are also billed.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is here with the interesting drama, *The Convict's Daughter*, the play being well staged and the company a competent one. Mr. Frank Bertram displays considerable power in his exposition of Michael Grahame; Mr G. Nelson Wallace scores as Frederick Neville; Mr. Herbert M King is manly ard convincing as Harold Trevalyen; Mr. G. Moreton Williams is consistent throughout in the heavy part of Jasper Thorn; Miss Nellie Clyde is pleasing as Edith. The comic relief is treated excellently by Mr. Sam Roberts as Patrick O'Laragan, and Miss Phyllis Gibbon as Betty Hyne; and other parts of more or less importance are carefully taken by Miss Rose Carew, Mr. H. Lee, Mr. W. Hunt, Mr. H. B. Henderson, Mr. Percy Robinson, Mr. Frederick Rallings, and Mr. Fred Facer.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—King and Benson, comedy vocal entertainers, head the programme with a very acceptable turn; the Casino Comedy Four amuse with eccentricities and enjoyable singing; Madge Mayfield is a pleasing vocalist and dancer; the Mayvilles score with their liliputian turn; Travers is always a favourite ventriloquist here; Charles Ashdown, comedian, obtains applause; Ray and Calden are successful in a speciality of song, dance, etc.; and Lily Flexmore is highly appreciated for her clever acrobatic dancing, etc. The performance concludes with interesting animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Mlle. Camilla D'Alberg is highly successful here with her dramatic episode, *La Main*, in which she introduces some clever dancing, and is ably supported by Mr. George Wright and Mr. Cecil King; Arthur Lennard, vocal comedian, is appreciated; Yamamoto and Koyoshe are clever Japanese equilibrists: the Four Maisanos do a good musical act; Cora Duncan and Albert Brasque present an interesting duologue; Will Freedo does some clever dancing; the Charnleys are pleasing duettists and dancers; and Bishop and Vale are smart acrobatic comedians and dancers. There are some popular animated pictures to conclude the entertainment.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*The Great Awakening* commenced a week's run here before a good house. Miss Hildyard as Lola Selby made a great impression, showing much histrionic power. James Selby was well played by Mr. Tracy Barrow; Mr. Bernard Copping appeared as Sir Henry Merton, and also as Jack Merton, with advantage; Guy Rogan was fittingly represented by Mr. Charles E. Linney; and Mr. Herbert Evelyn worked well as Capt. Harry Lambert. Miss Doris Digby was a very acceptable Molly Merton; Mr. Willie Scott as Billy Brass, and Miss Isa Bellington as Selina Worts, were amusing. The play is produced under the direction of Mr. Tracy Barrow.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The habitués of this house are being afforded a treat this week in the production for the first time here of *The Duchess of Dantzic* by Mr. George Dance's company. Miss May Glenn as Sans Gêne is a clever actress, and uses a fine voice artistically; Mr. Alec Johnstone is a capital Adhemar; Mr. Steve Fitzgerald a bright and amusing Papillon, and Mr. Ernest Torrence a distinct success as Lefebvre; as Napoleon Mr. Gilbert Yorke is seen to advantage; Miss Maggie White is a charming and winsome Renée; Miss Buena Bent is a good Lisette, and Miss Ella Derwent an excellent Empress Josephine. A word of praise is due to the chorus and to the orchestra under the direction of Mr. Edward Whitehall.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—An excellent programme is provided here this week. The Martelloni troupe of lady acrobats are clever; T. C. Edwards, baritone, gives a fine rendering of "The Deathless Army"; the Marlo and Dunham trio are smart and funny on the horizontal bar; F. S. Hume is an acceptable vocal comedian; the three De Veres are a good comedy turn; Bert Lytton is loudly applauded for his descriptive songs; and the Brothers Montes in *Mishaps on a Motor Car* are very good.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—The management have secured some good turns this week, consisting of Hinton and Wooton, in their football match on bicycles; Letta and Minnie, in their hand-jumping and musical specialities; Florrie St. Roy, song and character actress; Fred Lyndo, comedian; Sisters Brand, duettists; and the Bros. Brooks, amusing dialogue and patter artists. Some good living pictures are also shown by the Raymond Tableaux Bio.

BURY (LANCS.).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company is appearing here this week in *Sunday*. In the title-rôle Miss Emelie Polini thoroughly deserves the hearty applause which awaits her at the end of her act. Mr. Leonard Pagden makes a capital Colonel Brinthorpe; Mr. E. A. Douglas gives a good account of Tom Oxley; the difficult part of Arthur Brinthorpe is well played by Mr. G. Wallace Johnston; Messrs. W. Lockhart, G. Rennef, C. Yapp, and A. Vezin as Towzer, Davy, Lively, and Jacky respectively could not be improved upon. Miss Muriel Pope and Miss Aimée Murray as the Nun and Mrs. Naresby give capital impersonations.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A good programme here includes Bosanquet, in a musical scena; Brown and Robinson, vocalists, in a sketch, entitled *Home from Work*; Harry Rogerson, a fine comedian; Lily de Breton, trapeze artist; Rose Tilley, vocalist; Del and Hal, duologue artists; and Carter Livesey, Lilian Rosebery, and Albert Mason in a laughable sketch, entitled *Would-be Actors Rehearsing*.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead; General-Maanger, Mr. W. B. Broadhead, jun.—A delightful entertainment is provided here, and includes the Gondoliers, four singers who render humorous selections very finely; the Vyponds, in a musical scena, entitled *His Birthday Present*; Oakdene, ventriloquist; Haig and Novel, comedy artists; Gladenbecks, acrobats; Monty Biggs, female impersonator; Juan and McQue, dancers, and an amusing comedy, *In the Fire Station*, by the Fimans.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—ATHENÆUM HALL.—Manager, Mr. E. Arnold Crack.—*The Earl and the Girl*, played by Mr. Bannister Howard's No. 1 Company, was here for three nights. Mr. Charles Cleveland as Jim Cheese was delightfully funny in the absurd adventures of the supposed Earl; Mr. D. Fitzgibbon created a good impression as Crewe Boodle; Dick Wargrave was played with genuine humour by Mr. Frank Wilson; and the rôles of Downham and Host Hayel lost nothing in the hands of Mr. Melville and Mr. Alec Godfrey. Miss Florence Brandon is pretty and piquant as Daisy Fallowfield; the Elphin Haye of Miss Alice Nixon is a dainty piece of acting; Miss Adele Moye capably fills the part of Liza Shoddam; and Miss Carmen Cecil makes the most of her opportunities as Miss Virginia Bliss.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—For the first three nights of this week we had Mr. Arthur Hardy's company in *Beauty and the Barge*. An excellent representation of the amusing farce was given. Mr. Blake Adams still retains the part of Captain James Barley, and makes this affable gentleman a very droll personage. The audience were kept continually merry when Mr. Blake Adams was on the stage; Mr. Edward Coventry was a manly Lieut. Seton Boyne; and Mr. Pennington-Gush was good as Herbert Manners; Mr. Walker Pemberton played with commendable spirit as Major Smedley; and Mr. Fred Knight was particularly amusing as Tom Codd; Mr. Thomas Pauncefort worked well in his capital part of Augustus; and Mr. Charles White was a really capital John Dibbs. A very humorous piece of acting was George Porter, played by Mr. Ewart Drake; Miss May Fairclough acted gracefully as Ethel Smedley; and Miss Mary Pemberton was a pleasing Lucy Dallas; Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite was very amusing as Mrs. Porter; and Miss Ruby Wyndham was excellently placed as Mrs. Baldwin. The play was admirably staged. For the remainder of the week we had Mr. Leonard Boyne and company in *Raffles*.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr. A. H. Canby's company opened here on Monday in *The Prince Chap*. Mr. H. R. Roberts has made a careful and convincing study of William Peyton; Mr. George Shilton was likewise most successful as Marcus Runion; Mr. Wilfred Draycott was excellent as the Earl of Hemmingford. In the first act Claudia is represented by little Miss Betty Green, and admirably she filled the part; in the second act little Miss Geraldine Wilson plays the part, and worthily she enacted the character. In the third act Claudia, now grown to womanhood, is in the hands of Miss Lorna Lawrence, and her performance was one of high merit. Miss Ethel Hollingshead has an uninteresting part in Alice Travers; and Miss K. Kellie appears as Mrs. Harrington. The play is preceded by the amusing sketch, entitled *Burglar and Judge*.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—*The Spring Chicken* was received on Monday with much enthusiasm, being played by Mr. George Dance's company. Miss Crissie Leonard, who appears as Rosalie, is vivacious and bewitching; as Dulcie Babori Miss Florence Lee is particularly sweet; Miss Nellie Kavanagh works extremely hard as Mrs. Girdle; Mr. J. S. Durant is a comedian that would put life in the dullest of plays, and his performance as Gustave is admirable; Mr. Fred Payne is equally successful in providing merriment as Girdle; Mr. Harry Averell makes a capital Boniface; Mr. Edwin Dodds is conspicuously successful as Felix; Mr. Ralph Holland is good as Baron Papouche; and Miss Poppy Poole is a delightful Baroness Papouche.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Duncan.—Proving an attraction here is Miss Annie Bell and company in *Sapho*. Miss Bell undertakes the title-rôle with infinite credit; Mr. Fredk. Annerley impersonates Jean Gaussin with considerable ability.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—Fred Karno is synonymous with "house full" at the Cardiff Empire, and *The Mumming Birds* has proved no exception this week. The Molasso Quartette provide a capital turn, their dancing being simply astounding; Dan Crawley is an entertaining comedian, with an enviable reputation here; the Three Dumonds, charming performers, present some excellent violin playing; Miss Lilian Lea has a good voice, which she is able to use with much effect; Jack Charman is another successful vocalist; and Katie Butler is certainly a promising comedienne. Silent Tait, the eccentric wizard, and Lilian Bishop, male impersonator, are entertaining turns; and the bioscope exhibits interesting pictures.

CARLISLE.—H.M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—Mrs. Alice Chapin's company in the comic opera *A Knight Errant* is occupying the boards here this week. Mrs. Chapin appears as Helen Ferrier; Mr. Harry Welchman acts and sings nicely as Captain Perduie. The opera is followed by the ever-popular musical comedy *A Pantomime Rehearsal*, in which Mr. Harry Welchman and Mr. Clarence Ibbotson score as Jack Deedes and Lord Arthur Pomeroy respectively.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Ltd., Carlisle; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Arden and Abel's sketch company in *Three of a Kind* is the principal attraction here this week. The piece is exceedingly funny, and exceedingly well acted. Hughes and Elliott make a hit in a smart dancing act, and the turn submitted by the McKays is both amusing and clever. Other items include Mill May and Theresa, singing protean artists; Arthur Royce, eccentric comedienne; Yetta, wire act; Cribb and Cribb, comedians; and the Pepiscope, with some excellent films.

CASTLEFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Cr. Hy. Masterman.—Mr. Bert Coote's company in *The Fatal Wedding* fills the bill here. Miss Madge Haines is extremely good as Mabel Wilson, the much-wronged wife; Miss Gertrude Harrison is to be commended for her success in an unpleasant part—that of Cora Williams, the female villain; the Irish servant, Bridget, is humorously portrayed by Miss Julie Temple; Mr. Ernest Owtrim plays Howard Wilson exceedingly well; Mr. Herbert Humber makes Robert Curtis sufficiently villainous; Mr. C. H. Hughes is amusing as Toto, as is Mr. Cyril Melton as Peter Schwartz. A clever representation of Jessie, "the little mother," is given by Miss Marjorie Lawrence, who possesses natural talent of a high order. Worthy also of particular mention is the clog dance of Master G. Grice, the song "Starlight," by Master E. Frisby, and the performances of Misses Ethel Press, Nora and Hessie Herbert, Miss Shirley Sparks, and Miss May Maddison.

CHATHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—This week marks a return visit of *The Blue Moon*. The present company is sent out by Mr. Robert Courtneidge, under the general management of Mr. Douglas Miller. Miss Clarice Lockstone gives a dainty impersonation of the title-rôle; Miss Florence Imeson's Millicent Leroy is a skilful bit of work; Mr. Alfred Clark is quite natural as Major Vivian Callabone, while Mr. Alec Frazer makes a popular Captain Jack Ormsby. The chief comedy work rests with those able comedians, Messrs. Reginald Switz and Alfred Beers, as Private Charles Taylor and Mooiraj respectively; Mr. Arthur Soames is admirably suited as the Prince; Miss Ethel Callanan makes a pleasing Evelyn Ormsby.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—That neat male impersonator, Hetty King, is winning all hearts with her capital ditties; Herbert Rules's chorus song is well received; Drew and Alders have a new act, which proves their versatility; Hayman and Franklin are back again with their *Matrimonial Agency* duologue; C. H. Unthan, the armless wonder; the Sisters Tinsley, Gold and Sterling, Lacey's Erascope, and Phil Bransby complete the bill.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank E. Donne.—Edwin Boyde's name tops the bill here, but owing to indisposition he is absent, and in his stead we have Virginia and her Piccaninnies. The Lynches reappear with American picture songs; and Dolly Harmer is on a return visit. Others appearing are Johnny Alexander and company, Kitty Gresham and Ethel Morrison (vocalists), Bessie Lind (serio), and Ventom Swift (comedian); while the Edisonograph gives its weekly selection of pictures.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. William Greet's company is paying a return visit in *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. William Cromwell is energetic and droll as Jim Cheese; Mr. Robert Hyett's pleasing style and personality assures his success as Dick Wargrave; Miss Gertrude Simpson is a dainty and taking Elphin Haye, singing prettily the popular "In Zanzibar"; Miss Eva Bevington does excellently as Daisy Fallowfield; Mr. Stanley Harrison as Crewe Boodle is spirited, and makes a hit in "Here come the Grenadiers"; Miss Nellie Grant is a formidable Strong Lady; Miss Florence Wix acts with much humour as Liza Shoddam; Miss Helen Langton is good as Virginia Bliss; Mr. Frank Cane sings a capital patter song as Downham; Mr. A. E. Coleby as Bunker Bliss, Mr. Arthur Cassidy as Mr. Talk, and Mr. Fred Pattrick as Hazel do well.

CHESTERFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. Wordsworth.—Mr. Charles Macdona is this week presenting the charming musical play *The Toreador*. Mr. Harold Batt, in the rôle of Petitfer, gains enthusiastic applause for his singing and dancing. Mr. Ralph Lynn is well suited to the part of Sir Archibald Slackell; Mr. Walter Champney scores as Sammy Gigg; Miss Leah Howard is a pleasing Susan; Miss Eliza Earle well interprets Dora Selby; Miss Beatrice Grosvenor is good as Mrs. Malton Hoppings; Miss Nina Carlton is a popular Donna Teresa; Miss Marie Berresford suits the part of Nancy Staunton; and Miss Nora O'Neill's dancing is well received.

CORPORATION THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—The Biograph forms the chief attraction here, and there is also a good company of artists, including Miss Minnie Newman, soprano, Carl Osmond, lightning cartoonist, Pulo, a clever juggler, and Herr Bertram Brennan, pianist.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hemingway.—Miss Grace Warner is paying us her fourth visit this week, opening on Monday with *East Lynne*. As Lady Isabel Miss Warner gave an exceptionally powerful impersonation, Mr. J. Leighton Leigh being particularly successful as Archibald Carlyle; Mr. George Gordon submitted a clever rendering of Sir Francis Levison; Richard Hare was ably undertaken by Mr. Arthur Page; Mr. R. Brown humorously played Mr. Dill, as did also Mr. L. Brien Detective Perryfoot; Barbara Hare was charmingly presented by Miss Hilda Herne, Little Violet Palfrey effectively rendering Little Willie, and Miss Cornelia Carlyle was well depicted by Miss Kathleen Cranston. *A Scarlet Clue* is billed for the last three nights of the week.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Montague. The convict drama *Sentenced for Life* is being presented here this week by Mr. Bulmer's company. Mr. Edward E. Louis gives a fine embodiment of the part of Lieut. Roy Stillwell; Mr. Morris Maud acts well as Rev. Martin Orris; Mr. Ernest Vaughan makes an unscrupulous Captain Paul Derrick; Sir Wallace Stillwell has a good exponent in Mr. R. S. Nevill; Miss Madge Douglas acts and sings well as Adele Gray; and the same may be said of Miss May Neilson as Kate Rennell. Mr. James F. Firth is a clever comedian and makes a lot out of the part of Percy McGentle, and is ably assisted in his funnisities by Mr. Arthur Keand as Bill Sharkey, and Mr. Reg. Oldroyd as Toby. Mr. Fred Dalby is worthy of mention as Warder Blake; and the small part of Lady Hillwell is safe in the hands of Miss Mary Dalby.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Another of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's companies is here this week, *Florodora* opening a six nights' engagement on Monday. Mr. Gus Danby played the part of Tweedlepunch with a rare amount of humour, whilst the American millionaire was well presented by Mr. Colin Johnson; Mr. Howard Cropton sang nicely the songs allotted to Lord Abercoed, and Mr. H. Carnelly-Joye was well placed as Arthur Donegal; a really capital make-up was the Leandro of Mr. C. A. Road-Night; Miss Rosa Sullivan played dashingly as Lady Holyrood, her very engaging personality and catchy songs adding greatly to the success of the piece; Miss Daisy Lake was conspicuous as Dolores, especially with regard to her singing; Miss Dorothy Dempster made a charming Angela Gilfain, and the dancing of the Florodorean girls was very pretty and much applauded.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Ben de Frece.—Stratton Mills and Bobbie Nairn top the bill in a farce entitled *A Lovely Liar*, and met with success. Rice, Rose, and Rosert, in a comedy-act described as *Always Moving*, provide a good knockabout turn. Kendrick and Laura, vocal artistes of considerable ability, are particularly well received, whilst Amurat provides an interesting exhibition of physical strength and poses; J. C. Heffron scores as a comedian, and Elsie Vincent dances in a really clever manner. The pictures are a feature of the programme and earn unstinted applause.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Messrs. E. L. Mitchelson and Harris Finberg's company with *The Traitor* is here this week. Mr. C. E. Clive gives a masterly performance of the part of Prince Rudolph; and as Chief of the Police Mr. Stephen E. Stanton is excellent. Capt. Ross, R.N., is in the able hands of Mr. T. W. Hurst, and is well supported by Mr. F. Sutherland. Miss Gwynne Warren is most effective as Countess Zicka; whilst as Elsie Dupres Miss Katherine K. Vere is admirable. Miss Maud Stewart is attractive as Cou-Cou, and is deserving of the applause accorded her. Miss Isabel Hunt's delineation of the part of Lieutenant Nicholas is deserving of special mention, as is also Miss Ruth Shepherd's Zulu. The other characters are well filled by the other members of the company.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. George Dance's company has paid a return visit here this week in *A Country Girl*. Mr. Charles Wallen as Barry is the life and soul of the piece; Mr. Percy Carr as Geoffrey Challoner sings very effectively; Mr. John Hamund, who appears as the Rajah of Bhong, is excellent; Miss Addie Lennard sings and acts with vivacity in the part of Mme. Sophie; as Marjory Joy Miss Nancy Rossiter is natural and engaging; while Miss Winnie O'Connor as Princess Mehelanah uses a cultivated voice with success.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The programme is of a varied and pleasing kind. Blanche and Powell introduce a high-class musical comedy and vocal act, which is excellent in all respects; Johnny Walker is a comedian who sings a capital song and introduces amusing business; The Fitzroys are skilful gymnasts; the Wilfords are marvellous equilibrists; Bob Gilmore, character comedian, contributes capital burlesque songs; the St. John's Trio give a pleasing musical turn; Bert and Dora, comedy artists, please in monologue songs; and Brown's Bioscope shows capital pictures.

COVENTRY.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Mr. F. R. Benson's company is paying a successful visit here, and on Monday a huge audience listened with marked attention to a performance of *The Merchant of Venice*. Chief honours fell to Mr. Henry Herbert as Shylock and Miss Dorothy Green as Portia, the former giving a fine rendering, and the latter making a dignified and gracious Portia. Mr. Gerald Ames was responsible for a capital rendering of Antonio; the same remarks applying to Mr. Chas. Francis as Bassanio. *Twelfth Night, The Merry Wives of Windsor, Hamlet, The Taming of the Shrew,* and *Macbeth* are also in the repertory.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, T. M. Sylvester.—A well-varied programme is provided at this popular house this week, an excellent turn being that of the Delevines, who give a very humorous comedy act, entitled *Flipp and Flopp*. Jack Camp gets a hearty reception with some capital songs; Don Miguel appears with three trained bulls in a number of well-performed tricks; Ernest Montefiore and company are responsible for a well-performed dramatic scena, entitled *The Little Colonel*; the Sisters Tree are capital vocalists and dancers; Jack and Evelyn are well received; Perrette and Mona appear in a musical episode; Fred Collins is a comedian; and Miss Gladys Mavius is successful as a coon songstress.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John H. Morton.—Mr. John H. Negus's company is presenting *A Miserable Marriage* here. Mr. Geo. D. Knight shows a careful study as Arthur Cameron; Miss Nellie Fern makes a good Lady Cameron; Mr. W. Robert Barbour has a good part as Arrow Howsemann; and Mr. Fred Carrol makes a first-rate Joseph Midgers. Mr. Edward A. Ryleston as Simeon the Rag Picker wins frequent applause, and Mr. T. Brown Elliott deserves mention for his rendering of Jeffries. Mr. E. Arthur Stanley gives an excellent interpretation of Tom Willet; Miss Shirley Dalton is a pleasing Agnes; and Miss Madge North a capable Lizzie Bowman; Mr. William Morris makes the most of his part of Ben Joskell.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—This popular house was crowded on Monday evening, the attraction being *The Dandy Doctor*. The members of Mr. Edward Marris's company are very clever artists, and their efforts were cordially applauded. Miss Florence Smithers as Jane kept the audience in a state of continual merriment by her quaint humour, and Miss Effie Vincent was a general favourite as Ivy Pendred; Miss Dolly Payne as Henson gave a creditable display; Misses Ethel Dunker, Belle Hamilton, Rosy Chandler, and Maisie Gerrard were successful in small parts; Mr. James Salter gave a characteristic study of Melchisadeck Brown, and the Colonel Pendred of Mr. Herbert Pearce was cleverly rendered; Mr. Ion Maxwell as Dr. Vandyke invests that rôle with the necessary professional air, and Mr. Leslie Martin as Bertie Bollingbroke displays considerable talent; specialities by the Dandy Belles, the Dutch Girls, and the Yeoman Male Voice Quartette were appreciated.

CROOK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Wallace Davidson, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wallace Davidson.—A capital week's attraction is provided here by Miss Evelyn Moore's company in *The Crimson Club*, under the direction of Mr. Percy Shaw. Mr. Fred G. Kay gives a striking impersonation of Sir Philip Garside; Mr. Will Shaw does exceedingly well as Richard Fenton; and Mr. Percy Shaw is a funny Reginald. As Julia Marsden, Miss Florence Delmar displays histrionic power; and Miss Sydney Barrasford's Muriel Lockwood is a clever portrayal.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company, in *The White Chrysanthemum*, is meeting with approval here. Mr. W. H. Rawlins makes a whimsical Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage; Mr. F. Pope-Stamper is successful as Lieut. Reginald Armitage; Mr. Horace Mills infuses a quiet droll humour into the part of Lieut. Chippendale Belmont; Mr. O. E. Lennon is active and quaint as Sin Chong; and Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., makes capital out of the part of Private Perks; Miss Katie Vesey is an attractive and lively Cornelia Vanderdecken; Miss Daisy Le Hay exactly fits the rôle of Betty Kenyon; and Miss Nola Grey is a sweet and winsome Sybil Cunningham. Mr. Leonard Gautier's admirable orchestra is ably conducted this week by Mr. Leonard Hornsey.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—The boards are occupied by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company in *In Holy (!) Russia*. Mr. Terence Nerrey is excellent as Michael Natolski; Mr. Arthur Stratton is commendable as Col. Richard Forrest; Mr. Horace Butler is good in the part of Count Gregori Petrolski; Mr. Frank Copeland is adequate as Sir Harry Beresford; Messrs. Carl Rovinelli and Joe Cuthbertson score as Laurice Steragoff and Baron Von Pleve; and Mr. J. Rice Cassidy submits an artistic rendering of Mickey Nolan; Miss Alice Marsden acts carefully as Mme. Natolski; Miss Annie Dudley is appropriate as Mrs. Richard Forrest; Miss Mavis Lee Anderson is satisfactory as Catsko Lavotski; and Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy plays with skill and judgment in the rôle of Renée Rubinoff.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hugh Emmett.—The bill of fare here includes Bonnett and Corri, who submit an exceptionally smart humorous juggling act; the Courtiers are good in their vaudeville entertainment; Hardeen, the handcuff king, wins applause; Frank Harwood is an actor-vocalist of ability; Maudie Francis is a neat little serio and dancer; Brown and Kelly are very funny in the sketch, *The Butler Knows*; the original Cecilias, vocalists and dancers, are capital in a musical turn; Will Johnson is a clever comedian; Fatmah Daird is a pleasing ballad vocalist; and George Bastow, comedian, makes a hit.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company in *Three Little Maids* is here, supported by a powerful chorus. Miss Cara Lingford as Ada, Miss Daisy Sylverton as Hilda, Miss Eva Weigh as Edna sing and act charmingly; Mr. Eric Barington as M. de L'Orme is a good tenor; Mr. Charles Caffery as Cupid is funny; Mr. Charles Leverton is a capital Rev. Mr. Branscombe; and Gretchen is well played by Miss Laura Wright; Mr. Victor Kerr as Lord Cheyne is most effective; Mr. Guy Williams as Brian Molyneaux acts exceedingly well.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mr. Mouillott's company opened here on Monday in the Japanese opera, *The Geisha*. Miss Lydia Bland was distinctly successful as O Mimosa San; Miss Edith Adeson made a pleasing Molly Seymour, Miss Doris Langdon a vivacious French-maid interpreter, Miss Winifred Knightly a sedate Lady Constance, and Miss Emily Lovells a capital Midshipman. The impersonation of Reginald Fairfax was excellently done by Mr. Wilfred Heath, his singing being also well received; Mr. J. H. Booth was an amusing Marquis; and a large share of the fun came from the energetic Wun Hi of Mr. Edward Kipling. On Thursday and Friday evenings *A Greek Slave* was successfully given.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. Arthur Bouchier's company is here this week, with *The Walls of Jericho*, on a return visit. Miss Mary Taverner, who takes the part of Lady Alethea, is a finished actress; Miss Nora Wynne is excellent as Lady Lucy Derenham; and Miss Marguerite Cellier as Lady Westerley is equally successful. The difficult and trying part of Jack Frobisher is in the competent hands of Mr. A. E. Anson, who is to be warmly congratulated on a careful and creditable assumption; Mr. A. W. Tyrer is quite successful as Harry Dallas.

PALACE.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—The principal turn is supplied by the Four Athos, original ball manipulators and novelty acrobats, who are a decidedly clever quartette. Marie San-toi and her Merry Japs appear in a musical scena, *A Japanese Tea-garden by Night*; Millie Payne, a queen of low comedy, quickly commands the favour of her audience by her droll appearance and humorous songs; George Barrington is a clever trick pianist; Alf. Levarni is a resourceful tight-wire expert; the Lorrisons are amusing eccentrics; Bruesto is a capital juggler; and Stan Aubrey, comedian; and the Palace Bioscope, with an exciting film, complete an excellent programme.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King.—Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in the drama *An Abandoned Woman*, by Myles Wallerton and Frances Gilleton, is the attraction this week. Miss Georgette Thierry gives a fine portrayal of an unscrupulous adventuress; Mrs. Harry Foxwell as Eleanor Dean is sympathetic; and Mr. Wolston Foster as Capt. Seaton makes a manly hero; and humour is infused into the part of Paddy Boyle by Mr. Harry Foxwell.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—*Florodora* goes on blithely and merrily, and its popularity remains undimmed and undiminished. Mr. Alf R. Passmore proved himself an uncommonly droll interpreter of Tweedlepunch; in the rôle of the pert, pretty, and piquant Lady Holyrood, Miss Leicester has undoubtedly found her *métier*—she plays the part with verve and archness; Miss Lily Gullick prettily characterises Angela Gilfain, her acting, singing, and dancing finding popular acceptance. The favourite solo, "Under the Shade of the Sheltering Palm," was sung with excellent taste and discretion by Mr. Allen Morris as Frank Abercoed; Mr. Stanley White, the stage-director, played Cyrus Gilfain with all the sangfroid and nonchalance desirable; and a tall, handsome, and talented exponent of Dolores was seen in Miss Josephine Sullivan. Very capable acting and vocal work were shown by Mr. Herbert St. John as Captain Arthur Donegal; and the Leandro of C. A. James received careful treatment. Mr. Bannister Howard is adding materially to his reputation by sending out companies of such uniform excellence as this one exhibits in *Florodora*.

DONCASTER.—GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's Juvenile Musical Comedy Company, in the fairy spectacle, *Beauty and the Beast*, drew a crowded house on Monday. Silver Star, presented by Miss May Gibson, comes very close to perfection, and Miss Beattie Townshend, as Evilheart, is graceful and pleasing. Miss Kitty Trewhitt has all the qualifications necessary for making a success of Prince Charming, and in Miss Daisy Fielder the representation of Will Scarlett is strikingly interesting; while Maid Marion had a good exponent in Miss Isa Gibson. Wee Georgie Wood, as Pip, was well applauded; Will Orston did well as the Beast; and Miss Dolly Dodds was fascinating as the Beauty.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—A large and appreciative audience was present here on Monday to witness the production by Mr. George Dance's company of *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Owing to the fact that the leading lady was laid up with a bad cold, the title-rôle was cleverly portrayed by Miss Doris Greville, who acted and sang her music with great care; Mr. Albert Chapman's fine voice was heard to advantage as Lefebvre; Mr. Frederick Moyes was an effective Napoleon; Miss Lilian Best a charming Renée, singing with taste and expressiveness; Mr. H. C. Barry was a diverting Papillon; Miss Nancy Hearne was well suited as Josephine; Mr. T. C. Maxwell was distinctly good as Vicomte De Bethune, and Miss Lily Edmunds bright and vivacious as Lisette.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Parrington.—Mr. Arth

man is a smart comedian; Ian Colquhoun is a refined and cultured vocalist; Dion Wade scores as a quaint comedian; and the Empire pictures complete the bill.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—One of the chief features of the bill is Wilbur Hill and Willette Whitaker in a vocal and instrumental entertainment; the Moet Chandon Trio have a daring gymnastic act; Fred Arthur, comedian, is popular; Neba Gray and company, in *The Lancashire Lass*, create laughter; Yolande Noble, comedienne, has many admirers; the Kimberley Brothers, comedians and dancers, score a success; as does also Ada Gatley in a swinging wire act; Mark Merry, a humorous comedian, is nightly recalled; Hettie Hall, in a pleasing musical act, makes a favourable impression; and the Bioscope is as interesting as ever.

Pavilion, Kingstown.—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—Mr. Russell Rosse's repertoire company commenced a second week's engagement here on Monday in *Confusion*. Mr. David James played with humour the part of the butler, being ably seconded by Mr Norman Clarke as Blizzard; Miss J. Greer in the rôle of Rose was excellent; Mr. James Geldred as Martin Mumbleford attained success; Miss Ida Phillips as Violet met with appreciation; as Aunt Lucretia Miss Rachel de Traves did well, and Miss Edith Hesketh was particularly good as Maria. *Our Boys* is also billed.

Dudley.—Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.— Messrs. Garside and Knowles' company is here this week, in *The London Fireman*. Mr. Knowles acts with much earnestness as Hal Curtis; and Mr. Oliver Birrell gives a finished rendering as Viscount Fleming; Mr. Garside is responsible for a forcible representation of Ratty, a returned convict. The comic element is well to the fore with Nixey Stinger and Polly Bramble, parts well filled by Mr. Henry C. Momber and Miss Nellie Garside respectively; Miss Florence M. Daly plays the difficult rôle of Grace Curtis in a pathetic manner; and Miss Nellie Shirley is particularly pleasing as Ida Curtis, the fireman's wife.

Empire.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson.—A good programme is headed this week by Allis and Cassati, in a comedy and dancing act; J. H. Greenan, comedian, is well received; the Sisters Geronde are clever vocalists and dancers; Max Merlin scores as the human crocodile; Edie Anderson is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and J. P. Ling is a capital comedian.

Eastbourne.—Devonshire Park Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen-Triggs.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is appearing here in *Leah Kleschna*. Miss Bessie Rignold is an admirably restrained and very successful Leah Kleschna; Miss Ethel Russel and Miss Helene Belgrave are excellent representatives of Madame and Claire Berton; and Miss Violet Thorold is an appropriate Sophie. Mr. Paul Belmore is an earnest and able Kleschna; Mr. William F. Grant gives admirable help as Paul; Mr. Campbell Goldsmidt is a creditable Schram; Mr. Ronald Daniel does well as Berton and Favre; and smaller parts are satisfactorily undertaken.

The Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is appearing here in *The Lion and the Mouse*. A strong dominating performance is given by Mr. Leslie Carter as John Ryder; Mr. Stephen Wentworth is a refined and pleasing Jefferson Ryder; Mr. J. W. Mackie gives a finished performance as Bagley; Mr. John Wheatman is an excellent Roberts, M.P.; and able help is given by Mr. Richard Norton as Stott and Mr. George Lyttleton as James Rossmore. Miss Christine Silver, one of the most delightful and charming of actresses, is a most appealing Shirley Rossmore; Miss Elspeth Dudgeon is a commendable and natural Mrs. Ryder; Miss Dorrie Roberts is an animated Kate Roberts; Miss Maude Townsend a very good Mrs. Rossmore; and further service is well rendered by Miss Marjorie Murray as Jane and Miss Ethel Gordon as Mary.

The Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—Miss Phoebe Mercer and Mr. Guy Lane cleverly amuse the audience with their smart sketch, *Mistakes Will Happen;* Vasey and Ramsey excel in various kinds of dancing; Princess Pauline is quickly a favourite with well-received work; Grant and Allen are original and clever comedians; Mr. Fred Hallam scores in his songs; Serpentello is an expert bender; Miss Ethel Dove deserves special praise for work of more than ordinary merit; and new animated pictures are shown.

Eccles.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Wardle and Potasch; Manager, Mr. P. Potasch.—Mr. Harry E. Leigh's company is here in the farcical comedy, *The 'Varsity Belle*. Mr. James Danvers plays the part of Professor Septimus Stoney with dignified bearing and great tact; Miss Josephine Ellis is chic and piquant as the 'Varsity Belle; Theocritus Ward Sparkleton is well impersonated by Mr. Edward Chesters; Mr. Frank Lilliput as Runyard is quite a success; Miss Emma Rainbow as the mother-in-law of the Professor's wife admirably fills the position.

Edinburgh. — Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead. — The performances of the musical farce, *The Dairymaids*, are drawing crowded houses here this week. The practised hand of Mr. Robert Courtneidge, who produces the piece, is seen in every detail. Miss Violet Lloyd acts with real charm, and delightful vivacity, and her singing is admirable; Mr. E. Statham Staples contributes a capital bit of low comedy work as Sam Brudenell; and Mr. Harry Dent acts with untiring energy as Joe Mivens, A.B. That sound actor, Mr. Clarence Blakiston almost succeeds in making bricks without straw in the part of Dr. O'Bryne; and Mr. Geo. Desmond is a bright Lieut. Frank Brudenell; Miss Edith Blanche is a fascinating Lady Brudenell; Miss Rhoda Gordon a dainty, graceful Winifred; and Miss Madge Avery an acidulated, humorous Miss Pyechase; Miss Rose Musgrove makes a distinct hit by her lively impersonation of Eliza, the maid-of-all-work; and Miss Beryl Vaudrey is fresh and girlish in the character of Helene, and sings with taste. The chorus sing with precision and effect; and Mr. Albert Bartlett is an able conductor.

Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company is fulfilling its usual autumn engagement, opening on Monday evening with Gounod's *Faust*. Madame Fanny Moody, in her favourite part of Marguerite, gave it is needless to say, both vocally and histrionically, an exquisite representation; and she had excellent support from Mr. Wilson Pembroke as Faust and from Mr. Manners as Mephistopheles, both singers being in fine voice. Mr. William Dever made a most acceptable Valentine and Miss Mildred Bryan a tender Siebel, while Mr. King and Miss Harrow were successful in the rôles of Wagner and Martha. On Tuesday *Cavalleria Rusticana* was given with Mr. John Child, a powerful Turridu; Madame De Vere, an effective Santuzza; and Mr. Lewys James as Alfio; Miss Arnold as Lucia; and Miss Garland as Lola; followed by *Pagliacci*, in which Mr. Joseph O'Mara was excellent as Canio; and Miss Kate Anderson appeared to advantage as Nedda; while Mr. William Dever created a good impression as Tonio; and Mr. V. Brodo and Mr. Lewys James gave adequate aid as Beppe and Silvio. Wednesday evening was allotted to *Tannhäuser*, Thursday to *Romeo and Juliet*, and Friday to *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. The admirable work done by orchestra and chorus have been duly recognised.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—The company here this week includes Miss Ella Retford, who proves herself a comedienne of much more than average ability. Those popular favourites, Bella and Bijou, present a selection of burlesque sketches in diverting fashion; and "Buddha's Blackboard" is one of those weird illusions the mystery of which remains apparently inexplicable. An exceedingly pretty exhibition is provided by Miss Rose Naynon with a troupe of trained tropical birds; Mr. J. H. Milburn is a tower of strength as a comedian; Mr. Ben Albert also supplies a capital comic turn, showing distinct originality; and as a farmyard mimic Mr. Leo Tell causes much amusement. Other enjoyable items on the programme are the Two Tees, in their grotesque musical act; Hillman and Russell's comedy duologue, *The Somnambulist;* and a mirthful performance by the Wedburns. The American Bioscope completes a good bill with some humorous pictures.

Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. J. Ireland.—This house has been well patronised since the opening last week. An excellent programme includes Mr. Billy Richardson, the well-known "stump orator"; the Whirligigs, capital vocalists, and expert dancers; Leary and Miles, in a sketch, in which dancing is a prominent feature; Rebla, with juggling feats; the Ellimans, in a clever musical act; and the Rays, the Falcons, and Miss Lena Wylie.

Exeter.—Theatre Royal. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. E. J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. Mouillot's company is here this week with *San Toy*. The title-rôle is well filled by Miss Bessie Allayne; she has a good voice and renders her numbers in excellent style. Mr. Arthur Cartwright as Bobby Preston does exceedingly well; Mr. Bert Edwards is a highly amusing Li, and Miss Lottie Sargent takes the part of Dudley with verve and vivacity: Miss Irene Lavington is good as Poony; Mr. Hugh Webb's Yen How is all that could be desired; whilst Mr. William Webb sustains the part of the Emperor in a capable manner.

Victoria Hall.—Secretary, Mr. Matt. Jno. Dunsford.—Gilbert's Circus opened their second week here on Monday with almost a complete change of programme. One of the chief attractions was the marvellous acrobatic exhibition of the Novellos troupe; Massona, the burlesque juggler, was smart; the Kyasyas are sensational in their weight-lifting; and the Cumberlands showed much skill with their cycles; considerable amusement was caused by the musical clown, Hulines; Bishop, clown, and Little Dando.

Falkirk.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—Musical comedy fills the bill this week. On Monday *A Country Girl* reappeared with all her charm and wonted freshness. As Nan Miss Madeline Du Val did very nicely all that was required of her, and as Marjorie Joy Miss Violet Leslie was pretty, and sang with effect. The part of Sophie was made a delightful success by the sprightly acting of Miss Madge Campbell; Miss Adelaide Clifton's Princess of Bhong was favourably received; as Geoffrey Chaloner Mr. Martin D. Pitts was well received, his singing being a distinct recommendation. The same may be said of Mr. Bernard Vaughan (the Rajah of Bhong). Mr. Frank Weir scores as a comedian in the irrepressible character of Barry. The other parts were well filled, including those of Lord Anchester (Mr. Clifton Yates) and Sir Joseph Verity (Mr. W. O. Billington). On Thursday evening *A Trip to the Highlands* was produced.

Farnworth.—Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Morton Powell.—Mr. Frank Lindo and company are this week presenting the drama, *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr. Lindo, in the principal part of Stephen Armitage, gives a capital representation and fully merits the applause he receives. He is ably supported by Miss Marion Wakeford as Joan, who is to be complimented on her really fine acting and spirited rendering of the character; Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle, as David Armitage, is all that could be desired; the Duke of Ancaster is well played by Mr. Gerald Gambier.

Folkestone.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—A most enjoyable attraction is presented here this week in a visit of the Moody-Manners Opera company. On Monday *Carmen* was played. The title-rôle was taken by Mlle. Zélie de Lussan, whose fine acting and powerful voice were much appreciated; Mr. Charles Carter was much applauded for his capable delineation of his part. *Tannhäuser, Faust, The Marriage of Figaro, Cavalleria Rusticana, Il Trovatore, Maritana,* and *Pagliacci* are also billed.

Gateshead.—King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General Manager, Mr. Joe May.—"Starring" in a mammoth programme submitted here this week are Raleigh Abrahams and company in an absurdity entitled *Fun in a Pawnshop*. By far the most popular item in the entertainment is the Shakespearean episode, *Prince Arthur*, played by Mr. Albert Wyndham's excellent company; Arthur Randal's Original Middies and Maids' Costume Party present a pleasing scena named *Fun in a Country Inn;* Story and Trigg get a cordial reception; the H. Leslie Bell and Lily Pearl company are responsible for an excellent comedy sketch entitled *A Bit of String;* very popular is Tony Iveson in clever imitations; Lack and Ford cause roars of laughter; the comicalities of George and Edwards are much enjoyed; Master Joe Conway bids fair to make a name for himself as a comedian; Cordite, a charming young lady, who claims to be the world's champion rope-spinner, is paying a return visit; Arthur Stacey, comedian, completes the programme.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Two old favourites in Atlas and Vulcana form the principal attraction at this house. They are assisted in their excellent and refined business by the charming sisters, Maud and Gwen Atlas. The classic poses of Miss Vulcana are highly appreciated. Charlie Deane gives two humorous songs with good effect; the Gilbert Girls are very popular; Furber Leach, "lightning painter," and Barney Salmon, a clever vocalist, contribute acceptable items; and Downey's pictures make up a capital show.

Metropole Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—*At Cripple Creek*, excellently interpreted by Mark Blow and Ida Molesworth's company, is doing good business here this week. Joe Mayfield is played in an admirable manner by Mr. Stanley Bedwell; Mr. Chas. H. Lester as Mason and Mr. J. G. Maine as Alvarez make a good pair of villains; very picturesque is the get-up of Mr. Archer D. Layland, who plays Wahketah; Mr. Will Hook is amusing as Reggie; Miss Agnes Verity is successful as "Dynamite" Ann; Miss Lily Beagle makes a sweet Belle Gordon; Miss Daisy Carlton as Maggie Mason keeps the house in good humour; and Little Rosie Hopkins gives a clever impersonation of Little Tatto.

Gillingham (Kent).—Hippodrome.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths.—The main feature of the programme is again the animated pictures, which continue to draw good houses. Variety items are contributed by Miss Unity Vezzey with her clever musical poodles; and Miss Madge Terry, descriptive vocalist.

Glossop.—Theatre Royal. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—On Monday and two following days, Mr. Charles Macdona's company appeared in *Three Little Maids*, and had a flattering reception. Mr. J. Herbert Willis as Lord Cheyne caused roars of laughter with his droll impersonation of a dude; Mr. Lawrence Tessier as Brian Molyneux was received with favour; and Mr. Herbert Ranson as M. de l'Orme was excellent. Mr. Wallace Bosco as the Rev. Mr. Branscombe made an efficient clergyman; Miss Mabel Kerbridge (Ada Branscombe), Miss Bessie Walters (Hilda Branscombe), and Miss Edith Colley (Edna Branscombe) were a delightful trio, their singing and dancing being highly appreciated; Miss Kate Graham Beck as Lady St. Mallory appeared to advantage; Miss Mollie Tremaine as Lady Rosemary Beaulieu, Miss D. Sarjent as Venetia Crafton, and Miss Daisy Goldsack as Lady Marjory Crichton were well placed; Miss May Wright (Gretchen) and Mr. Joseph Edwards (Cupid) were repeatedly recalled for their excellent dancing, and throughout the course of the play created roars of laughter. The augmented orchestra was under the able direction of Mr. C. V. Nightingale. *Judy* was the attraction for the latter part of the week.

Gloucester.—Palace.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Rea.—The programme this week is contributed to by the Musical Keiths, who are agile and clever, and Zenora presents a capital hand-balancing performance; then come Dale and Vale in a smart singing and dancing speciality, followed by Loudoun Cameron, a conjuror, who completely baffles his audience; the Three Seymons give a marvellous equilibristic and juggling performance, the little girl of the troupe being especially clever; George Martinengo has a good baritone voice, but relies chiefly on his 'cello, and duly scores; Mme. Constance Bellamy is no stranger to Gloucester, but this is her initial appearance in a variety house here; the Lannons, champion pedestal dancers, are excellent; Newhouse and Ward present a daring cycling act, and some excellent fooling by one of the twain is responsible for much laughter; Robert Gilbert's dogs are nearly the acme of animal training, and receive hearty recognition. The Bioscope is showing this week a capital film of the Great Paris Balloon Race, and this completes the programme.

Goole.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John E. Tomlinson.—Mr. Howell Webb and Miss Emily Huby's company is here this week. On Monday *The Price of Pleasure* was presented to a good audience. Mr. Howell Webb acts with well directed power the part of Sir James Featherstone; Sidney Roberts is cleverly portrayed by Mr. John E. Tomlinson; Mr. Graham Arthurs sustained the rôle of Gilbert D. Armand in capital style; Mr. J. Bardsley as Tatters and Miss E. Huby as Biddy keep the house in roars of laughter; Mr. Charles E. Howell is well placed as Charles Mordaunt; Miss Kate Tever is excellent as Polly Wilson, and Miss Ivy Blanche acts with charm as Claire; Miss Madge Moore gains the sympathy of the audience as the sorely-tried heroine; and great praise is due to Miss Lilian B. Earle for her dramatic impersonation of the adventuress, Alice Rivers; a feature of the performance is the capital songs introduced with great success by Miss Ivy Blanche and Miss Kate Tever. *The Convent Bell* is announced for the latter part of the week.

Gravesend.—Grand Theatre of Varieties, Ld.—General-Manager, Mr. David Hart.—At the top of the bill this week appears Henri Cazman in his popular entertainment "Le Café-Chantant"; Maud Marlow, a charming burlesque artist and dancer; Snowball and Miss Dohlia, American comedy artists; Fred Holland, the cricketer, whose baritone voice has been much appreciated; Mlle. Sylvesto, in her unique speciality act; Harry Cotton, a good eccentric comedian; and Florence Yaymen, an exceptionally clever coon song burlesquer, also contribute to the programme.

Great Yarmouth.—Royal Aquarium.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Hardie and Von. Leer's company occupies the boards this week with *Two Little Vagabonds*. The boys, Dick and Wally, are capitally represented by Miss May Hart and Miss Margaret Nybloc, the contrast between the sturdiness and courage of the one and the weakness of the other being well accentuated. Bill Muggins and his wife Biddy are cleverly depicted by Mr. John F. Tragna and Miss Marie Pritchard. Other artists appearing are Mr. William Fazan as George Thornton, Mr. Henry Watson as Capt. Darville, Mr. Edmund Cuthbert as John Scarth, Mr. Ernest K. Nelson as Dido Bunce, Mr. Fred Archer as the Cough Drop, Miss Laura Hansen as Marion Thornton, and Miss Mildred Hodson as Barbara Scarth.

Greenock. — Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—The first visit here of Mr. A. W. Pinero's play *His House in Order* has proved a big success. Mr. George Alexander's company is responsible for the production. Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay's finished acting in the rôle of Nina was all that could be desired. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart as Hilary Jesson played with great dramatic powers; and Mr. J. Edward Pearce acquitted himself with distinction in the part of Filmer Jesson, M.P. Mr. Lloyd Lowndes was an able representative of Major Maurewarde; and the part of Mlle. Thome was well portrayed by Mlle. Eve Grand. The Ridgeleys are ably represented by Mr. George Fitzgerald as Sir Daniel; Mr. Ernest R. Holloway, Pryce; Miss Augusta Haviland, Lady Ridgeley; and Miss Elaine Sleddall, as Geraldine.

Empire Theatre of Varieties. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington. The bill here includes Mr. Charles Baldwin's up-to-date absurdity, entitled *The Bank Clerks*, which is responsible for much hilarity. A capital mystical interlude entitled *Semi-detached* has been staged by the Meymetts. Andy Fagan is a good comedian and dancer, and Capt. Devereux and his performing dogs are a great treat. The Brothers Dean are expert dancers, and are much applauded; while the Three clarions (comedy artists and dancers) are exceedingly clever.

Pavilion Theatre. — General-Manager, Mr. Saml. Lloyd.—Lillie Soutter, character comedienne, heads the bill here. She sings and dances well. Mr. G. Webber is a fine baritone vocalist. The Sisters Morgan (duettists and dancers) are much appreciated. Terry and Bently in a comedy sketch *The Hunt* are amusing; and Cora Caselli is a clever singer and dancer; the performance of the Alskarno Trio (acrobats and tumblers) is exceptionally good. The Paviscope completes the bill.

Grimsby.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. J. Curry; Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—A cordial reception has been extended to *The Prince of Pilsen* upon the first visit of this bright musical comedy. The life of the show is Mr. Harry Kilburn, whose quaint mannerisms are eminently suited to the eccentric character of the brewer, Hans Wagner. Miss Sophie Harriss is a prominent figure, and as Mrs. Crocker finds opportunity to display some magnificent costumes. Mr. Frank H. Crimp achieves vocal honours as Carl Otto, the real Prince, whilst Mr. Bernard Russell is quietly amusing as the amorous Earl of Shrimpton. The characters of the French waiter and French lady's maid are played with spirit by Mr. Ernest Gifford and Miss Connie Leon. Others contributing to a successful representation are Miss Dorothy Grasdorff, Miss Florence Beech, Miss Mollie Wynne, and Mr. Roy Sydney. The comedy is handsomely staged and dressed by Baron H. Harriss.

The Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—Something quite novel in the way of canine acrobatic performances is accomplished by J. Reichen's troupe, the feats of equilibrium being especially remarkable. Will Vay's Juveniles give an entertaining sketch of slum life, which affords contrasts of humour and pathos. Fred Cary, a comedian with a refreshingly original style, scores heavily; the Three Taracs also cause much merriment, and gave a display on the horizontal bars; and skilful exhibitions are given by the Ladderites and Primavesi; Halter and Ray, a soubrette, combine in a pleasing speciality; and others appearing are Siggins and Murlone, vocal entertainers, and Evelyn Taylor, comedienne.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. H. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—The Brothers Montague, in the speciality *The Sculptor's Dream*, present beautiful statuesque tableaux, followed by feats of strength and a wrestling bout. Edwin Barwick has enhanced his reputation as a character comedian, and his song, "The sorrows of Satan," is a marked success. Helm and Cozens occasion much laughter in their sketch, *The Doctor and the Patient;* Speedwell displays ability as a cartoonist; the Three Pirmans give a clever gymnastic turn; the San Remo Girls prove charming dancers; Eno is a successful mimic of popular artists; and May Marton proves herself to be a pleasing comedienne.

Halifax.—Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—*Lady Madcap* is being presented here by Mr George Dance's company. The title-rôle gives Miss Isabelle Dillon a fine opportunity; a dashing Oroya Brown is found in Mr. Harold Parkes; two adventuresome young troopers are Mr. Bay Russell (Bill Stafford) and Mr. James Graydon (Josh Perkins); a pleasing Susan is Miss Edith Beech; Mr. Sheriff Clunes is responsible for an energetic embodiment of Captain Harrington; some effective work is presented by Mr. J. Knox Orde, who as the Frenchman, Count St. de Hubert, makes a creditable impression; Mr. Vincent Erne is distinctly humorous as Corporal Ham; and Miss May Davis is delightful as Gwennie Holden.

Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Oswald Williams, the Wizard, assisted by Miss Winifred Le Barte and company, heads the bill here with an astounding illusion, *Where are They?* A pleasing comedian with an easy style is Frank Leslie; and Eva Kelland is favourably received; in a musical comedy sketch, *The Automatic Girl*, Eddie Stidder and Gwennie Dunbar are delightfully clever; "The Cotton Blossom" quartette of coloured comedians and dancers give a good account of themselves; the Clement Trio, in a stage-flying trapeze act; Espinosa and Neilson, in dancing specialities; and Mlle. Lucretia, expert top-boot dancer, create a good impression, as does Mr. E.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—Rich and Rich, patterers, had quite a flattering reception here on Monday night; Elsie Robey appeared in her humorous satire, "The Slavey's At Home," which proved a distinct success; Mr. V. L. Granville, the Protean character masquerader, was also in good form; Walter Emerson introduced some new business; Miss Maud Prenton, burlesque artist, was as sprightly as ever; an excellent animal performance was presented by Cabaret's dogs in the "Dog's Derby." The Sivronis, the Wreford Brothers, and Frankie (juggler) are all well received.

Hanley.—Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Mr. George Alexander's company opened here on Monday in Mr. Pinero's beautiful comedy *His House in Order*. The cast is a perfect one, and all the members work admirably together. As Nina, Miss Auriol Lee scores a distinct success, her emotional scenes being most artistic. Mr. Frank Fenton is the Hilary Jesson, and his admirable reading was enthusiastically applauded. Mr. Cyril Harcourt gives an excellent portrayal of a country gentleman as Filmer Jesson; Mr. Chas. Tyrrel as the Major displays true histrionic ability; Miss Carmen Woods makes a natural Derek Jesson, her impersonation being much admired; Mlle. Juliette Milo is an amusing Mlle. Thome; Sir Daniel Ridgeley finds a worthy exponent in Mr. Adam Alexander; Mrs. Kemmis is well placed as Lady Ridgeley; Miss Audrey Campbell as Geraldine Ridgeley is successful; Price Ridgeley is all that could be desired in the hands of Mr. Geo. Silver; Mr. James Annard as the Major is capital. The mounting is excellent, and Mr. Elphinstone well deserves crowded houses for such an excellent booking.

Grand.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—*Casey's Circus* heads the bill, and proves exceedingly amusing. The Lukushima Troupe return in their clever performance, which is much appreciated. Bertha Winder is a remarkable dancer; Musical Silvio provides a capital turn, which is much appreciated; Florence Schubert is a comedienne of much merit; the Saletos in their head and hand balancing turn are excellent; Lady Julia is an intelligent monkey, and shows the perfection to which animals can be trained; the Grand Pictures are, as usual, capital.

Harrogate.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding-Smith.—The first three nights of this week Mr. Chas. Frohman's company was in *Raffles* here. A large audience welcomed Mr. Leonard Boyne in the title-rôle, and he gave a finished performance of the amateur cracksman. He had excellent support from Mr. Lewis Edgard as Harry Manders; Mr. Clifford Brooke was convincing as the detective Curtis Bedford; Miss Hilda Stewart made a particularly handsome Mrs. Vidal, and also played very well; Lady Melrose had an able exponent in the person of Miss Amy Thomas; and Miss Hazel Thompson was suitably placed as Gwendoline Conran. Mr. Arthur Willoughby as the Earl of Amersteth gave a good performance, and of Mr. Edmund Brecon as Viscount Crawley the same may be said. Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald as the French maid Marie submitted a clever little study. For the remainder of the week Mr. Arthur Hardy's company in *Beauty and the Barge* was in the bill.

Hartlepool.—Empress Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Everton and Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—Lottie de Abbey, a character impersonator, has a charming style, and renders her songs in excellent voice. The Dunvilles, in a comedy musical act, go as well as of yore. Harmony of an exceptionally high-class character is rendered by Norman and Saxon. Grace and originality mark the sensational gymnastic act of Lozelle. The 3 Cape Girls, vocalists and dancers, excel in a big-boot dance. Charles R. Whittle has been here many times, but never has his reception been more hearty than now. The Silbon Family are also old friends, and the performance given by them in their miniature circus with their clever cats, dogs, and ponies, is a veritable treat; and the Bioscope with a change of pictures is interesting.

Hastings. — Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—*The Geisha* has been presented here in a very complete manner by Mr. Frederick Mouillot's principal company. Miss Louie Collier sings finely and acts cleverly as O Mimosa San; Miss Violet Kenyon delights the audience as O Juliette Diamante; there is a charming gracefulness in Miss Florrie Saunders's presentment of Molly Seymour; and a good impersonation of Lady Constance Wynne comes from Miss Aubrey Ashton. Mr. Cyril Thompson, who appears as Reginald Fairfax, sings his songs in excellent style; Mr. S. Leckridge scores as Dick Cunningham; Mr. J. Mansell Stringer as Captain Catana sings well; Mr. A. J. Nicholls is capital as Takemine; an amusing performance of Wun Hi is given by Mr. Edward Carlton, who gains much applause; and Mr. Lionel Braham submits a clever representation of the Marquis Imari. Mr. Francis Knowles directs the orchestra. On Friday *A Greek Slave* was played.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Resident and General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathanis.—An excellent programme opens with the attractive juvenile comedienne and dancer, Dot Irving; the drawing-room entertainers, the Four Cecilians, are accorded a hearty reception; Ted Thomas is genuinely comic and peculiar; the acrobatic dancers, the Sisters Remo, are singularly clever and original; Arthur Albert has a good voice and an excellent style of singing; the musical contortionist, Max Duffek, performs on various instruments in most curious and difficult positions; the return visit of Grey and Welford, eccentric comedians, proves very popular; a vivacious and winsome burlesque artist is found in Miss Amy Elvira; the Maxim Trio introduce an effective equilibristic novelty; and some amusing scenes are shown on the Hippodrome Bioscope.

Hastings Pier Pavilion.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Arthur B. Malden is here this week delivering his five lectures of different countries, illustrated by a series of cinematograph pictures.

St. Leonards Pavilion Theatre.—Pier-Master and Entertainment Manager, Mr. E. Thomas.—Mr. Norman V. Norman and a talented company are appearing here in a new historical comedy, entitled *The Chevalier de St. George*. The play is admirably acted. Mr. Norman gives a polished interpretation of the Chevalier, at once elegant and natural; Miss Beatrice Wilson is a captivating and charming Beatrix Esmond; and Miss Sybil Ruskin makes a lively and vivacious French grisette. Mr. Dennis Cleugh is capital as Colonel Harry Esmond; an agreeable portrait of Lord Castlewood is shown by Mr. Norman Leslie; Esmond's servant, Lockwood, is well taken by Mr. Brember Wills. The minor characters are successfully assumed.

Hoyland.—Metropole.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. R. Baker.—*An Unwedded Wife* is the attraction here this week. Mr. J. Edward Whitty is an excellent John Hawthorn; Mr. R. Payne is a manly Frank Armstrong; and as Philip Blackstone Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes is all that can be desired. Mr. Edward Finlay is an amusing Christopher Lennox, and as Inspector Grabbem Mr. Fred Allen is good. The humorous element is entrusted to the capable hands of Messrs. R. Purdon and Harry Townley as Napoleon D. Bloomer and Perkinson Pimple respectively, ably assisted by Miss Amy Coralli as Caraway Crumpet. Miss Violet Wilson scores as Elsie Langham, and Little Ella is excellent as Beggie. Special mention must be made of Miss Ethel Van Praagh, who as Marion displays great histrionic ability.

Huddersfield.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—A big house gathered on Monday evening to welcome Miss Mabel Love on her first appearance here, with the company organised by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison for the presentation of *The Freedom of Suzanne*. Miss Mabel Love's part of Suzanne gives her an opportunity which she uses fully, to display her marked ability as an exponent of delicate light comedy. Mr. Percy Hutchison handles the part of Charles Trevor with the firm, light touch of a master, and wins an undoubted success; Mr. Townsend Whitling shows fine discretion as Captain Harry Cecil; Mr. F. G. Thurstans is good as Harding; Mr. J. Hastings Batson gives a well-studied reading of his part, Lord Dachet; Miss Charlotte Mead as Minching is delightfully quaint; Miss Annie Stalman is dignified as Lady Trevor. Miss Violet Ley looks charming as Lady Isabel; and Miss Dorothy Lart adequate as Mrs. Tustail. The comedy is preceded by the bright one-act piece entitled *Mary's Secret*.

Hippodrome Ltd.—Resident Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Turns are provided here by Paulton and Dooley, clever trick cyclists; Harry Barker, a smart light comedian; the Four Hearnes, a troupe of fine acrobats; J. A. Skerratt's vocal and electrical display; Onda and Artell in a clever display on the trapeze; the Sisters Lunelle, a couple of good singers and dancers; Rastus and Banks, coloured entertainers—the nimble and daring dancing of Rastus brings down the house; the clever Sisters Geretti, double trapeze artists, and a change of films on the Bioscope completes an excellent programme.

Hull.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*The Prince of Pilsen*, which has always been favourably received, has met this week with a very warm welcome, and being the Fair week exceptional business has been done. Martin Adeson, though a new representative of the Brewer Prince, is an old favourite here, and he hits the taste of the public. As the brewer's daughter little Isa Bowman had a rôle which just fitted her; this talented artist has rarely been seen to better advantage. Mr. Alfred Selby kept the fun rolling as François. As the widow Miss Millicent Marsden repeated the success attained on the last visit.

Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Local Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*The Belle of Mayfair* is the attraction here this week. The success of the evening was notably achieved by Miss Alice Russon, who is a charming cantatrice as well as an accomplished actress. Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., as the amorous French count, gives a very clever performance. The rest of the company have been chosen with care. The staging and mounting are creditable to Messrs. Gatti and Frohman, who are responsible for the tour.

Alexandra Theatre.—Mortons, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*A Midnight Chimes* is one of those plays which appeal especially to holiday folk, and more so when it contains in its cast so talented a comedian as Witty Watty Walton. A fine character study is that of Ezra Gamble, portrayed by Mr. Herbert Belmore. Mr. Lewis Leslie invests the hero with all manly attributes; Mr. Percy Maitland is as the villain his antithesis. Miss Mary Campbell plays with distinction as the wife.

The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Tom Foy and company present their laughable sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad in London;* the Four Juggling Geraldos give a clever club juggling and hoop-rolling act, one of the members being the son of the esteemed stage-manager, Mr. Wm. Stonehouse. Mabel La Blanche sings charmingly. Other favourites include Tatten Hall, Bros. Mellott, and Dusty Rhodes.

The Empire.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—The Five M.P.s, old favourites here, make a welcome reappearance; Pearce and Ward give a speciality boxing act; the Reays are smart equilibrists. Other artists include Daisy Almer, Alex. Fox, Arthur Richards, Fred Tenby, and Renee Walon.

The Circus.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—Mr. Sydney H. Carter is presenting a capital series of pictures to crowded houses.

Ilkeston.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—A variety show is provided this week, in which Ediscope and Barnum's Animated Pictures are a leading feature. Lulu, a lady instrumentalist, has a good reception; Vic Verney's whistling is much applauded; Queenie Vane pleases as a comedienne and dancer; and the same remark applies to the Oldham Mill Girl for her singing; Mlle. Corellie is an up-to-date songstress; the Two Ver-Vains, coon sing

turn, and the Brothers O'Brien, acrobats, come in for rounds of applause. Boden and Bell, juvenile vocalists both sing and dance well, and the sisters Russell, burlesque artists, meet with approval. Tiger Lily, coon singer and dancer; Bob Baxter, vocalist; Alma O'Brey, comedienne; and Walter Payne's animated pictures complete the bill.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and C. Fell; Manager, Mr. John Fell.—The original Arley's Gymnasts are at the top here, and have a good reception. The Bohemians, in a musical act, is an exceedingly pleasing turn, and the Brothers Buchanan have some smart patter. Millie Myers, singing Mill Girl; the Sisters Belmont, comediennes and dancers; Trich and Trixie, comedy artists; Dan Noble, comedienne; Marie York, burlesque artiste; and Sid E. Jones, coon singer and dancer, all win favour; while the Edison-Swan animated pictures prove an extra attraction.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harvey Hunter.—*The White Chrysanthemum* is this week being presented by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Miss Muriel George in the part of Sybil Cunningham scores a decided success; Miss Nellie Groves as the American heiress is particularly good; as is also Miss Emily Taylor as Betty Kenyon. Mr. Langdon Bruce gives a vivid impression of the character of Lieut. Armitage, and his capital singing is greatly appreciated. Mr. H. E. Garden plays with dry humour the part of Lieut. Chippendale Belmont, whilst Mr. Richard Telford as Sin Chong is decidedly funny. Others who add considerably to the success of the piece are Mr. Charles Schmidt as the Admiral and Mr. Jamie Dallas as Private Perks. There is a competent chorus and orchestra, under the able conductorship of Mr. Harry Richardson.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's brilliant production, *The Blue Moon*, opened here on Monday, and was accorded a big reception. No better purveyors than Mr. Edward Lewis and Mr. Bert Gilbert could have been selected, and their humorous encounters are a source of continual merriment. The delightful singing of Miss Florence Smithson as Blue Moon is a feature which never fails to evoke loud appeals for encores. In the part of Millicent, a lady's maid, charming Miss Lulu Valli is very successful, and Miss Daisy Revett makes a dainty and lovable Evelyn Ormsby. Mr. Leslie Gaze puts plenty of life into his work as the gallant Major Callabone; that fine vocalist and accomplished actor, Mr. Herbert Clayton, finds plenty of scope for his abilities as Captain Jack Ormsby; Mr. George Mudie, jun., ably fills the part of Bobby Scott, and Mr. Thomas Holding enacts the rôle of the Prince with distinction. The leading native girl has a satisfactory exponent in Miss Olive Crellin, and as Lady Brabasham Miss Mabel Lorrell ably realises her part.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company is back again at the Royal, achieving success with the drama, *A Wife's Triumph*, by Mr. Sutton Vane. The hero is Frank Wilton, a bank cashier, and this part is portrayed by Mr. Ernest Abbott with his accustomed power. Miss Ada Abbott is responsible for a convincing impersonation of Bessie Dewhirst, and Alice Wilton is a pleasing and sympathetic effort by Miss Doris Drew.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here with the successful musical play, *The Gay Parisienne*. Miss Evelyn Hughes is particularly pleasing and vivacious in the name-part. Mr. Will Harman makes an effective Ebenezer Honeycombe; Mr. Horace Lingard, who resumes the rôle of Major Forsdyke, is vastly amusing; the clever portrayal of M. Pompier by Mr. Clifford Leyler is a successful effort, and Miss Madge Soutter gets plenty of fun out of her rôle of servant girl. Mr. Edgar Ashwin and Miss Ethel Ivimey find plenty of scope for their vocal abilities in leading parts, and some effective part-singing by the Imperial Glee Singers is a popular feature.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—There is no more popular comedian visiting here than Wilkie Bard, whose quaint methods have attracted and amused full houses; Sanford and Lyons make a success with funny talk and smart dancing; The Mezzettis on the triple bars are both expert and humorous; The Anartos are also having a successful time with good music and clever comedy; Frank Lynne is a really smart comedian; Nellie Stratton delights all with effective song and dance; the Eight of Hearts posssess vocal and acrobatic abilities; the popular and expert juggler, Atroy, meets with his usual success, and Violi plays quite a number of musical instruments.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Claude Shayler and Mr. Chas. Weldon.—The Kentucky Four are a clever quartette with song, dance, and comedy business; *Barmaids*, again presented by Hodgson and Lowther's company, meets with generous appreciation, as also does the clever turn submitted by Harry Champion; Regan and Ryan are past masters of comedy entertainment; Bicknelle is here with novel clay-modelling; an original ventriloquial wire act by Rex Fox arouses much interest; another novelty is the skating speciality by Willie Gardiner; Alix Lukos finds favour in descriptive songs; Leah Arden sings ballads in pleasing style, and Nancy St. John, comedienne, and the Valdos, with comedy specialty, also contribute good things.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Lew Lake and company make a welcome reappearance this week in *The Bloomsbury Burglars;* Bert Williams is doing a novel ventriloquial turn; Bliss and Bliss contribute good things in the way of eccentric comedy, and the Three Sisters Lee (vocalists), Wyze and Adna (comedy specialists), Frank Boyce (character comedian), and Sam Mayo also contribute to the bill.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business-Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—A rare treat is being afforded local playgoers this week in a visit of Miss Olga Nethersole and company. On the talented actress making her appearance on Monday evening in *Sapho* she received a most flattering welcome from a crowded and enthusiastic audience. As Fanny Le Grand, Miss Nethersole has an exacting part, which she played with a perfection rarely seen here, her success throughout being most conspicuous. She was well seconded by Mr. Frank Mills as Jean Gaussin, to whom must be accorded high praise for a performance of exceptional merit. Mr. William Clark made an excellent impression as M. Cesaire Gaussin. As Joseph, Miss Agnes Tina played well; and as Madame and Monsieur Hettema, Miss Mary Relph and Mr. A. T. Hendon also showed great ability. Mr. Julian Royce was very good as Eugene Flamant. *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* was presented on Friday, with Miss Nethersole as Paula and Mr. Frank Mills as Aubrey Tanqueray.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—A first-rate attraction is provided here this week in a visit of Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmond's company in *The Golden Ladder*. Miss Mary Austin is seen to considerable advantage as Lilian Grant, and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds is good as the adventurer, M. Peranza. Mr. William Clayton does full justice to the part of the Rev. Frank Thornhill. Mr. J. Milne Taylor is capital as Michael Severn. Both Mr. Joseph Rowlands as Samuel Peckaby and Miss Nellie Graham as Mrs. Peckaby give popular and humorous portrayals. Mr. W. Chambers is excellent as Dr. Lemair; Miss Winifred Acton as Victoria Alexandra Peckaby and Miss May Ediss as Lily are clever in the juvenile parts. Miss Teresa Haynes as Mrs. Dixon and Mr. Fred Acton as Jim Dixon also render able support.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Those clever comedians, the McNaughtons, are the star turn here this week, and by their versatility and humour keep the audience in continual laughter while they occupy the stage. De Dio charms all with her dances, which are beautifully done, the lighting effects adding greatly to the success of the turn. Alice Lloyd, a delightfully dainty comedienne, secures a well-deserved hearty reception; Park's Eton Boys, excellent vocalists, are a popular turn; Kitts and Windrum are presenting, to the accompaniment of great laughter, the sketch, *The Cuckoo;* Jake Friedman repeats his usual success; Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, in *The Cowboy and the Lady*, are good; and Forest and King are well to the front as dancers and acrobats. The American Bioscope still remains a popular feature of the programme with up-to-date films.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—Davis and Gledhill, in their novel and exciting bicycle and motor-paced races, are the great attraction here. In connection with the engagement, a competition for amateurs is being held during the week. The Olive Trio of comedians and dancers are smart; Johnson and Pelham, in their comedy pot-pourri act, *The Golf Match*, display much cleverness; the Nettas are excellent in their vocal duets. Other entertaining turns are contributed by Rita Reedan (male impersonator), Llewellyn (Welsh basso), and Mabel Le Roy (comedienne). Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope, which has become quite a fixture here, well maintains its popularity with interesting pictures.

LEIGH.—ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—Mr. Harry Starr's new musical drama *The Unseen Power* was presented here for the first three nights of the week. The brunt of the work is borne by Mr. Starr, who portrays several characters with much ability; Mr. Edwin Firth gives a capital representation of Antonio Romano; Miss Katie Norris distinguishes herself as Chris. Granville; Mr. Will Miller is well placed as Harold Granville; Miss Ella Crossley acts the rôle of Lucretia Granville in an able manner; Miss Madge Blundell makes the most of her opportunities as Anita Romano; while the comedy element is well brought out by Mr. Fred W. Graham as Horatio Cracklesby.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Two of Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's most emotional dramas have been staged here this week by Miss Elaine Verner and a good company, which includes the notable Welsh actor, Mr. Harding Thomas. *Saints and Sinners* provides in Jacob and Lettie Fletcher congenial rôles for Mr. Thomas and Miss Verner, both of whom prove equal to the demands made on them; George Kingmill and Captain Fanshaw find convincing representatives in Mr. Percy Brown and Mr. Edgar Kent; good work is done by Mr. Frank Lyndon as Samuel Hoggard; Mr. Edward de Vere as Lot Burdon; Mr. J. Max Jerome as Prabble; and Miss Ada Clarke and Mr. Guy Dene as Peter Greenacre; heads a list of minor parts, all of which are capably acted. In *The Middleman* Mr. Thomas is a realistic Cyrus Blenkarn and Miss Verner a sympathetic Mary; and these outstanding impersonations are strongly supported by Mr. Lyndon's Joseph Chandler, Mr. Brown's Julian, Mr. De Vere's Batty Todde, and Mr. Kent's Jesse Pegge; while Miss Ada Clarke, Miss Maud Beard, and Miss Ruby Roma do well as Nancy, Mrs. Chandler, and Maud.

LEVEN.—TOWN HALL.—On Monday night a large audience was attracted to witness *The Silver King*, presented by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. Mr. Walter Bentley as Wilfred Denver scored a decided success, his natural acting and fine elocution earning unstinted applause. Miss Marie Menzies, by her capable rendering of the part of Nellie Denver, speedily won the sympathy and approval of the audience. Faithful old Daniel Jaikes, well played by Mr. Tom G. Warry, made himself a popular favourite. In the hands of Mr. Paul Beckett, Captain Skinner, "the Spider," lost none of his sinister plausibility; Mr. Baxter, the detective, found a capable representative in Mr. W. B. Sommerville; Mr. A. Hall Menzies was good as Henry Corkett; Messrs. Walter Seabrook, A. H. Simon, and Fred Wear were amusing as Mr Parkyn, Binks, and Bronson respectively. The waitress, Susie, was played in bright and lively manner by Miss Rose Blackwell; Miss Marie Lyndon and Miss Joan Wellman were well suited as Tabitha Durden and Olive Skinner. The children's parts were taken by little Nelly Lyndon and Mabel O'Neill, the former, as Cissy, having most to do, and doing it well.

LICHFIELD.—ST. JAMES'S HALL.—The patronage accorded to Mr. W. Payne Seddon's presentation of Mr. F. R. Benson's (South) Shakesperian company on Tuesday and Wednesday, was very satisfactory. *The School for Scandal*, *Merchant of Venice*, and *Hamlet* were the plays presented. Mr. Charles Donaldson was the Sir Peter, Antonio, and King; Mr. John Cairns, Sir Oliver, Gratiano, and the Ghost; Mr. Arthur Phillips, Joseph Surface, Shylock, and Hamlet; Mr. Frank Darch, Charles Surface, Bassanio, and Laertes; Miss Christie Laws, Lady Teazle, Portia, and Ophelia; and Miss Kathryn Stocks, Lady Sneerwell, Jessica, and the Player Queen. The plays were presented with great completeness.

LIMERICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Robert Fogerty.—A second week of grand opera by the popular Elster-Grime company was opened on Monday night, when *The Bohemian Girl* was presented. Miss Elsie Lynham, a charming soprano, enacted the rôle of Arline with great success, and Miss Kathleen McCabe was the clever and realistic Queen of the Gipsies; Miss C. Russell was a pleasing Buda, and as Count Arnheim Mr. T. Partridge sang well. Mr. A. Kewley was an amusing Florestein, and as Devilshoof Mr. Gilbert King was at his best. Mr. P. Nolan was good as Captain of the Guard, and in the absence of Mr. Payne-Clarke, who is suffering from a severe cold, Mr Frank Land ably sustained the rôle of Thaddeus.

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank King.—Mr. Hilliard Vox's company, in a strong representation of *Alaska*, fills the bill this week.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur.—Will Musgrave is repeating all his former successes; Will Driscoll, Nina Martino, the Five Bon-Bons, Emma Don and her piccanninies, Andre Carne, Stirling and Cashen, Bowman and Morton, and Raymond's Biotableaux also score.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Payne-Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—*The Two Hussars*, presented by Messrs. Fred J. Webb and Wilson Benge's company is the attraction here this week. As Harry Alford, Mr. Wilson Benge submits an excellent interpretation of the part; Miss M. Danvers Smith as Ellen Maythorne and afterwards as Will Gunstock proves herself a capable actress; Miss Lallah Price is good as Molly Cutts, and Miss Sadie Smith scores as Marie; Mr. Fred J. Webb is a capable Paul Villiers, and Mr. G. Paradise is excellent as Sergeant M. Finne. Other parts are also well sustained.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—On its first visit here *A Royal Divorce* is received with much favour, and is undoubtedly a welcome change after a long and successful run of musical comedy. Mr. Fred Victor's able method and clear enunciation makes his Napoleon an artistic and clever assumption of a difficult rôle; Miss Edith Cole's charm of manner and womanly instinct are brought to bear with excellent effect in the part of the Empress Josephine, and she must be warmly complimented on her natural and convincing work in the malmaison scene.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Business-Manager, Mr. L. J. Beard.—Mr. Alexander Loftus and company opened on Monday night to a very good house in *The New Barmaid*. The new songs and dances being greatly appreciated. Miss Violet Osmund, as the Lady Journalist, scores a hit with "The Bamboo Bungalow"; Mr. Loftus, as Wm. White, is excellent, as also is Mr. J. Grant as the Colonel; Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Adison, and all the members of the company seem thoroughly at home in their different parts.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—*£1000 Reward* was presented here on Monday night. Messrs. F. J. Pitt and Chas. Halling's company is one of the best seen here for some time. Mr. J. B. Murray as Gilbert Lisle gave a graceful and telling portrayal. Mr. C. Halling as Vincent Rainsworth submitted a highly meritorious performance; Mr. C. Rogers, jun., as Dick, played a difficult part exceedingly well; Mr. J. N. Cowling as Fred Ingleford was excellent; and Mr. Frank J. Pitt as Fred Ingleford, jun., was very satisfactory. Mr. F. Dallas as Inspector Gilbert gave a humorous portrayal; and Mr. A. Merton's Fighting Jepps was another good study. The part of Meg was finely played by Miss Lynn Darlington, who held the sympathy of the house from start to finish. Miss Crissie Frances, as Kitty, came in for a cordial reception, and her exceedingly able acting quite justified the applause accorded. Miss Daisy Halling as Madame Sanson proved a most able performer; and Mrs. Sydney Halling as Mrs. McCarthy was very good.

MAIDENHEAD.—TOWN HALL.—Secretary, the Town Clerk.—After an uninterrupted season extending from early May until this date, the Pavilion Cadets gave their farewell concert before a crowded house on Wednesday. The programme largely consisted of songs, &c., which have proved specially acceptable during the season, and the reception accorded to the individual members of the troupe gave decided evidence of the appreciation which they have gained. Special turns were provided by Witty Willis, raconteur and banjoist, who was well received, and by Mr. Fred Evered, who, as a female impersonator, is decidedly the cleverest we have seen here. The ladies of the troupe were presented with handsome bouquets.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—A good programme here is headed by Graham, the human marionette, who gives a clever turn. Kyoto, Japanese equilibrist and contortionist, is exceedingly clever, and is recalled again and again; the Lavelle Brothers, quaint comedy acrobats, are well received; and Miss Emmie Ames, on a return visit, is popular with her *Great Big Ben* scena. George Fox, operatic vocalist; and Miss Mollie Seymour, comedienne and solo violinist; together with Harry Bancroft, vocalist; the Daintons, duettists; and the Hippograph, complete the bill.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—A notable event here on Monday was the performance of *Colonel Newcome* by Mr. Tree and company. The play serves to present the Colonel chiefly in the midst of his vicissitudes, and in every phase Mr. Tree proved himself a perfect master of the part. The impersonation, so wonderful and convincing in all its details, gave unbounded pleasure to a large audience, which testified its admiration by repeated calls. The part of Colonel Newcome is of course the backbone of the play, which is not intrinsically strong, nor even greatly interesting, as a play; and other members of the cast were therefore not very remarkably in evidence. Nevertheless, despite the poor material, Miss Constance Collier managed to imbue her rôle of Ethel Newcome with a certain charm and distinction; while Mr. Sidney Brough made an entertaining Lord Farintosh, and other prominent parts were cleverly rendered by Mr. Charles Quartermaine, Mr. A. E. Benedict, Mr. Edmund Maurice, Miss Annie Schletter, Miss Mary Sumner, and Mrs. Percival. At the end Mr. Tree was prevailed upon to speak a few responsive words. The distinguished actor's astonishing versatility was amply evidenced on Tuesday, when he played Isidore Izard in *Business is Business*, and Austin Limmason in *The Man Who Was*, both parts being rendered to perfection. In the former play Miss Nora Lancaster acted very well as Inez, and Mrs E. H. Brooke gave a capital impersonation of Mrs. Izard; while Miss Constance Collier made the most of her opportunities as Millicent Durgan in Kipling's painful little drama. At the Wednesday matinée *Trilby* was given with powerful effect; and the remainder of the week is filled in with the plays already mentioned, to which is added *The Ballad Monger*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Mr. William Greet's company reappeared here on Monday in their popular attraction, *The Earl and the Girl*, the cast including Mr. William Stephens as Jim Cheese, Mr. Arthur Harrold as Dick Wargrave, Miss Frances Earle as Elphin Haye, Miss Gertrude Melville as Daisy Fallowfield, Mr. Will Hudson as Downham, and Miss Jennie Richards as Liza Shoddam, all of whom contribute largely to sending the piece along with a fine swing. These are assisted by quite a number of clever people in smaller parts, and the piece is strengthened by a chorus and orchestra of seventy-five performers, under the direction of Mr. Evelyn Baker. Scenery and dresses are also elaborate and charming, and the piece is certainly one of the brightest and most entertaining musical comedies on the road.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Great pleasure is afforded patrons of this theatre by the appearance of Mr. Edward Terry in a répertoire of favourite plays. On Monday *Liberty Hall* was given, the eminent comedian being seen as William Todman, a distinct and admirable success. Mr. Allan Pollock played Mr. Owen with excellent effect, and the rôles of Blanche and Amy Chilworth were rendered very nicely by Miss Fyfe Alexander and Miss F. Glossop Harris. Others worthy of high praise were Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., as the Hon. Gerald Harringay and Mr. William Dexter as Mr. Briginshaw. Mr. Terry's impersonation of Mr. Posket in *The Magistrate* on Tuesday was done in fine humorous style, and his efforts were cleverly supplemented by Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., as young Farringdon, Mr. E. W. Thomas as Mr. Bullamy, Mr. George Howard as Colonel Lukyn, Mr. Allan Pollock as Captain Vale, and Miss Agnes Knights as Agatha Posket. Equally enjoyable was Wednesday's performance of *Sweet Lavender*.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Carpenter and Cooper's company is here this week in *The Spider and the Fly*, presented last week at the Grand Junction Theatre.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Billy Williams, "the man in the velvet suit," gives a capital "top" turn here this week; May Lilian Levey, the popular comedienne, sings some good songs; and a comic turn is that of *The Land-Grabbers*, a burlesque on the unemployed. Other good turns are Little Beattie, a clever juvenile comedienne and dancer; Alfonzo, the Tranka wonder; Dolly Denver, lady buck dancer; the three Royal Temples, Welsh singers; Mozzetto, a clever young juggler; Clifton and Gibson, eccentric comedians; and Harry Tomlin, speciality artist.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company is here this week in a clever and sensational comedy drama entitled *The Plucky Nipper*. A very efficient cast is employed, Miss Carlton playing the title part of Polly Hithard with distinction, Mr. Edward Surrey being seen to advantage as Billy Burgess, and Mr. Fred Rivers giving a powerful impersonation of the villainous Richard Vanbrugh. Heroic parts are well played by Mr. Edward Stream as Frank Leslie and Miss Evelyn Terwent as Ina Fenwick; while Mr. H. J. Butler does well as Colonel Fenwick and Mr. Douglas Campbell gives a creditable depiction of Tommy Atkins. The incidental vocalism is good, and the scenery well arranged and effective.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Northway and Garrod present here this week their revised version of *The Prodigal Parson*, a very effective play, very well rendered by a capable cast, which is headed by Mr. W. V. Garrod in the title part. Mr. Garrod's personal success as the Rev. T. Godley is equalled by Mr. Hugh Carmichael as Jaggins, the rascally churchwarden; and other good parts are cleverly realised by Miss Lilian Rignold as Gretchen Van Craus, Miss P. Hastings as the Parson's wife, Mr. Wm. Hayward as Ben Jaggins, and Mr. H. Newton as Phil Drive, the cheerful handy man. Among others, Miss Dot Russell dances well; and during the course of the action several pleasing songs are introduced.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—This week's programme here is particularly strong in sketches, the honours being divided between Mabel Bardine and company in Ivan Berlyn's version of *Nancy Sikes* (adapted from "Oliver Twist") and John Tiller's company in the musical burletta *High Jinks*. Both of these are highly acceptable to the house. Other excellent turns are ?Letine? the mysterious; Vivian Cliff and his dog Kitty in a funny act; the Sutcliffe family of pipers, acrobats, and dancers; Playfair and Nikola, makers of paper pictures; and "A Son's Revenge" on the Bioscope.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Harry Ford, the well-known comedian, tops the bill here this week, and contributes three songs in his usual entertaining manner; Smaun Sing Hpoo, a miniature athlete, gives a smart performance on the rings; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto are exceedingly clever trick comedy cyclists; Barney Armstrong, a very quaint comedian, with coboy assistant, is well received; Ada Cerito, comedienne, has a capital song with a good chorus; the Four Jumels offer a delightful musical act, and W. H. Downs, the Australian coloured vocalist, sings well. Other enjoyable turns are Cole and Rags, neat jugglers; Johnny Fuller, as a cat, clever on the wire; and Lola Patey, character vocalist. The Palace Pictures are up-to-date.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—The big attraction here this week is provided by "Wizard" and Irene Stone in their marvellous and daring cycle act, "The Globe of Life." Carl Hertz, the famous illusionist, adds some clever and novel tricks, including a new sensation called "The Bridal Chamber." Beside these Boris Lensky, the Dutch violinist, gives the audience a real musical treat; some good fun is forthcoming from Griff, "the Clown in Apartments"; the De Breans are seen in a juggling and equilibristic act; and other good turns are provided by Jas. Toner, the singing newsboy from Belfast; Max York's well-trained dogs; Ted and May Hopkins, Welsh humorists; Jack Lorimer, Scotch comedian; and the choir, who give Faning's glee, "Moonlight." The Bioscope pictures are interesting, as usual.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—An excellent turn here this week is that of Herbert Shelley, who scores a distinct success in an interesting episode entitled *Dan the Outlaw*. Lawrence Barclay, a comedian of the eccentric order, is very amusing, as usual; the Clarkes are exceedingly clever banjoists; and the Three Rubys go through a unique equipoise acrobatic trapeze act. Other good items are contributed by Mark Anthony, a capital humorist; the three Sisters Jonghmans, well-known singers of harmonised songs; Harry Morgan, coon comedian; the Watana Trio of lady jugglers; and Florence Leonard, vocalist. Raymond's Vivagraph pictures complete the programme.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Little and Darcy's company are here this week in their well-known attraction *The Executioner's Daughter*, a story of the French Revolution. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe plays the part of the executioner, Mons. Roche, in telling style, and Miss Nellie Howitt is well placed and does admirably as Annette, his daughter. The play contains a large variety of well-defined characters, among which that of Paul Rovel, embodied by Mr. W. Ruddle Brown, is notable, as also is that of Kretch, played by Mr. W. S. Stephenson; while Mr. Juan De Alberti adds a strong rendering of Felix Marius, the gambler and thief. Miss Evelyn Robson plays Felice with power; and Miss Bella Moody makes a lively Sally King. The scenery and effects are all that could be desired.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—An enjoyable programme is offered here this week. Charming Mlle. Von-Etta, "La Mystery Indescribable," is to the front with bewildering illusions and smart conjuring tricks; Johnson and Bert, in their act, *A Queer Customer*, provide some clever tumbling, and are very amusing; Mlle. De Rose, lady baritone, meets with deserved applause, her rendering of "The Wolf" being particularly good; Ford and Hanson are entertaining as the Musical Millionaires; Mephisto and Marie are seen in a clever contortionist scena; and Mr. Walter Wade as "Patsy Burke" pleases greatly. Other good turns are those of J. H. Hawtrey, actor vocalist; Percy Curry, a very funny comedian; and Selby and Myers, with their entertaining patter and smart dancing. An amusing film, "This Side up with Care," is depicted on the Bioscope.

HIPPODROME, HULME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Linah Morris and a first-rate company, including Bessie Morris, head the bill here this week in that capital musical comedy, *The Lost Coon*, and are well received. Georg Chanti in his great transformation act dances exceedingly well, and gains much applause; Tate and Tate, comedy trampolin acrobats, are clever and amusing; and good items are contributed by the Katos, "Komical Kidgets"; Stephen Blythe, actor-vocalist; York, Mac, and York, in comedy, *The Widow's Worries;* and Olga Fane, vocal comedienne. On the occasion of our visit Bert Weston, the popular swell comedian, acting as deputy for the Siddons, made a hit; and Selida and Vane, coloured artists, appeared in place of the Ottawas, and sang and danced excellently. "The Gentleman Burglar" is the Bioscope subject, and is interesting.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—Another excellent programme is provided here this week, with old favourites, and good houses are the rule.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Captain Cecil Clayton; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company is here in *The Drama of Life*. Mr. Edward M. Hamilton ably portrays the part of Harry Beech, while the rôle of Walter Beech is capably interpreted by Mr. John J. Hooker; Mr. Edward Van Biene is a first-class Count de Foi; Mr. R. B. Foote is a shrewd Richard Brenton; Sir Dobson Wilde is nicely portrayed by Mr. Harwood Roberts; the part of Lady Jane Wilde is in the capable hands of Miss Florence French; Miss Elsie May portrays the part of Master Robert Beech; Miss Nellie Beechenough as Betty Black plays finely.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. H. Darnley and T. Jennings; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Jennings.—After being closed for some months this place was reopened on Monday. The whole of the seating has been remodelled and the place redecorated. Miss Marie Loftus tops the bill. She gives two songs and her sketch, "Singers Past and Present," which is loudly applauded; Lang and Beal present a good musical turn; Professor Anderson receives applause for his exhibition of legerdemain; the ventriloquial turn of Tom Garland is appreciated, as is also the turn by Connie Mori; other turns are contributed by Don and Frister and Mr. Kino Johnson. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope depicts a good series of pictures.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Mansfield October Cheese Fair commenced on Thursday, and was continued on Friday and Saturday.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin Leigh.—Mrs. Russ Whytal has been successfully appearing here this week in Barrie's fanciful comedy, *Alice Sit-by-the-Fire*. Her impersonation of Mrs. Grey is a piece of acting of real excellence, the lines being delivered with rare elocutionary power. Mr. J. J. Bartlett is extremely good as the indulgent Col. Grey, authoritative yet kindly, and possessing a keen sense of fun; Mr. A. W. Baskcomb plays Cosmo Grey with the necessary lightness, and Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu gives a capital study of comic perplexity as Stephen Rollo. Miss Lilian Locke sustains the part of Richardson, the humble heroine, in an irresistible manner; Miss Beatrice Bramah, as Amy Grey, acts with exquisite humour; Miss Lucie Verrier is delightfully ingenious as Leonora Dunbar; and Miss Ada Marius, as the imperious nurse, and Miss Ninon Dudley, as Fanny, are good in their respective parts.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. F. Houillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtrey.—This week's programme includes several entertaining turns, the list being headed by the Spanish Goldini Trio, whose juggling and plate and carpet spinning feats are very expertly performed; Nellie Chandos, comedienne, sings well and dances capitally, and Farley, Rennie and Farley are amusing in the comedy acrobatic novelty, *Fun at a Railway Station*; the Bensons give a pleasing vocal comedy duo with unabated success, and Venie Clements proves herself a versatile comedienne and a graceful dancer in *A Trial Trip;* Young Colossus and l'Homme Miniature are as great a contrast in two living men as could well be seen, and create a striking effect.

MERTHYR TYDFIL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Lewis Gilbert.—Mr. Cyril Keightley and company opened on Monday in *The School for Scandal*, and Mr. Cyril Keightley played admirably the part of Charles Surface; and Miss Haidee Gunn gave a charming representation of Lady Teazle. On Tuesday *She Stoops to Conquer* was played to a crowded house. Miss Haidee Gunn gave a delightful impersonation of Kate Hardcastle; and Miss Ethel Dane made an interesting Miss Neville; Miss Alice Arden was capable as Mrs. Hardcastle; Mr. Charles Medwin was well suited as Sir Charles; Mr. Cyril Keightley's Young Marlow was an excellent study; Mr. Baliol Holloway was a good Mr. Hastings; Mr. Henry Crocker a bluff and hearty Hardcastle; Mr. Iden Keyne an amusing Tony Lumpkin; and Messrs. R. A. Pittor, Henry Hutchard, and Basil Dean praiseworthy as Diggory, Roger, and Tom respectively. *Miles Carew* was presented on Wednesday, and *She Stoops to Conquer*, on Thursday.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company occupies the boards here this week in *A Warning to Workmen*. Mr. C. Watson Mill gives a vigorous portraiture of the villainous Dr. Marcus Dread; Mr. Norman B. Cannon plays cleverly as Fergus McNaughten; Mr. Howell Travis is always interesting as Shaun; the Lord Eversleigh of Mr. N. Carter Slaughter is a pleasing effort; Mr. Henry Rutland is well placed as Squire Kennion; while Mr. Henry P. Kennedy is humourous as Mike McQuade; Miss Rosalind Tate, in the rôle of Moira Kenyon scores a dramatic triumph, playing with rare skill; Miss Emmie Barton is decidingly pleasing as Sheila Kennion; and able support is also given by Miss Ellen Beverley (Molly O'More), Miss Mary Moore (Hildred), and Miss Phyllis Brook (Lady Colner).

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—The new musical comedy, *The Sweet Girl*, was played here for the first time on Monday, by Miss Claudia Lasell and her company, under the direction of Mr. Charles E. Hamilton. The leading rôle of Lola was well portrayed by Miss Claudia Lasell, a lady of attractive appearance, fascinating manner, and the possessor of an exceedingly sweet voice; Miss Lister Murrah as Dick Kenyon sang admirably; and Mr. Leonard Russell scored a great success in the part of Florin Lierlich; Miss Alice Lethbridge's dancing and acting were a feature of the performance; and Mr. Algernon Newark and Mr. George de Lara both did well as Anthony Strauss and Prosper Pleway respectively; Mr. Fred Eastman achieved a pronounced success of Count Leibenberg. As the art students, the Misses Grace Hunter, Lelia Gordon, Muriel Harding, Ada Wingood, Merza Leidan, Lilian Leslie, and Mr. J. Murray Morris added in no small measure to the evening's enjoyment.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. Walter Melville's drama, *The Female Swindler*, is being played here this week. Mr. Henry Wright in a variety of rôles creates much merriment; and Miss Grace E. Leslie is exceedingly good as Lu Valroy, the female swindler; Mr. Joseph Millane, as Jack Coulson, a detective, is excellent; and Mr. John Melton does full justice to the part of Mikestein; Miss Edith Gray causes much laughter as Mrs. Poppem; and for the part of Geoffrey Warden a clever representative is found in Mr. Wilford Cheetham; M

Lincoln; Mr. E. H. Kelly, as Lord Dundreary, plays with dash and breeziness; Mr. A. R. Botelle is a successful Higham Montague; Master Grata makes a decided hit as Bucket; the Hon. Sophia and Honoria Bedford were made the most of by Miss Margaret Saville and Miss Jane Eyre; Miss Bella Napier is an excellent Lady Caterham; and Mr. Julian Cross does well as Sir John Crystal.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clarke.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company, with *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*, occupies the boards here. Miss Beatrice Homer, in the leading rôle, is seen to great advantage; Mr. Philip Darien, as the hero, looks well and acts capably.

Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's company is here in the emotional drama, *Her One Great Sin*. Miss Blanche St. Albans displays power as Grace Warhurst; Squire Thornhill is excellently portrayed by Mr. J. Leicester Jackson; Mr. J. Beresford Innes makes the most of the part of Reuben Warhurst; Miss Maudie Lambert is a natural Gracie; Charlie is cleverly handled by Miss Phillis Damian; and the disreputable tinker and his wife are admirably portrayed by Mr. Charles E. Lambert and Miss Louie Walton.

Empire Theatre.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—The premier position here is occupied by Mr. George Lashwood, who lives up to his reputation as the Beau Brummel of the variety stage. He had a great reception at both houses on Monday. Alf. Gibson's quaintness delights everyone; Hanid Alexander introduces new features in her entertainment, which are much appreciated; Frank Sylvo, the comic juggler, is welcome; Boswell's stage circus is a clever interlude; Burley and Burley score in their contortionist exhibition; Joly is a capital cornet player; Lora, the weird parrot, is a mystery turn worth seeing; Lilian Lowe is a successful ballad vocalist; and Ernest Ball completes a good bill.

Pavilion Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Mr. Fred Wright, jun., holds the premier position on the bill here, and his Chinamen songs have hit the popular fancy; Tom Graves cycles round a revolving wheel, an act calling for as much daring as ability; the Mackinnon Family are a clever musical quartette; Bert Bryne, comedian, sings his songs cleverly; Woodward and Walton, rag-time dancers, give a smart performance; Hallam and Stanton display vocal abilities; the Deer Family achieve a success. Jack Rae scores as an eccentric gymnast; Tom York contributes coster songs; and Rosalie Jacobi, comedienne, and the Barrascope complete the bill.

NEWPORT.—Lyceum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Cooper.—Mr. James Welch's company is presenting for the first time here the new farce, *When Knights were Bold*. Sir Grey de Vere, the central figure, is taken by Mr. James Welch, in a manner that stamps him as an able comedian, and he convulses the house with his humour; Mr. Edward Sass, as Brian Ballymote, furnishes a clever picture of the Rank Outsider; Mr. J. Ford provides clever comedy, as Charles Widdicombe; and Mr. Arthur Grenville's Isaac Isaacson is excellent; Mr. George F. Tully makes an ideal Trittle, the valet; Mr. Gordon Tomkins is an admirable Barker; and Mr. Jas. Nelson, in the dual part of the Dean and Peter, the Monk, is everything that can be desired; Miss Audrey Ford portrays Rowena Eggington with dignified sentimentality; and other female characters are ably sustained by Miss Emma Gwynne; Miss Estelle Winwood, Miss Enid Sass, and Miss Mabel Wentworth.

Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Fred. Ginnett's *Rejected Remounts* attract considerable attention here this week; Kelly and Gillette give an amusing turn that is full of novelties; the Vernon Troupe win applause for their xylophone playing; Carlotta Levey sings a couple of songs that are well received; Charles Vincent is successful with a catchy sailor song; the Obersteirers, Tyrolean singers and dancers, provide a pleasing turn; and Gertrude Bradshaw, Dorothy Clarke, and Frank Darwin complete a good bill.

NORTHAMPTON.—Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Mr. E. Lockwood and Mr. Crossman's company opened here on Monday with a return visit of the successful musical comedy *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. T. A. Shale was heartily welcomed in his old part of Crookie Scrubbs, and his singing and acting were deservedly applauded. Miss Lily Lingard was also sincerely welcomed in the rôle of Lady Bickenhall, in which her charming grace is so admirably displayed. Mr. E. Russell played the part of Sergeant Brue with great humour and spirit. Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy sang and acted well as Michael Brue; Miss Kitty Dale, a clever and vivacious young actress, with a good soprano voice, gained great applause as Aurora Brue; Miss Constance Berkeley made a good Daisy; Mr. Arthur Stroud was pleasing in the part of Gerald Treherne; Mr. Henry Chichester was capital as Mr. Crank. The chorus and augmented orchestra are well controlled by Mr. J. H. York, the musical director.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Representative, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Michael Nolan, the clever Irish comedian, has made a great success here; Ariel and Astarte are paying a return visit with their pretty gymnastic pot-pourri display; Chas. F. Best gives a clever and comical act, illustrative of circus life; Harry Nation, comedian, provides some laughing songs; Stanert and Yondi give a comic and musical act of interest; Ten Dixie Girls tender with success a vocal and terpsichorean scena, *The Silver Coon*; and the Palace Pictures contribute some pleasing films. Friday being the anniversary of the opening extra attractions were provided.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—*The Shadow of a Crime*, presented by Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred D'Arcy's company has been heartily received here this week. Mr. Stephen Crossley as Lieut. Harry Bullington is admirably suited; Mr. William Matthews as Jim Murdock is seen to advantage; the character of Ralph Esmond is in the able hands of Mr. R. Forder; Mr. John H. Manley is well placed as Sir Edward Bullington; and Messrs. E. W. Avery and Alfred Richards are clever as Brown and Todd. Miss Ina Grant contributes a capital interpretation of Loyale Norman; Miss Dorothy Riddell displays ability as Dora; Miss Bertha St. Ruth is smart as Sarah; and Miss May Rosine does well in the character of Mrs. Brown. Animated pictures are introduced this week, and have been greatly enjoyed.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Messrs. Craig, Rose, and Craig, gymnasts, top the bill here, and are very smart; Mr. Leo Curtis, the magical marvel, presents a clever act; the Three Coopers, vocalists, are popular; Mr. Frank Newbury, whistling comedian, is loudly applauded; and Messrs. Kay and Miles, speciality artists; Messrs. Cliff and Kean, comedians and dancers; and the bio-photoscope, contribute successfully.

NORTHWICH.—Central Theatre.—Proprietress, Mrs. S. Golden; Secretary, Miss E. Golden.—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maclaren's company, in the romantic costume play *Proof* has paid a return visit to this town, after an absence of a year. Mr. Gerald Kennedy gave a powerful and skilful rendering of the part of Pierre Lorance, his acting being impressive throughout. Much praise is due to Mr. W. J. Butler for an excellent portrayal of Lazare, alias the Count de Laval. Mr. Carl Beechey is a fine type of the Fench artistocrat of the old school in the part of the Duke D'Aubeterre. As Valentine Miss May Grimshaw gives one of the most powerful and artistic examples of acting we have seen here for a long time. Miss Beatrice Shirley imparts a charming pathos to the character of Adrienne; Miss Phena Powell is a dignified Mme. Deprets; as the Duchess D'Aubeterre, Miss Nita Ashby is all that can be desired; Miss Ellina Turner proves herself a clever child actress as little Adrienne; much well-earned applause falls to the share of Mr. Wilford Bailey for his humorous impersonation of Chamboran. Mr. Albert Cavanah is the courteous business manager.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Bade Montefiore's company is here with *The Streets of London*. Mr. William Rokeby is a great favourite as Badger; Mr. Riddell Robinson successfully appears as Gideon Bloodgood; Mr. Reginald Palgrave is an effective Mark Livingstone; and Mr. Jerrold Manville a humorous Puffy. Miss Winifred Ingham displays feeling as Lucy Fairweather; Miss Dorothy Cacey is good as Alida Bloodgood; and Miss Florence Moore is all that can be desired as Dan Puffy.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. B. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—Harry Radford and Mlle. Valentine, an amusing turn, meet with much appreciation here; Tom Lloyd renews his popularity; Charles Stevens and Walter Stanley are successful; Mamie Cannon, as a trick pianiste, gains approbation; the Westwoods introduce clever cyclist tricks; La Belle Nello as a contortionist and balancer, does well; Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford present a funny sketch entitled *Getting Even*; and the Hippo-Bio has some pleasing pictures.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—A delightful presentation of *Olivia* has been given this week by Miss Winifred Emery and company. Miss Emery gave a true and vivid character study of the Vicar's wayward daughter, passing from laughter to tears with an adroitness born of experience and artistic feeling. Mr. Brandon Thomas played the Vicar with an earnestness that was at once successful and convincing. The well-modulated voice of Mr. Billie Norwood added force and dignity to his admirable assumption of Burchell, and the callous villainy of Squire Thornhill was cleverly indicated by Mr. Franklin Dyall. Mr. Harry Ashford rendered excellently the bluff Yorkshireman, Farmer Flamborough, and the two children were capitally taken by Miss Maidie Andrews and Master Bobbie Andrews. Miss May Chevalier deserves high credit for her dainty impersonation of Sophia, and as Pollie Flamborough Miss Isabel Roland won favour. Miss Keith Lytton made a satisfactory Mrs. Primrose, and Mr. H. Cannon George contributed a quaint study as Moses.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—*Her Forbidden Marriage*, the sensational drama by Walter Melville, is presented by an excellent company. Mr. Henry Lonsdale, an actor of merit, is responsible for the part of George Madison, whilst the scoundrelly Charles Devereux finds an able exponent in Mr. Louis Hector. Mr. Leonard Maxwell does good work as Geoffrey Broughton, and Mr. H. L. Hickman makes a satisfactory John William. The broad comedy part of Timothy loses nothing in the hands of Mr. Fred de Vere, and he is ably assisted by Miss Denny Fitzherbert as Patty. Miss Nellie Bonser looks charming as Lucy, whilst a clever piece of acting is the Lady Lancaster of Miss Octavia Noel. Miss Barbara Gott makes up excellently as the Mother Superior, and the child part is well done by Little Lucy. Mr. Rawdon Vivian and Mr. James Raymond are respectively very good as the clergyman and the doctor; Mr. Kenneth Black has all the necessary dignity and presence for the part of Sir George Lancaster, and Mr. George Elsworthy finds a congenial rôle in Benjamin Wardle. The cast is completed by Messrs. William Griffin and Mr. Philip Penouf.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—Miss Dolly Elsworthy and company are seen in a sketch entitled *Nell Gwynn*, in which the versatility of Miss Elsworthy brought her many rounds of applause; Whit Cunliffe is an exceedingly smart comedian; Cull-Pitt displays a cleverness in facial expression, conjuring, and "patter" that finds ready appreciation, and a lively songstress is heard in Lillie Langtry. Meritorious singing, with appropriate setting and costumes, calls forth high praise at the initial venture of the Welsh Wanderers. Mlle. Eldee's poses plastiques compel admiration for their artistic effect, and the American Bioscope provides an interesting film of the G.W.R.'s new route to Ireland; Gwennie Hasto makes a supple and active dancer; Bennett and Martell provide amusement by their eccentricity; and Carrie Joy contributes to the general pleasure by her song.

NUNEATON.—Prince of Wales' Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—M. Auguste Van Biene is here with *The Broken Melody*, and this clever actor-musician's celebrated impersonation of Paul Borinski has been followed by the marked enthusiasm of a crowded house. Miss Lena Burnleigh gives a clever portrayal of Borinski's wife; Mr. Henry Ludlow appears as General Ivanoff; and Mr. Charles A. Morgan, Mr. Faulkner Cox, Mr. Lawrence Grove, Mr. Archie Selwyn, Mr. W. Thomson, Miss Rosemary Rees, Miss Rosie Lewis, and Miss Mary Mannering are seen in other parts.

OLDHAM.—Empire Theatre.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*La Poupée* is paying a welcome return visit, and Mr. C. P. Levilly has a capital company. Miss Stella Gastelle is playing the part of Alesia with her usual success; Mr. W. H. Powell as Hilarius keeps the audience convulsed with laughter; Mr. Aubrey Carr makes a capital Launcelot; and Mr. Frederick Hobbs as Father Maxime sings well; Mr. William Griffin is a humorous Baron Chanterelle; Mr. Vernon Reed a good Balthazar; and Miss Kitty Cavendish an excellent Henri; Miss Avis Grahame, a capital Madame Hilarius; and Mr. Fred Seymour a capable Loremois. *Amorelle* was staged on Thursday.

Colosseum.—Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—The attraction here is Mr. Walter Melville's combination in *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Miss Beaumont Collins as Barbara Wade is pathetic and powerful; Miss Nannie Meade as Nellie Meadows plays the part capitally; Mr. Wilson Gunning is a manly Jack Livingstone; Mr. Kean a good Dr. Weston; Mr. Charles Eranmore an excellent John Meadows; and Mr. Fred Ingram makes the most of the part of Toby Turvey. Miss Jessica Black is a sympathetic Constance; Miss Lena Delphine a humorous Tilly Vane; and Joe Coyle is well played by Mr. David Borone.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Miss Millie Hylton is starring here this week in a song scena, being ably assisted by Miss Decima Brooke. Albert Athas and Lizzie Collins have an original comedy act, full of specialities; Helen Charles gives a capital entertainment at the piano; Howard and Collinson are good in their act, *The Porter and the Parcel*; and the Laure Brothers are a smart pair of French musical acrobats. Bruli and Hemsley introduce good singing and dancing in *Fun in a Music Shop*; Wee Mona is a clever child vocalist and dancer; and Joe Almasis is good as a jumping juggler with his funny servant. The Royal Dottoscope also adds to the attractions of the bill.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—The Carina Sisters give a capital artistic musical mélangé; Doris Lillian is a good comedienne and dancer; Welda and Wynne have a successful comedy juggling act; King Leo is an accomplished ventriloquist; Squire Wyndham and Tom Waters appear successfully in a high-class comedy act; and the Rushforths, song illustrators; Bob Hamilton, a popular Scotch comedian; and the Dottoscope also add to the attractions.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and company are paying a welcome return visit with the Irish play, *The Wearin' o' the Green*. Mr. Mackey, on making his reappearance in the rôle of Barney O'Hea, had a cordial reception, and delighted the patrons of the house by his drollery; Mr. Charles Homer as Shamus M'Dermott achieves distinct success; as Michael Kenny Mr. Haughton Macaulay makes a decided hit; Mr. David M'Farlane ably sustains the part of Connor Martin; Mr. H. Salmesbury is well suited as Sir George Courtenay; and Mr. St. John Stuart displays tact and ability in the rôle of Gerald Courtenay. Miss Nana Flensberg is a charming and graceful exponent of Biddy M'Ginn, Barney's sweetheart; Mrs. Mackey is responsible for a telling performance as Nora M'Grath; and Mrs. M'Dermott is capably embodied by Miss Adele Liddon.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—Appearing with success here are Karr and Kooney, comedians and dancers; Maggie Binnie, soprano vocalist; J. J. Mannix, coon comedian; Les Valadons, jugglers and equilibrists; Charles Howarth, comedian and pantomimist; Alventee, wire walker; and Stacey and Williams, comedians, patterers, and dancers.

PENTRE.—Lyceum Theatre.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Counsell.—Mr. J. B. Woulfe's répertoire company has appeared here this week in *Lady Godiva*, *Nell Gwynn*, and *Jane Shore*. The first-mentioned, which was presented on Monday evening, was very cordially received. Mr. F. B. Woulfe, in his impersonation of Tom of Coventry, showed excellent histrionic abilities. Miss Ethel Griffies as Lady Godiva deserves the highest praise, her grace and charm being highly appreciated; Miss Katherine Brook as Lady Aldyth is seen to great advantage; Mr. A. E. Dunstan, in the rôle of Edgar, sustains his part with admirable effect; Mr. E. Seath-Innes gives a capital portrayal of Leofric, Earl of Mercia; while the scheming and designing villain Algar, Earl of Northumbria, is powerfully depicted by Mr. Wm. Macready, assisted in vigorous style by Mr. Ernest Hamilton as Unwolf Unwolfson. The serious portions of the play are relieved by the vivacious acting of Mr. Bob Anderson and Miss Edith Lorraine, as Robin Shackleild and Elfrida respectively.

PERTH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Mr. Charles Carey's successful musical comedy *After the Ball* is presented here this week for the first time in Perth. Mr. Algernon Lee assumes the rôle of Halliwell Menit, and amply justifies the reliance placed upon him in so important a part; Mr. Percy Baverstock's amusing portrayal of Colonel Joseph Menit is decidedly good; Mr. Buckstone Clare sustains the part of Martin with marked ability; Mr. Norman Bowyer does well as Dick Seymour; Miss M. Sadies' clever, vivacious impersonation of Nancy is vociferously applauded; Miss Queenie Finnis makes a great hit, and is favourably received as Nellie Mather; as also is Miss Eva Ellis in the rôle of Ruth Gay; Miss Nellie James making a successful Kitty.

PETERBOROUGH.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—This week we have Mr. Brandon Thomas' company in *Charley's Aunt*. A capital cast deserve much commendation for their clever performance, and there is none more worthy of praise than Mr. Edmund Baker, whose assumption of Lord Fancourt Babberley would certainly be difficult to surpass; Mr. Sydney Lynn was well received as Jack Chesney; Mr. Basil Lynn scored as Charles Wykeham; Mr. Frederick Tyrrell gave a good rendering of Col. Sir Francis Chesney; and Mr. William Allison furnished a clever character impersonation of Stephen Spettigue, solicitor. Mrs. Margaret Moreau was a sweet and attractive Kitty Verdum, and Miss Eva Boyne and Miss Mary Mallalieu were decidedly charming as Amy Spettigue and Ella Delahay. Miss Katherine Vereker was well placed as Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—A house, packed in every part, gladdened the hearts of performers and management alike when Mr. George Dance's company made its first appearance here on Monday in *Veronique*. The quaint dresses of the early Victorian period, coupled with the elaborate setting of the piece, were greatly appreciated, and the more popular musical numbers rapturously applauded. Miss Ruth Lincoln as Veronique earned high encomiums for her fine singing and delightfully graceful acting; Miss Ethel Negretti, who impersonates Madame Coquenard, has an excellent voice; Miss Lena Maitland is a dignified Countess de Champ Azur; and the dancing of Miss Gracie Sinclair as Denise is a prominent feature of the performance. Mr. Leslie Holland as Monsieur Coquenard causes roars of merriment by his quaint witticisms, the tit-bit being the joint effort in the second act with Mr. Fred Lyne as Monsieur Loustot, a bailiff; Mr. Roland Bottomley as Florestan de Vallancourt is heard to most advantage in the exceptionally pretty duets with Veronique, while the vicissitudes of Seraphin (played by Mr. Courtenay Comber) are enjoyed immensely.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—This week's production, entitled *Defending His Honour*, occupies a prominent position in dramas of the domestic type, and Mr. Percy Williams' company has completely mastered the details of a difficult production. The prominent members of the cast are Mr. Edward Lloyd as Douglas Byce, the hero; Mr. Alfred Brandon as Stephen Graid, the villain, undertaking the part with his customary ability; Mr. J. D. Geddes as the venerable George Duncan; and Mr. Tommy Gough as the versatile Richard Verison. Little Miss Kathleen Saunders plays the double part of Harry Bryce and Jack Bryce in a way which augurs well for her professional future, and Miss E. Kay as Ethel Bryce, the heroine, is as acceptable as ever.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—The principal position on the bill is this week accorded Haley's Juveniles, and the youngsters fully justify the confidence bestowed on them. Alexander and Hughes are finished exponents of the English concertina, and incidentally introduce some comedy business quite out of the hackneyed groove; Hector and Paulus, comedy acrobats, submit an item requiring enormous powers of endurance; G. W. Hunter is a comedian who is genuinely popular; Starr and Leslie are clever manipulators of the Indian clubs; and Little Rose Pink, a diminutive mite of some six summers, has all the abandon of an old music-hall artist. The remaining items, George Hyman (comedian), Nellie Rose (speciality dancer), and Vernon's Pictures, receive due measure of approbation.

PONTYPRIDD.—Royal Clarence Theatre.—Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company, in the domestic drama, entitled *Two Little Drummer Boys*, is here this week. Captain Darrell is ably portrayed by Mr. Archie Helsby. Mr. Harry Lyndon as Timothy Trimmer is a host in himself. Other characters are ably sustained by Messrs. Edward Birker, Beresford Louatt, Charles Gallier, Philip Redgrave, J. Macgrath, Miss Edie Macklin and Miss Kathleen Magee. Much interest is centred in the powerful portrayal of Alma Kingsley by Miss Mildred Eversleigh.

PORTH.—The Palace (late Opera House).—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—Heading the bill, we have here the famous Taro Miyaki, the Japanese wrestler, who is accorded a warm reception; the Donatos, one-legged acrobatic clowns, are exceedingly clever; the Bros. Venoia give a finished performance on the comedy rings; Gus Granville, comedian, is a turn which is much appreciated; Leo Selwyn, the handcuff king and jail-breaker, gives a most creditable performance; the Two Izons, in the up-to-date comedy act *The Captain and the Mate*, deserve mention; the Two Neros are most successful in their acrobatic performances; Ward and Wylie, comedians and duettists, are also well received; some exceedingly pretty pictures are shown on the New Bioscope.

PORTSMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J.W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—The new and original comedy, with music, *Mr. Popple of Appleton*, is being presented here this week by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Mr. Morris Harvey in the name part is admirable; Miss Mamie Brickwell is archness personified as La Bolero; Miss Claire Pridelle is a piquant Violet Brinton; Louise is well taken by Lulu Londen; Miss Louie René as Mrs. Doring is a capital foil to the weak and tearful Mrs. Henning, ably acted by Miss Stella St. Audrie. Mr. Augustin Symonds as George Hennay, and Mr. Fred F. Allen as Henry Doring play their respective parts with care and discretion; Mr. Herbert Dickeson is successful as Norman Popple; and Mr. Maguire makes the most of the part of Jacques Kenyon. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. H. R. Mathews.

Prince's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt and company are here this week with *Two Little Sailor Boys*. Miss Blanche Steele is an excellent Lola Grey; Miss Alice Defoe a sympathetic Mildred Grey; Miss Lizzie Chambers a bright and amusing Lucy Wilson; and the title-rôles are in the hands of Miss May Day as Cyril Grey, and Miss Ethel Frances Green as Tom Yorke, performances that are distinctly good. Mr. Jerrold Heather as Commander Noel Tregarthen gives a finished impersonation; Mr. Ellerslie Pyne plays Lieut. Redstone with ability; Mr. W. H. Hallatt as Capt. Tom Yorke is admirable; and Mr. Oscar Power in the part of Jack Jolly is responsible for some excellent touches of comedy.

Empire Palace.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer, is a capable mimic; Frank Cass, character vocalist, gives a highly meritorious turn; Cissie Scofield is a dainty and smart soubrette; Fred Spencer, expressionist, creates roars of laughter; Theodore Jones and company present a vocal scena in an effective and finished manner; the Continental Stilt Walkers are diverting; Bishop and Hanlon, speciality artists, are droll; and the Pender Troupe have a side-splitting sketch, *Hands Up*. Other attractions are Lydia, impersonating a Dutch doll; the Sisters Lavender, duettists and dancers; and Payne's Bioscope.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Local playgoers are greatly enjoying their first acquaintance with *The Little Michus*, which Mr. George Dance's company is presenting here this week. Mr. Foster Courtenay's impersonation of General des Ifs keeps the audience in continuous laughter; and Mr. Gilbert Childs in the complementary part of Bagnolet also creates unlimited merriment. Mr. William Everard is a soldierly representative of Gaston Rigaud; Mr. Leon Simkin makes the most of his opportunities as Pierre; and Mr. Robert C. Harcourt is quite satisfactory as Aristide Vert. Miss Florence Coverick and Miss Ethel Bryan are charming exponents of Marie Blanche and Blanche Marie respectively. Miss Florence Hylton cleverly depicts Madame Michu; Miss Bessie Mackenzie is a commendable Mlle. Herpin, and Mlle. Marjorie dances very gracefully as Mlle. St. Cyr. The artistic singing of the chorus merits praise, and the sparkling music is skilfully rendered by the augmented orchestra under the bâton of Mr. Maurice von Stratum.

Prince's Theatre. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Miss Florence Baines and company are appearing here this week in a new musical farce, entitled *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. Miss Baines, as Mary Ellen Thompson, keeps the house amused, and her well-sung songs gain applause; Mr. Will Casey in the character of Herbert Fox is a great success; Miss Annie Mitchell is a vivacious Eva Lancashire; Mr. David Donaldson as John Higgins leaves little to be desired; Miss Muriel Johnston makes a charming Bertha; Mr. Patrick Evans as Harry sings some delightful songs; Miss Pattie Groves as Bridget Thompson is a typical Irishwoman; Mr. Walter Hicks is genuinely humorous in the rôle of Grant; and Mr. Fayne Fletcher successfully undertakes the part of William Henry Thompson.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—A capital programme is submitted here this week. At the top of the bill is Dawson Dewick, who scores a success with his funny songs and stories; the Imires give a smart display of drill and wall-scaling; a brilliant leaping act is presented by the Errols; the Three Dorians perform difficult feats on a trapeze; Marston is a clever mimic; Jack Truman, tenor vocalist, renders his songs delightfully; the Brontes, in a comedy duologue, evoke hearty laughter. Other good turns are those of Calile and Walker, Avon and Crest, and T. B. Fayme, comedian. Bioscope pictures complete the entertainment.

Public Hall.—The annual visit of Hamilton's Excursions commenced here on Monday evening. A large number of the latest animated pictures are shown on the Eragraph. The programme also includes some excellent variety turns.

RADCLIFFE. — Grand Opera House. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Boothman.—The attraction here this week is *Life's' Sweetest Sins*. Mr. Arthur Jones as Captain Harold Marston makes an excellent hero; Mr. O. Douglas takes the part of the rascally Dr. Colbrooke with much enthusiasm; Mr. Robert Sawin and Mr. Clem Thorlock impersonate the two scoundrels well; Mr. Fred Wilson as Ernie Wodstone is also good; and Mr. Edgar Morgon ably fills in the humorous part of Bob Tanner. Miss Hazel Dent as Doreen Rivers is successful; Miss Mary Ainslie as Fay Colbrooke is graceful and pleasing; and the part of Doreen's maid is satisfactorily filled by Miss Walton.

RAMSGATE.—The Amphitheatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—The boards here have this week been occupied by Mr. Henry Bedford and company in the effective dramas, *Gipsy Jack*, and *The See-Saw of Life*. The first-named play was in the bill for the first three nights. Thursday was set apart for the annual benefit of Mr. Henry Bowman, the popular lessee of the house, and a special programme attracted a big booking, as one might expect, seeing the number of friends he has made in Ramsgate. *The Shaughraun*, by Mr. Bedford's company, was the chief item in the bill, and other names which figured in the programme were Mr. Henry Wardroper (musical monologue), Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Hunt ("The Widow and the Duke"), Mr. K. Cleveland (baritone), Mr. Harry Gold (comedian), and Mrs. Adelaide Ross-Ford (reciter), and an exhibition of Jury's Imperial Bioscope.

Royal Victoria Pavilion. — Proprietors, the Corporation of Ramsgate; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jules Richeux.—Mr. Junius Booth has been appearing here during the past week with conspicuous success in the adaptation of Dumas's *Monte Cristo*. He gives a performance as Edmond Dantes that merits the highest praise, while the Mercedes of Miss Clara Estol is in all respects admirable. Their efforts are supplemented by those of an all-round excellent company. The scenic effects are admirable.

RAWTENSTALL. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur De Frece.—Mr. Henry Swinerd's fine *Dare-Devil Dorothy* company opened here on Monday to a good house. Miss Marie Vere as Ruth Montrose was very successful; and Miss Dorothy Desmonde as Dorothy Montrose was both charming and dainty, whilst her songs were all exceedingly well-rendered. Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith was a delightful comedienne, her comicalities and songs convulsing the audience, and the same can even more emphatically be said of Mr. Will Brereton as Silas Crump, who is the life and soul of the play whilst on the stage. Mr. William Ashley as George Fielding gave an excellent portrayal, and sang remarkably well; whilst Mr. Henry C. Ward as Edward Dudley scored as the villain of the play. As Mr. Featherston Haugh, Mr. Deane Cliffe imparted great humour to his impersonation. In the third act specialities are introduced by Miss Desmond, Miss Harcourt, Misses Mabel and Lillie Blake, who give a novel "reflection dance," Miss Vere and Mr. Brereton, the latter bringing down the house with his songs.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Michael Dempsey.—Mr. William Greet's company is here this week with the musical comedy, *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. Alfred Donohoe is extremely diverting as Jim Cheese, and is well supported by Miss Lena Hicks as Liza Shoddam; Mr. Thomas Kennard is an excellent representative of Dick Wargrave; Mr. Leslie Owen as the Hon. Crewe Boodle, Mr. Greville Hayes as A. Bunker Bliss, Mr. Ernest A. Plumpton as Downham, Mr. Sam Lysons as Mr. Talk, all take their parts well. Mr. Tom Stephens makes a characteristic landlord. Miss May Yates is very engaging as Elphin Haye, Miss Ida Stratham is a capable Daisy Fallowfield, and Miss Kathleen Gerard is excellent as the muscular Mrs. Shimmering Black.

ROCHDALE. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—Hardie and Von Leer have an exceptionally strong company here this week with George R. Sims' play, *For Life—and After*. The staging is excellent, and interest is maintained throughout the performance. Mr. Vernon Sansbury submits a realistic impersonation of Richard Grey; Mr. Charles Osborne is prominent with a capital portrayal of Rube Hexham; Mr. Sidney Vautier acts well the part of the young doctor, Gilbert O'Neill; Mr Henry Hare in the dual rôle of Jack Huggett and Jim Huggett could not be better placed; Mr. Chris Mason is a typical showman as Joe Grimper, being ably assisted by Miss Edith Barwell as Mrs. Grimper; Miss Grace Heywood acts with distinction the difficult rôle of Marion Grey; Miss Muriel Deane plays with charming sweetness the part of Dora Grey; Miss M. Fawcett is effective as Jenny Huggett; and Miss Rosslyn Vayne faithfully depicts the passions of Loo Hexham.

Circus and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Co.—John Higgins, described as the champion jumper of the world, performs remarkable feats; Will Rain and company present an amusing sketch, *The Motor Maniac*. Other items are submitted by the Bros. Onda, acrobatic comedians; Bessie Willow, burlesque artist; Lester, juggler; Nancy Renshaw, negro comedienne and bone soloist; Jack Hylton and Tom Parker, comedians; and Vernon's Bioscope.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Lockhart's Elephants top the bill here this week. Remarkable sagacity is shown by these clever animals, who go through a series of most entertaining tricks under the management of Captain Taylor. David Poole, ventriloquist, gives a most amusing turn with his dolls; and Sadie Simpson (comedienne and coon artist), Frank Coyle (comedian), Davis and Davis (comedians), Dan Thomas ("My Old Woman"), Ray Royal (the chorus vocalist), and the Empire Bioscope complete the list.

ROTHERHAM.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy. — Mr. Augustine Knight and company are here this week on a return visit with *The Assassin*. Mr. Augustine Knight has a strong part as Prince Demetri; Mr. Edward E. Ashby is highly successful as Ivan Ipanoff; Mr. Theo. Balfour scores as Duke Karl; Mr. Cecil H. Raymond is an amusing Baron Alphonse, Mr. Chauncey Morris a capable General Nicol, Mr. Edwin Jenner a smart Captain O'Neil, Mr. Tom Taylor a humorous Peter, and Mr. Jack H. Smith does well as Evangie. Miss Georgina Hamilton is a vivacious Connie Jonathan, Miss Francis Waring an excellent Nita, Miss Marie E. Robertson scores as Katrina, and Miss Ella Vane gives a clever representation of Countess Wanda.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales's.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*Held in Bondage*, presented by Mr. Vivian Grantham, drew a good house on Monday, when Miss Florence Tyrrell sustained the part of Zara in a sympathetic and convincing manner. Prince Mazaroff is well played by Mr. Richard Vane; Mr. George Child gives an excellent character sketch as Sir John Hawthorne; Mr. Charles Stirling works well as Ivan Droneski; Mr. George Scully as Harry Dunn and Miss Maude Merrick as Lisette cause much amusement. Leonie Devigne, an adventuress, is ably portrayed by Miss Grace Baring; Miss Joan Pereira makes the Baroness Valinski very droll; and an acceptable Princess Mazaroff is that by Miss Amy Rudd.

Regent Theatres of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—One of the chief attractions here is John Lawson, in *Humanity*. Ella Shields has a flattering reception for her coon songs; Stanley's Urchins are a clever troupe of singers and dancers. The other items include Luis Hardt, the mighty atom, strong act; Dave McNeil, versatile comedian; Mason and Bart, clever comedy gymnasts; the Belmores (Bertha and Kittie), comediennes and expert dancers

Bandmann-Palmer, is appearing in a round of popular characters this week, supported by an excellent company. The week's programme was as follows:—Monday, *Mary Queen of Scots*; Tuesday, *East Lynne*; Wednesday, *From Washerwoman to Duchess*; Thursday, *Sapho*; Friday, *Nell Gwynne*; Saturday, *Jane Shore*. All the plays are mounted in a careful and artistic manner.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The Trumpet Call*, under the direction of Mr. Charles F. Cooke, is once more delighting Alexandra patrons. Mr. Joe Bracewell as the music hall agent, Ginnifer, repeated a performance full of rich low comedy; Mr. Leonard Yorke, looking every inch a "soldier and a man," acted with vigour and sincerity as Cuthbertson; Mr. C. F. Cooke was humorous and smart-looking as Sergeant-Major Millington; and Mr. Fred Bentley made a funny Tommy Dutton. The villain, Featherstone, was well represented by Mr. John Dennys; Mr. W. G. Blunt realised the character of the revengeful Redruth; Miss Elsie Evelyn Hill was a graceful and sympathetic Mrs. Cuthbertson; the tragic part of Astrea was acted with intensity and passion by Miss Dora Gilham; Miss Phyllis French made a vivacious Lavinia Ginnifer; and Miss Helena Rigby's Mrs. Wicklow was a clever character-sketch.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The bright star in the local variety firmament this week is Miss Winifred Hare, who opened on Monday to a packed audience, and sang three songs in a cultured and expressive manner. The other artists who successfully appeared were Mr. Mark Melford (a great Sheffield favourite) and his company, in a comic absurdity called *Only a Wedding*; Mr. Johnny Gilmore, a diverting vocal comedian; Mr. E. Sheldon, vocalist and whistler; the Henri Taylor Trio, marvellous equilibrists; Marba and Verity, in a funny and agile act; the great Selbini Troupe in a cycling show, which brought down the house; Miss Annie Abbott, the famous little "Georgia Magnet," in her remarkable exhibition of strength; the comedy trio, Goodfellow, Gregson, and Wade, in their sketch, *Watch the Chalk*; and Les Voces, operatic vocalists.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Excellent business continues to follow Mr. Ralli's exertions for the comfort and entertainment of the Grand *clientèle*. The auditorium has been improved and the stage re-stocked with beautiful new scenery. This week are appearing Miss Carlotta de Yonson and her company, in a dramatic sketch; Millstead and Bell, the musical mascots; Miss Gladys Williams, serio; Mr. Horace Slade, dancer; the Camerons, burlesque artists; Mr. George Menva, magician; and Pallister's popular animated pictures.

SHREWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Acting-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—The highly-diverting musical comedy *Sergeant Brue* was played here on the first three nights of the present week by Mr. E. Lockwood's capital company, presented by Mr. Thos. McKenzie. Mr. J. Harold Curson was a smart and energetic Sergeant Brue; Mr. Robert Selby was well qualified to fill the part of Michael Brue, his singing being effective; Miss Fletcher Spurgeon made an attractive and sweet-voiced Aurora Brue; Miss Reydon Dallas a creditable Lady Bickenhall; Mr. Albert James a most amusing Crookie Scrubbs; Mr. F. Laceby a capital magistrate; and other parts were capably taken.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Enthusiastic and appreciative audiences are this week greeting Mr. Frank Curzon's company in *The Girl Behind the Counter*. The company includes Miss Isabel Jay (Winnie), and Mr. C. Hayden Coffin (Charles Chetwynd). Both these artists were in fine form, singing their ballads and duets with great effect, and gaining many encores. The support accorded these stars was excellent, Mr. J. F. McArdle (Gen. Willoughby) creating roars of laughter with his quaint mannerisms and funniosities. Mr. G. Davy Burnaby (Lord Gushington) and Mr. Lionel Victor (Adolphus Dudd) are both great local favourites; Mr. Fred Allandale scores as Monsieur Duval; and Mr. George Barrett as a nameless waiter is capital. Others who do well are Miss Violet Englefield (Millie Mostyn), Miss Helene Rose (Ninette), Miss Kathleen Courtney (Susie), Mr. E. W. Laceby (Rudolph), and Mr. A. E. E. Edwardes (Joseph). The augmented orchestra is conducted by the composer, Mr. Howard Talbot. Mr. Arthur Weston, the new manager of the theatre, has had a very busy week to begin with.

PALACE. — Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. Trussell.—Mr. Frederick Maxwell's sketch, *Lord Harkaway*, occupies a prominent position in the current bill, and is exceedingly well played; Maurin's illuminated fountains are pleasing; Harry Freeman is applauded for his comic ditties; Elton and Elma excel as acrobats; and others who do well are Daisy Morell, a pleasing vocalist; and Rowland Hill and W. B. Raby, a couple of quaint comedians.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—On Tuesday evening this house celebrated its first birthday, and many happy returns of the day were accorded Mr. Howell by patrons of this popular resort. Herr Fritz is a wonderful illusionist, and mystifies everyone; Daisy Jerome is a *chic* little comedienne; the world's worst wizards, Walton and Lester, convulse the house with laughter; the Collinson Combination are very popular in *The Cook's Quest*; George Linton is a clever wire-walker; Rosie Archer as a mimic wins golden opinions; Fred Keeton is a smart comedian; and the Sisters Poole dance gracefully.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—The attraction this week is the play entitled *The Village Blacksmith*, produced by Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey. Than Mr. Sam Livesey a more able impersonator of John Strong, the village blacksmith, could not be wished for, and the child Harry is pleasingly and cleverly taken by Miss Bertha Hanbury; Mr. Joseph Carter is responsible for the characterisation of the villain, Captain Leo, whose accomplice, Lucas Marlow, is successfully taken by Mr. Edwin Maydew; Mr. George V. Campbell certainly does himself great credit as Billy Twigg, and dances with ease and cleverness; Mr. Thomas E. Marshall and Mrs. T. C. Livesey deserve mention as Jeremiah and Sal Parkins respectively; Miss Cassie Le Grande is admired for her portrayal of Ruth Parkins; and Miss Maggie Edwards, who is entrusted with the all-important rôle of Kate Strong, displays great ability.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—Miss Eileen McCarthy's variety company, which proved so entertaining and successful last week, is responsible for this week's attraction. Mr. Tom Carpenter, C.A., is heard to greater advantage each time, whilst Miss Eileen McCarthy also continues to maintain her high reputation, and both artists dance well; Mr. Wal Burt contributes his songs being tuneful and well rendered; Mr. Will Sutton's excerpts from an extensive répertoire are interesting and pleasing; Messrs. Carpenter and Burt and Miss McCarthy also contribute, and a highly amusing item is *The Automaton, or Boggle's Blunder*. The pictures on the Bioscope are still a feature, the weekly changes being most welcome.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, with their excellent company, are paying their annual visit here this week, the popular artists opening on Monday with *The Elder Miss Blossom*. Mrs. Kendal repeated her former success in her inimitable representation of the title-rôle, which she depicted with a natural pathos and realistic touch which at once appealed to, and fascinated the audience; Mr. Kendal in the part of Andrew Quick played in his well-known artistic and brilliant manner; Mr. Ernest Hendrie was excellent in every way as the country gentleman Christopher Blossom; Mr. Bassett Roe scored as Major Twentyman; Miss Moore-Lane was a charming and clever exponent of Sophia Blossom; Mr. Metcalfe Wood submitted a capital character-study as Withers the valet, and Mrs. A. B. Tapping effectively represented the prim parlourmaid Cooper. The week's programme includes *The Housekeeper* and *The Ironmaster*.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—The drama *The Beast and the Beauty* is staged here this week. Mr. W. S. Hartford as Jack Barrymore by his earnest acting evoked the sympathies of the house; Miss Alice Bowes as Violet charmingly portrayed the part; Mr. Bernard Mervyn scored as Henry Denver; Mr. William E. Passmore was good as the Earl of Loman; Mr. Eric Campbell as Ned Samson interpreted the character convincingly; the Delilah Vane was well delineated by Miss D. Gynne; and Tom Chicken, the light-weight champion, played by Mr. H. Talbot, was well received.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Lady Mansell's clever juveniles have been accorded a good reception; Herbert Darnley's company are vastly amusing in a sketch entitled *Muscles*; Woodhouse and Wells are old favourites here; a good comedy sketch is submitted by Phillips and Terry; some eccentric dancing is contributed by Will Vokes, comedian; and other enjoyable items are contributed by Rita and Roma, clever dancers; Madge Osmond, male impersonator; Beatrice Renée, comedienne and dancer; and the American bioscope.

TIVOLI. — Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. M. Hall and Mr. Jos. Sweney.—At the top of the bill is Mabel Thorne, who delights the audience; Will Letters, comedian, does well; Earle and Melville cause much merriment; Ward and Davis contribute a good sketch. Other items are the Haverleys, American song illustrators; Maidie Berker, entertainer; and Walter Payne's Photo-bioscope.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—Mr. Walter Reynolds' company is here in the popular play, *Mr. Smith*. There have been some changes in the cast since the last visit, but the efficiency of the representation is maintained, and the interest is as strong as ever. The principal characters are creditably acted by the Misses Mildred Cottell, Phyllis Relph, Daisy England, Elsina Gaunt, and Messrs. Cecil du Gue, Russell Norrie, Sydney Price, W. Dunlop, Austin Spencer, and G. F. Ross.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. V. Carnell.—Heading the bill here this week are the accomplished comedians and acrobats, the Marvellous Craggs, in a sketch, *Billy*. Mr. Walter Munroe is a good Irish impersonator; Miss Lily Black is a comedienne of much merit; Mr. J. S. James gives a good turn as a banjoist and bone soloist; Happy Atwood scores a decided success; Mr. Sid Bandon has made a hit as a character comedian; "the society clown," Dandy George, and dog Rosie, cause much hilarity; and the Barrascope with new pictures delights all.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—The attractive character of *The Christian* has been shown here in the large audiences that have witnessed the capital representations given this week by Mr. Wentworth Cooke's company. Mr. Frank Tennant acts with power and effect as the Hon. John Storm; and Horatio Drake is commendably presented by Mr. W. Brisco Owen. As Lord Robert Ure Mr. Frederick Scarth acts with natural ease; and Mr. Charles E. Dering makes a typical Archdeacon Wealthy. Miss Grace Chalmers gives a charming impersonation of Glory Quayle; and Miss Vashti Wellbourne is pleasing as Polly Love.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—Heading the bill here this week are Austin and Cowan, whose vocal abilities are greatly appreciated; Stylo is a clever hoop manipulator; McCann's performing dogs are most entertaining; Sandy and Carl are neat dancers and clever and amusing boxers; Gracie Taylor, comedienne, sings popular ditties with success; Carney Bros., comedy duettists, are distinctly pleasing; the Grisse Trio provide abundant fun in their acrobatic pantomime act, *On the Tiles*; and May Zant and her juveniles, coon vocalists and dancers, and Charles Beanland, comedian and contortionist, contribute a satisfactory share to the evening's enjoyment.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE. — The Parisian Animated Picture Company is paying its third visit here with a series of up-to-date and interesting views.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—Another good programme is submitted this week. Professor Fuller introduces a wonderful mystery, viz., "Astarte," which is excellent; the Schafers are extraordinary athletes; Ruby Bijou dances cleverly, and is appreciated; the Four Burnells have a funny sketch in *Fun on the Links*; the Calcotts are expert banjoists, their execution being admirable; W. J. Lytton is a comedian of excellence; the Jalvans provide a clever and interesting turn; J. H. Wakefield as a coon singer and dancer is capital; and the pictures are good.

SUNDERLAND. — AVENUE THEATRE.—Director and Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—*Claudian* is the attraction here this week. Mr. William Maclaren gives a particularly fine rendering of the title-rôle; and Mr. F. Owen Chambers makes the most of his opportunities as Thuriogalus Tetrarch. Mr. Douglas Earle is well placed as Agazil; while Mr. Chas. T. Chaloner scores as Belos. Miss Maud Garth is a charming Edessa; and Miss Lily C. Bandmann gives a refined and pathetic rendering of Almida.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company, in *Revenge*, is drawing crowded houses here this week. Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson gives a powerful impersonation of Prince Orloff; and Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson submits a manly rendering of Captain Loris Vanease. The King finds an apt exponent in Mr. Jerrold Ord; whilst as Lieutenant Maurice Miss Grace Aimiers is particularly smart. Mr. L. Usher is a pleasing Captain Carr; and Mr. Russell Bogue is amusing as Jim Jennings. As the Queen Miss Violet Carlyle could not well be improved upon; and as Draga Nanessa Miss Amy Ellam is excellent.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Managers, Messrs. A. Brown and S. B. Stringer.—Mr. Harry Cadle's company, in *Casey's Court*, heads the bill here. The programme also includes the Karno Trio, in the sketch entitled *The Traveller's Rest*; Janet H. Reynolds, vocalist; the New York Nippers, in the sketch entitled *Bedtime*; Billy Burns, a singing pit lad; Frank Maura, the Mexican wonder; Verno and Voyce, in selections from their répertoire; and Vernon's animated pictures.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Lucas.—For this week the management has arranged a double attraction, opening on Monday with another visit of Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's *East Lynne* company for the first three nights. In the rôle of Lady Isabel Miss Julie Kennard is admirable throughout, and Miss Jessie Bayes deserves the highest praise for her work as Willie, especially in the death-bed scene, while Miss Ethel Saville is pleasing as Barbara Hare. Mr. Alfred Beaumont gives a clever and powerful study of Archibald Carlyle, and Mr. Harry Nunn proves himself an excellent exponent of the part of Captain Levison. Mr. Alfred Tate is great as Bullock, while Mr. C. C. Grattan as Justice Hare, and Miss Ethel Hardacre as Cornelia are responsible for considerable fun. On Thursday *The Blue Moon* was presented for the first time, and was accorded an enthusiastic greeting. Mr. Mouillot's company, under the general management of Mr. Gordon Starkey, includes that excellent artist, Mlle. Marguerite Naudin, in the leading rôle.

TONYPANDY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ridgewood Barrie.—Messrs. Chas. H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury's company this week occupies the boards with *His Dishonoured Wife*. As Frank Lindon Mr. Chas. H. Phelps is seen to advantage; the part of Neil Lockeley is ably played by Mr. Frank Harvey; Mr. Alfred Geo. Fry as Lord Devant is successful; Mr. Bernard Webb does well as Tom Redman; Mr. Harry Tilbury gives a humorous impersonation of Mickey Doolan; Miss Belle Tilbury makes an effective Florence Lindon; and credit is due to Miss Amy Dalby as Alice Harvey.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company is providing this week's attraction in the play *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy gives a decidedly clever and forcible rendering in the title-rôle; Mr. Arthur Leigh scores as the Hon. Reginald Steighton; Mr. A. E. Walker is good as Mr. Vallerton, and Mr. Robert Forsyth is well placed as Lord Mountfallon, and the part of Arthur Welcome is capably undertaken by Mr. W. V. Simmons Lynn; Miss Alice Esther Belmore gives an admirable impersonation of the part of Helen Vallerton; Miss Louisa Gourlay submits a charming portrayal as Mrs. Durham; Miss Florence Dullhunty is successful as the Hon. Margaret Steighton, and Miss Francis Wolviston displays ability as Lady Mountfallon.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—The Musical Savonas remain another week, and continue to draw good houses with their excellent musical performance. Miss Chummie La Mara, comedienne, sings in spirited style; Harley and Hardon, comedy acrobats, contribute a good turn; Babs Lloyd is a clever juvenile artist; Thorpe and Coe, sketch artists, merit favour; and Will Sergeant, vocalist, and Miss Nellie Van, character comedienne, also appear.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood. — A capital programme is being presented here this week. Henri Cot, the French giant, and Prince Colibri, the Russian midget, head the bill. Also appearing are Florence Lambeth and Robert Robertson in *Scots Folks' Wooin'*; Halma, society juggler; the Marsumas, comedy cyclists; Adeline Yohle, comedienne and dancer; Geo. Reeves, the conjuring comedian; and the Lyons Trio of pantomimists and dancers; the American Bioscope, as usual, is interesting.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—This week's attraction here is *The Fatal Wedding*, by Mr. Bert Coote's company. Miss Katherine Clarke makes a capital Mabel; Miss Leah Marlborough does well as Cora; Mr. Wilson Howard is successful in the part of Howard Wilson; Robert Curtis is well portrayed by Mr. Guy Hastings; the humorous parts are taken by Miss Blanche Stanley as Bridget and Mr. Edward Morgan as Toto; Miss Madge McCalla gives a clever rendering of the child Jessie; the chorus by trained children is exceedingly good.

WELLINGBOROUGH.—EXCHANGE HALL.—Excellent in every respect were the performances given here on Monday and Tuesday by Mr. G. Dance's *The Girl from Kay's* company. Mr. Stanley Ravenscroft (Harry Gordon, and Miss Marie Greenhouse (Norah Chalmers) were a capital newly-married couple; Miss Irene Vere, conspicuous for her dancing, being a sprightly Ellen; Mr. Harry Jennings scored at every possible opportunity in the part of the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle; Messrs. Edwin Forde and Louis Edmunds were both droll when occasion offered as Theodore Quench and Mr. Chalmers respectively; a captivating Winnie Harborough was found in Miss Jessie Fraser; Mr. J. W. Hooper worked admirably in bringing out the fun of Max Hoggenheimer. It must, however, be said that in Act II. the honours were shared with Mr. Claude Dampier, whose excellent study of the hall porter, Joseph, was a delightful piece of acting.

WEST BROMWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Elliott's company, in *A City of Sin*, is proving an attraction here this week; Mr. Henry W. Hatchman, who is a very capable actor, plays the rôle of Mortain, of the police; Paul Torraine finds a powerful exponent in Mr. Conrad Heywood; Mr. Wilfrid Graham as Zip Barzon is good; the comic element is in the hands of Mr. C. W. Spencer as Bibi Leboeuf; and Mr. Val W. Gully as Titi Culotte, and both do their best to keep the house in good humour; Alice Bertrand is cleverly portrayed by Miss Edith Wallis; Miss Jenny Weston scores in the character of Ilma; Miss Polly Denville and Miss Elvira Stuart are well placed in the respective parts of Zazotte and Chouette.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—The programme here this week includes Onda and Leon, who give a unique performance on the bars; the vocal work of Sinclair and Parr is of excellent quality; Prince and Milner deserve great praise for their skilful manipulation of the hoops; Billy Farrell greatly pleases the audience with his clever dancing and coon songs; peals of laughter followed the funny antics and escapades of Wal Pink's Workmen in *Repairs*; a real smart turn is submitted by the Paolias; Miss Dolly Denton is well received; the Hippodrome pictures are as good as ever.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—*No Man's Land*, which is being played this week by Miss Ida Millar's company, is on a return visit. The earnest and commendable acting by Miss Millais in the rôle of Mary Bathurst enlists sympathy. Mr. Henry Herne plays the part of Harry Oaklands in a manly and vigorous style; Mat Marsden is portrayed with good dramatic effect by Mr. A. G. Lytton, as also is Silas Moore by Mr. Frank Denis, and acceptable humour is added to the piece by Mr. William Mallalieu as Dr. Buxton, and Mrs. Mallalieu as Mrs. Poodle.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The dry humour and originality of Harry Pleon as P.C. Pudden, who made his first appearance here on Monday, kept the house in one continual roar. The sketch *The Artist and His Monkey*, introduced one of the best imitations of animals that has been seen here. The funny gymnastic display by Du Gros Trio is irresistible; Ted Saunders' imitations of star artists are good; a pleasing turn is provided by the Sisters Gilbert, speciality dancers; and the programme also includes Sterling and Love in instrumental comedy; Dan Conroy, comedian; and George Collins, comedian.

TOWN HALL.—*All-of-a-Sudden Peggy* was produced for the first time in West Hartlepool on Monday, when it received that greatest compliment of all, a crowded house. The piece was well played by a company under the direction of Miss Florence Mudd. Peggy was admirably depicted by Miss Florence Mudd, who entered into the fun of her part with great spirit; Mr. Horace Maclean as Anthony created unbounded mirth, and was soon a great favourite with the audience; Miss Ida Mudd showed great skill in representing Lady Crackenthorpe; Mr. Evan Hayward played the part of Jimmy Keppel in creditable style; a vein of genuine Irish humour was carried through the play by Miss Beatrice Harrison as Mrs. O'Mara; Miss Mabel Kay was a graceful Millicent; Mr. John Cameron played the part of Major Archie Phipps in a style quite in keeping with the character; Miss Winifred Sivewright as the Hon Mrs. Colquhoun was a distinct success; and Mr. Henry Crawford and Mr. George Corner made the most of their respective rôles of Jack Menzies and Lucas.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Mouillott's company appeared here on Monday and Tuesday in that successful musical comedy, *The Blue Moon*. Mlle. Marguerite Naudin gave a charming impersonation of Chandra Nil; Evelyn Ormsby was delightfully portrayed by Miss Dorma Morgan; Miss May Audrey must be given unstinted praise for her delineation of Millicent Leroy, Miss Mary Glanbrane made an excellent Lady Brabasham; Miss Kitty Baughton (Miss Lovelhill), Miss Emily Wallace (Miss Lilian Moore), Miss Mabel Loten (Oma), and Miss Cliny Touissant (Chua) were all good exponents of their respective characters. Mr. Charles Stephenson's extremely comical acting and eccentric dancing as Private Charles Taylor fairly brought down the house. Equally successful was that clever comedian, Mr. Ainslie Burton as Moolraj; Mr. Victor Wallace gave a praiseworthy performance of Major Vivian Callabon; Mr. Arthur Radcliff is entitled to eulogy for his Captain Jack Ormesby; and so, too, is Mr. Basil Mercer for his Bobbie Scott. Very commendable was the Prince Badahur of Mr. Fred Inwood; Mr. Arthur Lawrence (Hon. Archie May), Mr. Otto Alexander (Clive Mansfield), and Mr. J. W. Kibble (Leslie Arbuthnot) well deserve encomiums. Mr. Gilbert Heron's company opened on Wednesday in that delightful comedy, *The Superior Miss Pellender*, this being a return visit.

WEST STANLEY.—VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; Responsible-Manager, Mr. John Cassidy.—Mr. Edwin Garth is here this week with the musical comedy entitled *McKenna's Flirtation*. Mr. Dennis Campbell is a capital Tim McKenna, sen., and the part of Tim, jun., is in the able hands of Mr. Wallace Childs; Mr. Edwin Garth shows a rich vein of humour in the rôle of Michael Ryan; Mr. C. W. Cudd as Greenleaf Blackstone Kent is responsible for some good work; Mr. E. Percival as Willet Chase is a capital society swell; Mr. E. Sutherland as Catherine McDonnell evokes much amusement; Miss Amy Knott is a capital Mrs. Ryan; the rôle of Mary Ellen Ryan is in the hands of Miss L. Langley; Miss Cissy Vyner ably fills the part of Anastasia McKenna; Miss Minnie Wallace is good as Magga Casy; Miss Annie Graham as Sadie Monabam, Miss Daisy Lee as the jealous Annie Carey, Mr. James McKee as Patrick McQuirk, and Mr. William Yates as Pan Handle Mike are also worthy of mention.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company in *The Power of the Cross* is here this week. Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby gives a striking portrayal of Baron Woulfe Curzola; Mr. Harry C. Rutland is good as Gerald Fairfax; Mr. Royce Carleton represents the rôle of Dr. Leslie Fairfax in an able manner; Mr. E. Nugent scores in the Irish character, Tim O'Dowd; Mr. Arthur Read is quite at home as David Kingsley; Miss Cissie St. Elmo displays some powerful acting as Rita Lascelles; Miss May Grace is a winsome Blanche Kingsley; Miss Stanley Burt does well as Margaret Seaton; Mr. Fred Tenaur gives a smart portrayal of Benj. Hawk; Mr. Mark Collins is good as Joe Foster; the part of Inspector Blake is ably embodied by Mr. Rupert Ronald, and well seconded by Mr. Brandon Brice as Sergeant Watt.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Kiddie.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. Walter Melville's company with the strong melodrama, *Her Second Time on Earth*. The play created quite a sensation here on the first visit three years ago. Miss Hilda Beverley is still appearing as the fascinating adventuress, Dora Gray; Mr. W. H. Porter is the polished scoundrel Guy Brand to the life; Mr. John Nolan is excellent as the somewhat susceptible Capt. Norman, and Mr. Frank R. Robertson is responsible for a manly delineation of the part of Jack Carlton; Mr. Leonard Aardale presents a striking portrait of Beppo, the ill-fated Italian; Mr. Cyril Vernon does well as Tom Norman; Miss Dorothy Hildebrand is a charming and convincing Laura Norman; while Miss Polly Marsh reveals undoubted ability in the part of the hag, Elizabeth Burke. The beach scene—a marvel of stage craft—fairly "brings down the house."

WIGAN. — ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Mr. F. Mouillot's principal company has attracted large audiences during the week in *A Message from Mars*. Mr. Herbert J. Bentley gives an intelligent exposition of Horace Parker; Mr. Wm. H. Brougham displays elocutionary power as the Messenger; and Miss Flora Hastings, Miss Peggy E. Yeoman, and Miss Joan Ellis all maintain the high reputation of the company in their respective rôles.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Leoni Clarke exhibits a number of highly-trained animals—cats, mice, rabbits, monkeys, canaries, &c., which create considerable diversion; and Barton and Ashley are responsible for an amusing sketch. F. V. St. Clair, in topical songs; Mlle. Zelda, in musical novelties; Flo Hill, comedienne and dancer; Le Brun and Irene, equilibrists and jugglers; Chas. Vandyke and Co. in a pantomimic absurdity; Ted Waite, vocal comedian; and Belrose and De Velin, duettists, all assist in maintaining a capital programme.

POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.—This popular combination of pictures and stage artists are booked for a two-weeks' stay at the Drill Hall with Mr. John R. Poole as guide, philosopher, and friendly showman. In addition to the instructive pictures, including scenes of the earthquakes at San Francisco and Valparaiso, there are several capable performers. Harry Raymond, the American coon, is an extremely smart exponent of clog-dancing. Other entertaining features are Woolford's trained ponies; Dane's marionettes; the Fordyces; Funny Chef, an amusing clown; and Maxey and Pete, comedy cyclists.

Mr. John Worswick, the managing-director of the Wigan Entertainments Company—Royal Court Theatre and Hippodrome—we regret to say still lies dangerously ill at his residence at St. Anne's-on-Sea. Although his condition showed some improvement on Wednesday night, his state of health is most precarious.

WOLVERHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessees and Managers, Mr. E. H. Bull and Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Percival.—The Carl Rosa Opera company is paying another visit here, and on Monday a fine performance of *Carmen* was heartily welcomed by a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Jules Walker as Jose sang with his accustomed ability; Mr. Charles Victor was a great success as Escamillo, his voice and acting being alike excellent; and Mr. Alec Richard was seen and heard to advantage as Zuniga; chief honours, however, must be accorded to Miss Doris Woodall, whose singing as Carmen was brilliant, her acting being also full of vivacity; as Micaela Miss Retta McAllister was delightful; Miss Dorothy Mayfield was an admirable Mercedes; and Miss Ina Hill a charming Frasquita. *Faust*, the *Bohemian Girl*, *Maritana*, *Trovatore*, *Fidelio*, and *Tannhäuser* were also included in the week's programme.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. W. H. Lennon.—A good bill this week includes James Fawn, comedian; Alice Raymond, cornetist and bugler; Anna Kenwick, American comedienne and danseuse; Frank Elliston and company; the Sisters Marion, juvenile vocalists; Julian Mack, patter comedian; and George Race, comedian and sifleur, also appear.

HIPPODROME.—Here we have George Hackenschmidt looming large at the head of the week's bill, and large audiences are being attracted to see the great wrestler. Other items in the programme are the Jackley Wonders, acrobats; Arthur Slater, whistler; Cavalli, ventriloquist; Barney Kane, Scotch comedian, and Lil O'Gorman, vocalist and dancer.

WORCESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. L. Wards. — Fred Karno's company of comedians is this week presenting for the first time here the musical extravaganza, *Saturday to Monday*. Mr. Rolando Martin is excellent as the irrepressible Jaggs, and keeps the house in uproarious laughter. The company is a numerous one, and the following are most capable exponents of their respective parts; Miss Amy Rogerson (Clorinda), Miss Daisy Stone (Violet), Miss Ada Maskell (Aunt Skinner), Mr. J. W. Bradbury (Mr. Blake), Mr. Dick Harcourt (Mr. Potts), Mr. C. H. Summers (Tom Freeman), Mr. J. Fletch (Spinks), Mr. V. H. Crawford (Jaggs, jun.), Mr. Patten (Bartlett Jaggs), Master T. McDonagh (Ellen Jaggs).

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Charles Harrington's excellent combination was here for the first three nights with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr. J. Carr gives an excellent and pathetic impersonation of the character of Uncle Tom; Mr. J. H. Renney presents a masterly display as Phineas Fletcher; Mr. Stanley Howard is good as Mr. St. Clair; Mr. Leslie Beaufort makes a manly George Harris; Messrs. John Gibson, J. Henry Rogers, and James Jackson are alike effective as Wilson, Legree, and Dan Haley; and Mr. Walter Langford funnily enacts the part of Marks. Miss Hettie Johnson effectively delineates the character of Eliza Harris; Miss Annie Watson creates roars of laughter in an excellent presentment of Topsy; and Little Minnie represents Little Eva excellently. The remaining characters are well placed, the whole play being thoroughly enjoyed.

WREXHAM. — EMPIRE MUSIC HALL. — Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week, Miss Ella Dean, the comedienne, has been the great attraction, ably supported by Hans and Lux, in their original comedy act; Mr. Martin Haley, character comedian; Miss Dora Dyson, versatile vocalist; Mr. Eugene Brant, eccentric comedian and dancer; and the pictures.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—The farcical comedy, *What the Butler Saw*, is the attraction here this week. Miss Ada Blanche is appearing as Mrs. Barrington, and on Monday night she was heartily received. This clever lady has not lost any of her sparkling vivacity, and her success is most marked. Miss Marie Daltra as Miss Foder is thoroughly natural. Miss Jennie Wigney makes a delightful Nora. Miss Dorothy Garth as Maria is dashing and amusing. Miss Hylda Davies and Miss Vera O'Connell as the Sisters Dunlop are alike excellent. Mr. Lionel Rignold was received with great enthusiasm, and as the butler he has many opportunities, of which he takes the fullest advantage. A large amount of work falls on the shoulders of Mr. C. Fawcett, who is heartily applauded for his capital representation of Jack Barrington. Mr. Roy Byford as Professor Shale is quaintly humorous. Sir Charles Foden, in the safe hands of Mr. Reddick Anderson, is a breezy performance. Mr. Harry H. Rignold as Abraham Weinstein is amusingly funny.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—The programme presented here this week includes Melot, the conjuror, who is a great attraction. H. Flockton-Foster's company present a laughable sketch, entitled *Ferdie's Ma-in-law*, which is well received. Barney Vox is a good ventriloquist, who causes roars of laughter. Gus Garrick is a clever comedian. Garson Hicks, a ragtime dancer, is much appreciated. Mr. A. E. Clifford is a vocalist who uses his voice with excellent effect. Ada Parker, a young coon songstress and dancer, is deserving of a word of praise for her clever work. Harris and Worth, in song and patter, cause much fun.

YOUTH AND THE STAGE.

THE PART THE HAIR PLAYS IN APPEARANCE.

Youth is the watchword of the present age. It is to the young and ardent that the chief prizes in the great lottery of life fall nowadays. Whatever our business or occupation may be, everyone of us realises the great advantage of preserving as long as possible a fresh and youthful appearance.

And in no walk of life is this of so supreme an importance as it is in the world of the Stage. Here youth is at a premium, and beauty is a priceless possession. It follows, then, "as the night the day," that anything that deals with the question of how best to make use of and to preserve those gifts with which nature has endowed them must be of the greatest interest to the members of the Profession.

Now in this connection there are two rather peculiar points to which we wish to refer.

The first is, that whereas most people devote a large amount of time and trouble to the care of the complexion and the improving of the figure, calling in to their aid massage and physical exercise, and all the arts of the chemist, the perfumer, and the beauty specialist, yet very few of them give anything but the most cursory attention to the hair. And yet the hair, "woman's crowning glory," as the poet says, holds a very important position in the scheme of beauty. Nothing preserves the appearance of youth more than a beautiful, glossy head of hair. Nothing heralds the slow, steady advance of years more distinctly than hair that is faded, and thin, and lacking in pristine brightness.

And if the hair is not properly tended to, this fate is sure to come to it. All those who are engaged in professions entailing deep thought and mental stress are very liable to become prematurely bald and grey. Particularly is this so

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Oct. 8, the Drama entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

A striking performance of *East Lynne* is being given here this week by Miss Dorothy Grimston, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, and a full West-end company. A hearty welcome has been accorded this "old evergreen" play by good audiences throughout the week, galvanised into new life as it is by the present excellent company. In the assumption of Lady Isabel, Miss Dorothy Grimston assumes no light task, but her excellent delivery and resource overcome all difficulties. Miss Grimston exerts herself to the utmost in the emotional phases of the part, and wins admiration on all sides for her sympathetic exposition of a trying rôle. Miss Helena Millais charmingly portrays the part of Barbara Hare. Her impersonation of the bright, ingenuous maiden is in every way charming, and she sings "When other lips" with delightful expressiveness. Miss Agnes Byron does capable work as the elderly Cornelia Carlyle. Mr. Walner Gregory as Archibald Carlyle submits an effective and manly rendering of the part; and as the tyrannical, unforgiving Justice Hare, Mr. Harry Barford gives a good account of himself. A word of commendation is earned and bestowed upon Mr. David G. Noble, who contributes a sound embodiment of Richard Hare. Mr. Frank Harding, who possesses no inconsiderable dramatic knowledge, gives a fine characterisation of Captain Levison, and Mr. Edward Sydney seems exactly "cut out" for the part of Lawyer Dill. Mr. James A. Storey is an excellent representative of Lord Mountsevern, and Mr. Lloyd Townrow is responsible for good honest fun as P.C. Bullock. The remainder of the cast—Miss Mary Stafford Smith (Joyce), Miss Marion Beresford (Suzanne), Miss Dorothy Townrow (Wilson), Miss Dollie Swift (Little Willie), and Miss Maud Lord (Little Isabel)—appropriately act their respective rôles, and the play is very well mounted and adequately staged.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by C. H. Hawtrey, entitled
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."

Mr. J. Bannister Howard is playing a safe card when he presents Mr. Eugene Stafford's company in the above well-known farcical comedy and the house is full and the bookings good. The comedians keep the audience in roars of laughter, even the orchestra being moved to great mirth. The principal share of the fun is allotted to the Uncle Cattermole and the Rev. Robert Spalding, represented by Mr. W. Hargreaves and Mr. Donald Price-Evans respectively, both being admirably suited to the parts by nature, for Mr. Hargreaves rivals the late W. J. Hill in bulk and Mr. Price-Evans is smaller and slighter than Mr. W. S. Penley. Mr. Hargreaves depends little on make-up for effect, his boisterous manner and liverish irritability being easily assumed, and Mr. Price-Evans does not miss a chance to give effect to the familiar mannerisms of the little curate. Mr. W. T. Elworthy as Mr. Marsland is a bluff and breezy Squire, and looks well in his costume as "M.F.H." As Douglas Cattermole, Mr. Randolfe Reade makes his rendering acceptable, whilst Mr. Jas. P. B. Hussey as his mercurial companion, Harry Marsland, is full of life and "go." Mr. Vivian Gilbert as the ambitious Bond-street tailor, with leanings towards high life, is very amusing. Mrs. Alfred Davis acts in finished style, and makes Miss Ashford, the chaperon, a dear old lady, quite of the old school. Miss Cecily Wade as Mrs. Stead, Cattermole's landlady, hardly looks old enough in her make-up, but otherwise is very good. Miss Dora Gray is girlish and roguish enough as Edith Marsland, and with her friend, Eva Webster (Miss Beth Elliott), keeps the audience well interested and amused whenever they are on the stage, while both of them succeed in looking charming.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the play, by E. Hill-Mitchelson, entitled
"REVENGE."

The excellent stock company has surpassed even the successes of the previous three weeks in presenting that stirring military play *Revenge*, and although the performance on Monday evening lasted till a very late hour, the interest of the audience was retained to the very end. The hard-working company is headed by Mr. Albert Ward, and this week he is seen in the trying part of a young captain who early in the play is blinded by his enemies. Mr. Ward is entirely successful throughout, and his great dramatic powers enable him to take full advantage of the many opportunities offered by this fine part. Mr. Horace Hunter is again seen in the rôle of the villain, and, as usual, scores repeatedly by his admirable acting. Mr. Harry Crane cleverly plays the long-suffering King; Mr. Brian Daly affords much amusement as Count Mussant; Mr. W. Felton makes a smart Captain David Carr, R.N.; Lieut. Maurice is effectively played by Miss Hannesley; that really clever comedian Mr. Teddy Coleman causes roars of laughter as Jim Jennings, A.B.; Mr. Alfred Holles also contributes to the fun as Stephen; Miss Agnes Paulton, daughter of the popular comedian Mr. Harry Paulton, shows hereditary talent as Tusha, and carries by storm the hearts of the male part of the audience. Miss Kathleen Russell as the Queen ably maintains the dignity and majesty of the character. This is never lost in many scenes of stress and trial, where the sweet womanly side of the character is in evidence. Altogether Miss Russell scores a great triumph. Draga Vanessa is effectively played by Miss Daisy Murch, who is very successful when portraying feminine vindictiveness. Miss Florence Harcourt is charming as an American adventuress, Cora Brook. The costumes and scenery are all that could be desired, and Mr. J. M. East must be congratulated on his production. The genial and energetic Mr. Neville looks after the front of the house.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the Opera, in Four Acts, by S. Feinman, entitled
"HOLY SABBATH."

The opera of *Holy Sabbath*, by S. Feinman, was presented here by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company on Monday, and a distinct success was testified by the continual bursts of applause with which the play was greeted. The story is highly dramatic, and contains a well-connected and ingenious plot, in which are woven many thrilling incidents, while the delightful music has been cleverly orchestrated and arranged in an able manner by Professor F. Staub, who conducted the large chorus and orchestra in brilliant style. As the setting of the opera has been placed in Spain a good opportunity for magnificent dressing and charming scenery has been given, and it is almost superfluous to mention that the enterprising management have taken full advantage of this, with the result that several beautiful stage pictures are presented, in which are found a wealth of artistic colouring. Mr. S. Feinman portrayed the part of Leib Sfarde with wonderful skill, and gave as vigorous, as striking, as pathetic an impersonation as could be desired, while every action and gesture were replete with significance. Mr. M. D. Waxman was manly and efficient, and gave a fine account of Joseph; his vocalism was excellent, several of his numbers being loudly redemanded. Mr. Joseph Fineberg deserves the highest praise for his Lord Fernande de Castillan, which was a thorough and most conscientious piece of acting. Mr. N. Hamburger as Alvarez made the most of not very extensive opportunities; and a spirited King Philip of Spain was found in Mr. Goldsmith. Mr. Isaacowitch was impressive and effective as Lord Ambrose; and Mme. J. Kayzer gave a well-studied performance of Helena. The efforts of Mr. J. Schilling as Shmaya and Miss Bryh as Chaya throughout the evening were received with continuous and hearty outbursts of laughter and applause, both these talented artists being genuinely funny without resorting to exaggeration. Mme. Rose Waxman sang and acted with refreshing spirit, her assumption of Shashma being in every way most attractive, while her vocal contributions were warmly applauded. During the week *Solomon Scharlatan*, *The Two Cripples*, and *The Yiddish King Lear* have been played.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

Mr. George Musgrave's company is here in the ever welcome *Belle of New York* this week. The pretty music and the drolleries of Ichabod Bronson and the polite lunatic meet with their due meed of laughter and applause. The part of the eccentric millionaire, Ichabod Bronson, who sets out to reform the rising generation while standing sadly in need of moral guidance himself, is drily and humorously depicted by Mr. Paddy Duprès, and his songs, "Lucky Jim" and "Dontcherknow," are very well received. Mr. Max Copeland causes considerable merriment as Karl Von Pimpernick, the polite lunatic, and he has an unostentatious method of drollery which is vastly entertaining and diverting. Mr. Frank Lawton still enacts his original part of the mixed ale pugilist, Blinky Bill McQuirk, and his delightful whistling in the candy store is highly appreciated by the audience, and his acting throughout is of valuable assistance to the success of the piece. Miss Empsie Bowman enacts the part of Violet Grey, the Salvation Army lassie, who kicks over the traces in order to bring back Bronson père to a proper sense of his paternal responsibility, and she looks, acts, and sings the part admirably. Miss Lily Maxwell gains golden opinions as the all too loving Fifi Fricot, and her songs are well rendered, especially "Teach me how to woo thee." Miss Florence Hersee, who doubles the parts of Mamie Clancy, a Pell-street girl, and Kissie Fitzgarter, acts with any amount of *verve* and vivacity and dances with much agility. As Cora Angelique, the queen of comic opera, Miss Winnie Brown creates a most favourable impression; and Mr. Alfred Sandoe as Doc Snifkins, manager of the Cora Angelique Comic Opera, contributes considerably to the fun of the piece. Mr. Walter Uridge, as that quaint comedian of the opera company yclept Mr. Kenneth Mugg, puts in some very good work in the fun-making line. As the Portuguese twins, Counts Ratsi and Patsi, Messrs. Lionel Yeoman and R. L. Cody are exceedingly diverting. Mr. John Doran does excellently as Harry Bronson, and the part is well suited to him. Mr. Owen O'Brien as Snooper and Mr. Townley Searle as Peeper, of "Flapdoodle" fame, are well in the picture; and Mr. A. Linforth, who enacts the small part of Twiddles, Harry Bronson's secretary, also undertakes the duties of stage-manager, the business-manager being Mr. Wilfred Esmond and the musical-director Mr. Ernée Woodville.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Ridgewood Barrie, entitled
"A QUEEN OF VILLAINY."

Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's company in the domestic drama *A Queen of Villainy* is proving a powerful attraction here this week. Full justice is done to the play, which goes strongly from start to finish. The character of the scheming Cora Granville is cleverly depicted by Miss Edith Blande, who throughout acts with earnestness and vigour and scores a decided success. Mr. P. Howard Sturgess is seen to great advantage in the rôle of Timothy Kodac, and his efforts to extract himself from unfortunate predicaments are the signal for much laughter. He is well supported by Miss Jessie Crammonde, who, as Mollie Maggs, acts with vivacity and contributes largely to the fun. A finished performance is given by Mr. Edward Heanley in the part of the villainous Stephen Faucit; and Mr. Owen Harris satisfactorily acts the rôle of the escaped convict Dick Leinster. Miss Amy Rose Clyde as the gipsy Sally Chimes contributes an excellent character-study, and is responsible for a considerable share of the humour in the piece, in which direction good support is rendered by Mr. Arthur E. Maskell as Reuben Hawk, a poacher. Miss Cecilia Desmond makes an attractive appearance in the part of Rose Delmayne, and acts with a brightness and charm that are very pleasing. Mr. Alfred E. Calver is manly and straightforward as Alec; Mr. Lawrence Stevenson is well suited to the part of Kit, a waif; and Mr. Gordon Carnegie as Sir John Desborough makes the most of his limited opportunities.

THE GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the Drama, in Five Acts, entitled
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

Mr. Herbert Hollister's company is paying a return visit here this week with the above-named drama, and on Monday evening met with an excellent reception from a number of old admirers and new friends, who followed with much interest the adventures of the varied characters whom the practised pen of Mr. G. R. Sims brings together under the glare of the lights of London. In the rôle of Bess Armytage Miss Jeannie Burgoyne is provided with a part which gives her ample scope for the exercise of considerable histrionic ability, and it is not too much to say that she makes the most of her opportunities, portraying the character of this true-hearted woman with rare insight and pathos, and carrying with her from first to last the full sympathies of her audience. Mr. Nat Collins gives a straightforward, manly representation of Harold Armytage, and is seen at his best in the more forceful scenes. Miss Constance Davey plays Hetty Preene with distinction and success, and is by turns grave and gay, weak and determined, with perfect naturalness. A thoroughly efficient rendering of Seth Preene comes from Mr. Herbert Hollister, whose acting is instinct with life and energy, and whose great scene with Hetty in the fourth act brought down the house. Mr. Raymond Thomas is sufficiently villainous and blackguardly as Clifford Armytage; Mr. Herbert Lewis is very amusing as Jarvis, and with the valuable aid of Miss Violet Temple as Mrs. Jarvis is responsible for a great deal of laughter, in the provocation of which Miss Rene Douglas, in the rôle of Shakespeare Jarvis, renders efficient assistance. The smaller characters are handled by a uniformly capable cast too numerous for individual mention, and the mounting and staging of the play are quite adequate.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the play, in Four Acts, by A. Conan Doyle, entitled
"BRIGADIER GERARD."

Sandwiched between an admirable series of musical comedies, *Brigadier Gerard*, judging by the enthusiasm with which the piece was received on Monday night, is just the right attraction for the Borough Theatre this week. Mr. Loring Fernie is happily cast as the swashbuckling but valiant captain of Hussars. Mr. Fernie's acting is easy and natural in every phase of the character, and he has the additional advantage of a fine stage appearance. Miss Maud Hoffmann as the Comtesse de Roquelaure undertakes the part with much charm, tact, and sympathy, and her artistic performance renders it quite befitting that she should share the honours of the evening with Mr. Loring Fernie. Mr. Arthur Somers makes up well and acts convincingly as Napoleon; and Mr. George Mallett's performance as the autocratic and scheming Talleyrand is replete with histrionic ability. Mr. Cecil Wynne is well placed as General de Caulaincourt, and Mr. Frank Powell makes a soldierly Colonel Guerin. A well-defined sketch of Mons. D'Albut comes from Mr. Penn Hamilton; and Mr. Reginald Mason makes the most of his opportunities as Mons. Bossompierre. Miss Gertrude Beattie is a satisfactory Agnes. Minor parts are all admirably rendered, and the piece is exceedingly well staged. *The Borrowed Uncle*, a charming one-act play, precedes, and is capitally presented by Mr. Frank Powell, Miss Gertrude Beattie, Mr. Arthur Claremont, and Mr. Arthur Somers. Patrons of this sumptuously redecorated theatre have their comfort well looked after by the popular acting-manager, Mr. Frank Rothsay.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the Farcical Comedy, by Brandon Thomas, entitled
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

Once again has *Charley's Aunt* found its way to the Alexandra, and been welcomed with all the warmth usually extended to an old friend. The masquerading of Lord Fancourt Babberly as Donna Lucia Di Alvadorez is as provocative of laughter as ever, and the part of the impudent "Babbs" is played by Mr. Stanley Cooke with the greatest possible effect. Mr. Cooke in no way attempts to reproduce the eccentricities and mannerisms of Mr. Penley, yet his performance throughout is a genuinely humorous one, entirely without exaggeration, and wholly devoid of any suggestion of vulgarity. An excellent Jack Chesney is found in Mr. Hastings Lynn, who has a natural and easy style, and proves himself a first-rate light comedian. Mr. Richard B. Mason is also successful as the other undergraduate, Charley Wykeham; and a characteristic sketch of the college scout, Brassett, comes from Mr. Sydney Compton. Mr. C. B. Keston supplies a finished and polished rendering of Colonel Sir Francis Chesney; and Mr. Walter Beaumont contrives to extract a considerable amount of comic capital from the rôle of Stephen Spettigue. Miss Lena MacNaughton is a handsome and imposing Donna Lucia; and as the three young ladies of the piece Misses Lilyan Lait, Kitty Carew, and Gladys Storey have little to do beyond look charming, a task in which they one and all easily succeed. The farce is preceded by another play by Mr. Brandon Thomas, entitled *Fourchette and Co.*, in which Mr. C. B. Keston, Sidney Compton, and George Ellis and Miss Gladys Storey appear.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the Comic Opera, by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan, entitled
"THE GONDOLIERS."

On Monday evening the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company commenced the second week of its engagement here, and a packed audience was present, and the demands for encores were persistent throughout the performance, which was of the best description. It is pleasant to note the enthusiasm which these performances have aroused, and it augurs well for the suggested revival at the Savoy. All the old favourites are found again in their places in *The Gondoliers*. Mr. Fred Billington repeats his capital impersonation of the Grand Inquisitor, speaking the lines allotted to him with the utmost humour. The part of the Duke of Plaza-Toro is ably filled by Mr. C. H. Workman, who is most amusing, and sings and dances in his best style, making himself a bigger favourite than ever. Miss Theresa Rassam gives a dignified impersonation of the Duchess, and uses her fine voice to the best advantage. Miss Lulu Evans and Miss Hope Hastings are very bright and entertaining as Tessa and Gianetta; Mr. Pacie Ripple makes a first-class Marco Palmieri, and his singing of "Take a pair of sparkling eyes" is much admired; as the other gondolier, Guiseppe, Mr. Albert Kavanagh is in fine form. Casilda is charmingly played by Miss Mabel Graham; while Mr. Leicester Tinks is to be complimented on his assumption of the part of Luiz. Miss Ellen Whyte and Messrs. Drawater, Stafford Moss, and Lewis Campion also lend valuable assistance. The chorus and orchestra both do much meritorious work, and the whole effect is excellent. It must be gratifying to Mr. Robert Arthur to know that his wisdom in securing this company for a fortnight has been fully justified.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur Shirley, entitled
"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."

Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company is here this week with *The Midnight Mail*, which is a drama with a moral, and as such serves a double purpose by interesting the public and teaching a lesson on the evils of intemperance. All the trouble originates through the hero, Harry Steyne, an engine driver, who indulges too freely in drink. Mr. Alfred Goddard gives a fine rendering of the part, presenting the character in such a way as to win the sympathy of the audience. Mr. Fred G. Evison as Billy Brewer, a drunken stoker, wins golden opinions by his portrayal of the character of the poor besotted wretch; and as Leonard Loyle Mr. Robert Grey does good service. Mr. Arthur Gilroy as Hassan Padisha has a capital part, and makes the most of his opportunities; and Mr. Charles McCann as Donald Craig is quite satisfactory. Mr. H. Dobell Lyle gives a capital character-sketch of an old signalman known as Jasper Thornleigh. Miss Ada Oakley is exceedingly good in the part of Mary Steyne, the engine-driver's wife; and as Nancy Brewer, Miss Mildred Carr earns rounds of applause for her bright and attractive rendering of the character. Miss Phyllis Dailley is graceful and charming as Lady Phillis Eustace; and Miss Kate Johnson as Parker is attractive as a maid. Smaller parts are all well filled, and the whole production is admirably staged. The incidental music is well rendered under the capable leadership of Mr. Stephen E. Blythe, the resident musical director.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the Comedy, by Arthur Law, entitled
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."

One of the excellent companies organised by Mr. and Miss Hutchison, with Miss Annie Hughes in the leading rôle, is performing in Mr. A. Law's somewhat cynical but amusing comedy, and in the ably written playlet by Mrs. Beringer, *A Bit of Old Chelsea*, in which Miss Hughes is so particularly at home. As Saucers Miss Annie Hughes plays with her characteristic brightness and smartness and an admirable touch of pathos. In *The Country Mouse* Miss Hughes takes the title-rôle, Angela Muir. It is a very clever study of an apparently unsophisticated maiden, who proves to be much more artful than her friends imagine. Miss Hughes' assumed demureness and simplicity are delightful, and she scored heavily in the scene with Lady Sylvia at the end of the second act. The stately Miss Moyra Creegan made an excellent Lady Sylvia; and Miss Frances Davie acted brightly, with a good sense of humour, as Violet Aynsley. Miss Ida Laurie contributed a good character-sketch as the charwoman, Mrs. Creeper, without undue exaggeration. Mr. William Calvert was admirable as John Bowlby, playing with earnestness and sincerity; Mr. Charles Esdale was good as the Hon. Archibald Vyse; Mr. Evelyn Vernon acted excellently as the amorous old lady-killer, the Duke of St. Kitts; and Mr. Thomas A. Braidon was most entertaining as Lord Robert Wyckham, a young gentleman whose idea of romance is somewhat peculiar, to say the least of it. The smaller part of Jephcot, the family butler, gave Mr. J. E. Watson the opportunity of displaying some acting of a high order in a sympathetic rôle; and the little scene of the old servant and his master hobnobbing over their reminiscences, admirably done by Messrs. Calvert and Watson, formed a charming finale to the first act.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
The Drama, by Edwin Elsner,
founded on Ouida's Novel, entitled
"UNDER TWO FLAGS."

Mr. Cecil Paget has provided a great attraction here this week in the return visit of Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company in the above popular adaptation of Ouida's picturesque and interesting novel. The interpretation of the play is all that could be desired, and excellent audiences have been the rule. Mr. Mark Blow makes an ideal Guardsman as Bertie Cecil Royellieu, looking the part to perfection, and playing with much earnestness and dramatic force. Miss Mary Thorne plays admirably as the impulsive and generous-hearted vivandière, Cigarette. Her unrequited passion for the handsome "Beauty" is well indicated, and the pathos of her death scene wins the tribute of tears from many eyes. Mr. Harry Benson as the valet, Rake, ably assisted by Miss Amy Maitland as Lavinia, make the most of the comedy element of the play. Mr. Archer Elwyn gives a polished picture of the grim-visaged and saturnine Black Hawk; Miss Mabel Ormonde looks handsome and plays well as poor Cigarette's successful rival, the Princess Venetia Corona; and neat character-sketches of the minor characters of Ezra Baroni and Babayum are supplied by Messrs. Fred Beck and Francis Curtiss. Mr. Lionel West makes the most of the unsympathetic rôle of Barklie Cecil Royellieu; and Mr. Joseph Cowell is impressive as Lord Royellieu. The scenery and effects are excellent, and Cigarette's ride for life through the storm in the Arabian desert is admirably managed.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the Musical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Owen Hall, entitled
"SERGEANT BRUE."

This clever and tuneful production had a most cordial reception at the County Theatre on Monday evening, when a capable all-round company, engineered by Messrs. E. Lockwood and R. Crossman, appeared in the first of six performances, which was mightily enjoyed by a crowded house, and a similar verdict was pronounced at each subsequent presentation. The chief honours in the production are divided between Mr. Arthur Reynolds, an old Kingston pantomime favourite, who appears in the title-rôle, and Mr. Charles McLagan, who appears as the criminal, Crookie Scrubbs. The whimsicalities of these two keep the house in roars of laughter throughout the evening, and they richly deserved the warm plaudits that greeted their efforts. Miss Hebe Bliss achieved a distinct success in the part of Lady Bickenhall, which she filled with a charm that won her many friends; and Miss Mary Hay was equally acceptable as Aurora Brue, her singing and dancing being much appreciated. Mr. Percy Rogers gave a very good account of himself as Michael Brue; and a special word of commendation is deserved by Miss Marion Hargrave, who appeared as Daisy, the serving girl, and invested the part with a personality irresistibly funny. Others who lent valuable assistance were Mr. Harry Soutar as Matthew Habisham, and Mr. Charles Sims as Mr. Crank. There was an exceptionally well-trained chorus, and an augmented orchestra was ably conducted by Mr. Norman Latham.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the Drama, by Edward Thane, entitled
"THE MOCKERY OF MARRIAGE."

Though the above drama is an old one, yet it still has the power to excite and entertain. Dick Kenyon, an unscrupulous villain, is played with every success by Mr. Fred Morgan. Miss Minnie Grey, who is entrusted with the part of Rosa Vernham, is also welcome, and with her usual grace, contributes an excellent piece of acting. As Jack Stanley Mr. Arthur Bawtree gives us a brilliant study of the hero soldier; and Miss Nellie Fletcher embodies the pathetic rôle of Alva Kenyon in a style full of pathos. In the hands of Mr. A. P. Kaye humour seems doubly amusing, and his Toby Wright is full of cleverness. Mr. Bert Morley as Seth Pearce makes a capital villain, his rendering of the part being helped considerably by his excellent make-up. As Mary Ann Miss Nell Gilmore is well placed; and Mr. Ashton Winslow does good work as Pat O'Connor. A clever character-study of the "coloured man" is given by Mr. J. E. Manning, his Old Pete, the negro, showing real ability. Others who deserve praise are Mr. J. P. Dryden as Joseph Vernham, and Miss Bertha Baker as Nellie Kenyon.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the light Opera, entitled
"FLORODORA."

The members of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, who are appearing this week at the Dalston Theatre in the light opera *Florodora*, are meeting with that amount of hearty applause which the excellence of the representation fully warrants. The cast, which includes no less than thirty-two artists, is in itself a guarantee of variety, and the result is inevitably charming. Mr. Daly Cooper is certainly a host in himself as Anthony Tweedlepunch, showman, hypnotist, and palmist. His embodiment of this versatile personality is decidedly funny. Mr. Jos. R. Tate as Cyrus W. Gilfain, proprietor of the perfume of Florodora, and Mr. R. Courtier Dutton as Frank Abercoed, Gilfain's manager of the Island of Florodora, are an amusing and entertaining couple. Mr. Harold Perry makes a dashing Capt. Arthur Donegal; Mr. Edwin Oxlee appears as the overseer; and Mr. Donald MacAdam makes a scrupulous footman. Miss Violet Grasia is a charming Dolores; Miss Maud Brock is vivacious in the part of Mr. Gilfain's typist; and Miss Gladys Ray is a sprightly Valleda, maid to Lady Holyrood. The character of Lady Holyrood is presented with much effect by Miss Housley. The entire performance can only be adequately described as charming. The chorus is an additional attraction. For the musical direction generally Mr. B. T. Paterson is responsible.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, entitled
"LADY MADCAP."

The reign of musical comedy at Kennington Theatre, which has been one of the leading features of this season, was continued on Monday by the return visit of Lady Madcap. This is an exceedingly pretty piece, Paul Rubens having put into it some of his best music, whilst the lyrics, which he has composed in collaboration with Percy Greenbank, are both bright and catchy. The book, too, in the preparation of which Newnham-Davis has taken a hand, contains many clever lines. Lady Madcap is played by Mr. George Dance's chief company, the members of which do not fail to make the best of the many amusing situations which abound, with the result that, from every point of view, whether of singing, dancing, staging, or merriment, the performance leaves nothing to be desired. In the title-rôle Miss Vera Vere scores a big success. She is pretty, clever, and high-spirited, and her singing and dancing bring down the house. Mr. H. V. Surrey worthily sustains the part of Oroya Brown, otherwise Trooper Smith, and his undoubted abilities find ample scope, his "butling" causing roars of laughter. Count de St. Hubert is excellently portrayed by Mr. Alex Chentrens, whose singing is very effective, whilst his dancing is of the highest order. As Susan Miss Peggy Primrose does remarkably well, and proves herself to be an actress of much promise. Mr. Percival Knight as Bill Stratford and Mr. Oliver Round as Posh Jenkins, his confederate, are both admirable; whilst Mr. Tom Neldon makes an exceedingly funny Corporal Ham, a character full of humour. Miss Maize North is charming as Gwenny Holden, the friend of the Madcap; and Miss Florence Raymaur gives an attractive interpretation of the character of Mrs. Layton. Mr. Martyn Roland as Lord Framlingham, Mr. R. S. Comber as Colonel Layton, and Mr. H. Henson as the butler contribute largely to the popularity of the piece. The chorus is strong and well trained, the vocalisation being a credit to that able musician Mr. Ernest Hartmann, who directs both chorus and orchestra.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the Musical Pantomimical Comedy, entitled
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."

This popular and far-famed musical comedy is attracting large and appreciative audiences at the Brixton this week. The company, which is an exceptionally strong one, is headed by the Bros. Charles and Fred Renad, who give a very humorous performance as the two eccentric servants of Dr. Gull, and cause endless amusement by their antics. Mr. Johnny McElroy is exceedingly funny as Dr. Gull, and the various amusing predicaments in which he is placed are the source of considerable laughter during the evening. Mr. George Martin is well placed as Rob Rollingstone. Mr. Alec Wylie is very good as Dudley Green, the dude part; Mr. C. Gray is satisfactory as Septimus Squeeze. Mr. Harwood adds to the fun in the dual characters of Jack Gadabout and Admiral Bombshell; and a word of praise must be given to Mr. Cecil Barrett for his impersonation of the Gendarme. Miss Ida Ernest is a charming and dainty Virginia, captivating with her fine singing and nimble dancing. Miss Dora Moorhouse creates a favourable impression as Mrs. Squeeze. The Edene Quartette of vocalists and dancers deserve special mention for their clever dancing, which is greatly appreciated. Mr. H. Leyton is the courteous business-manager for the company. Mr. Leslie Lewis conducts an augmented orchestra, and the scenery is very elaborate.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by George V. Wybrow and Frank M. Thorne, entitled
"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."

The scenes in this drama are laid in Russia, a country peculiarly suitable for the hatching of plots and mysteries, and ample scope is afforded the members of Beaudyn and Livesey's company for the display of their histrionic ability. Mr. Montague Beaudyn impersonates Ivan Paulovitch in a telling and masterly way, his well-modulated voice reaching every corner of the house. Mr. Tom Robertson plays with vigorous determination as Count Fedor Karateff; Mr. Harry Oates exhibits well-balanced humour as the bibulous Christopher Crackles; Mr. Tommy Byron is energetic and resourceful as Sergeant Malachi; and Mr. John Carlton proffers a carefully thought-out study of Nicholi Trolski. Miss Irene Munro, in a make-up reminiscent of Mercia in *The Sign of the Cross*, does exceedingly well, her impersonation calling for special mention; Miss Blanche Hill is decidedly bright and cheery as the pert Patty Woodlands; whilst Miss V. St. Lawrence portrays Wanda Lubinoff in such a heartless, yet withal fascinating way, that she thoroughly succeeds in convincing all that she is indeed "a beautiful fiend."

CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND.

On Thursday, Oct. 10, the comedy, entitled
"OUR BOYS."

There are not wanting those of the younger school of playgoers who are inclined to look askance on the drama of earlier days; it is even suggested that old-fashioned plays are lacking in interest, polish, and plot; yet Byron's masterpiece still lives—nay more, it has lost none of its charm which years ago filled the Vaudeville to overflowing. Under the direction of Mr. Russell Rosse, the comedy met with an excellent all-round interpretation, and Mr. J. Bannister Howard and all concerned may be highly complimented. Mr. Thomas Thorne again delighted the audience in the rôle of Middlewick; it was a fine performance from start to finish, and peals of merriment greeted his efforts. Mr. Montagu Lane did exceptionally well as Charles Middlewick. Another successful impersonation was that of Mr. Horace Pollock as Talbot; his best effort was in Act II., where he makes love to Violet, and wins her heart and hand; quite a clever little scene this, and admirably done. Mr. Norman Clark was perfectly successful as the austere Baronet, Sir Geoffrey. Exceedingly pretty was the Violet of Miss Madge Flynn; throughout the play she acted with great delicacy, and won the hearty applause of the audience. Equally happy was Miss Marion Ripley as Mary Melrose; her badinage and fun proved irresistible, and it would have been difficult to find a more handsome or clever exponent of the part. An unqualified success was scored, too, by Miss Ada Milton as Clarissa; the rôle is one not bristling with opportunities, but Miss Milton missed none of them. Belinda found a droll representative in Miss Carlotta Blondin, and throughout Act III. kept the house in a ripple of merriment; Mr. A. Harding played Kempster. The comedy is preceded by a duologue, *Twins*, written by Carlotta Blondin. Mr. Josiah Jenkins has decided to present his wife with a souvenir on the occasion of her birthday, and the trouble centres on a couple of twin doggies that are mistaken for twin babies. There is the usual complication and the customary explanation. Mr. Groves-Watson was excellent as the husband, and the authoress did well as Mrs. Josiah Jenkins, the suspicious but altogether forgiving wife. Both productions were capably stage-managed by Mr. Norman Clarke. A good word is due to Mr. Arthur Howard, acting-manager, whose unflagging energy in front of the house leaves nothing to be desired.

A waterspout descended ruthlessly upon Southend on Tuesday, when the pit of the local theatre was flooded, and the performance had to be stopped for a time. Many business places were also flooded, and considerable damage done to goods.

At the King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, *A London Actress* is being excellently staged and played by Miss Emma Litchfield's company. Miss Litchfield gives a brilliant performance of her rôle; the title-rôle is capably played by Miss Maud Saxby; and Miss Madge Clare is good in the part of Mrs. Skinner. Mr. Stuart Cleveland as Sergeant-Major Clive Crawford gives a manly rendering, and Lieutenant Kingson is well played by Mr. Douglas Howard. The Moses Mendoza of Mr. George H. Doyle is distinctly good, and a humorous comedian is Mr. Carl Vallander as Pat Maloney.

Miss Marion Warwood was the recipient on Wednesday evening last, at the Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, of a handsome bouquet from the members of the Farnworth Wednesday football team, who had assembled to witness Mr. Frank Lindo's successful production *Home, Sweet Home*.

"THE CORSICAN BROTHERS."

A Romantic Play, adapted from the novel of Alexandre Dumas, and revived at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Wednesday, Oct. 10.

M. Fabien dei Franchi } Mr. Martin Harvey
M. Louis dei Franchi .. }
M. de Château Renaud..Mr. Vincent Sternroyd
M. le Baron de Montgiron Mr. Albert E. Raynor
M. le Baron Martelli .....Mr. George Cooke
M. Alfred Meynard .....Mr. Alfred Mansfield
M. Favrolles .....Mr. Charles Cameron
M. Beauchamp .....Mr. Eugene Wellesley
Antonio Sarrole .....Mr. P. Alexander
Colonna .....Mr. Fred Wright, sen.
Orlando .....Mr. Philip Hewland
Griffo .....Mr. Leslie Palmer
Boissec .....Mr. J. Barber
Tomaso .....Mr. Denholm Muir
A Surgeon .....Mr. H. Earle
Servants ..... { Mr. P. Barry, Mr. D. Holm
Emilie de Lesparre .....Miss Coleridge
Madame Savilia dei Franchi..Miss Mary Rorke
Coralie .....Miss Maud Rivers
Frisette .....Miss Bessie Elder
Estelle .....Miss Marjory Field
Celestine .....Miss Ethel Patrick
Marie .....Miss Madge Fabian

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Nearly a generation must have passed since Kyrle Bellew delighted provincial playgoers with *The Corsican Brothers*, but its memories are with us yet; while Henry Irving's elaborate revival at the Lyceum in 1880 is well remembered. Originally the play, under the title of *Les Frères Corses*, was adapted from the "Impressions de Voyages" of Dumas by E. Grangé and Xavier de Montépin, and produced by Fechter at Paris in 1850, and two years later an English version by Dion Boucicault was produced at the Princess's Theatre, London, in which Charles Kean appeared. To come to Mr. Martin Harvey's production, his is a revival in the fullest literal sense of the word. The play is galvanised into actual life, the characters not being "merely players," but living men and women—in a romantic atmosphere, truly, but living men and women none the less. This the crowded and obviously sympathetic house was quick to realise and appreciate, and Mr. Harvey's wish to make *The Corsican Brothers* a staple dish of his dramatic répertoire is likely to be gratified: Mr. Harvey's version follows somewhat on the lines of Irving's. First we see the reception of M. Meynard by Mme. dei Franchi, who is waiting the return of her son, Fabien. M. Meynard is the bearer of a letter to the Franchis from Louis, who is pursuing his studies in Paris. The message being three weeks old does not quieten the mother's fears, nor those of her son Fabien, who, on his return from the mountains, confides in M. Meynard, and reveals the remarkable sympathy existing between his brother Louis and himself. The story of the vendette is interrupted by the belligerents, Colonna and Orlando, whose sanguinary desires are abated by Fabien. M. Meynard is shown to his bed-chamber by Mme. dei Franchi, and Fabien being left alone is for dispatching the serving-man, Griffo, with a message to his brother, and sits down to write accordingly, when his brother's ghost appears unto him, thus realising his own fears and forebodings. Mr. Harvey's acting in this thrilling scene calls for the utmost praise, and the curtain fell to an outburst of enthusiasm which lasted some minutes, during which time the curtain had to be raised four times, Mr. Harvey also being specially summoned. The next act, showing the foyer at the Opera House, where M. de Château Renaud wagers with Montgiron that he will bring Emilie de Lesparre to supper; the Salon at Montgiron's, where Mme. de Lesparre discovers she is the victim of a trick, and gathers Louis to her aid; and the Glade in Fontainebleau Forest, with the horror of Louis's death at the point of Renaud's sword, was followed with tense feeling and sympathy, the audience, as the curtain fell, being again demonstrative in their applause. Act III., where Fabien follows and overtakes the slayer of his brother, brought about a brilliant and tensely dramatic consummation to the play, the duel holding the audience spellbound. The avenging death of Château Renaud and the vision of Louis dei Franchi's ghost was exceedingly impressive, and at the fall of the curtain, the audience, not contented with cheering themselves hoarse—and seldom has there been such a scene of enthusiasm in this theatre—called loudly on Mr. Harvey for a speech, which he made with grateful and graceful allusions to "the splendid manner in which they had received the old classic."

Mr. Harvey's differentiation between brother and brother is subtly indicated. As Fabien, the patriot Corsican, proud and fond of his liberty, and his devoted mother, but overcast with fears for his brother Louis, he acted with all the artistic perception of which he is so well possessed. And in the duel scene as the avenging spirit he showed the unquenchable fire of revenge with quiet but convincing art. As Louis, he depicted deep-seated melancholia, his acting being distinguished by the utmost grace and fascination. In his death scene, he, with hollow voice and glazed eye, held the audience rigid and silent, till, as has been described, the audience broke out into storms of applause. Mr. Vincent Sternroyd showed polish and virility in the rôle of Château Renaud, and his part in the duel scene was admirably done. Miss Coleridge appeared as the imprudent, if spotless, Emilie de Lesparre, and revealed the goodness as well as the frivolity of the character with much tact and success. Miss Mary Rorke represented the tender and dignified traits of Madame dei Franchi with the finished art of a clever and experienced actress. Mr. Albert E. Raynor did all that was necessary with the rôle of Montgiron, affording excellent support to the villain. Mr. George Cooke gave a sturdy rendering of the rôle of the loyal friend, Martelli, and showed an earnestness befitting the character. Mr. Alfred Mansfield was unobtrusive, but most capable, as Meynard; and the sanguinary Colonna and the fiery Orlando were rendered amusing by Messrs. Fred Wright, sen., and Philip Hewland. Mr. Leslie Palmer was successful as Griffo; Miss Madge Fabian appeared as Marie; and the Misses Maud Rivers, Bessie Elder, Marjory Field, and Ethel Patrick lent gaiety to the opera scene. The overture and incidental music have been specially composed by Mr. C. Franckenstein, who conducted on this occasion; and the special scenery, which is exceedingly effective and appropriate, is by Mr. George J. Dodson. The costumes are by M. Alias, L. and H. Nathan, and Miss Dyball, and the duel, so dramatically realised, is the clever arrangement of M. Felix Bertrand.

The Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, was put up for sale by auction on Tuesday, but, no bid being made, the lot was withdrawn.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Jones (Ada Mansfield) have secured another new vocal scena from Mr. Albert Voyce, entitled *Mother Shipton*, a Christmas scena. Miss A. Mansfield created a sensation in a similar part last year.

At the Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, Messrs. Beandyn, Livesey, and Hardy's company is in the stirring melodrama *The Days of Cromwell*. Chief honours fall to Mr. Henry Belding, who as Ironhand is excellent; Mr. Robertson Foulis works hard as Mardyke; and Mr. Howard Hardy is good as Matthew Mardyke. Mr. Jack Gray is well cast as the Protector, and Mr. T. R. White is an amusing landlord. Miss Gertrude Gillman is pleasing as Ruby, and Miss Cissie Coleford makes an effective Mistress Shadwell.

ACTORS' DAY.

The committee who are organising Actors' Day are anxious that the whole of the profession should be aware that next Thursday is "Actors' Day"; and invite all actors not playing on that date to forward contributions to the trustees, 10, King-street, Covent Garden. The following two forms are being sent out:—

ACTORS' DAY, 1906.
Thursday, October 18.

Touring Manager's Form.

To the Trustees of Actors' Day Fund.

Herewith I enclose ..... being ..... amount of my contribution as Manager, and ..... the amount contributed by my Company.

The following in my Company have given their services:

Note.—A list of names should be given here, but no details of individual salaries.

Cheques should be made payable to The Trustees, Actors' Day Fund, crossed Messrs. Coutts and Co., and forwarded to them at 10, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

ACTORS' DAY, 1906.
Thursday, October 18.
Theatre .....
.....

Local Manager's Form.

To the Trustees of Actors' Day Fund.

Herewith I enclose ..... being my contribution to the above, as Manager of ..... Theatre .....
Manager.

Note.—If the resident Acting-Manager has contributed, please add name that it may be placed on the Register.

Cheques should be made payable to The Trustees, Actors' Day Fund, crossed Messrs. Coutts and Co., and forwarded to them at 10, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

The following have promised their support on Actors' Day in addition to those names we have already published:—

Adams, Mabel L.
Ames, Gerald
Appleby, Joe Clifford
Austin, Dare
Barwick, Edwin
Benedict, A. E.
Bentham, J. A.
Berry, William
Bevan, B.
Braban, Harvey
Bretherton, Dorothea
Brooke, Maud
Brough, Mary
Brown, Archer
Buffum, Edwin C.
Burgess, Rosa
Burleigh, Lena
Burnard, Henry
Chewd, W. E.
Clark, Gerald
Collins, Frank
Collinson, George
Colona, Edith
Cooke, Daisie
Cross, Frank M.
Curtis, David
Day, Marjorie
Doe, T. C.
Draper, Mark
Eadie, Dennis
Egerton, Hilda
Egerton-Spire, Esmond
Faber, Beryl
Fitzmaurice, Aubrey
Flood, Alec
Foss, Kenelm
Francis, Charles
Geach, E. Spencer
Glynn, Florence
Gordon, Stanley
Grahame, Othniel
Grant, James
Green, Dorothy
Greene, Richard A.
Grey, Leonard
Grey, Mona
Groves, Charles, jun.
Hallatt, W. H.
Harrison, Mabel
Harvey, Dora F.
Hathorn, M.
Haynes, T. P.
Hewitt, Harry
Hunt, Reginald A.
Jacobs, C. Henri
Kempt, George
King, Edith
Lewis, Joseph
Lewis, Violet
Lingard, Oswald
Loader, McLeod
Loftus, Alexander
Mathews, Rose
May, Frances
Maynard, Dolly
Medley, C. Howard
Merrivale, Philip
Millins, Edwin
Montesole, Max
Murch, Daisy
Murray, Gertie
Pearce, W. Kingsford
Pelham, Lala
Percival, Dora
Polini, Marie
Preston, Amy
Preston, Emily
Preston, Winifred
Prideaux, Ethel
Pringle, Stanley
Rogers, L. F. A.
Scheller, Annie
Shore, Ross
Shortt, Sophie
Snelson, Harry J.
Spenser, Sydney
Stafford, Eugene C.
Steele, Blanche
Stoneham, Adelaide
Stuart, Babs
Tracy, Howard L.
Tressilian, Florence
Turner, Eardley
Upton, F. C.
Vaughan, E. W.
Ward, J. Major
Warnington, S. J.
Wellesley, Charles
Wibley, Mary
Yorke, Maud

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—With reference to numerous inquiries addressed to me as a member of the Organising Committee, it cannot be too clearly understood:—

(1) That the Actors' Day Fund has nothing whatever to do with the Actors' Association. The Council of the Actors' Association merely supplies the necessary machinery for the preliminary organisation of the fund.

(2) The trustees—Sir George Lewis, Sir Squire Bancroft, and Mr. George R. Sims—while recognising the claims of existing funds and charities, hope further to accumulate a fund which shall place our calling for all time beyond the need of charitable appeal.

(3) If the Actors' Day Fund is properly supported, all existing and approved theatrical charities will benefit to a far greater extent than has ever been, or ever will be, the case under the present subscription system.—Faithfully yours,

Norman McKinnel.

Green Room Club, Oct. 10.

THEATRES v. MUSIC HALLS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr. Frederick Mouillot says in the *Daily Chronicle* that the two entertainments a night given in the music halls have undoubtedly injured the provincial drama. Mr. Mouillot is right, but I will even go further than that, and say that some of our provincial managers have no one to blame but themselves. What do some of them do for the comfort of their audience? Nothing. What do the music-hall managers do for their audience? Everything. I was playing some time ago in a provincial theatre. I drove up and saw an enormous crowd waiting at the early doors—it was just half-past six. The poor people were drenched, for there was a veritable deluge. I remonstrated with the manager, who told me the man who is supposed to open the doors "had not come yet."

Now, had I been the local manager, I should have had plenty of light outside, à la music hall, paid my band a half-a-night salary (which I, as the travelling manager, would have shared willingly, as would any other sensible travelling manager), let the people come in, even at six, or as soon as there was a crowd, and given them music. That would have pleased the audience; they would all have been in a good humour. Whereas, in the circumstances, they were irritable—and rightly so—and of course the performance suffered. Our local managers have to wake up considerably, or else they will arise one morning and find that the music halls, who now take a good deal of their business away, will capture it all; and they will have no one to blame but themselves.—Yours faithfully,

Auguste Van Biene.

16, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square,
Oct. 4, '06.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—*Re* your article "Theatres and Rates," may I point out that the rating of the New King's Theatre, Hoxton, is £240 and the public-house attached £139, making the total rating of the premises £379, and not £183.—Yours faithfully, F. Dudman Bromwich, New King's Theatre, Hoxton, Oct. 12.

Mr. P. Norman and company are this week presenting at the Alhambra Theatre, Stourbridge, the dramas, *What Men Dare* and *A Woman Worth Winning*. On the opening night the former piece was presented. Mr. Norman gives a capital embodiment; Mr. E. Hall as Nickola proves a capable exponent of the part; Mr. A. E. Forbes as Richard Wilson wins favour, as does Miss Maud Buchanan as Olga Levin. Another prominent artist is Miss Iris Daventry as Clara Panloon.

"THE GOOD-NATUR'D MAN."

A Comedy, by Oliver Goldsmith, arranged in three acts by William Poel, and revived by him at the Coronet Theatre, Notting Hill, on Thursday afternoon, Oct. 11.

Sir William Honeywood ....Mr. Charles Allen
Mr. Honeywood .....Mr. Lewis Casson
Jarvis .....Mr. W. M. Mayne
The Butler .....Mr. Ben Field
The Footman .....Mr. Allen Wade
Mr. Twitch .....Mr. W. M. Mayne
Mr. Flanigan .....Mr. Edwin H. Wynne
Croaker .....Mr. William Poel
Leontine .....Mr. Edwin Coates
Nicodemus .....Mr. O'Meara
Ebenezer .....Mr. Reginald Mason
Lofty .....Mr. Ben Field
Dubardieu } .....Mr. Edwin H. Wynne
Postboy .. }
Miss Richland .....Miss Muriel Currey
Garnet .....Miss Helen Vicary
Olivia .....Miss H. B. Potter
Mrs. Croaker .....Miss Clare Greet
Landlady .....Miss Helen Vicary

For his revival of Goldsmith's comedy, *The Good-natured Man*, Mr. William Poel, whose name is so well known in connection with the performances of *Everyman*, was favoured by a fairly large and undoubtedly sympathetic audience on Thursday afternoon at the Coronet Theatre. In his arrangement of the three acts of the play Mr. Poel followed the original pretty closely, and the result was a very delightful performance. *The Good-natur'd Man* undoubtedly possesses fine and attractive qualities. The dialogue is vivacious, abounds in excellent natural wit and humour, and is marked by that priceless literary quality which Goldsmith infused into all his writings. It was in 1776, the year when "The Vicar of Wakefield" was published, that Goldsmith began the comedy of *The Good-natur'd Man*, which, finished the following year, received the approbation of the author's little senate of friends. The play was offered to Garrick at Drury Lane, but he did not care for the piece, and his relations with Goldsmith soon became too complicated to make him otherwise eager to accept it. Goldsmith then took it to Colman, who accepted it and produced it on Jan. 28, 1768, at Covent Garden Theatre, where it ran for nine nights. The characters in *The Good-Natur'd Man* are kept entirely distinct from one another, and some of them are entirely original conceptions. The hero—for so we will call the generous young Honeywood—takes himself just seriously enough to secure our sympathy, and it is not only his good spirits which make him good-natured, as in the case of Charles Surface. The character of Croaker is unquestionably one of the most humorous creations of the comedy of character in our dramatic literature. Goldsmith admitted that he had borrowed the notion of Croaker from the Suspirus of Dr. Johnson's "Ramblor." *The Good-natur'd Man* when first put on the stage was intended as a protest against a species of comedy which still dominated the English stage, and which was known to its contemporaries as well as in subsequent literary history under the name of sentimental comedy. Goldsmith's protest was to be delivered, and the allopathic cure which it professed to administer was to be accomplished, in the most direct way possible. So Dr. A. W. Ward tells us that *The Good-natur'd Man* was his first attempt to enforce the lesson practically.

Mr. Poel can certainly be congratulated upon his revival of this old comedy. He himself was seen in the character of Croaker, that delectable embodiment of British pessimism, who is never without a grievance of some sort. Mr. Poel has certainly handled parts better suited to his individual capabilities than Croaker could possibly be, but his portraiture certainly showed an intellectual grasp of the character and the absurd idiosyncrasies which combine in its constitution. If anything, Mr. Poel should have been a little more serious in his disagreeableness. At the same time, we do not overlook the fact that the part was not an easy one to present, and, all circumstances considered, Mr. Poel may be commended for the afternoon's effort. The part of Mr. Honeywood was entrusted to Mr. Lewis Casson, and a very gentlemanly and lovable personage he was as the Good-natur'd Man. His acting, like that of Mr. Charles Allen as Sir William Honeywood, was marked by scholarly polish. Miss H. B. Potter was so pretty and winsome and sweet and girlish in the rôle of Olivia that Leontine could be well excused from following his father's wishes and pursuing the wealthy Mistress Richland in order that there might be no interference between himself and the fair Olivia. We should like to see more of Miss Potter, for whom it would not be rash to predict no small fame in a particular branch of the dramatic art. Miss Muriel Currey brought gracefulness, dignity, and ladylike demeanour to her presentment of Miss Richland, and her work, if somewhat stiff at times, was meritorious on the whole. Mr. Edwin Coates was acceptable as the soldier-lover, Leontine, although it did seem that he was too ready to bubble into merriment on the slightest—even sometimes without—pretext. Mr. W. M. Mayne (who also appeared to advantage as Jarvis) and Mr. Edwin H. Wynne, as Twitch and Flangan, were irresistibly comical; Lofty the Lawyer, with all his pretended influence on peers, statesmen, and the world of politics in general, was a characteristic figure in the hands of Mr. Ben Field; and the cheerful Mrs. Croaker found an admirable and skilful representative in Miss Clare Greet. All the other characters were played in adequate style.

DEATH OF FRANK BATEMAN.

The news of the death of Mr. Frank Bateman, the touring-manager and actor, which took place with painful suddenness on the stage of the Theatre Royal, Bilston, about mid-day on Monday, created a painful impression. The deceased gentleman was joint-author with Mr. John Douglas of a drama entitled *No Wedding Bells for Her*, and he had arrived in the town with the object of opening a week's engagement at the local theatre with his own company. The rehearsal of the play, in which Mr. Bateman took a leading part, was in progress, when he suddenly remarked that he felt awfully queer, and shortly afterwards fell into the arms of Mr. Stuart Lomath, to whom he was talking, and died a few minutes later. It is understood that the deceased had suffered for some time from heart disease, and had been attended for that complaint last week at Walsall. He was forty-two years of age, and leaves a widow, a Walsall lady, who is known on the stage as Miss Lizzie Montague.

An inquest was held on Tuesday, when Lizzie Bateman, wife of deceased, said her husband left Walsall on Sunday night to go to Bilston. She was not aware of him having heart disease, but on Sunday night he had been attended by a Walsall doctor, who said he was suffering from fatty degeneration of the heart. Stuart Lomath, a member of the company, said he was holding a conversation with deceased on the stage of the theatre on Monday afternoon, when Bateman caught hold of him and exclaimed, "I am feeling very queer," and sank into his arms. Witness lowered him gently on the floor of the stage, but Bateman, after struggling to his feet and drinking a little water, again fell into his arms, and although artificial respiration was resorted to, Bateman died before the doctor could arrive. The coroner said that the medical opinion was that deceased died from heart disease. The jury returned a verdict of "natural causes," and expressed sympathy with Mrs. Bateman.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"MATT OF MERRYMOUNT."

Drama, in Four Acts,
by B. M. Dix and E. C. Sutherland.
Produced at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, on Thursday, Oct. 11.

Matt Compton .....Mr. Fred Terry
George Armitage .....Mr. Malcolm Cherry
Gamaliel Frothingham ..Mr. Carter Edwardes
Roger Frothingham .....Mr. Alfred Kendrick
Chad .....Mr. C. R. Gibson
Long Wat .....Mr. Walter Edwin
Firebrace .....Mr. D. J. Williams
Gaillard .....Mr. W. A. Haines
Constable Sedgwick ....Mr. Frederick Groves
Bezaleel Peck .....Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw
Experience Cooper ....Miss Claire Pauncefort
Desire Sedgwick .....Miss Kathleen Doyle
Red Jill .....Miss Miriam Lewes
Dianthe Frothingham..Miss Lilias Waldegrave

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The period of *Matt of Merrymount* is 1635, and the scene of the play Massachusetts. Matt of Merrymount, really the heir to a handsome estate in England, is a leader of a lawless gang who are at warfare with their Puritan neighbours. Matt is self-exiled, believing himself to have murdered his cousin, George Armitage. To Matt's house, to consult Red Jill, a reputed witch, comes old Frothingham's daughter Dianthe, in boy's garb, to learn her future as to her betrothal to a man now voyaging from England to manage the Killigrew estates. She is saved from the cruelty of the gang by Matt, who falls in love with her. Following the girl a few days later to Edgemouth, Matt is arrested for trespass and theft, and is placed in the stocks. Taking service in Frothingham's house, he grows in the good graces of Dianthe, who has fallen in love with Matt, though she expects her betrothed to arrive from England at any moment. The *fiancé* is none other than George Armitage. Matt is delighted to learn his innocence. In the last act he comes into his own, the "ending" being a thoroughly "happy" one.

Mr. Fred Terry in the title-part played with a dash that proved quite to the taste of the house. After the third act he was cheered again and again; and at the fall of the curtain he had an enthusiastic ovation. In a character of great contrasts Mr. Terry was equally happy in all its varying phases. He was especially good in depicting Matt's gradually increasing attachment to the Puritan maiden; and was seen to great advantage in the second act, in the market-place. In a scene with Dianthe, when Matt, recalling his happier days, dances a minuet with the girl, Mr. Terry was as graceful and gallant as could be desired. In the rôle of Red Gill, Miss Miriam Lewis, whose rise in the profession has been very rapid, gave a very fine performance. Dianthe was very prettily interpreted by Miss Lilias Waldegrave; and valuable support was given by Mr. Alfred Kendrick as Roger Frothingham. Praise is also due to Mr. Carter-Edwards as the elder Frothingham, and to Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw as Peck. Others in the cast were Mr. Malcolm Cherry, Mr. C. R. Gibbon, Mr. Walter Edwin, Mr. D. J. Williams, Mr. W. A. Haines,, Mr. Frederick Groves, Miss Claire Pauncefort, and Miss Kathleen Doyle.

The scenery by Mr. R. C. McCleery was excellent; and pretty incidental music had been specially written and composed by Mr. Sydney Faulks.

The performance was a complete success; and there is every prospect, judging by the enthusiasm it created, of the piece having a long and successful run. Mr. Terry acknowledged the reception given to the play, and thanked his company and the staff of the Theatre Royal for their assistance.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

On Wednesday afternoons during October Mr. Stewart Macpherson, F.R.A.M., is giving a lecture on "The Evolution of the Symphony." In the course of his lecture on Wednesday, Oct. 10, Mr. Macpherson referred to the three-movement form of the symphony as being almost universal. The lecturer also mentioned how in the eighteenth century the symphony had become quite conventional until the advent of the great Mozart. The professor then played some examples of the great master. He referred also to the fact that Mozart never, or, as Sir Arthur Sullivan would have said, "hardly ever," used the trombone in his symphonies. The lecturer ridiculed the idea that any great oratorio symphony, or concerto could be, or ever had been, composed by any musician under nine or ten years of age; such works, he contended, must be slight and immature. In speaking of modern composers and their orchestral works, Mr. Macpherson said they depended too much on what "dear old Macfarren" used to call the chemistry of sound. The professor here gave on the pianoforte a portion of the first movement of Mozart's G Minor Symphony, saying he considered it the finest work of its kind ever written. It had been said that the G Minor Symphony reveals throughout the struggles and many great disappointments which the noble-hearted artist had so rudely experienced during the later part of his life. We may here mention that Mozart composed no fewer than forty-nine symphonies. At the close of Mr. Macpherson's interesting lecture he stated that on the next occasion he would deal with the works of the great master Beethoven.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 8,
the Musical Play, in Three Acts, entitled
"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."

This popular musical play from the Apollo Theatre, presented by Mr. George Dance's principal company, has scored a distinct success. The charming music received ample justice at the hands of principals and chorus, and the Broadway orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Basil Horsfall, rendered able assistance. Miss Aimée Grey was a delightful Norah Chalmers, and quickly won all hearts. Miss Chrissie Balland was a vivacious Ellen; Miss Cruickshanks was capital as Mrs. Chalmers; Miss Clarice Cartner as Nancy Lowly, Miss Dolly Gibbs as Mary Methuen, Miss Phyllis Melville as Mabel Macdonald, Miss Beatrice Hallet as Hilda French, Miss Vivienne Clare as Irene Powell, and Miss Ella Linden as Saidie Roberts, were charming girls from Kay's; Norah's bridesmaids were pleasingly impersonated by Miss Poppy Clifford, Miss Mabel Hay, Miss Hilda Grundy, Miss Gracie St. Clair, Miss Ethel Edwardes, and Miss Suzanne Graham; Miss Dora Grey was very good indeed as Jane; Miss Hervyn, in the title-rôle, was a most attractive shop girl; Mr. Herbert Franklyn was a manly and convincing Harry Gordon; and Mr. Tom Shelford an excellent Percy Fitzthistle. Mr. Buchanan Wake was successful as Theodore Quench, K.C., Mr. Charles Lupton scored as Mr. Chalmers, Mr. S. Major Jones was a humorous Joseph, and Mr. Copland Dawson an amusing Pepper. Mr. Walter Bates did well as Archie Pemberton, Mr. Geoffrey Saville was a capital Frank, and Mr. Arthur Stigant submitted a clever impersonation of Max Hoggenheimer.

Further trouble has cropped up at the Vaudeville, consequent upon the resignation of Miss Edna May. Miss Ethel Newman, who was understudy to Miss May, and who took her part whenever she was absent, has issued a writ against Messrs. Gatti, to show cause why she should not continue to play the part given to Miss Phyllis Dare. Miss Newman contends that by her contract she was engaged to understudy Miss Edna May for the run of the play, and that on Miss May's departure she should have succeeded her.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

The following additional subscriptions have been received since last week towards the fund now being raised for Doris Stephens, best known in the profession as "Dot" Stephens, whose lamentable accident on the railway on June 30 last has awakened such widespread sympathy:—

Already acknowledged	£730 13 3
Between Two Women Company (per Roland Yorke, Esq.):—	
Matthew Montgomery, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool	0 5 0
Roland Yorke	0 5 0
Aurèle Labat	0 2 6
Fred Danvers	0 2 6
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Thornton	0 2 6
Jackson Wilcox	0 2 6
H. A. C.	0 2 0
Lilian Earle	0 1 0
Nevill Graham	0 1 0
Lulu Bowes	0 1 0
F. W. G.	0 1 0
Thos. Kenning, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool	0 1 0
Held in Bondage Company:—	
Vivian Grantham	1 1 0
Miss Florence Tyrrell	0 10 0
Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Child	0 5 0
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Proctor	0 2 6
Mr. George Scully	0 2 6
Miss Joan Periera	0 1 0
Mr. and Mrs. Ratcliffe	0 1 0
L. M.	0 1 0
C. S.	0 1 0
R. V.	0 1 0
Miss G. Baring	0 1 0
Miss Maude Merrick	0 1 0
Wearin' o' the Green Company:—	
Mr. and Mrs. Mackey	0 10 6
Adele Liddon	0 2 6
Charles Homer	0 2 0
D. Macfarlane	0 2 0
H. Macaulay	0 2 0
St. John Stuart	0 2 0
The Walls of Jericho Company:—	
H. J. Wilde	0 2 6
May Taverner	0 2 0
A. E. Anson	0 2 0
Mary O'Neill	0 1 0
A. H. Leveaux	0 1 0
Marguerite Cellier	0 1 0
A. S. Barber	0 1 0
R. M. Taylor	0 1 0
Leonora Thomas	0 1 0
Joan Harcourt	0 1 0
N. Aveling	0 1 0
Leonora Rowell	0 1 0
Lilian Rogers	0 1 0
The Eternal City Company:—	
M. Simmons	0 2 6
A. Hales	0 2 6
Sam Scaife	0 2 6
J. W. Robson	0 2 0
W. H. C.	0 2 0
C. and K.	0 2 0
Percy Hart	0 1 6
Mr. and Mrs. J. Fortescue	0 1 6
John Tully	0 1 0
E. Comberbach	0 1 0
H. Ainsworth	0 1 0
Sara De Groot	0 1 0
H. Legerton	0 1 0
Ethel Percival	0 1 0
Henry Deas	0 1 0
M. Potter	0 1 0
P. Wood	0 1 0
Eva Stuart	0 1 0
Violet Campbell	0 1 0
W. H. Portsmouth	0 1 0
J. Beattie	0 1 0
C. P. Levilly's *La Poupee* Co.:—	
Kitty Cavendish	1 1 0
Harry Rushworth	1 1 0
Fred Seymour	1 1 0
Frederick Hobbs	1 1 0
Manfred Russell	1 1 0
W. H. Powell	1 1 0
The Girls	0 6 0
Avis Grahame	0 5 0
Vernon Reed	0 5 0
Jack Stephens	0 5 0
William Griffin	0 5 0
George Paulton	0 2 6
John Davis	0 2 6
H. J. F. Crane	0 2 6
M. Fairchild	0 2 6
Leroni	0 2 6
F. Joughin	0 2 6
D. McArthur	0 2 6
V. Wray	0 2 6
Mrs. Cundall	0 2 6
A. B. Carr	0 2 6
W. E. Wrench	0 2 6
Will Somerville	0 2 6
F. E. Tonge	0 2 6
Ernest Watts	0 2 6
F. Trevers	0 2 6
R. C.	0 2 6
W. Sinclair	0 2 6
R. Sytton	0 2 0
F. Wynn	0 2 0
Pearl Vivian	0 2 0
E. Oakes	0 2 0
A. Burgon	0 2 0
K. Langley	0 2 0
Collected by Lacy Lyne, Palace Theatre of Varieties, Attercliffe:—	
Lacy Lyne	0 2 6
Wm. Ellis	0 2 6
Mrs. Lacy Lyne	0 2 6
H. Wherwell	0 1 0
S. W. Hamforth	0 1 0
A. A. Webb	0 1 0
C. Colebourne	0 1 0
Fred Horsfall	0 1 0
W. H. Clifton	0 1 0
W. Chambers	0 1 0
J. Hutchison	0 1 0
E. C. Clayton	0 1 0
Daisy Ray	0 1 0
J. Falcon	0 1 0
Mlle. Luniere	0 1 0
Bros. Bahusio	0 1 0
J. Furniss	0 0 6
C. Swinburn	0 0 6
W. Kibble	0 0 3
Mrs. E. M. Trapp	3 0 0
Breed of the Treshams Company	1 2 0
E. G.	0 5 0

It is intended to purchase an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Podgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

Mr. Ernest Carpenter, lessee of the Grand Theatre, Brighton, will contest St. Nicholas Ward in the Brighton November municipal election. Mr. Carpenter is a prominent member of the Ratepayers' Association.

Makes the Skin as Soft as Velvet.—Beetham's "Larola" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and Keeps the Skin Soft, Smooth, and White at All Seasons. Invaluable for the Complexion, Delightfully Soothing and Refreshing after walking, golfing, cycling, motoring, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Charles Wyndham gave away the bride at a wedding at Hove on Tuesday. The lady was Miss Violet Kendall Wyndham Wood, daughter of Mrs. Archer Wood, of Hove, and Sir Charles's niece. The marriage took place at St. Patrick's Church, Hove, Mr. Pelham Benjamin Knowle Greenhill, son of Mr. Pelham Spencer Greenhill, J.P., of Knowle Hall, Bridgwater, Somersetshire, being the bridegroom. Among the wedding presents were a silver tea and coffee set from Sir Charles and Lady Wyndham, and two silver-mounted cut glass scent bottles from Miss Mary Moore.

Thursday next will be the initiation of Actors' Day. In case there should still be some who have not yet made themselves familiar with its aims and objects, all who are interested in its success will be doing good service by bringing it under the notice of their friends. The organising committee, to whom all communications should be addressed at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., will be glad to receive further names as early as possible, and give any further information that may be required. Over 2,000 artists, in addition to managers and authors, are helping towards the promotion of the success of the scheme, and Sir George Lewis, Sir Squire Bancroft, and Mr. George R. Sims have consented to act as trustees.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree is among the latest additions to the committee associated with the benefit matinée to Miss Soldene, to be given at the Palace Theatre on Nov. 13. Mr. Tree wired his acceptance of office in the following sympathetic terms:—"Delighted to join your committee to support the occasion. Kindly send tickets. Best wishes."

Mr. George Edwardes's birthday was celebrated on Saturday by a jovial supper party at the Carlton, when Mr. Ivan Caryll, the musical director, and the various ladies and gentlemen of the Gaiety, Daly's, and Prince of Wales's theatres, met to make a presentation to their popular chief. The souvenir presented took the form of a charming flower basket beautifully worked in silver. Mr. Caryll and Mr. Grossmith both made speeches that fell pleasantly upon the ear, referring to the connection of the various members present with Mr. George Edwardes and his theatres. Mr. Edmund Payne subsequently, in a witty speech, made the presentation to Mr. Edwardes, who responded in felicitous terms. The designs of the floral decorations corresponded in all particulars with the dishes on the menu, which was embellished with photographs of Mr. Edwardes and Mr. Caryll, and also of scenes from popular plays.

Sir Squire Bancroft has been elected to the Marlborough Club. The eminent actor is a great friend of King Edward, and it was on His Majesty's invitation that Sir Squire became a member.

A reassuring incident occurred on the last night of Mr. Arthur Bourchier's recent visit to the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Called upon to make the customary speech at the end of his successful week, Mr. Bourchier said that he and his company were just starting for Ireland, and lamented the fact that they were all of them bad sailors. Immediately a voice from the gallery shouted encouragingly, "Never mind, Arthur, you are very good actors." The remark was thoroughly endorsed by the delighted audience.

Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, the able secretary of the Actors' Association, has written to the *Daily Telegraph* with reference to a letter which recently appeared in that paper on the subject of actors' dressing-rooms. The council of the association, says Mr. Cruikshanks, as the representative body of the theatrical profession, sent to all the county councils throughout the kingdom a circular letter calling attention to the necessity of careful periodical inspection of the dressing-rooms in all theatres and the accommodation behind the scenes; at the same time the council gratefully acknowledged that in the majority of theatres the managers had shown their anxiety to provide for the comfort and convenience of actors and actresses; but still there were cases where the cleanliness and ventilation of the dressing-rooms, the sanitary arrangements, and the means of exit were extremely unsatisfactory. The council were particular to say they did not cast reflections on any particular theatre, and they were merely desirous that thorough inspection of the accommodation provided should be made, and that in cases where it was found to be defective, the managers should be requested to make reasonable and necessary improvements.

Mr. Cruikshanks has received replies from nearly all the clerks of the various county councils; and, in very many cases, where licensing of theatres has been delegated by the county council to some other body, they have either forwarded the circular to the proper authority, or, where there existed several bodies to which their powers have been delegated, they have kindly obliged him with the names and addresses of the persons to whom the circular should be sent.

Whenever a complaint reaches the council it is investigated, and unless it appears to be groundless or too trivial for serious consideration, the management is communicated with, and asked for an explanation; sometimes that explanation is considered satisfactory; sometimes it is not, and the manager is asked to remedy defects, and he does so. If he does not, the hon. medical officer of health moves the authorities of his town, and he is compelled to do so. Unfortunately, actors do not in every instance complain, and thus cases of insanitation and other matters are not brought to the notice of the council; and it was therefore thought advisable that the licensing authorities should be asked to make inspection before renewing licenses.

Mr. Cyril Maude's new theatre is making excellent progress, and it is hoped the Playhouse will be reopened early in January. There is not the least danger of another collapse, as there is now no roof at the railway station to fall in upon the theatre, so that the public may rest assured that the house is absolutely safe. The whole of the ground-floor area will be devoted to stalls, provision for the "pittites" being provided upstairs above the dress-circle. The stalls will have roomy armchairs, and the regulation space of one foot between each row of seats will be increased to eighteen inches in order to provide playgoers with ample room for passing to and from their places.

Miss Emily Soldene, whose fame in opera and burlesque is widespread, will have a farewell benefit matinée at the Palace Theatre on Nov. 13, when a programme of superlative excellence will be presented. Madame Melba is president and Miss Ellen Terry vice-president of a special ladies' committee, and the names of Earl Carrington, Lord Gleneek, Sir Douglas Straight, Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. R. C. McConnell, K.C., Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Frederick Harrison, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. Stefano Gatti, and Mr. Alfred Butt add to the influential nature of the event. A souvenir programme illustrated by Mr. John Hassall, R.I., will be presented on the occasion of the benefit, the secretary for which is Mr. Richard Northcott.

Mr. James M. Glover has been invited by the Bexhill Town Council to be Mayor for the ensuing year. The popular musical director of Drury Lane Theatre is already an energetic member of the corporation.

"Les Merveilleuses," the operatic adaptation by Captain Basil Hood from the French of Victorien Sardou, composed by Hugo Felix, an added degree the prodigality in mounting and appointments which is always the distinguishing mark of Mr. George Edwardes's productions. The dresses are exceedingly tasteful in design and colour, and the ball at the Luxembourg will be remarkable for an exquisite combination of costumes. Miss Evie Greene, Miss Denise Orme, Miss Mariette Sully, and Miss Gabrielle Ray will play important parts, and among the other principals will be Messrs. Louis Bradfield, Robert Evett, Fred Kaye, W. H. Berry, George Graves, and Willie Ward.

Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen, who is bringing out *The Amateur Socialist* at the Criterion this evening, is the son of the well-known novelist, and has for several years been manager to Mr. James Welch.

Mr. Otho Stuart has deserved well of the great unacted during his two years' stay at the Adelphi, for Mr. Rudolph Besier, who has written *The Virgin Goddess*, will be the fourth new playwright whom Mr. Stuart has introduced to public notice. The full cast of the new piece, which will be produced on Oct. 23, will consist of Mr. Alfred Brydone, Miss Lily Brayton, Miss Genevieve Ward, Mr. Oscar Asche, Mr. Charles Rock, Miss Madge McIntosh, Mr. G. Kay Souper, Mr. H. R. Hignett, Miss Florence Gretton, Miss Agnes Brayton, and Mr. Walter Hampden.

Mme. Fanny Moody, no less enthusiastic than her husband in the desire to popularise music among the masses, paid a visit to one of Sunderland's slum scholars last week, and, after listening to the poor children's part-songs, sang "Home, Sweet Home" to the girls and "Robin Adair" to the boys. Mme. Moody further made the youngsters happy by saying that she would ask the education authority to allow her to offer prizes for vocal music. She expressed her great pleasure at the children's singing, and at the close the teachers presented her with a lovely bouquet.

A young alien who tried to emulate the heroine of Mr. Melville's drama, *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*, at the Standard Theatre, on Saturday night found his way into the police-court. When brought up at Old-street, on Monday, it was stated that the prisoner, who is a Russian, wanted to go to the shilling seats at the Standard, but joined the 6d. queue by mistake. When this was pointed out to him he tried to thrust himself into the other line of people waiting and secure an unfair advantage. Complaints were made, and the prisoner was put out by constables there to enforce the accepted order of theatre-waiting, which, however, is not, it appears, enforceable by any regulation or order of the legal authorities. Prisoner, who did not dispute the constables' directions on any point of this kind, and protested that he was not able to understand much English, was ordered to pay 7s. 6d., police costs.

The Ben Greet Company left London on Saturday for their fifth tour in America. The company, which has attained marked prosperity in the States, recently returned to this country for a brief stay, in the course of which a special open-air performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was given at the Crystal Palace.

Leading schools of music benefit by the will of the late Mr. John Rutson, J.P., of Newby Wiske, Yorks, and of Nunnington Hall, Yorks. The testator, who left an estate of the gross value of £247,384, including net personality of £246,762, was a director of the Royal Academy of Music, and was one of the founders of the Hovingham Musical Festival. His bequests include £500 to the Royal Academy of Music, the income therefrom to be applied to the continuance of the "Albert Osliff Rutson Memorial Prize," and £235 to the same academy for the discharge of students' fees. Each of these bequests is free of duty.

Mr. Rutson leaves valuable musical instruments to the Royal College of Music, including a harp, two Guadagnini violins and a Foster violoncello. To the Royal Academy of Music he also leaves two Stradivarius fiddles, besides a viola of that master, an Amati fiddle and viola, and a number of other instruments of celebrated makers. In connection with these gifts the testator orders that those who were at present in charge of them should have the use of the instruments so long as they needed them.

The O.P. Club will discuss, not the ethics of the playhouse, but their seventh annual dinner, at the Criterion on Sunday, Nov. 4. The toast of the Drama will then be proposed by the president, Mr. Sidney Dark, and will be responded to by Mr. Hall Caine. Amongst other speakers will be Mr. Granville Barker, Mr. Mostyn T. Pigott, Mr. Alfred F. Robbins, Mr. Orton Roberts, and Miss Edith Wynne Matthison. Tickets may be obtained from the hon. treasurer, Mr. Carl Hentschel.

The final evening of the Promenade Concert Season, on the 26th inst., will be devoted by the directors of the Queen's Hall Orchestra, Ltd., to the endowment fund, inaugurated last year, for the benefit of the members of the orchestra. The artists, who have generously given their services for this occasion, are Mrs. Henry J. Wood, Mr. Ffrangçon-Davies, and Mr. Henry J. Wood. Neither Mrs. Wood nor Mr. Ffrangçon-Davies have appeared at these concerts this season, and this fact, together with a very popular programme, will assuredly attract an overflowing audience to Queen's Hall to appreciate the splendid work done by this orchestra, which has been trained to such a high state of efficiency by Mr. Henry J. Wood.

A final chance of witnessing the unique performance of Mr. G. P. Huntley, with Charles Macdona's principal company, including Miss Millie Legarde and the entire and actual production of *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)* from the Apollo Theatre, is afforded to patrons of the Kennington Theatre next week. This is absolutely the last and only week in which Mr. Huntley will appear in town in Paul Rubens' successful "comedy with music," and Kenningtonians will, without doubt, seize the earliest opportunity of securing seats for this great attraction.

A preliminary instalment of the humour which one may suppose is forthcoming in the debates of the Playgoers' Club was given at the annual meeting held on the 5th inst. at the Hotel Cecil, when an amendment to the club's annual report was proposed by Mr. Douglas Story. This amendment was that the sentence of the report reading "Mr. Hannaford Bennett (late honorary secretary) was offered a hearty vote of thanks on resigning" should read, "Mr. Hannaford Bennett, on resigning, was offered a hearty vote of thanks for his past services." The amendment was adopted with enthusiasm. Mr. Hall Caine was elected president for the ensuing year.

Mrs. Brown Potter was among the guests at the wedding of the Rev. Harold F. Davidson, rector of Stiffkey, Norfolk, and Miss Moyra Cassandra Saurin, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Michael J. J. Saurin, of Garballaugh, Co. Meath, which took place at St. Martin-in-the-Fields on Tuesday. The bridegroom was formerly connected with the stage, and Miss Saurin is also well known in theatrical circles. The Bishop of London, with the bridegroom's father, the Rev. F. Davidson, and the rector of the parish, the Rev. Prebendary Shelford, performed the ceremony, after which a reception was held at the Grand Hotel.

The following gentlemen constitute the preliminary committee which has been formed to make arrangements for the complimentary dinner to be given by the musical world to Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., on the 18th prox., to celebrate the successful passing of the Musical Copyright Act of 1906. Sir Hubert Parry, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, Mr. Edward German, Mr. Hamish MacCunn, Mr. Michael Maybrick, Mr. Leslie Stuart, Mr. Ivan Caryll, Mr. Paul A. Rubens, Mr. Lionel Monckton, Mr. Howard Talbot, Mr. Alfred Littleton (Messrs. Novello and Co.), Mr. Arthur Boosey (Messrs. Boosey and Co.), Mr. William Boosey (Messrs. Chappell and Co.), and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift.

The British Empire Shakespeare Society has secured the services of Mr. Arthur Bourchier, one of its Vice-Presidents, to give a lecture, entitled "William Shakespeare: Maker of Men," at three of the prominent provincial centres of the Society. The first will be delivered on the stage of the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on Thursday afternoon next, when members of the London Council will be present. The second will take place at the Athenæum, Glasgow, on the following Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 23, when Sir John Ure Primrose will preside; and the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, will be the scene of the third, on Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 30, with Lord Kingsburgh in the chair.

Mr. Bert Sinden, whose singing and dancing with his talented sister has been among the best features of *The Beauty of Bath* at the Aldwych, has unfortunately been obliged to give up through illness. He is suffering from internal hemorrhage, and is entering a sanatorium, where we hope he may speedily recover. It is naturally a great shock to the members of the gifted family, to whom the heartiest sympathy of all will be offered.

Mr. Clifford Bown, who is now embarked upon a tour of India and the East, passed through all the varied phases of dramatic art before he reached his present high position. Beginning as an amateur, Mr. Bown acceded to the professional stage in 1878, and has since served a long apprenticeship. He graduated in drama, and has over 2000 performances of the Convict in *Man to Man* to his credit. Pantomime also claimed him annually, and he was a leading member of the first company of that sort sent out by the late Sir Augustus Harris from Drury Lane. For six years he supported that favourite "star," Edward Compton, in high and old comedy; he played the principal comedian's parts in Shakespeare with the popular Walter Bentley, while in more modern productions his Earl of Loam in *The Admirable Crichton* and his Dr. Juttner in *Old Heidelberg* will be recalled. Four years spent with the late Sir Henry Irving, during which Mr. Bown accompanied the great actor twice to America, are a cherished memory, and more recent engagements of surpassing importance are those with Miss Ellen Terry in *The Amber Heart* and as Grimwig in Mr. Beerbohm Tree's production of *Oliver Twist*, at His Majesty's.

Miss Annie Hughes will commence a tour on November 27 at Manchester with *Tommy*, a new piece by Jerome K. Jerome, taken from his amusing book "Tommy and Co."

Mr. F. W. Purcell has taken a long lease of the Lyric Theatre, Bromley, Kent, which, after undergoing a thorough cleaning and renovation with a number of additional improvements, will reopen under his direct management on the 22nd inst.

A dramatic reading of Henry V. will be given by the British Empire Shakespeare Society on Sunday evening, at the Passmore-Edwards' Settlement, under the direction of Mr. Acton Bond, when Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, Miss Margaret Bussé, Miss Margaret Parker, Mr. Lewis Casson, Mr. Michael Sherbrooke, Mr. Kenyon Musgrave, Mr. Courtenay Foote, Mr. John Macfarlane, Mr. Lewis Willoughby, Mr. John Beamish, and Mr. Cecil Duncan will be included in the cast.

"The Charity That Began at Home," the new comedy by St. John Hankin, is due at the Court Theatre on Oct. 23, for a series of matinées. The cast will consist of Misses Florence Haydon, May Martyn, Margaret Murray, Lizzie Henderson, Agnes Thomas, and Gertrude Henriques, and Messrs. Dennis Eadie, Edmund Gwenn, Ben Webster, Bert Thomas, Eugene Mayeur, and Norman Page.

Mr. Barnet Pareezer, manager on behalf of J. Bannister Howard, Ltd., of the New Royal Theatre, King's Lynn, has received from Mr. J. Bannister Howard, as a mark of appreciation, a silver cigarette case inscribed on one side with a monogram and on the other "With kind regards from Mr. Cat-ter-m-o-l-e." It was a suitable and kindly souvenir from Mr. Howard of his benefit performance of *The Private Secretary*, held on Sept. 26, in which Mr. Howard took the part of Cattermole.

Negotiations for the production at a West End theatre of *The Electric Man*, the farcical comedy by Charles Hannan, which was produced at the King's, Hammersmith, in the April of 1904, are now in progress. Mr. E. B. Norman, late general-manager for Mr. Edward Terry, will "produce" the play.

The Grand Theatre, Islington, will be converted into a "two-houses-a-night" establishment on Monday, when the popular Princess's drama, *Ben-my-Chree*, will be presented twice without a cut. The first performance will begin at 6.15 and the second at nine o'clock, the necessary saving of time being effected in the intervals of the acts, the waits between which will be reduced to a minimum.

Miss Kitty Gordon, the well-known actress now playing the title-rôle in *The Duchess of Dantzic*, has been engaged, through the agency of C. St. John Denton, to play the principal boy in the forthcoming pantomime at the Crown Theatre, Peckham.

Miss Estelle Despa, in the rather difficult part of Mrs. Colquhoun in *All-of-a-Sudden-Peggy*, has been meeting with much success in the provinces.

Mr. Edward Cotte, who died last week at the age of seventy, appeared as Francis Osbaldestone in a revival of *Rob Roy* at Sadler's Wells in October, 1879, but a much more important engagement was when he played a leading part in *The Black Crook*, produced at the Alhambra during the Christmas of 1872. The spectacle was founded on the *Biche au Bois*, with music by the late Frederick Clay and Georges Jacobi, and adapted by Mr. Harry Paulton and his brother, Mr. J. Paulton. The cast included Mme. Cornelie d'Anka, Miss Kate Santley, and Miss Julia Seaman, Mr. Cotte, Mr. Harry Paulton, and the late Mr. Worboys.

Mr. Cotte, who possessed an excellent tenor voice, also appeared as Ange Pitou in *La Fille de Madame Angot*, when a version of that popular musical piece was produced at the Globe Theatre, and in a number of operettas that were once popular.

Many happy returns to Mme. Susanna Cole, A.R.A.M., 1849, who attains her seventy-sixth birthday on Monday next. Mme. Cole was for many years principal soprano at St. George's Cathedral, Southwark, and the Royal Sardinian Chapel. On the occasion of the visit of the King of Sardinia to London she was specially selected to sing before his Majesty. Mme. Cole now resides at Bruges, Belgium, and occasionally sings in public for charity.

The usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last, when there were present Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Miss Kate Phillips, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, F. Cremlin, Lawrence Grant, A. B. Tapping, Spencer Trevor, Fredk. Volpe, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

The hon. solicitors reported they had advised several members on points submitted, and they were requested to obtain the opinion of counsel upon a question arising out of the construction of a clause in a contract; in another matter they were asked to suggest arbitration to the parties concerned in a case in dispute. Daisy Irvine, Montague Wigan, and Mary Masters were nominated for election, and three former members were reinstated.

The questions concerning the proposed "Irving Memorial," discussed at the meeting of members of the A.A., held at Drury Lane Theatre on Monday the 1st inst., having been referred back to the council with a recommendation to call a meeting of the profession at large, it was resolved that those questions should be considered at the meeting of the council, which will be held on Tuesday, the 23rd inst., and the secretary was directed to request the attendance of all the members of the council, in order that the subject may receive the fullest attention.

The report of the Finance and General Purposes committee was received. The secretary was directed to call a meeting of the "Special" committee. Mr. Spencer Trevor was elected a member of this committee.

The Finance and General Purposes committee held a meeting on Tuesday last, when there were present Mr. Acton Bond (chairman), Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater, Lawrence Grant, C. Aubrey Smith, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). The committee were engaged in formulating suggestions to the council in connection with matters relating to routine, and in dealing with a question referred to them by the council.

Miss Edna May will make her reappearance in London, as has been hinted, in *Nelly Neil*, the new play by C. M. S. McLellan, author of *The Belle of New York* and *Leah Kleschna*, with music by Ivan Caryll. The event will take place on Boxing Night, and Mr. Charles Frohman will himself superintend the production.

The Playgoers' Club will open their Sunday evening debates at the Hotel Cecil on Oct. 21, with Mr. L. Bensusan in the chair. The subject chosen is "The Vexed Question of Dramatic Criticism," and the discussion will be opened by an address by Mr. J. T. Grein.

The tenth anniversary of the opening of the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, which was celebrated throughout last week, was a more than usually interesting event in the annals of suburban playhouses. Many other outlying houses started about the same time as the Royal County have, through stress of competition and other causes, ceased to serve the purpose for which they were built, having been turned into music halls, but the Royal County has continued to command the hearty support of the theatre-going public. During the nine years of its existence, 512 plays have been produced on its stage, many distinguished artists have trodden its boards, and the theatre has been the birthplace of several successful plays. Mr. Peter Davey, to whom the continued success of the theatre is largely due, still retains the post of managing-director, and all the heads of departments who were working on the opening night, remain at their posts.

The actual date of the anniversary, which was Thursday, the 4th inst., was signalised by a special performance of *The School for Scandal*, in which Mrs. Peter Davey, wife of the managing-director, appeared as Lady Teazle. The Sir Peter Teazle was Mr. Geo. Mudie; Mr. Rawson Buckley acted Sir Benjamin Backbite; Sir Oliver Surface was entrusted to Mr. Fred Dark; Charles Surface was sustained by Mr. F. Montague Lane; Miss Leonora Braham appeared as Mrs. Candour; and the Lady Sneerwell was Miss Lilian Hallows. The Mayor of Kingston and several members of the corporation were present at one of the performances.

Mr. Norman V. Norman has scored a great success with the Rev. Frederick Langbridge's new play, *The Chevalier de St. George*, the theatres being filled with enthusiastic audiences, who applaud the numerous exciting situations in the play. Opinion is unanimous that the Chevalier de St. George and Beatrix Esmond are the finest performances Mr. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson have ever given. Mr. Norman and Miss Wilson will appear in Brighton in a new duologue at the Catholic Bazaar, which will be opened by the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk in November.

Early in the year Mr. Ernest Dottridge, eager to "snap up" talent wherever it is to be discovered, found a very fine boy vocalist in a Master May, of Burnley. As the lad was under age, Mr. Dottridge advised the parents to keep him from appearing again until October, when the bother of obtaining licences each week would be obviated. The new singer duly appeared on Monday at the Pier Pavilion, Southport, and scored a great success. On Tuesday Mr. Johnson, the manager of the Pavilion, wired Mr. Dottridge, who has his sole bookings, to secure him for several more dates.

A great success has been established at the New Gaiety Theatre, Glasgow, under Mr. J. Barker's management, by running a stock company with popular drama, twice nightly, at popular prices. Mr. M. Montgomery, of the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, has provided an excellent company, the members of which are prime favourites with the Glasgow public, and crowded houses nightly is the reward reaped. On Monday, Nov. 5, *A Trip to the Highlands* will be produced by arrangement with Mr. Newton and Mr. E. T. de Banzee, with the original company, which appeared at the Royalty Theatre so successfully this year.

Keen interest is being evinced in American musical and theatrical circles in the forthcoming production by Mr. Thomas W. Ryley of *The Belle of Mayfair* at Rochester on the 29th inst. It will thence go to Baltimore, and reach New York for the Horse Show week. No fewer than 1,000 vocal scores of the work have been asked for in advance, and supplied, and Mr. Fred Day, the manager of the New York branch of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, anticipates a more than ordinary busy time—which in America means much.

Mr. John Humphreys will undertake to-night the part now played by Mr. Berry in *See-See* at the Prince of Wales's.

Mr. George Arthurs, who has written the words of the new songs in *The Belle of Mayfair*—"I'll wait for you, little girl!" and "She always does the right thing," is, like the composer, Mr. Leslie Stuart, a Manchester man. Mr. Arthurs seems to possess the knack of hitting the popular taste, for another of his recent efforts, "If the world were ruled by girls," has been the success of Miss Ada Reeve's engagement at the Tivoli. Miss Lloyd is about to sing one of his songs, "The Adventures of Lady Jane," Miss Lottie Collins has another, called "A Marriage of Convenience," and Mr. Whit Cunliffe is scoring heavily with "It's a different girl again," the music being composed by Mr. Bennett Scott.

Mr. Martin Harvey, whose successful production of *The Corsican Brothers*, at Birmingham, on Wednesday, is fully dealt with in another column, is to appear next week at the Theatre Royal, Hull. At the request of the organisers, Mr. Harvey has kindly consented to recite at the Grand Military Bazaar, to be held in the Assembly Rooms, Hull, on Thursday, and two following days. The bazaar is to be given in aid of the building funds of the East Riding of Yorkshire Imperial Yeomanry, and will be opened by Earl Roberts.

On the occasion of the production at the King's Theatre on Monday evening of the play by Mr. George Warren, founded on Mr. Edgar Wallace's sensational novel, "The Four Just Men," a handsomely bound volume of the story was presented to every member of the audience on entering the theatre.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard, having successfully launched his *Four Just Men* company, starts to-day for the South of France for a well-earned holiday. On his return he will start preparing for his first Christmas pantomime, the subject of which will be *Aladdin*.

"A Heart's Desire," the romantic play by Frank Adair, will be staged by Messrs. Elliman's No. 1 Company at the Theatre Royal, Houghton-le-Spring, on Monday. The cast will include Miss Dora Eastlake, Miss Lily Barley-Clarke, Miss Ada Salmon, Mr. Cecil Grey, Mr. A. W. Beresford Carl, and Mr. Gerald Nolan.

Mme. Bernhardt's performance of Hilda Wangel, in Ibsen's *Lady of the Sea*, at Geneva recently, fell very flat, the general opinion being that the part did not suit the great tragedienne. This is the first time Mme. Bernhardt has played Ibsen. The theatre was crowded, a large number of French and German journalists being present. In reply to an interviewer, the actress said she was giving the performance in Geneva to judge of its effect before producing it in Paris.

One of the most promising young operatic singers in Berlin has just come to a terribly tragic end. Fräulein Reta Walter—one of the leading sopranos at the Konische Oper—was shot through the lungs by her fiancé, in her flat at the West End last week. The motive was jealousy. The murderer reserved another shot for himself, and both were buried on Monday. Fräulein Walter was only twenty-one; she was already a finished artist, and was beloved by all who knew her.

Mr. Alfred Lester, who loses himself every night in the character of the Constable, in *The New Aladdin*, recently lost his fox terrier—a very "old friend"—and spent every spare minute in trying to find his favourite. He was rehearsing at the Gaiety at the time. The offer of a good reward bringing no result, he doubled the amount; and, directly after the window bills were displayed in the suburb where he lives, a man appeared upon the scene with a vague story of having seen a "dorg" answering to the description somewhere in Shepherd's Bush. Should he follow up the clue? Mr. Lester asked him to do so, admiring his assumed manner, although he rather over-acted the part. The following day it was arranged that Mr. Lester should meet the Shepherd's Bush man at the end of a certain street, and they would both watch for the coming of the "dorg." Before the actor and his companion had been waiting three minutes another man appeared, strolling in an accidental way round the corner, leading Mr. Lester's by a bit of cord. Of course, the dog rushed to his master, the reward was paid, and the two dog "lifters"—whose capital acting really deserved the money—departed in opposite directions.

Miss Nellie Bowman has been shining as a particularly bright little star at Dalston this week. She looks charming as Angela Gilfain, in *Florodora*, and the part is greatly strengthened by her bright songs and original dancing. She has never had a dancing lesson in her life, but when a girl is a good mimic, under 7 stone in weight, possesses a quick ear for music, and unbounded vivacity, she can afford to laugh at apparently insurmountable difficulties. The second of the four Bowman sisters, the latest Angela Gilfain made her début at the promising age of six, when she was engaged to play with a stock company at the Standard Theatre. The piece was a harrowing melodrama, in which she had to kneel on a rock in mid-ocean, in an attitude of prayer, while her parents were drowned on either side. She had not rehearsed with the scenery, and, having no experience of the alarming flap of a stage ocean, she had to be solemnly warned by her mother not to be frightened, and not to move, whatever happened. In the middle of the scene, just when little Nellie was getting accustomed to her surroundings, a big tank at the back of the stage burst, and there was a sudden rush of very real water. The drowning parents made for the wings, the members of the orchestra leapt from their seats, and even the audience showed signs of alarm, but the "little, little child" remained on her rock, drenched and resolute, until she was rescued by her real mother, who waded through the wet canvas waves and carried her off under her arm.

Miss Bowman is always a great favourite behind the scenes, but her comrades sometimes show their belief in her good temper in rather a trying way. For instance, when she was playing Micah Dow, in *The Little Minister*, somebody caught her up off the floor, just before the curtain was to rise, and put her outside the emergency door at the side of the stage. She tried in vain to re-enter, but the door was too heavy to open, so there was nothing for it but to run round the corner of the street to the front of the house! On another occasion, when she was playing "A Little Stowaway" at one of the halls—Miss Bowman has tried everything from Shakespeare to variety—the door-keeper mistook her for a little street urchin. She had slipped downstairs to ask for her mail; but, finding the office empty, was just reaching up to get her letters out of the rack, when a hand seized her roughly by the collar, and she was unceremoniously pushed through the door into the street. Explanations and profuse apologies followed.

The late Mme. Ristori had a most thrilling and nerve-trying experience on the memorable occasion when in January, 1858, Orsini and Pierri attempted the lives of Napoleon III. and the Empress Eugénie by throwing bombs at the carriage in which they were seated. They were on their way to the Opera House in the Rue Lepelletier in Paris, where the outrage took place, and though the intended victims escaped unhurt hundreds of innocent people were injured. Mme. Ristori was at the moment on the stage in the execution scene from *Maria Stuarda*; a loud report re-echoed through the house, followed by the sound of falling glass and the shrieks of the wounded. But the great tragedienne proceeded with the performance as though nothing had happened, and a moment later Napoleon III. and the Empress Eugénie stepped into their box. The first thing which the Emperor did after acknowledging the plaudits of the house was to turn to Mme. Ristori with an encouraging wave of the hand, and she, after a curtsey, resumed her performance of the part of the unhappy Maria.

"Mrs. Warren's Profession," the piece by Bernard Shaw that came under the Censor's ban in America, was produced in Vienna on Tuesday, and met with great success. The play has been ably translated, and was presented in the Raimund Theatre before a large audience.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Very illustrative of the late Sir Henry Irving's whole system is the instance which Mr. Bram Stoker in his interesting "Personal Reminiscences of Henry Irving" gives of a detail of stage-management in the last act of *Hamlet*: "The cup from which Gertrude drinks the poison is an important item, inasmuch as it might have a disturbing influence. In one of the final rehearsals, when grasped by Hamlet in a frenzy of anxiety lest Horatio should drink: 'Give me the cup; let go; by heaven, I'll have it!' the cup, flung down desperately, rolled away for some distance, and then following the shape of the stage, rolled down to the footlights. There is a sort of fascination in the uncertain movement of an inanimate object, and such an occurrence during the play would infallibly distract the attention of the audience. Irving at once ordered that the massive metal goblet used should have some bosses fixed below the rim, so that it could not roll. At a previous rehearsal he had ordered that, as the wine from the cup splashed the stage, coloured sawdust should be used—which it did to exactly the same artistic effect."

Mr. George Bernard Shaw's whimsical comedy, *Cæsar and Cleopatra*, is at last to be produced in America by Mr. Forbes Robertson. When the piece was produced for copyright purposes, but unseen by the public, at Newcastle more than seven years ago, Mrs. Patrick Campbell read the part of Cleopatra and Mr. Nutcombe Gould that of Cæsar; and a writer in the *Pall Mall Gazette* was then credibly informed, "some of the stage hands who heard the performance were provoked to uproarious mirth by the audacious humour of the dialogue and the daring originality, modernity, and unconventionality with which the leading characters had been treated."

The same paper is scandalised by Mr. Shaw's attack on Shakespeare's Cæsar, which the dramatist has called an "admitted failure." As an exposition of Cæsar's character "all round," the glimpses given of him in *Julius Cæsar* are undoubtedly inadequate. But if no hero is on stilts "all the time," every great man when in authority and on view takes some of the professionally pompous tone. It is all the difference between a judge on the bench and a judge, say, on a race-course. It was no part of Shakespeare's plan to paint a portrait of Cæsar the warrior, the historian, and the reforming statesman. The bard merely wanted to emphasise the lordliness which was so offensive to his inferiors in the Senate, and accounted for the hatred of Cassius and his like.

A correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* writes: "Miss Soldene, in her interesting reminiscences, has made a singular mistake in speaking of herself as the 'sole survivor' of the old *Geneviève* artists. Miss Lennox Grey is still living, though in delicate health, and in the sick ward (after an operation) of the Strand Union, Edmonton. Miss Grey, of the Princess's, Adelphi, Olympic, the Grand, Islington, the Soldene Touring Company, &c., was for some three years a leading lady at the Alhambra. Miss Soldene herself played for Miss Grey's benefit at the Olympic, lent by Miss Conover, in 1884."

The brothers Gatti, says the *Morning Leader*, became associated with the Adelphi Theatre more or less by accident. A marine store dealer, by the name of Clark, who had amassed a fortune, invested capital in the Grecian Theatre, the stock playwright of that house at that time being Henry Pettitt. F. B. Chatterton, the lessee of the Adelphi, having lost his all, principally at Drury Lane, where he declared "Shakespeare spelt ruin," borrowed money of Clark, who eventually foreclosed, and, with the Gattis, started the Adelphi on a new and prosperous career. This meant the bringing of Pettitt from the Grecian, his first piece at the Adelphi, *Taken From Life*, being an enormous success.

In a note on Miss Mary Anderson's production of *A Winter's Tale* in America the *Grand Magazine* gives an instance of the way in which that fair favourite of fortune and of the public regarded "receipts." On one occasion, before the curtain went up, not only was every seat in the house sold, but numbers of people were always willing to pay for the privilege of standing at the back. One night, in Philadelphia, on the conclusion of the first act, there was, as usual, a deafening round of applause, and Miss Anderson had to go in front of the curtain to bow her acknowledgments. As she got back on to the stage, she turned to a little knot of actors. "What a bad house we have to-night," she said. "A bad house!" echoed Mr. J. H. Barnes, the leading actor of the company. "Why, Miss Anderson, there is only one box empty!" "I know," said Miss Anderson, pouting; "but it ought to be full. That is why I call it a bad house." It was the only "bad house" she had during her American season.

Mrs. Kendal's youngest daughter, Miss Dorothy Grimston, who is appearing this week as Lady Isabel in *East Lynne* at the Marlborough Theatre, has told the *Daily News* how she went on the stage. Although, as it were, born to the boards, Miss Grimston had no professional training whatever beyond a few amateur performances at school. "One Monday morning," she says, "I walked into a leading London theatre and informed the manager that I wanted to act. I was given a part to rehearse, and about a month later made my début, under Madame Réjane's management, at the Garrick Theatre in *L'Anglais tel qu' on le Parle*. This was in June, 1903." Miss Grimston is now "simply dying" to appear in Shakespeare.

Mrs. Kendal, whose name is so strongly associated with the part of Lady Isabel, has two reminiscences connected with the piece. One is of a woman in the audience at a provincial theatre, who, in the harrowing death-scene in the last act, stood up in the pit with tears coursing down her face and cried out "No more! No more!" Another is of a little Yorkshire child who had been "secured" to represent little Willie, saying, in the parrot fashion of the old stage juvenile, "A' cannot see you or eear your voice. A' can ownly eear the singin' of those voices in the shinin' garden. Theear! Theear!"

The great popularity of the part of Joe Mivens, "the simple, honest sailor," as played by Mr. Dan Rolyat in *The Dairymaids*, is resulting, says the *Morning Advertiser*, in the frequent attendance at the Apollo Theatre of large numbers of "liberty" men from the various men-of-war stationed within easy reach of London. Thus, the handymen in the pit has become a familiar spectacle, while many naval officers are to be found in the stalls regarding critically the ward-room scene, and laughing heartily at the dilemmas of the cheery surgeon, Dr. Byrne. This reminds us of a performance of *H.M.S. Pinafore* at Portsmouth, when the "jolly tars" who filled the popular parts of the house took all Mr. Gilbert's irony for sentiment, and applauded the too-eloquent hero and hissed Dick Deadeye with the utmost earnestness and good faith.

A super-master has been telling the *Daily Mirror* from what callings the London "supers" are recruited. Amongst the classes represented are clerks, small tradesmen, old soldiers, old sailors, young stage aspirants, regular soldiers, sandwich-board men, shop assistants, labourers, river hands, and "actors who have fallen."

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, Produced at the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, on Monday, Oct. 8.

Jack Brown ..... Mr. Ashley Page
Colonel James Graham ..... Mr. Tom Taylor
Tommy Spratt ..... Mr. Johnny Chippendale
Teddy Munro ..... Little Albert
John Marks ..... Mr. Frank Woodville
George Pherson ..... Mr. Edward Wright
Jasper Northcot ..... Mr. A. Anderson
Joe Ongar ..... Mr. J. Webb
Watkin ..... Mr. T. Carter
Lizzie Walker ..... Miss Mattie Everett
Julie De Beauvrais ..... Miss East Robertson
David Munro ..... Mr. John Sargent
Charles Courtenay ..... Mr. Alfred Harding
Nathaniel Lee ..... Mr. C. A. Chandler
John Penton ..... Mr. James Fielding
Detective Ashford ..... Mr. L. Russell
Rev. George Perryman .. Mr. Arthur Rowton
Mrs. Hatherton ..... Miss Maggie Burton
Peggy Munro ..... Miss Georgie de Lara
Nancy Lee ..... Miss Marion Denvil

Mr. Walter Melville is unquestionably one of the most prolific playwrights of our time, or, rather, of that younger generation which has now begun to make its influence felt in the land. In his latest work, *The Soldier's Wedding*, Mr. Melville is straightforwardly and frankly melodramatic. The story is an interesting one, and, moreover, it is well told. The hero is Jack Brown, stated to be "of His Majesty's Army," though he can claim no higher designation than that of a private soldier; and the heroine is Nancy Lee. The principal villain is Charles Courtenay. He is a nephew of Colonel Graham, who had befriended the hero because the latter's father saved his life upon a battlefield. Courtenay has a valuable confederate in his evil scheme in Julie de Beauvrais, a young lady who becomes the Colonel's wife. Courtenay presumes to be in love with Nancy Lee, whose grandfather, Nathaniel Lee, an aged farmer, has fallen on bad times. His cottage and household goods are to be sold by auction. Courtenay makes an offer to the girl to rescue her grandfather from his predicament if she will consent to marry him. She considers that the price is too dear, and declines. So we witness the sale of all the old man's possessions. This furnishes a most characteristic scene. The country auctioneer stands at his improvised rostrum and shouts, "Going! going! going!" There is animated conversation between the bystanders, and some of the rival farmers show a determination to outbid their neighbours in a manner that is nothing less than reckless. Horses, dogs, pigeons, ducks, and the usual farmyard denizens come before us, and after some bargaining each lot finds a new owner. Then the house comes under the hammer. Courtenay is the highest bidder, and just as the mallet is on the point of putting the property down to his account, Jack Brown rushes in with a larger offer, and secures the place, which he generously hands back to the old farmer. Of course in time Cupid wins his way, and Brown asks his Colonel's permission to marry, which is given. Then a little plan is conceived by Courtenay and the amiable Julie to accomplish the overthrow of Brown. Apparently they are aware that the Colonel has made a will largely in the young soldier's favour. How to disgrace the latter in the eyes of his commanding officer is the problem to which they endeavour to find a solution. They know that Jack will call to see the Colonel later on in the evening, and it is arranged that Julie shall be fondling the young fellow, and that the pair shall be surprised by the sudden entrance of the Colonel. The latter goes away in the company of his mischievous nephew, and when they return at a certain time they find Julie affectionately embracing Jack, much to the soldier's discomfort. The intrigue, however, fails to answer the purpose for which it was originated, for a would-be burglar, who has seen and heard all, informs the Colonel of the true state of affairs. In the third act Julie shoots her husband, and contrives to get Jack accused of the murder. However, in the last act she is betrayed by her accomplice, Courtenay, and there is a happy conclusion.

We really must congratulate Mr. Melville upon the excellence of the staging. We have already referred to the admirable manner in which one scene is put on. The same care seems to have been shown in regard to all the others. What a wealth of detail there is in the kitchen scene of the second act! It is a real kitchen that we gaze upon. Here are the red-brick tiles on the floor; here is the clothes-line from which is hanging varieties of underlinen; here, too, is the warming-pan one always meets with in country cottages; the grandfather's clock, the roughly-made trestle table, the common chairs appropriate to their surroundings, the plates, the pots, the pans, and other household utensils—even the ancient pestle and mortar are not forgotten. And a canary chirps sweetly in its modest cage as it looks through the old-fashioned lattice-windows upon a pretty garden. Mr. Melville certainly understands how to present a play. He realises, as every producer should realise, that a good setting means much in the telling of a story on the stage, and the scenic effects of *The Soldier's Wedding* are both artistic and realistic.

As to the acting, it is good all round. In the part of the hero we have Mr. Ashley Page, who contrives to present us with a straightforward, honourable, and soldierly character. Miss Marion Denvil is fascinatingly sweet and engaging in the rôle of Nancy Lee, and her delivery, like that of her stage lover, is beyond reproach. We particularly admired Mr. C. A. Chandler's characterisation of Nathaniel Lee, Nancy's grandfather. He shows us a doddering, white-haired old man, in garb which belongs to an antecedent generation, who hobbles along with the aid of his stick, and whose cacophonous voice is well suited to his years. In the well-worn brown corduroy jacket, the labourer's white trousers drawn tightly round the knees, and the red handkerchief scarf, it might be said that Mr. Chandler looks every inch the personage he is supposed to represent. Miss East Robertson, as the heavy lady, acts with considerable dramatic force; and Mr. Alfred Harding successfully impersonates the wiles and wickedness of Charles Courtenay. Mr. Tom Taylor is seen in a capital study of a good-natured military officer; and all the minor rôles are well placed. A number of delightful selections of music have been composed and arranged for the piece by Mr. Edward Reeves.

The first annual report of the Society of British Composers, which now has a membership of 165, including Sir Edward Elgar, Sir A. C. Mackenzie, Sir C. H. Parry, Sir C. Villiers Stanford, and Dr. F. H. Cowen, is a meritorious one. The chief object of the society is to publish those compositions of members for which publicity cannot be secured by the ordinary medium. The compositions were first played at concerts held by the society, and as a result four pianoforte solos and eight pieces of chamber music were published. Two private concerts were also given, at which "the most interesting and novel works by present-day composers of every nation" were included in the programme.

Presentation.—Mr. Richard Nightingale, who has been for five years acting-manager at the Bacup New Court Theatre, and is leaving to take up a similar appointment at the Empire Music Hall, Dudley, has been made the recipient of a large number of handsome presents. The gifts, which were presented at a farewell gathering held at a local restaurant on Saturday, included a fine travelling-bag and accessories and a gold-mounted umbrella from the theatre staff. A gold medal, bearing the name of the recipient, and subscribed for by frequenters of the theatre, also gave evidence of Mr. Nightingale's popularity.

FAREWELL TO MR. SYDNEY PAXTON.

Mr. Sydney Paxton's farewell concert at the Skating Rink, Southampton, on the 4th inst., was marked by a demonstration of public favour and enthusiasm which has never been equalled in the good old town of Southampton. It needed not the intelligence of the smallest lad present to discover that it was not the beautiful transformation of the interior of the spacious building, or the splendid entertainment provided for the enjoyment of a representative audience, that filled every nook and corner of the hall; but that it was to honour a dear friend, who, during his association with the management of the Grand Theatre and Hippodrome, Southampton, had won their sincere attachment, and who felt they could not allow him to sever his pleasant relations with them without an expression of their warm appreciation of his many social and business-like qualifications. This was the key-note of the evening; and Mr. Paxton must feel a very proud man indeed to have demonstrated in such a marked manner the high esteem in which he is held by his legion of friends on both sides of the footlights.

The hall had been most tastefully decorated, the special floral ornamentations of the stage being much admired. It was the work of Mr. Fred Bailey, of Above Bar, who was also responsible for chaste embellishments of a similar character in other parts of the house. The programme was exceedingly lengthy, and rich in variety and talent, and great praise is due to Mr. Wm. Trussell (manager, Palace), who directed the stage, and skilfully played the accompaniments on the piano for the various artists. One of the successes

[Photo by Chalkley Gould and Co

MR. SYDNEY PAXTON.

of the programme was scored by Mme. Ruby Hemming, whose beautiful voice was heard to great advantage in "Il Bacio" and other songs. Mr. Wm. Short, H.M. State trumpeter, who journeyed specially down from London, was another popular favourite. The Coronation trumpet calls also proved a great novelty. Mr. Frank Harwood, a clever actor-vocalist, gave a recital, *Not Understood*. Mr. Tom J. Morton and Miss Maggie Bowman delighted everyone with their comedy duo, "She loved a policeman." Unthan, the armless wonder; and Dronza, the marvellous mechanical talking head, were successful turns. A taking duet was provided by Miss Lulu Louden and Mr. Tom May; whilst Mr. Maurice Harvey was well received in his impersonations of well-known actors. Many local artists also successfully appeared.

During an interval in the programme an easel was placed upon the stage, and on this was hung a beautifully-executed illuminated address, the work of Mr. F. J. Burcher, embellished with views of the Hippodrome and Grand Theatre, the Chamberlayne challenge bowl, which is held by the Bargate Club, of which Mr. Paxton is president; and the Southern League Shield, which has been won by the Southampton F.C. on six occasions. The text of the address was as follows:—"To Sydney Paxton, Esq.—Dear Sir,—We desire you to accept this address, with the accompanying purse of gold and gift to Mrs. Paxton, in token of the regard and esteem entertained towards you by the very large number of residents of Southampton and the district who have become acquainted with you during your stay in our town.

"Your departure, on relinquishing the positions of resident-manager of the Grand Theatre and district-manager of the Hippodrome, is sincerely regretted. As to your professional ability and the high standard of your ideals and accomplishments, no words of ours would be an effective addition to the splendid tribute so eloquently tendered by Sir Henry Irving on the occasion of his farewell visit to Southampton, but we can say how cordially the sentiments then expressed were endorsed by local people, and how widespread was the gratification so high a compliment afforded.

"The readiness with which you have identified yourself, in various ways, with Southampton's interests, and the generosity with which appeals in behalf of charitable and other movements have been responded to by you—invariably with successful results—have commanded general appreciation, while your courtesy, geniality, and warm-heartedness have secured for you the affection of all with whom you have been associated.

"We feel sure you will make friends wherever you go, and we trust that there are many happy and prosperous years in store for you and yours.

"On behalf of the Testimonial Committee and subscribers, Henry Cawte, J.P., Mayor (Chairman of Committee); R. Andrews, Sheriff; W. Trussell, Deputy-Chairman; H. P. Howell, Hon. Treasurer; W. A. Gleave, Geo. Gear, Hon. Secretaries. Southampton, Oct. 4, 1906."

The Mayor (Mr. H. Cawte, J.P.), Colonel Swalm (American Consul), Mr. and Mrs. Paxton, and the members of the committee, on making their appearance on the stage, were accorded a rousing reception.

The Mayor said he presided over the gathering that evening with a feeling of sadness, for they had now come to the parting of the ways, when they would be losing their genial and kind friend Mr. Paxton. He was just the ideal man for the post of theatre manager, and though he had been a busy man professionally, yet he had found time to take advantage of every opportunity to forward and bring to the front any and everything appertaining to the welfare of Southampton. The Mayor, at the conclusion of his remarks, handed over the "work of art" and a purse of gold.

Mr. Paxton, who met with a magnificent reception, said, in the course of an eloquent speech, that he felt that he ought to be one of the proudest of men that evening, but, let them believe him, he felt most humble. He was proud to think they had thought him worthy of such a glorious testimonial and such an exhibition of regard, but he felt most humble when he thought how little he had done to deserve it. In conclusion, he thanked the Mayor, also Mr. Gleave, Mr. Gear, Mr. Trussell, Mr. Howell, the members of the committee, and all who had in any way helped forward the success of the gathering.

Colonel Swalm then presented Mrs. Paxton (on behalf of the subscribers) with an 18-carat gold curb bangle, upon which appeared a suitable inscription. Previously Mrs. Paxton had received, on behalf of the players of the Southampton Football Club, a magnificent bouquet of red and white flowers—the club colours.

The concert, one of the very best ever given in Southampton, closed shortly before midnight, the massed bands of the Grand Palace and Hippodrome providing a most impressive finale. And then came cheers to speed the parting guest, "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the King." The immense audience slowly filed out into the moonlight, bearing away with them ineffaceable recollections of an unique tribute to a popular actor, courteous manager, and a thorough gentleman.

In addition to the presentations mentioned above, Mr. Paxton has been the recipient of a handsome silver loving-cup, subscribed for by the whole of the employees of the Grand Theatre; a silver-mounted umbrella as a token of esteem from the Hippodrome staff; and a silver matchbox from two gallery boys at the Grand Theatre.

MR. BOURCHIER AT LEEDS.

The Gilbert and Sullivan Fête, on the 5th inst., in aid of the Leeds Lifeboat Fund, had the advantage of the eloquence of Mr. Arthur Bourchier, who had appeared in the town the week previous, and journeyed from Newcastle for the purpose of opening the fête. Mr. Bourchier, who was received with the utmost cordiality, spoke as follows:—

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a great honour as well as a pleasure that you should have called upon me to open this fête in the interests of so noble a cause. My wife bids me tell you how sorry she is not to be present to-day; but she knows you will understand that, to one of the gentler sex, seven performances in one week, plus heavy rehearsals of Lady Macbeth, renders the journey from Newcastle to Leeds and back in the same day a physical impossibility. As I was leaving Newcastle this morning I told her that I felt, so far as I was concerned, it was a case of "journeys ending in lovers meeting." Judging from the very encouraging reception my company received last week in your beautiful and well-ordered playhouse, may I venture to hope that the same sentiment finds an echo in your own hearts towards myself?

I can imagine no more pleasant form of appeal than that devised by your committee. The object of your fête is one which both the late Sir Arthur Sullivan and the, happily, still living Mr. Gilbert would be among the first to encourage. I see by your very charming and effective costumes that you are well acquainted with the delightful operas that have made their names veritable household words all the world over; indeed, the fame of the performances of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas here in Leeds has often reached us in London.

Nowadays it takes at least ten people to write a musical comedy; but when the Gilbert and Sullivan operas were produced musical comedy was practically unknown, and the public was quite content with one author and one composer. They didn't even hire an extra man to write the lyrics. But those days are like the "old, old love" in *Patience*, long dead, and the comic operas of to-day are spread out among so many people that they are apt to get thin in the process.

The work of the lifeboat man needs no recommendation. His heroism fills pages of our glorious island story, and any friend that helps to keep the lifeboat fully equipped needs must appeal to the community at large. It is in the nature of an old adage that when Leeds takes a thing up it does it thoroughly. This year £500 has already been sent to the fund, and a balance of £400 is expected—£900 in all—apart from what will be realised by this fête. This will be in the nature of a record for your city. It will be in your memory that a year or two ago, when Sir John French opened a bazaar on behalf of the fund, the total raised was £800. These are large sums, when it is remembered that Leeds is an inland city, far removed from the perils of the sea.

At a time when musical Yorkshire has been captivating the hearts of our cousins German, perhaps the most musical nation in the world, the following telegram just received from Germany will prove specially interesting. Mr. W. S. Gilbert, my dear old friend and London theatre landlord, is at present at Wiesbaden. He has just sent me this telegram: "I send hearty good wishes for success of fête. Greatly regret I cannot be present.—Gilbert."

And now I think I have kept you from the various attractions of the fête long enough, so I will conclude by thanking the committee once more for the honour they have done me, and by declaring the fête open for its second day.

DEATH OF ADELAIDE RISTORI.

The above world-famous actress died on Tuesday morning, at her residence in Rome, from pneumonia. She was born at Cividale, a small town in the Friuli, in 1821. At sixteen she appeared in leading tragic parts, and was afterwards for four years engaged in Signora Carlotta Marchioni's Sardinian company. In 1841 she joined the ducal troupe at Parma, and soon made great successes as Medea, Phœdra, Lady Macbeth, and Marie Stuart. In 1847 she married the Marchese del Grillo, and soon after her marriage went out with a touring company of her own through Italy. The tour proving a failure, she joined the company of Signor Domeniconi, appearing at the Teatro Valle, Rome, as Myrrha. In 1855 she was engaged by the Theatre Français. From Paris she went to London, opening at the Lyceum Theatre in 1856, and making a deep impression as Medea. On later visits to London she appeared as Debora in the original of *Leah*, as Lady Macbeth, as Adrienne Lecouvreur, and as Norma. In the English metropolis, in 1873, she went through the sleeping scene in *Macbeth* in English. In 1882, at the age of sixty-one, she played the part of Lady Macbeth at Drury Lane in Italian, under the management of Sir Augustus Harris, with Mr. William Rignold as Macbeth and Mr. J. H. Barnes as Macduff. The people of Rome gave a fête at the Valle Theatre on Jan. 29, 1902, in celebration of Ristori's eightieth birthday.

The funeral of Mme. Ristori took place on Thursday, all the Government and city authorities taking part officially in the ceremonies. Magnificent wreaths and other floral tokens were sent by Queen Margherita, the French Minister of Public Instruction, and many other notabilities, and thousands of friends and admirers congregated at the grave. The procession went through the principal streets of the city, and a service was held in the chapel belonging to the Capranica family. Speeches were delivered in the Minerva Church, after which the remains were interred in the family tomb next to those of the great actress's husband.

Miss Winifred Hare has just been engaged at a large salary to play Dick Whittington in the forthcoming pantomime at the Alexandra, Stoke Newington.

"THE FOUR JUST MEN."

A New Play, in Four Acts, founded on Edgar Wallace's story, by George Warren, Produced at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, On Monday, Oct. 8.

Geo. Manfred ..... Mr. H. A. Saintsbury
Jules Poiccart ..... Mr. Gordon Bailey
Leon Gonsalez ..... Mr. Hubert Willis
Miguel Thery ..... Mr. E. H. Dobell
Sir Philip Ramon, Bart. .. Mr. H. Elliott Ball
Sir Charles Barrington, M. P. Mr. Wilfrid Evesham
Mr. Greenham, M.P. ..... Mr. Legai Robinson
General Trelovitch ..... Mr. Algernon J. Hicks
Manuel Garcia ..... Mr. Leonard Williams
John Blount ..... Mr. Edward Russell
Superintendent Falmouth .. Mr. Harry Gregory
Inspector Howard ..... Mr. Charles Terric
An Alcalde ..... Mr. W. T. Best
A Clerk ..... Mr. Louis Scott
A Footman ..... Mr. James Bell
Billy Marks ..... Mr. Legai Robinson
Mrs. Travers ..... Miss Alys Rees
Juanita Ramon ..... Miss Dorothea Desmond

The task of turning an interesting novel into an interesting play has been cleverly accomplished by Mr. George Warren. It was fairly obvious that there was excellent material out of which to fashion a good drama in Mr. Edgar Wallace's thrilling novel, "The Four Just Men," but it required no little skill and sound judgment to successfully adapt the story for the stage. Mr. Warren therefore deserves to be congratulated on the satisfactory results of his work.

One of the principal merits of the new play is that the interest increases with every act. In the first scene—garden of an hotel at Cadiz—we meet the leading characters, prominent among which are George Manfred, Jules Poiccart, and Leon Gonsalez, known respectively throughout the play as Messrs. Brown, Knight, and Selkirk. Here also is staying Sir Philip Ramon, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs in the British Government, who has come to Spain to fetch from her convent his niece and ward, Juanita. General Trelovitch, a leader of the Servian revolutionary party who murdered their King, is, too, a guest at the hotel. Brown and Knight assume the characters of English tourists, and Selkirk, who is an adept at disguises, is employed as one of the waiters at the hotel. The "Four" having recently lost one of their number, impress into their service a man named Miguel Thery, whom they intimidate by the knowledge which they possess of his past life. Sir Philip Ramon is the author of a measure known as the Alien Political Offenders Bill, which, if it became law, would deprive the political refugee of his one asylum—England. The Four Just Men, whose boast it is that "they never act from personal motives," their sole aim being to "mete out justice where the power of the law fails," warn the Foreign Secretary that unless he withdraws his Bill they will take his life. Manfred, otherwise Brown, the leader of "The Four," has also arranged the escape from Cadiz of Manuel Garcia, a young artist, who has preached revolutionary doctrine in order to rouse his fellow-countrymen to resent the oppressive measures of a corrupt Ministry. It so happens that Juanita Ramon has met and fallen in love with Garcia, unknown to her stern uncle and guardian. The first act ends tragically. In a duel with swords which Trelovitch is compelled to fight with Brown, he is killed, and thus justice has again been satisfied.

The scene of the second act is the drawing-room at Sir Philip Ramon's house in Portland-place. The Foreign Secretary has given a ball, to which Juanita has secretly invited Garcia. Sir Philip surprises the lovers, and recognises the artist as the man he had seen in Cadiz under suspicious circumstances within a few minutes of the death of General Trelovitch. The girl, in her agitation, betrays the real identity of her lover, and Sir Philip brutally tells her that Garcia will be convicted upon her evidence and hanged. And though he has received the third of the three warnings from the Four Just Men, nothing will induce him to withdraw his Bill. The conspirators ostensibly carry on a business as art publishers at 45, Carnaby-street, where Thery, whom his companions distrust, is kept a prisoner; but he manages to escape through a window, and gives information to the editor of the *Megaphone*. The story now takes a very exciting turn. Brown and his two associates track Thery to the office of the newspaper, and Brown, armed with a loaded revolver, enters the editor's room, and finds there not only Thery but Sir Philip himself, the journalist, John Blount, and Garcia. They are compelled to take an oath not to stir for ten minutes, and Brown departs with Thery.

The climax is reached in the last act. Sir Philip has been finally warned that his death will take place at eight o'clock. He reaches Downing-street in safety, and all the doors are bolted and barred, and the corridors are guarded by the police. One of "The Four" obtains entrance disguised as a police inspector, and leaves a document in an envelope which, on being opened, is found to contain a paper announcing the doom of the Minister. The clock strikes eight. Then the telephone rings. Sir Philip places the receiver to his ear—and in a few seconds is a dead man. Thery, who is by trade an electrical engineer, has tapped the wires, and a deadly current has been laid on. The Four Just Men have kept their word.

Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, under whose stage direction the play was produced, deserves warm praise for his admirable performance in the part of George Manfred, otherwise Brown. The stern determination of the man hidden under a quiet, suave manner was cleverly shown, and indeed in every detail the character was clearly drawn. Mr. Gordon Bailey acted well as Jules Poiccart, alias Knight; and Mr. Hubert Willis scored all through as Leon Gonsalez, otherwise Selkirk. His numerous disguises were excellently assumed and highly effective in adding to the interest of the play. Mr. E. H. Dobell as Miguel Thery carefully and ably depicted the foreign scoundrel, who stands in terror of those in whose hands he has fallen. Mr. H. Elliott Ball was responsible for a very realistic picture of the plucky, obstinate Foreign Secretary, who pays the penalty of desregarding the warnings of "the mysterious Four." Mr. Leonard Williams was a sufficiently manly, outspoken Manuel Garcia; and Mr. Algernon J. Hicks was an appropriately fierce General Trelovitch. Good work was done by Mr. Wilfrid Evesham as Sir Charles Barrington, and Mr. Legai Robinson as Mr. Greenham, a fussy, foolish member of Parliament. Later Mr. Robinson appeared in the rôle of Billy Marks, a thief, who plays an important part in the plot, and gave a very clever character-sketch. Mr. Edward Russell was a smart editor of the *Megaphone*; Mr. Harry Gregory was good as Superintendent Falmouth; and Mr. Charles Terric satisfactory as Inspector Howard. Miss Dorothea Desmond proved to be a charmingly girlish Juanita Ramon, but at the same time able to express strong feeling with intensity and effect. Miss Alys Rees scored in a conventional character, Mrs. Travers, an American widow, who says smart things with a pronounced accent. The new play, which was excellently staged, ought, on its merits, to enjoy a most prosperous provincial tour. The appropriate music has been specially composed by Mr. Fritz Hart, and the company is under the direction of Mr. Cecil Barth.

"Pretty Fanny's Way," a farcical comedy, in three acts, by Frederick F. Forshaw, was produced for copyright purposes at the Kennington Theatre on the 5th inst.

T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales were present at the performance of *The Bondman*, at Drury Lane, on Monday.

AMUSEMENTS IN LIVERPOOL.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Royal Court Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence. — Mr. George Edwardes's company is here this week with *The Little Michus*, a return visit of which has been highly welcomed. Mr George Graves, in his original part of General Des Ifs, provoked endless laughter; the Michus found able exponents in Miss Thelma Raye and Miss Iris Hoey, their singing being much appreciated; Miss Florence Parfrey proved a charming Madame Michu; Mr. Leonard Mackay as Vert and Mr. W. T. Andrews as Rigaud sang in good style; the Pierre Michu of Mr. George Muller proved exceedingly amusing, and a deal of fun was created by Mr. Jack Cannot as Bagnolet. The choruses were excellent and the staging appropriate.

Shakespeare Theatre, Ltd.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—*Oliver Twist*, played by Mr. Beerbohm Tree's company, has been the attraction here this week. Mr. William Mackintosh repeated his wonderful picture of Fagin; Mr. Cecil A. Collins acted admirably as Sikes; Miss Marie Polini displayed highly-cultivated powers as Nancy; Miss Jane Savile was a sweet Rose Maylie; Miss Maudie Ray found favour as Oliver Twist; Mr. Tom Macfarlane proved an admirable Artful Dodger; to Mr. Christmas Grose credit is due for his Charlie Bates; Mr. C. H. Croker-King made the most of Monks; Mr. Henri C. Jacobs was an acceptable Bumble; and Mr. Harvey Braham handled the part of Harry Maylie with credit.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—For the first time in Liverpool *Her Love Against the World* has been produced here. The company responsible is that of Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Walter Howard. Miss Ellen Snow played powerfully as Iris; Mr. Walter Howard made an admirable Eric; every credit is due to Mr. Mayor Cook for his excellent portrayal of the villainous Ulric; Miss Rossie St. John was a capital Nello; and the remainder of the cast worked hard for the success of the piece.

Lyric Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—A very capable array of talent is billed here this week, with Harry Rogerson's company at the head in an extravaganza entitled *Herne, the Hunter;* Clown Barker and Miss Rozsika and their canine friends delight the audience with a pretty and interesting comedy act; Barrett and Knowles are the cause of uproarious laughter; Gus Harris, an old friend of the Lyric audiences, fully maintains his popularity; Geoffreys and Benson's sketch, *Spoofed*, is very laughable; Lena Verdi is a capable mimic; A. Aiston is good, as are the Dagonets; Barney Stuart's contributions are loudly applauded.

Star Theatre. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr Harris Fineberg.—The old-time *Driven from Home* has proved a good attraction here during the week, being well put on by Mr. Andrew Melville's company. Mr. Felix Pitt as Anthony Raybrook played with much dramatic force; the villainous Geoffrey Waring was ably impersonated by Mr. Frederick Sandy; Mr. Percy Dawsone proved effective as Willie, the outcast; much humour came from the efforts of Mr. A. E. Mann as John Anderson and Miss Evelyn Marrable in the rôle of Margaret Bailey; Miss Florence Trevoir handled the character of Barbara Ashdown with care; credit is due to Mr. John Brooks for his Dick Saunders; and Miss Frances Ruttledge did every justice to the parts of Laura and Walter Hatherley, the younger. The drama was well put on.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—An important engagement has been made at this theatre this week with *The Eternal City*, an excellent company, under the direction of Mr. J. Bannister Howard, presenting it. In the trying part of Baron Bonelli Mr. D. Lewin Mannering acted with telling effect, making all the strong points possible; Miss Sara De Groot proved a powerful Donna Roma Volona, and when opportunity served fully rose to the occasion; Mr. W. O'Flynn gave the fullest satisfaction as Bruno Rocco; a finished David Rossi came from Mr. Henry Deas; Mr. Edward Comberbach did justice to the minor part of Father Pifferi; Mr. Jack Fortescue both looked and acted the rôle of the Pope; Mr. Herbert Legerton was telling as the police spy, Minghelli; and Miss Violet Campbell held the small character of Nattalina with credit. The choir sang with taste, and the play was presented in admirable style

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A capital, mirthful, and musical mélange, entitled *Muggins, V.C.*, is at the top of the programme here this week. Presented by Lew Lake and company, the merry trifle has proved extremely enjoyable. Galletti's monkey comedians were amusing; M. Kokin, a comedian and dancer of ability, had a cordial reception; the coon songs of Yaeger and Yaeger were well received; as comedy duettists the Lurins distinguished themselves; a pretty Japanese scena was provided by Mabel Hind; Frank Couch kept his audience in a merry mood with his amusing patter; Lillie Lassah danced and sang with much taste; and the funny sketch, *Counsel's Opinion*, presented by Clarisse Heney and company, aroused laughter.

New Parthenon. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—A programme dear to the hearts of the frequenters of this favourite little place is given this week. The popular Elders are at the top with their latest songs; Hannaway Bros. dance and sing with all the dash of yore; after a long absence in America Joe Huda returns with new songs and smart dancing; Sam Thomson, able Scotch patter comedian, brings his latest successes; Marie Elton sings some acceptable songs; and Alice Poole shows to advantage with her dancing and vocal numbers.

Royal Palace of Varieties. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. —*Every Inch a Man* is the title of the dramatic sketch presented here this week by the "Royal" stock company, which continues in great public favour. Mr. Percy Boucher evokes laughter with his Teddy Edwards; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood does justice to the part of Alderman Barnet; Mr. Harry Tresham makes a fine Dick Barnet; the heavy part of David Barnet is well handled by Mr. Sydney Grant; as the old soldier, Ben Brown, Mr. E. D. Allen looks and plays the rôle with satisfaction; Mr. Leo Montgomery is Warder Bates; Mr. Robert Wilton is well placed as Major O'Donovan; Miss Florence Palmer is a sweet Vera Maxwell; Mrs. Edwards as portrayed by Miss Beryl Ravenswood leaves little to be desired; and Miss Sybil Hammersley gets a deal of fun out of Martha.

Park Palace, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The popular Irish comedian, Frank Caffery, heads the bill here this week; Mount and Corelli, society entertainers, have an excellent musical duologue, *The Master and the Maid;* Lulu Egbert, possessor of an effective contralto voice, presents a pleasing scena, *An Outcast on the Highway of Life;* an acrobatic comedy act, brimming with fun, entitled *Ye Brown Cow Inn*, comes from Burg, Hand, and Wise; Allsopp and Beckwith submit a laughable duo *I'm Coming Upstairs;* the Gallery Boy, a mimic of people he has seen in the theatre, sings several songs in approved style; and Bert Gordon, double-voiced vocalist, is also in the list.

Westminster.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Will Godwin, with some taking songs, heads the bill here; Tray and Rich, black and white comedians, are humorous, and dance well; Morimura, assisted by the lady Miako, performs some smart illusions; the mimicry of Yorkshire Tom affords satisfaction; Frank Dunlop tells funny yarns in good style; some well-rendered songs come from Phil Rabey; and Lil Hayes, coon comedienne and dancer, is a good turn.

Haymarket.—Licensee, Mr. J. S. Childs.—This place, which has been closed for about two months, in order that alterations and decorations might be effected, again sought public patronage on Monday night. The present proprietor, Mr. Brammall built the edifice some twenty-three years ago, and Mr. Childs, the manager, is well-known. The opening programme contained a number of good things, among them being the Alberto Troupe of Acrobats; the funny Little Zola; Jack Sheppard, the "handcuff king"; the Three Behans, comedy artists; the Sisters Burton, vocalists and dancers; and the Bioscope. The management has resolved to introduce something of a high-class character, and with this intention has engaged for some time the Silver Gleam Prize Band, which is loudly applauded for the popular musical selections it renders

Olympia, Ltd. — Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—Hengler's spectacular comedy sketch, *Harum-Scarum*, puts in a third and last week; a pretty and interesting performance by Tschernoff's animals is received with gratification; Ben Hur, an able athlete, goes through some remarkable feats with sacks of sand; Charles Leonard Fletcher has an artistic novelty, *An Actor's Dressing-room*, and impersonates well-known characters; Wilson and Waring's turn with the sketch, *A Bit of Nonsense*, in which Miss Waring introduces some particularly quick changes, is much appreciated; Bessie Butt sings and dances neatly; as musicians, the Bisera Troupe of ladies display high ability; the Sydney Brothers go through some expert cycling feats; and Flor D'Orville, comedienne, is also in the bill.

Paddington Palace.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery. —The establishing of a stock dramatic company here has met with well-deserved success. This week the striking play, *A Woman's Error*, has been enjoyed by large audiences. Mr. Albert Sember played with much earnestness the part of Ralph Lawrence; Mr. Frank S. Strickland was the villainous Captain Sudley; Mr. Vernon A. Briscoe afforded every satisfaction as Doctor Foster; a well-handled part was that of the Vicar by Mr. Francis E. Wybert; Mr. H. G. Brandon, an excellent comedian, was a tower of strength as Noah Gosling; Mr. Walter Foster did credit to Stott Seeley; Miss Lina Nazeley acted well as Vivienne; Miss Sara Blumenthal's Sal Gosling was admirably drawn; and Miss Lilian Burns acquitted herself as Vanda.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.—Principal here this week is the musical mélange, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, a merry production, played by Harry Roxbury and company. W. J. Ashcroft had a warm reception for his Irish impersonations; the Monte-Myro Troupe evoked great laughter with their "Adventures in a Café"; the Smythsons Comedy Four submitted a smart mélange, *The Lie Alarm;* George Newburn, as a mimic, was seen to great advantage; Burnetti gave some clever musical imitations; the Stella Troupe of girl singers and dancers were a pretty turn; Minnie Cunningham, Irish comedienne, had a cordial reception, and Nettie Starr, comedienne and dancer, also appeared.

Roscommon.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Foremost here this week are Ike Scott and Son, comedians, with their latest successes; the Harrison Brothers, comedians, patterers, and dancers, bring a funny item, *Quaint Conceits;* a good ventriloquial show is given by Lady Fontleroy; Garford, the clown, provides a neat performance with his pigeons and dogs; and in the programme are J. G. Aitken, comedian, and Molly Doon, comedienne.

AMUSEMENTS IN GLASGOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Theatre Royal, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys. — Mr. Wm. Greet's company is presenting here the powerful play entitled *The Shulamite*. Mr. Charles Weir gave a clever and finished impersonation of the old Boer farmer, Simeon Krillet. The part of the wife, Deborah, is taken by Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, and proved quite a triumph for this young actress, every phase in the development of the character being shown with convincing fidelity. Mr. W. T. Lovell was good as the English overseer, Robert Waring. The narrow-minded Tante Anna was well acted by Miss Mary Griffiths, and Jan was ably played by Mr. Reynolds Denniston. Miss Marcella Hudson as the Kaffir girl, Memke, completed an able cast. A comedietta, *The Widow Woos*, was given in front, and proved very amusing.

King's, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. George Edwardes' Gaiety company is appearing here this week in the second edition of the successful musical comedy, *The Spring Chicken*. In the rôle of Girdle, Mr. George Gregory is highly entertaining; the part of Mrs. Girdle is also in good hands, Miss Irere Verona playing the character with her accustomed grace and merriment. Miss Gertrude Glyn is bright and winsome as Rosalie; as Dulcie Babori, Miss Gertrude Gilliam sings and acts with excellent taste; Mr. John Braborne is a handsome figure as Gustave Babori; Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., is the Boniface, and displays wonderful smartness and agility; the Baroness Papouche is attractively represented by Miss Nancy Langtyre; Miss Nelly Lonnen (Emmy Lou) excels as a neat dancer, and has a clever partner in Mr. William Spray, who takes the part of young Girdle; Mr. Ernest Mahar's portrayal of the waiter Felix is an excellent performance. Good character-studies are seen in the Baron Papouche of Mr. Frank Hector and in the Landlord of Mr. Jocelyn Hope. The chorus and orchestra and under the able direction of Mr. Ernest Vousden.

Princess's.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Richd. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company is playing *The Girl Who Lost Her Character* to crowded houses. Mr. E. J. Collins as the Rev. Robert Everton, acquits himself well as the sympathetic parson; Mr. C. W. Standing, in the dual parts of Jack England and Private Johnson, creates a good impression. In Mr. F. Adair has been chosen as fine a villain in Capt. Caversham as could be wished; Mr. Geo. Mitchell as the repentant forger plays his part in a way to enlist admiration and respect; Mr. C. Renn as the Detective, Mr. G. H. Asquin as George Punch, Mr. John Wilson as George Purvis are all wholly satisfactory. Interest centres in the girl, Molly Vernon, played by Miss E. Clyde, and for her reading of an exacting rôle high praise is due to this actress. Miss Ethel Bracewell, as Rose Seymour, deserves commendation for a well-balanced representation; and Miss Lydia Mannington, as Marian Franklyn, invests that rôle with all the cunning and mystery attached to it. For the Isabella Jones of Miss Daisy Maynard a spice of humour and versatility makes the performance of that lady quite refreshing and enjoyable.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—That ever-popular drama, *The Silver King*, is being staged at the Stockwell house this week. In the title-rôle Mr. Fred D. Davies displays all the qualifications necessary for the part, and carries through his onerous task with a success which must indeed be highly gratifying to him. Nellie Denver is ably portrayed by Miss Daisy Scudamore; as The Spider, Mr. L. St. George Lowther is one who adapts himself admirably to the rôle of the unpopular person; to Miss Dorothy Radford is given the part of Olive Skinner, and it is no small compliment to say it could scarcely be in better hands. That old favourite, Jaikes (Mr. Ed. J. George), receives the applause from the audience he so well deserves. Mr. Arthur Wright and Mr. Warriss Lindon appear as Elijah Combe and Cripps respectively, and act with much acceptance. Geoffrey Ware is capitally delineated by Mr. Alex. Grant, while Mr. A. Hornby Warburton provides much amusement in the part of Henry Corket. For a juvenile, Miss Flossie Hale Daviss is remarkably clever as Cissy; Mr. Byron Pedley as Samuel Baxter (Detective) is also appreciated.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Mr. W. Reuben Payne's company is here this week with *The World's Verdict*. Miss Lily Roselle gives an excellent rendering of Cora Cassilis, the adventuress; while Miss May Axon as Nellie Ashford makes a pleasing heroine. Mr. Harry Stuart as George Ashford plays the hero to the satisfaction of the audience. Miss B. Fitzhugh, as the deserted wife, acts with suitable pathos. A fine part is that of Squire Woodleigh, well played by Mr. Cecil R. Thompson; while villainy is conspicuously brought out by Mr. Albert Guyon as Jaspar Woodleigh, and Mr. W. Reuben Payne as the Land Agent. An exciting part is that of a maniac, thrillingly played by Mr. Eric Hudson. Miss Anena Walton as Sally Jenkins imparts a spice of comedy to the drama, in which she is ably assisted by Mr. W. G. Wesley as Sammy Carrot.

New Gaiety.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—The New Gaiety dramatic company has good reason to be well pleased with the reception accorded the drama, *Wife and Fortune*. The principal parts are all in capable hands, especially the characters of Capt. Seton Desmond, taken by Mr. Alfred D. Adams; Jack Weston, by Mr. Horace Booth; Mary Weston, by Miss Laurie A. Pardy; and Becky, by Miss Mattie Crawford; while the comical element is well sustained by Messrs. T. E. Conover and H. Hesslegrave.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Hussett.—Joe Elvin heads the bill this week, and is proving as great an attraction as ever. With the assistance of a very capable company, he presents the humorous sketch, entitled *Touched*. Stelling and Revell are a funny couple, and extremely clever on the horizontal bar; Moon and Morris score a big success as patter merchants, and receive a hearty recall; Lucia and Viati are a clever pair of wire-walkers; Tony Spring is a marvellous barrel jumper. Other good items on the programme are the singing of Jack Woods, the collier; Albertine Mellisch, with her wonderful birds; Daisy O'Malley, comedienne and dancer; and Young Vento, descriptive vocalist.

Zoo-Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The bill here this week is headed by Harry Tate's *Motoring* sketch, which is proving as big a draw as ever; and Hanvaar and Lee in *The Golfer and the Maid*, are heartily appreciated. The Di Pace Brothers show great skill as mandolinists; the efforts of the Primrose Quartette are loudly applauded; the Orb Brothers give a diverting turn; Beatrice Willey, Bert Woodward (cyclist), Xley and Hamilton, and Matthews and Race (jumpers) complete the programme.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—A septette of clever entertainers, strong in vocal accomplishments, well deserve their title, "The Smart Set." Alec Kennedy, a vigorous vocalist, has a fine descriptive song; Bert. Brantford is a quaint comedian, and Agnes Acker has pleasing songs pleasantly sung. Leo Dryden is a strong card in descriptive songs; the Sisters Bartholomew have plenty of dash and go in song and dance; in cycling and acrobatic work of the comic order the Bristons are very successful; Valazzi is a balancer and juggler of infinite variety; Foreman and Fannan get also a big slice of the applause.

Palace.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Vesta Victoria is again starring here, and proving a bigger draw than ever: her new songs are all smart, with catchy tunes; Fred Land is a clever comedian with some decidedly original touches in his business; Will Van Allen, tramp musician, is really good, and his patter is distinctly fresh and novel; Jack Neil, Scotch comedian, had an enthusiastic recall after two catchy songs; the Sisters Anderson contribute some attractive musical items; a special word of praise is due to Jennie Johns for her fine voice, fetching style, and clever songs; Violet Morgan gives some life-like imitations of popular artists; the Five Whiteleys in a musical and acrobatic turn, are well received, and the patter of Mac and Hill proves popular.

Colisseum.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Tiller's sketch, *The Mad Minstrels*, occupies a large portion of the programme here, and the acting and singing of Jessie Templeton, Dorothy Gould, May Sharples, Maud St. John, and the other members of the company evoke hearty applause. Kahn and Kahn give a smart conjuring turn; Redmond Bros. are clever knockabout artists; Terry and Lambert have become first favourites with Glasgow audiences; Mike Cray's comic juggling turn is smartly worked; Marion Scott sings well in a new ballad, and Prof. Dunning's ventriloquial turn is also good. The latest films on the Bioscope complete a lengthy bill.

Queen's.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—Alec Hurley and company top the bill here, and have met with a cordial reception in the *Coster's Friendly Lead*. Another turn of special merit is an exhibition of ball-punching by the Horsley Bros.; Ghita Corri, dramatic soprano, a lady with a good voice, gives an excellent account of herself. The other members of the company include Nellie Gannon, descriptive vocalist; Sisters Walmsley, duettists; Fraser and Haley, duettists and dancers; and Harry Wright, vocal comedian. The Bioscope presents a new series of pictures.

Harmonic Concerts.—Musical Secretary, Mr. Wm. Biggam.—For their first comic night this season the Harmonic got together a very good company, the outstanding features being the comic business of N. C. Bostock, J. A. Cassels, and Tony Black, the dancing of T. W. Royal, and the canine drama, *The Streets of London*, by Capt. Devereux's dogs. In addition, good turns were contributed by Cissy Arris, the Lindsays, Scott Combination, Lottie and Marie Ross, and Nellie Elliene.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

The present week's programme, presented here under the direction of the popular Mr. Barclay, abounds in good things, most of which have the charm of novelty. Cosgrove and Burns, a lady and gentleman equally possessed of comedy powers, are very amusing in their lively turn, which is loudly applauded. A pretty lady, Miss Lily Lena, is heard to great advantage in two good songs, and her audiences would fain see a little more of her dancing. A great reception is given to Dezmonti and Mora, in their act. They combine the most daring feats on the bars with a lot of clever fooling, the combination being most acceptable. On the occasion of our visit Jordan and Harvey once more proved themselves absolute past-masters in the difficult art of fun-making, their new "patter" being as mirth-provoking as anything that has been heard here for a long time. Laughter, loud, long, and continued, follows the doings of an unnamed company in a piece of farcical extravagance entitled *Footlight Favourites*. This turns out to be a version of a sketch made popular by a well-known company hitherto exploited by a most enterprising manager. In *Footlight Favourites* the stage is built up to represent the interior of a theatre of varieties, and the extraordinary vagaries of both actors and audience are of a perfectly side-splitting nature. The gentleman who has imbibed "not wisely, but too well," is extremely good; the enterprising schoolboy is excellent; and every member of an exceptionally clever company works loyally to secure success.

A perfect and immediate triumph is achieved by Miss Lily Burnand, who, making her first appearance here, is at once admitted to the inner circle of favourites. Looking very handsome in her lovely costumes, Miss Burnand sings and acts with the assurance of long experience, her rendering of the ditty "When she was in the ballet" being, if possible, exceeded in popular favour by her singing of "The Stowaway." The audience is not slow to pick-up and assist in the refrain of these songs, and Miss Burnand may now add Walthamstow to her long list of conquests. The longest item of the programme is provided by Mr. Leonard Mortimer and his company in a "naval sensation," entitled *The Kettledrum*. It is difficult to decide whether this is meant to be serious melodrama or uproarious farce, the two ingredients being so adroitly mixed that neither may be called the predominant partner. At the same time, the amalgamation is good of its kind, and attains the desired end of keeping an audience in a state of pleasurable expectancy at one moment and convulsed with laughter the next. *The Kettledrum* is told in two scenes, firstly the Hotel Monico, and secondly the saloon cabin of the steam-yacht Drum. To judge from the latter the Drum must be a vessel of extraordinary tonnage, worthy of the Kaiser himself, the "cabin" appearing to be as large as a Park-lane drawing-room. Mr. Leonard Mortimer plays Captain Owen Kettle with that breezy alertness that has established him firmly in favour with audiences, his strangely staccato utterances being admirably adapted to the part, and his brisk acting keeping the spectator in a state of constant delight. Mr. H. Lodge Percy gives a dignified and impressive picture of the diplomatist, Lord Esmond-Slade (why the hyphen?) of Arnside. His secretary, Randall Vyner, who is the "villain of the piece," is well played by Mr. Leonard Robson. Mr. Reginald Weighill makes the most of his opportunities as the burlesque General Caranger, and is responsible for many a laugh. Miss Edith Lewis as Donna Inez, "a patriot," who may be described as the villainess of the piece, acts with considerable intensity; while Miss Ida Clifford is admirably fitted both by nature and art to do ample justice to the part of Lady Edna. There is a "crowd" of subordinate characters and well-trained "supers," all of whom do their allotted work well. The dresses and uniforms are very handsome. The programme is finished off with a fine display of new pictures exhibited by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

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Elizabeth Reynolds, 39, a street trader, of Sylvester-road, Hackney, was charged at North London on Saturday with offering for sale forty-seven copies of pirated music.

Prisoner, who has a music-stall in Kingsland-road, was visited on the previous Friday night by Walter Frost, agent to the Music Publishers' Association, who saw her displaying the pirated music to two ladies, who were purchasing. The copies were seized, and the prisoner was taken into custody. She now said the music was not hers. It had been thrown under her stall by a man who used to sell it, and the officer was in error when he said she was displaying it to a customer.

A man who gave an address at a common lodging-house said he threw the pirated music under the prisoner's stall. He had given up selling it since the new Act was passed.

Mr. Fordham: The prisoner knew you had given her the pirated music?

Witness: Yes.

The Magistrate: This is practically stealing other people's goods, and I am determined to put an end to the practice so far as I am able. You know perfectly well that you are doing a bad, shabby, and wrong thing altogether, and under this Act I hope the sale of pirated music will be put down altogether. In order to do this the penalty must be heavy. Your own witness says you knew it was pirated music, and you must pay £5 or go to prison for a month's hard labour. The sentence astonished the prisoner, and she said, "Oh, sir, don't!"

Arthur Buckridge, twenty-three, of Canal-bank, Peckham, and his brother George, twenty-eight, of the same address, were charged at Greenwich on Monday with offering pirated music for sale in the Lewisham High-road. Arthur pleaded that he did not know about the Act till Saturday last.

Mr. Baggallay remarked that the Act had already been well advertised in the Press, and advised him to "read the newspapers." George pleaded that he was "helping his brother." Both prisoners were ordered to pay a fine of £5, or go to prison for a month.

A similar penalty was imposed on Charles William Allen, twenty-three, of Porthcawl-road, Lower Sydenham, who was caught offering pirated music for sale at Rushey Green, S.E.

A prosecution was heard at Penge on Monday, when a witness alleged that the district was "a hotbed of musical pirates. Sydney Mills, fourteen, of Arpley-road, Penge, was charged with having ninety-four copies of pirated music in his possession.

An assistant secretary to the Music Publishers' Association stated that, notwithstanding the fact that the new Act had come into operation, the sale of pirated music was still going on, and the previous Saturday four arrests were made. Mills was fined £2 and costs, and the seized music was ordered to be destroyed.

Charles Holland, 26, a coster, of Coppermill-lane, Walthamstow, was charged, at Stratford, on Wednesday, with selling a copy of pirated music. Prisoner was before the Court on Monday, and the case was adjourned in order that the Musical Publishers' Association might be legally represented.

Mr. Mulligan prosecuted, and stated that the prisoner had a stall in High-street, Walthamstow, opposite a bootmaker's shop. About a fortnight ago an agent of the Association seized a number of copies of pirated music from the stall and cautioned Holland regarding the selling of such music. Since that time the prisoner appeared to have left the pirated music in the bootmaker's shop, for the agent on Saturday last sent a girl to him to ask for a copy entitled "Always." Holland went into the shop, brought the music out underneath his coat, and gave it to the girl, charging 2d. for it. Then a constable was called, and the prisoner, who became very violent, was taken to the police station.

Holland now pleaded that he did not sell the music, and complained that the girl who was said to have purchased the music was not called as a witness.

Mr. Frost, an agent to the Association, gave evidence showing that he saw the prisoner sell the music.

The Bench imposed a fine of £5, or a month.

Holland: It is wicked—that is all I can say.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

An illustrated daily paper published during the week an article, with alarming headlines, dealing with the grievances of "supers," stating that "howling mobs" and "rustic crowds" want more wages. What is described as an "authentic advertisement" was quoted as follows:—

"Wanted, a man to combine pulling up the curtain with howling mob. Remuneration, one shilling per night."

It would be interesting to know where such an advertisement appeared. It is probably no more authentic than many of the statements made in the article. Where, for instance, are the "howling mobs" and "rustic crowds" demanding more wages? It may be quite true that in some places the supers only receive 1s. per night, but it is also true that many receive much higher pay. At one West End house during a recent Shakespearian production the supers were paid 25s. per week. Apart from the question as to whether supers, generally, are fairly paid, the article in question shows as little knowledge of the subject as there are reasons for its publication.

Mr. Hall Caine, as in previous years, has thanked in person the employees in the various stage departments for their exertions in the production and presentation of *The Bondman*. He paid them the compliment of saying that their work had contributed greatly to its success. He has also presented to the several heads of departments a sum of money for distribution among the men.

In reply to inquiries respecting the residue of the balance of the funds of the late Dramatic and Musical Fund, it has not yet been distributed among the societies who are benefited by the portion of the funds already distributed. The sum which Mr. Tree will distribute has also yet to be dealt with.

It is reported that the staff of the Coliseum is being engaged, although it is not likely that it will be as large as when that house was last open.

At the meeting of the committee of the General Staff Branch on Wednesday evening, it was reported that £80 had been paid out in funeral benefits, £21 17s. in benevolent grants, and £20 in sick pay. A number of applications for membership were granted. The branch is forming some twenty organising committees for the London district. Several applications for benevolent grants were dealt with.

The Concert Committee have been informed that they may have the use of the Opera House for the annual concert in aid of the stage employees societies on a Sunday evening in December. Subject to the date being suitable, the London Symphony Orchestra will play at the concert.

The Dean of Westminster has given permission to the British Empire Shakespeare Society to place a wreath at the tomb of Sir Henry Irving, who was the late president of the Society, to-day, the anniversary of his death.

ON THE ROAD, OCT. 15.

After the Ball.—Alexandra T., Greenwich.
All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
An Actor's Romance.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona).—Worcester.
Assassin.—Prince's T., Preston
At Cripple Creek.—Grand T., Newcastle.
At Duty's Call.—Metropole T., Devonport.
Beast and the Beauty.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Beautiful Fiend.—Prince's T., Horwich.
Belle of Mayfair.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Belle of New York (Howard).—Crystal Palace T.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Bromsgrove and Bewdley.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. and Co.—T. R., Brighton.
Biggest Scamp on Earth.—Grand T., Walsall.
Breed of the Treshams.—Court T., Warrington.
Bulmer, Mr.—King's T., Kilmarnock.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—O. H., Leicester.
Catch of the Season (No. 1.).—Edinburgh.
Charley's Aunt.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona).—S. Wales District
Christian, The (Croker).—T. R., Ashton.
Christian, The (Howard).—T. R., Dumfries.
Cingalee (S.).—Cheltenham.
Claudian.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
Coal King.—King's T., Cardiff.
Convict's Daughter.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
Country Girl (N.).—Dublin.
Country Girl (S.).—Crown Theatre, Peckham.
Country Mouse.—Grand T., Fulham.
Dairymaids, The.—Grand T., Hull.
Dandy Doctor.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Grand T., Middlesbrough.
D'Oyly Carte.—Coronet Theatre, W.
Driven from Home (N.).—T. R., Croydon.
Duchess of Dantzic (N.).—Sheffield.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—Coventry.
Earl and the Girl (Howard).—Chesterfield and Glossop.
Earl and the Girl (M.).—Leeds.
Earl and the Girl (W.).—Southampton.
Earl and the Girl (N.).—Doncaster.
Eternal City.—O. H., Cork.
Face at the Window.—New T., Consett.
Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt.—Jersey & Guernsey.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Theatre Royal, Mexborough.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
Faust Up-to-Date.—Broadway T., Deptford.
Female Swindler.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Florodora (Howard) (M.).—Chelmsford and Tamworth.
Florodora (Howard) (N.).—Huddersfield.
Florodora (Howard) (S.).—Birmingham.
For Life—and After.—T. R., Preston.
Freedom of Suzanne.—H. M. T., Barrow.
French Spy.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Gay Parisienne (Macdona).—Wakefield.
Geisha.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—Manchester.
Girl on the Stage.—T. R., Newcastle.
Golden Ladder.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
Great Awakening.—T. R., Birkenhead.
Held in Bondage.—T. R., Smethwick.
Her Fatal Past.—T. R., Windsor.
Her Lost Self.—Grand T., Walsall.
Her Luck in London.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Her One Great Sin.—New T., Loughborough.
His House in Order (N.).—T. R. Belfast.
His House in Order (S.).—Lyceum T., Newport.
Home, Sweet Home.—Queen's T., Longton.
Hutchison Repertoire.—T. R., South Shields.
I Defy the World.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
Indian Mutiny.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
Judy.—P. O. W. Theatre, Salford.
Kitty Grey.—Paisley T., Paisley.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Sunninghill and Fleet.
Lady Madcap (N.).—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Lady Madcap (S.).—Southport.
La Poupee (Levilly).—T. R., Bolton.
La Poupee (Ralland).—T. R., North Shields.
Lights o' London.—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
Lion and the Mouse.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Little Breadwinner.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Little Michus (Edwardes).—Grand T., Fulham.
Little Michus (S.).—Aberdeen.
Love that Women Desire.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Lucky Durham.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Lucky 'Liza.—H.M.T., Carlisle.
Manxman.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
Mariage of Kitty.—Londesboro' T., Scarboro'.
Midnight Mail.—West London Theatre.
Midnight Wedding.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Moody-Manners (A.).—T. R., Glasgow.
Moody-Manners (B.).—Bournemouth.
Mr. Hopkinson (Macdona).—County T. Kingston.
Mr. Popple.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Mr. Popple (A.).—Exeter.
Mr. Smith.—T. R., Rochdale.
Nethersole, Miss Olga.—T. R., Birmingham.
No Escape.—Central Theatre, Northwich.
Oliver Twist (Howard).—Buxton and Crewe.
On the Stroke of Twelve.—T. R., Scarboro'.
Orchid (N.).—Nottingham.
Orchid (S.).—Sunderland.
Price of Her Soul.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Prince of Pilsen (Musgrove).—T. R., Hanley.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris).—Royalty T., Chester.
Private Secretary.—New Theatre, Oxford.
Prodigal Parson.—King's T., Longsight.
Prodigal Son.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Proof.—Empire Theatre, Oldham.
Public Opinion.—T. R., Leamington.
Raffles.—Royal Court T., Wigan.
Revenge.—T. R., Sunderland.
Royal Divorce.—T. R., Dover.
Royal Revenge.—St. James's T., Manchester.
Sailors of the King.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Saints and Sinners.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Sherlock Holmes.—T. R., Lincoln.
Shulamite.—T. R., Edinburgh.
Sign of the Cross.—King's T., Kirkcaldy.
Silver King (Howard) (N.).—Dunfermline and Largs.
Silver King (Howard) (S.).—Grand T., Mansfield.
Silver King (Polini) (N.).—Grand T., Glasgow.
Silver King (Polini) (S.).—Pier P., Eastbourne.
Sin of her Childhood.—Alexandra T., Birmingham
Spider and the Fly.—Grand T., Luton.
Spring Chicken (S.).—Wolverhampton.
Still Alarm.—T. R., Barnsley.
Sunday.—T. R., Stockton.
Swiss Express.—Grand T., Woolwich.
Temptress, The.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Terry, Edward.—O. H., Northampton.
Three Little Maids (N.) (Macdona).—Seacombe.
Three Little Maids (S.) (Macdona).—Midlands.
Toreador (Macdona).—Midlands.
Toreador.—Manchester.
Traitor.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Trip to the Highlands.—Century T., Motherwell.
Trumpet Call.—Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.
Two Hussars.—Pardoe's T., Middleton.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—T. R., Bristol.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Two Little Vagabonds (M.).—Bangor and Denbigh.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—T. R. Bilston.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
Under Two Flags.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Under the Russian Flag.—T. R., St. Helens.
Unwedded Wife.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
Veronique (N.)—Stoke Newington.
Veronique (S.).—Stockport.
Village Blacksmith.—P. G. Theatre, Folkest

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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5, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. WILLIAMS.—*The cast of* Sir Jasper's Tenant, *produced at Sadler's Wells Theatre on Nov. 29, 1865, was as follows:—Captain Catherou, Mr. S. Perfitt; Lieut. Gervaise Catherou, Mr. E. H. Brooke; Godfrey Pierrepoint, Mr. J. C. Cowper; Sir Jasper Denison, Mr. R. Norman; Arthur Holroyd, Mr. E. F. Edgar; Adolphus Dobb, Mr. John Rouse; Caroline Catherou and Mrs. Fane, Miss M. A. Bellair; Marcia Denison, Miss Leigh; Dorothy Tinsgood, Miss Minnie Davis.*

MARCO.—*We have been unable to discover any reference in* "The Era" *for the year 1902 to the musical comedy you mention.*

J. A. C.—*We do not know. A letter addressed to the lady, c/o* "The Era," *would no doubt reach her in due course.*

F. W.—Dandy Dick, *by A. W. Pinero, was first performed at the Court Theatre, London, on Jan. 27, 1887, with Mr. John Clayton as the Very Rev. Augustin Jedd, D.D., Mr. A. Cecil as Blore, Mr. E. Maurice as Sir Tristram Mardon, Mr. F. Kerr as Major Tarver, Mr. H. Eversfield as Mr. Darbey, Mr. W. H. Denny as Norah Topping, Mr. W. Lugg as Hatcham, Mrs. John Wood as Georgina Tidman, Miss Norreys as Sheba, Miss M. Lewis as Salome, and Miss Laura Linden as Hannah Topping.*

RETLAW.—*Miss Ellen Terry's birthday is Feb. 27.*

F. A. N.—The Terrible Night *was produced at the Canterbury by the Martinettis in March, 1890.*

A. Z.—*Write to the Agent-General in London of the Colony in question.*

OLD PRO.—*We cannot find date of final closing; but the New Stangate Theatre, built on the site of the Bower Saloon, was opened Dec. 27, 1875.*

E. W. C.—*A pantomime, entitled* Birds, Beasts, and Fishes, *was produced at the City of London Theatre at Christmas, 1854.*

LEO.—*The first step is to establish liability. Get all the evidence you can, and put it before a solicitor.*

C. E. M.—*Will the* "Smart Set" *please communicate with the manager of* "The Era" *to hear of something to their advantage?*

LEX.—*Write to S. French, theatrical publisher, Southampton-street, Strand; or to Mr. Arthur Collins, Drury Lane Theatre, where the play was first produced in England.*

S. J. B. HART.—*The comedy mentioned is certainly not being played at the present time at any of the London or suburban theatres, nor have we heard of any intention to revive it in the near future.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

ANARTO.—On Oct. 10, the wife of Lawrence Anarto (Miss Hilda Jacobsen), of a son.

HUNTER.—On Wednesday, Oct. 10, 1906, at 36, Brighton-terrace, Brixton, S.W., to Mr. and Mrs. Horace Hunter, a son.

MARRIAGES.

BRADLEY—CLARK.—On the 11th inst., at Wigan, by special licence, Savile Bradley, to Blanche Clark, both of Leeds, and members of Chas. Vandyke's company, Hippodrome.

ENGAGEMENT.

CHARLES—BURNS.—Miss Helen Charles to Mr. Harry Burns, Oct. 10, 1906.—Signed, HARRY BURNS, HELEN CHARLES.

DEATHS.

ALKER.—On Friday, Oct. 5, 1906, Theo Alker T. Reed Pinaud's company), at the Beauyon Hospital, Paris, of hæmorrhage of the lungs. Gone, but not forgotten. R.I.P American papers please copy.

BATEMAN.—Oct. 8, suddenly, of heart disease, at the Theatre Royal, Bilston, Frank Bateman, actor, and proprietor of the *No Wedding Bells for Her* company, aged 42.

BURKE.—On Oct. 5, W. E. Burke, father of Miss Billie Burke, died at Huddersfield. Aged 63 years.

BURKE.—In affectionate remembrance of our dear friend, Mr. William E. Burke, who passed away on Oct. 5, 1906. Sincerely regretted by Mr. and Mrs. ANDRUS. Rest in peace.

COTTE.—Oct. 3, Edward Cotte, actor and vocalist, aged 70.

GRAHAM.—Oct. 5, at Poplar, E., after a long and painful illness, Lucinda, the deeply-beloved wife of Fred Graham, F.O.S., pianist and comedian.

LIVERMORE.—Oct. 6, at his residence, "Fairview," Hillbury-road, Upper Tooting, Lechmere Charles John Livermore, aged 61.

SPILLER.—Anne, widow of Isaac Spiller, mother of Emily Spiller (Mrs. Arthur Williams), Oct. 8. Aged 72.

WATSON.—On Oct. 8, Jack Bowles Watson, aged 36, for nine years the idolised husband of Alice René ("Three Little Maids" Co.), Farewell, until we meet where none can part us.
With Christ, which is far better.

WATSON.—On Oct. 8, John Boles Watson passed peacefully away, aged 36. Deeply loved and mourned by mother, sisters, brothers. R.I.P.

IN MEMORIAM.

KEITH.—In loving memory of our dear mother, Elizabeth Keith, who died Oct. 13, 1900. Gone, but never forgotten by her loving children.

KING.—In loving memory of our dear wife and mother, Lucy King who died Oct. 7, 1903.—Will and Dot King (Forest and King).

RICHARDS.—In loving memory of Archie Richards, who died Oct. 9, 1901. Never forgotten by Georgie Heaton. R.I.P.

A COPYRIGHT performance was given by Mr. Norman V. Norman's company at the Pavilion Theatre, St. Leonard's-on-Sea, yesterday (Friday), of a new play, in three acts and prologue, by Dennis Cleugh and Cecil Duncan Jones, entitled *Robin Hood; or, The Outlaw of Sherwood Forest.*

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this List.

Ace, Mr. George
Ace, Mr. Harold
Addison, Mr. Bert
Aena
Alberto, Mr. Fred.
Alexander, Prince
Alexander, Mr. S. King
Alright, Little
Andre, Madame
Andreesen, Brothers
Anson, Mr. Geo. W.
Archer, Miss Mabel
Ardeck, Miss Agnes
Arnold, Miss Tiny
Artois Brothers
Ash, Miss Marie
Ashton, Mr. Dan
August and September
Baker, Mr. Edmund
Baldry, Mr. H.
Barker, Mr. John
Bartlett Miss Lucy
Beaumont, Mr. C.
Bentley, Mr. W. E.
Berg, Mr. Alf
Biddall Bros.
Birch, Mr. C.
Blair, Mr. Athol
Bright, Mr. Arthur
Brockbank, Mr. H.
Brown-Potter, Mrs.
Burke, Miss Billie
Byron, Miss Maggie
Cady, Mr. F. W.
Carson, Mrs. Dave
Casey, Miss Annie
Cavalazzi, Mme.
Chapin, Mrs. A.
Chippendale, Mr. J.
Chipperfield, Mr. J. W.
Clark, Mr. John
Clements, Miss Miriam
Clifford, Mr. Nat
Collette, Miss Eva
Condron, Miss Ruby
Connell, Mr. James
Conrad, Mr. Harry
Coopers, The Three
Costello, Mr. Tom
Coyne, Mr. Edgar
Craige, Miss Edna
Cresser, Miss Ada
Danby, Mr. Gus
Day, Mrs. Lilly
Day, Miss Lilly
Dobbs, Miss Edith
Doughty Mr. Henry
Dudley, Miss H.
Edgar, Mr. Ralph
Edwards, Mr. Tom
Eno, Mr. Tom
Everard, Mr. Walter
Fairfax, Mr. C. Arthur
Farrell, Mr. Chas.
Finney, Mr. James
Fisher, Mr. Chas.
Forrester, Miss M.
Foster, Mr. Archie
Francis, Mr. Geo.
Gamble, Mr. E. C. W.
George, Mr. Dandy
Gerrard, Mr. C. H.
Gerard's Lions
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Glaze, Mr. Will
Goldsmid, Mr. and Mrs
Graham, Mr. Rowland
Gray, Mr. George
Greville, Mr. Herbert
Grey, Miss B.
Gribben, Mr. H. A.
Grover, Mr. Arthur
Grovinis, The
Guedes, Miss Vera
Hanson, Mr. Beverley
Harland, Mr. Albert
Harrington, Miss Z.
Harvey, Mrs. Frank
Harcourt, Miss Daisy
Hastings & Whayman
Hawthorne, Miss G
Hayden, Miss Ethel
Hazell, Mr. W. S.
Hearn, Mr. Tom
Heinch, Mme.
Henske, Mr. Robert
Herberts, The Four
Hesketh, Miss Edith
Hickman, Mr. Arthur
Hill, Mr. Hamilton
Hillias, Miss May
Hockaday, Mr. Henry
Hodges, Mr. Horace
Holden, Mr. James
Howard, Prof.
Huddleston, Miss Jessie
Hurst, Mr. Terry
Jackson Family
Jordan, Mr. Gus
Kemble, Mr. Bert
King, Miss Hetty
Knights, Mr. Fred
Lambar, Miss Kate
Langley, Mr. Chas.
Lavigne, Miss Kitty
Lee, Master John
Lennie and Hast
Levey, Miss Carlotta
Levey, Mr. H. B.
Leyton, Mr. George
Loates, Mr. Carr
Lubert, Mr. R.
Luverne, Miss Maud
Lyna, Mr. A. H.
MacClelland, Mr. Harry
Mace, Mr. Fred
Manders, Miss Daisy
Marsh, Mr. Albert
Marwood, Mrs. F.
Maskell, Miss Ada
Matthews, Mrs. E. C.
Maude, Miss Beatrice
Maxam, Mr. Harry
Maynard, Mr. R. T.
Mellon, Miss May W.
Metheringham, Mr. J. W.
Michel and Polo
Milian, Mrs. Max
Monti, Bros.
Moore, Miss Lucy
Morgan, Lieut.
Morgan, Miss Edna
Murray, Miss Lillian
Neilson, Miss Naomie
Nelson, Miss Annie
Newton, Mr. Cecil
"Othello"
Parke, Mr. Cecil W.
Paull, Mrs. William
Pelham, Mr. Paul
Pettigrove (sen.), Mr. B
Phillips, Mr. Nath.
Prince, Mr.
Prince, Mr. Maurice
Pringle, Mr. Ralph
Rawson, Mr. T. W.
Raynham, Mr. Walter
Reynolds, Mr. Harry
Richards, Mr. Fred C.
Roe, Mr. Dan F.
Rooney, Mr. Michell
Russell, Mr. Harry
Russell, Mr. Sidney T.
Schafers, The Musical
Schubert, Miss Flo
Selbo, Mr.
Shine, Mrs.
Smith, Mr. G. H.
Sprays, Les
Stelling, Mr. C. E.
Stephens, Mr. Yorke
Stone, Mr. J. B.
Story, Mr. Tom
Streeley, Mr.
Sturat, Miss Rosie
Testo, Mr. Felix
Theodore, Miss Stella
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Wilsher, Mr. Fred
Wilson, Miss M.
Wrigley Mr. W. R.
Zedora, Mr. Leo
Zenary, Brothers

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Mrs. Langtry—Saturday, Oct. 13.
Marie Polini—Saturday, Oct. 13.
Newman Maurice—Saturday, Oct. 13.
Harry Lester—Saturday, Oct. 13.
Cliff Ryland—Saturday, Oct. 13.
Mrs. Butler Stanhope—Saturday, Oct. 13.
Fred Lyndo—Saturday, Oct. 13.
Evelyn M. Walton—Sunday, Oct. 14.
Edith Lewis—Sunday, Oct. 14.
Dorothy Wallace—Sunday, Oct. 14.
Cerise Caselli—Sunday, Oct. 14.
Reginald A. Hunt—Sunday, Oct. 14.
Chas. Hermann—Sunday, Oct. 14.
Mme. Susanna Cole—Monday, Oct. 15.
May Saker—Monday, Oct. 15.
Ina Goldsmith—Monday, Oct. 15.
Dora Levis—Monday, Oct. 15.
V. Imeson—Monday, Oct. 15.
Arthur Danville—Monday, Oct. 15.
Marion Terry—Tuesday, Oct. 16.
Mabel Love—Tuesday, Oct. 16.
Ted Jarrett—Tuesday, Oct. 16.
Isabel Jay—Wednesday, Oct. 17.
Robert Pateman—Wednesday, Oct. 17.
Wilfred Stanford—Wednesday, Oct. 17.
Lillian Maude—Thursday, Oct. 18.
Lottie Bray—Thursday, Oct. 18.
Frank Mundill—Friday, Oct. 19.
Henry Taylor—Friday, Oct. 19.
Dorothy Firmin—Friday, Oct. 19.

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your issue of Oct. 6 you stated that I presented *A Queen's Messenger* at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, on the 4th inst. I have not given any performance whatever of this play.—Yours faithfully,

HAROLD V. NEILSON.

Palace Pier, Brighton, Oct. 6, 1906.

[Our correspondent's error was due to the fact that *A Queen's Messenger* was *announced* for performance.—ED. of *The Era.*]

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—Owing to a programme error the part of Annie in *Are You a Mason?* was attributed to Miss Madge Merrique in your last week's notice of the Crystal Palace Theatre, whereas the part was played by yours faithfully, BABS STUART.

MR. GEORGE H. LEE writes to us asking for information concerning his late mother. Her stage name was Minnie Ashley, and she was a ballad singer about 1870-76. She died in 1883. He adds: "I know very little of her, but, believe me, I would appreciate greatly any information you could give me." Possibly some of our readers can oblige. Mr. Lee's address is care of The New Idea Pattern Co., 636, Broadway, New York City.

THE evergreen Horace Wheatley, who realises the Irishman on the stage with all his instinctive geniality and mother wit, is paying a short visit to London previous to starting another long tour.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1906.

THE MUSICAL COPYRIGHT BILL.

The first crop of prosecutions under the Musical Copyright Act is very encouraging. The magistrates are administering the law with praiseworthy severity, and the fines imposed are deservedly substantial. It is pleasant to observe that the absurd defence of the offenders, to the effect that they were not aware that the new Act had come into force, had a properly contemptuous reception from the Bench.

It is difficult to understand the point of view of persons who see any difference between stealing a loaf of bread or a pair of boots and purloining the product of a man's brains and energy. Yet there must be some who are able to make the distinction, or the Musical Copyright Act of 1906 would not have met with the opposition which it evoked. The very obstinacy of its opponents, however, is a testimony to the patience and persuasiveness of those who managed in the end to engineer the Bill through the House of Commons.

It must not be forgotten that the efforts of those who have finally been successful in getting the Bill of 1906 passed were not confined to that measure only, but had previously been exercised, strongly though vainly, in attempts to obtain the consent of the House to the Bill which was read in Parliament for the first time on July 11 last year, and, unfortunately, through no want of earnestness on the part of its advocates, came to grief. It was received with relentless opposition; and all the efforts of the leading music-publishers and of Mr. T. P. O'Connor—whose work in connection with both Bills has been arduous and skilful beyond praise—failed to induce the opponents of the Bill to come to any reasonable compromise. Still, the hearty co-operation of about a hundred Members of Parliament was secured, and the Government was at last induced to bring in a short Bill itself. This, however, was not done till very late in the session, as the Government would not introduce the measure unless it was to be "non-contentious"; and thus a great deal of time had to be wasted in endeavouring to come to terms with the opponents of the Bill. The interval between the failure to pass the Bill of 1905 and the successful "piloting" of the Bill of 1906 was a dark one in the annals of music-publishing. For a year the valuable property of a large body of taxpayers was left at the mercy of the thieves who were preying upon the talent of the composers and the judgment and enterprise of the publishers of music. The pilfering was prodigious. As many as 300,000 copies of pirated music were seized in one heap, the absurdly inadequate sum of ten guineas costs being ordered against the offenders—if they could be caught. So desperate had the condition of affairs become that a notice was issued by the leading houses in the trade to the effect that the issuing of new works would have to be discontinued until the law was amended. It had come to this—that the costs of purchase and the expenses of publication were being borne by the publishers, while the sole benefit of the successful publications was reaped by the pirates.

We remind our readers of all these facts because it is very easy, when work has been done, to forget those who have borne the burden and heat of the day. Mr. T. P. O'Connor, who drafted the Bill of 1906, and engineered it through the House of Commons with all the persuasiveness, tact, and quiet tenacity which are amongst his many and varied characteristics, might easily have been allowed to go without the reward of grateful acknowledgment which is only the due of his long, disinterested, and able advocacy of the cause. It is pleasant, "for the sake of our common humanity," to notice that the proverbial ingratitude of classes towards their champions and benefactors is not to rule in this instance. As we stated last week, a Committee has already been formed to arrange the details of a dinner at which the popular "T. P." is to be entertained in November by the leading music-publishers and composers on his return from America. The occasion will certainly be taken advantage of to express the gratitude which both the above classes feel to the champion of their cause, and to emphasise the appreciation of the ability, the knowledge of the world, and the gifts of personal charm, delicate discrimination, and unobtrusive but ceaseless energy which have served Mr. O'Connor so well in his battle with the music pirates and his diplomacy with their defenders.

Already the appreciation of Mr. O'Connor's services has found expression. At the annual meeting of Messrs. Novello and Co., at their new premises in Wardour-street, on Wednesday, the chairman, Mr. A. H. Littleton, referring to musical piracy, said that the question had been a serious one. Publishers and composers had suffered heavily; but at last those who had borne so much had a chance of redress. They had waited, said Mr. Littleton, for several years, thinking that a Conservative Government would pass a Bill giving power to deal summarily with the pirate; but it did not come. Now it had come, and had been brought into being by Mr. T. P. O'Connor, to whom, as well as to the Government, they all felt very grateful. Coming from a firm like Novello's, which has not itself suffered very much from musical piracy, this testimony shows how united is the publishing trade in its high estimate of the value of Mr. O'Connor's championship.

THE HIPPODROME.

It is quite certain that *The Earthquake* has been exciting the curiosity of large crowds of London's amusement-seekers ever since its production by the clever and ingenious Frank Parker, who has in this, his latest sensation, set the seal on a reputation that has become world-wide. Indeed, the popular man behind the scenes at the Hippodrome might be termed the Alexander of stage-management, anxious still for the solution of greater difficulties in the presentation of spectacle. We wonder what our forefathers, who were struck by the realism of *The Cataract of the Ganges*, would have thought of the amazing cataclysm which forms the second episode of *The Earthquake!* The scene of absolute havoc is terrifying in its remarkable realism. The toppling column in *Claudian*, at the Princess's, in the 'eighties, provided a mild form of excitement compared to the burning houses, the street upheavals, and the rising tidal wave at the Hippodrome, where large audiences have acclaimed *The Earthquake* as the most stupendous spectacle of a remarkable series. The vagueness of superlatives fails to do justice to it, and all we need add is that a second visit confirms the deep impression it created on the first night. Mr. Hal Forde, Mr. Cecil Morton York, and Miss Simeta Marsden present dramatically the main features of the story that holds the spectacle together, and the lady is specially happy in her solo. The mechanical scenery, painted by Mr. Bruce Smith, is in no small degree responsible for the success achieved.

In the first part of the entertainment an interesting stay is made by the Four Fakirs, native Hindoo conjurers. The chief of these is cleverly assisted in the famous Indian basket trick, so often described by travellers, and the smart way in which the illusion is accomplished speaks volumes for the cleverness of the performers, two of whom play instruments that were apparently manufactured for the purpose of producing cacophony. Variety and humour are found in alliance in the turn of Frank and Jen Latona. Frank tells anecdotes previous to rousing the house by a whirling Sousa march played on the slide trombone. The fun is augmented by a mechanical donkey and a dancing nigger. Mrs. Latona (Jen) assumes a "vurry" pronounced "Amurrican" accent, for which there is not the slightest necessity, as she is a native of the county in which Shakespeare was born. She is, nevertheless, a fascinating soubrette, and sings songs at the piano in a way that proclaims her to be an excellent entertainer as well as an accomplished pianist. A new turn to us is Busch's dwarf horse—a very peculiar shaped quadruped, but docile withal. It is put through its paces by a droll dwarf, who plays fantastic tricks with much success. The Ten Genis, with their three ponies, which assist in a smart and intrepid Risley act, deserve well of the audience, who applaud their clever feats enthusiastically. The Kitafukas command breathless attention while one of their number performs a series of daring and difficult feats on the summit of a pole balanced on his partner's shoulder; the De Wynne Brothers preserve the best traditions of head and hand balancing in an exhibition of trained muscle that gives undoubted pleasure; Lavater Lee and his poodles raise shouts of laughter by their amusing doings; Techow has trained the harmless, necessary cat to do his bidding in a most astonishing series of feats; the Gordon Highlanders evoke enthusiasm by the smartness of their manœuvres and evolutions in a lightning drill act; and other turns are the Griffiths Brothers, clowns; O. K. Sato, comedy juggler; Mlle. Doris, equestrian; and the Two Butterflies, aerial gymnasts. Mr. Fred Trussell, the popular manager here, has returned from Morocco, where he had some most exciting adventures.

INJUNCTIONS DISSOLVED.

Interim injunctions which affected Miss Marie Lloyd, Mr. Ernest Shand, the Poluskis, Orpheus (Mr. Ben Sylvester), and Miss Jessie Preston were granted last week against these artists, who had contracts with the London and Cambridge, Shoreditch, preventing them from appearing at the Paragon, on the ground that the Mile End hall was within a mile and a half of the others, and that therefore the artists were "barred" under their contracts.

Mr. Payne appeared for the London Music Hall and the "R. B." Syndicate, and Mr. W. S. M. Knight, instructed by Messrs. Morris and Rickards, for the artists concerned.

After hearing the arguments, the Judge decided that he would grant no order on the applications before him for injunctions, and directed that there should be a speedy trial, as he said the case was obviously one of the greatest importance to the music-hall profession. His lordship expressed the opinion that all the cases should be consolidated, so that a decision might be arrived at upon these contracts. As a result, the injunctions are dissolved.

Mr. Fred Fields, comedian, of Fields and Lewis, is the latest to join the ranks of the Terriers, he being initiated on Sunday last. Mr. F. W. Millis performed the ceremony. Mr. Harry Lester, the indefatigable secretary of the popular fraternity, is recovering from a severe cold.

MASKELYNE THE MATERIALIST.

Mr. J. N. Maskelyne is, first and foremost, an entertainer; but, incidentally, he is an exposer of humbug, and he considers that no doctrine preached is so overcharged with fraud as spiritualism, the pretensions of which he many times and oft exposed at his agreeable séances during his thirty years' or more occupancy of the Egyptian Hall. The latest to challenge Mr. Maskelyne's ingenuity is the Archdeacon Colley, Rector of Stockton, Rugby, who has written to his bankers to pay to the eminent wonder-worker "on his doing, with all the machinery he may need to bring to Stockton Rectory as a conjurer and professor of tricks illusionary, and not as a spirit-medium, any one of the things I, in my lectures during the week of last Church Congress, declared had been done in my presence, or what has since been done and written of in my published pamphlet." The phenomena (?) described in the pamphlet are two in number—viz., the "extrusion" of spirit forms from the left side of the medium, and the conveyance by "Psychic Parcels Post" of several yards of white muslin seventy miles in length in less than five minutes. The archdeacon states that twenty-nine years ago he held a medium in his arms in his own room beneath a chandelier with three gas burners full on. A vapour came from the left side of the medium, "the region of his heart," which developed into a materialised Spirit, apparently human. It walked, talked, wrote its name, ate a baked apple, and did many other mundane things. The Archdeacon's offer to Mr. Maskelyne was afterwards extended so that payment would be made if he (Mr. Maskelyne) could produce similar manifestations "any way, anywhere, at any time, as a conjurer," to those described above.

The experiment was fixed for Monday afternoon at St. George's Hall, which was crowded both with materialists and spiritualists. Towards the end of the afternoon Mr. Maskelyne came on to the stage, and prefaced his performance by a short address. "During the past forty years," said he, "he had had many battles with spiritualistic cranks, and as he was fast approaching the allotted span of life he began to feel rather sick of the whole subject. It was probably the last time he would accept such a challenge as the venerable Archdeacon's. He was appearing on that stage simply as a conjurer. He was no medium; his work was an illusion—mere trickery, in fact; and for the manifestation promised he would be assisted by his old comrade, Mr. J. B. Hanard, who would appear in clerical garb, while he himself would be the 'Doctor.'"

The two operators, with no apparatus visible beyond a couple of chairs, opened the "mystic" proceedings by a little dialogue, in which complaint was made of being haunted by evil spirits. The cure for such a complaint seemed to be a number of mysterious passes; but when Mr. Maskelyne complained of the "colly wobbles," and vapour began to issue from his side, the farcical spirit prevailed, until, from the side of the conjurer—growing, as it were, from his frock-coat—came transversely another spirit: a female form clothed in white. She did not, like a shadow, flee away, but walked to the footlights, and in agitated tones inquired "Where am I?" "Have no fear, sweet lady, you are among friends," was the reply. "Wake up, Doctor, and see what you have created." The Doctor (or, rather, Mr. Maskelyne) did wake up, and discovered the form of Miss Cassie Bruce, who had been spirited on to the stage, without anyone discovering how, beneath the rays of three electric bulbs. The genial wizard was much cheered, and the audience was soon afterwards informed that, "in the event of the £1,000 not being paid within a week, Mr. Maskelyne will sue the Archdeacon for it."

Mr. David Devant, in the course of the afternoon, presented three new tricks—"The Point of View," "The New Aladdin's Lamp," and the "Mysterious Triangle," the last-mentioned a clever experiment in cards.

THE "PALACE" ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Palace Theatre, Ltd., Cambridge-circus, was summoned before Mr. Denman at Marlborough-street on Tuesday by the London County Council for having unlawfully erected a "structure" outside the theatre beyond the general building-line without consent. Mr. Chilvers supported the summons on behalf of the London County Council and Mr. Bodkin appeared for the defence.

Mr. Chilvers said that on Feb. 22 the Palace Theatre Co., which had some other projections beyond the general line of building, erected a wood and plaster "structure" against the front wall, standing on the pavement, 13ft. 2in. high by 7ft. 10in. wide, and projecting from the building-line from 14in. to 2ft. 2in. A wood framework covered with plaster was painted to represent an old stone wall, and a front of glass was let in, behind which were electric lights. At the top was a figure of a pierrette, and at the side a figure of a pierrot playing the guitar. The elbow of the latter was the greatest projection.

Mr. Bodkin: The elbow must stick out if he is playing the guitar.

Mr. Chilvers added that on the glass were painted the names of performers at the theatre. From its nature and size he submitted that it was a structure within the meaning of the London Building Act.

Mr. George Townsend, surveyor, from the architect's office of the London County Council, gave evidence of the nature of the alleged "structure."

Mr. Bodkin (cross-examining): Not much harm has been done?—I can't say.

Don't look so solemn. Do you know of any human being that could be inconvenienced?—A person could be.

Further cross-examined, the witness said he could not describe this as a "frame of wood." There was a door at the side through which the arm could be put for replacing an electric light.

Could you get through?—No.

Could I get through?—Possibly.

Mr. Bodkin (laughing): It is only about that width (indicating about 5in.) (Laughter.)

In further cross-examination the witness said Mr. Bodkin might "squeeze in sideways." (Loud laughter.)

Mr. Denman (deliberately): Yes; Mr. Bodkin might squeeze in sideways. (Laughter.)

Mr. Bodkin: If a case is stated I hope that will not be put down. (Laughter.)

Mr. Bodkin urged that this case was disposed of by decisions in numerous previous cases as to the nature of somewhat similar "things" to the one now under discussion, including advertisements, illuminated signs, and porticos. The governing words of Section 22 of the Act were "no building or structure," etc., and he would submit that such words related to something very different from this frame, which was in no way permanent or by any means part of the face of the building.

Mr. Joseph E. Walker, architect, called for the defence, said the alleged "structure" was simply held up by "wall hooks" and could be removed in about three-quarters of an hour without altering the face of the wall in any way.

Mr. Denman adjourned the summons to consider his decision.

A further development in the controversy between "Archdeacon" Colley and Mr. J. N. Maskelyne is that the latter on Wednesday received a letter from the reverend gentleman's solicitors intimating that he was about to bring an action for libel against the popular illusionist.

CHELSEA PALACE.

A good time is spent by those who visit the handsome hall at Chelsea, where merriment is practically unceasing throughout the evening. The most prolific source of laughter is found in Little Tich, who is paradoxically, but no less accurately, termed "the great comedian." Laughter begins with his first entry, and continues unchecked through this singing of the refrain "What a life!" Later the rôle of a member of the "Gallant 23rd" affords Mr. Tich the opportunity of giving a most indicrous impersonation of a cavalry officer who has trouble with spurs and top-boots, and the antics with which he embellishes the singing of a cleverly written song prove irresistible, and evoke the plaudits of the whole house. Mr. Guy Ryder begins the evening with a song of "Sue," which he supplements with a whistling refrain, but his sibilant powers are given fuller play in imitations of a canary and a thrush, which are enthusiastically cheered. Mr. Ryder, who gains his effects only by means of two fingers placed in the mouth, produces most mellifluous and tuneful sounds, which are heard to especial advantage in excerpts from popular operas, during which an exquisite tone is preserved.

The name of Barnard is immemorially associated with the marionette, and the representation of *A Coon's Revelry* at Chelsea this week is one that will add greatly to its fame. The puppet show is given on a mimic stage which is cleverly merged into the real, and elaborately mounted to represent a floral grove. A dusky young lady sings a coon melody, during which a piccininny, with the most expressive countenance, disports himself in the oddest fashion. A couple of negro swell comedians having given a duet and dance, the coon returns with a companion, and much fun is made with a motor-car and an obstreperous donkey. The figures are manipulated with rare skill, coming as near to nature as could be, and the cheers that await the clever couple who pull the string were never better deserved. Miss Maidie Scott affects to be "just a comedienne," a title which is only too seldom realised. In the present case, however, it is thoroughly justified, Miss Scott's singing of "The little maid said 'Amen'" and "Everybody works but father" constituting the essence of drollery. There is nothing particularly remarkable in the songs, but what she makes out of them by dint of expression in voice and feature is wonderful, and her reward is deservedly great.

The versatility of Miss Lottie Siegenberg is once more proved in her musical monologue "The Lazy Slavey," in which an amusing portrayal of a housemaid is contrasted with a Spanish song and castanet dance. A well-played solo on the pianoforte is then given, and ere the applause that greets it has subsided, the young lady breaks into a difficult excerpt from "Il bacio." Counsell and Mills also present a varied entertainment in the sketch *On the Stage*, in which a theatrical agent's assistant joins an applicant for an engagement in a coon song and dance in which the best features of burlesque are presented. Melodrama is also dealt with in comic style, a travesty of *The Midnight Mail* involving the appearance of a miniature train which steams at express speed across the stage. The sketch has novel features, and is smartly rendered by the clever couple. Miss Hettie Chattell's ability as a male impersonator and a songstress receives equal proof in her song, "That's what I call love," the sentiment of which makes an irresistible appeal to the hearts of all. In her second effusion Miss Chattell declares in the character of a coster that "The feeling's just the same," the verses of which deal with topics closely affecting the patriotic impulse and the national spirit. On the night of our visit the cheers were difficult to suppress, and the popular "boy" might well have gone on indefinitely. The Tally-Ho Trio join humorously, but none the less tunefully, in a parody of "The Minstrel Boy" and a "Good-bye" medley, and later one of the trio reveals the possession of a remarkable voice in a "Ladybird" song, which is well received. Mr. Charles Bignell and "Life Motion Photographs" by the Animated Graphic are included in the programme, the way of which is melodiously smoothed by the strains of Mr. Angelo Asher's admirable band. Mr. Edward Swanborough, the manager, though making a marvellous recovery, has not yet returned permanently to his post, but he is adequately represented by Mr. J. Norman Berlin, one o the smartest young acting-managers in town, who discharges his duties with an agreeable combination of courtesy and tact.

THE MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.

The monthly meeting of the management committee of this society was held at the York Hotel, York-road, on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Pat Carey (the president) occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs. W. J. Wainratta (vice-president), Frank Heath (treasurer), H. E. High, W. Brisco, George Fredericks, W. West, J. Mulcaster, and R. S. Baines (secretary).

It was reported that Mr. Frederic Baugh had agreed to become one of the vice-presidents of the society, and had offered to give a matinée performance in aid of the management fund.

The following letter, addressed to Mr. Frank Heath, hon. treasurer of the society, was read. It was in reply to a letter written by Mr. Heath, which appeared in *The Era* of Sept. 15 last:—

Re M.H.S.F. and V.A.F.

Dear Sir,—I sincerely trust the affiliation of these two Societies will be possible, and although at present the agitation has not assumed great dimensions, I feel certain that overtures will be made to you by delegates of the V.A.F.

I am unable to discuss your figures, but my suggestion was put forth, not haphazardly, but with this idea: When one proposes to "make" one has to have a basis of argument, consequently *my* basis was the lowest possible—*i.e.*, a penny. Now, with the aid of a competent actuary, a solid basis, giving solid and useful results, should be arrived at, whether that basis be 1½d. or even a fraction over this amount. In a matter of 3000, fractions play a goodish figure.

The only forcible argument against affiliation is, "Why not join the M.H.S.F."? Now, with the V.A.F. a "*man-and-wife*" turn has to pay £2 12s. yearly to be in any benefit, and to join the M.H.S.F. it would cost them the same amount, therefore they'd have to find £5 4s. per year, a very fair item in these times. A man can generally find *one* shilling a week, but *two* shillings is not always convenient.

It was *not* my suggestion that the M.H.S.F. should sink its identity and be absorbed by the V.A.F., but to be looked upon as the most useful member of the "Music Hall" body *corporate*, being a further step to that great "Utopia," when variety performers would be entirely independent of *outside* aids, and much condemned "subscription lists." Believe me, yours very faithfully,

MONTE BAYLY.

P.S.—The actuary would have to take into consideration that we would not need your "death" levy.

Hippodrome, Ipswich, Oct. 9, 1906.

A short discussion followed, the chairman remarking it was open to the treasurer or any member of the committee to continue the correspondence if he felt so inclined.

The names of nearly a dozen new members were submitted to the committee for approval; and the chairman congratulated his fellow-committeemen on the flourishing condition of the society, which was slowly but surely becoming better known amongst the members of the variety profession, for whose benefit it was established years ago.

A hope was expressed that the apathy regarding their own interests in the important matter of making provision for times of sickness was gradually disappearing, and that the M.H.S.F. would in due course receive much increased support from music-hall artists.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

To Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., who is now in America, special honour will be paid on the third Sunday in November (18th) by composers, song-writers, and publishers, who desire to celebrate by a complimentary dinner to the popular Irish M.P. the passing of the Musical Copyright Act, 1906, promoted by him. The arrangements, which are now well in hand, are being carried out by a preliminary committee, consisting of the following gentlemen:—Sir Hubert Parry, Sir Alexander McKenzie, Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, Mr. Edward German, Mr. Hamish MacCunn, Mr. Michael Maybrick, Mr. Leslie Stuart, Mr. Ivan Caryll, Mr. Paul A. Rubens, Mr. Lionel Monckton, Mr. Howard Talbot, Mr. Alfred Littleton (Messrs. Novello and Co.), Mr. Arthur Boosey (Messrs. Boosey and Co.), Mr. William Boosey (Messrs. Chappell and Co.), and Mr. F. H. Pedgrift.

To Mr. Bransby Williams, who is more than gratified with his success in the States, several flattering offers have been made to induce him to stay, but he has no intention of breaking faith with English managers, and will therefore sail for home per the new liner Caronia on Nov. 6, in time to rehearse pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow. A star part in drama is one among the many inducements held out to the young actor to remain in the States.

Master Sydney Leno, a son of the late comedian, intends to follow in his eminent father's footsteps, and has announced that he will shortly make his début. Previous to this he will appear as one of the Ugly Sisters in his own version of *Cinderella*, in which his sister Georgina will play the Fairy Godmother. He will superintend the entire production, which is to be on the 26th at Wandsworth.

Miss Emily Soldene's farewell matinée at the Palace Theatre will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 13, when a most attractive programme will be presented. At the request of Mr. Alfred Butt, the duties of hon. secretary have been undertaken by Mr. Richard A. Northcott, the well-known journalist and musical and dramatic critic, and the souvenir programme will be illustrated by Mr. John Hassall, R.I., and Mme. Melba has consented to act as the president of a special ladies' committee, with Miss Ellen Terry as vice-president. Earl Carrington, K.G., Lord Glenesk, Lord Rothschild, and nearly all the Agents-General for the Colonies are among the patrons.

Among the incidental items will be a humorous skit, called *The Wise Phrenologist*, in which Miss Soldene will examine the "bumps" of several pretty actresses. This is an elaboration of an idea which was carried out at one of the Palace Theatre festivals, when Professor Cross examined the bumps of Arthur Roberts. If that comedian could be secured to "assist" in the "demonstration" its success would be assured.

Miss Edna May, on her resignation of the part of Julia Chaldicott in *The Belle of Mayfair* at the Vaudeville, was so it is stated, overwhelmed with offers for the variety theatres, and various extravagant sums were suggested as the salary of the "belle of New York." It is, however, certain that Mr. Harry Day, the well-known dramatic and variety agent, offered the popular lady £2000 for a ten weeks' engagement, which she would certainly have accepted had Mr. Charles Frohman given his consent. Mr. Day cabled over to the States in order to try and persuade the American entrepreneur to alter his decision, but to no purpose, and Miss May had reluctantly to decline, and did so in a very nicely-worded letter. When so much "vapouring" clouds the atmosphere it is well to let in the "light of Day."

The Livermore Brothers did much to sustain the higher traditions of burnt-cork minstrelsy in the provinces, and their entertainments were always well organised and charged with the highest refinement. Their senior and chief, Mr. Lechmere Livermore, has now passed away, after a short retirement, at his residence at Tooting, and was buried on Tuesday at Norwood Cemetery. We have dealt with the deceased gentleman's career in another column, but we should add that neither he nor his brothers were connected at any time with the combination known as the Christy Minstrels. The Livermores did not trade on the reputation of Christy.

The complete plans for Mr. Walter Gibbons's latest enterprise, the Willesden Empire, having been passed by the Middlesex County Council, the building of the new music hall has now been started by the contractors. The house will be opened on Whit Monday, 1907. The plans for Mr. Gibbons's other new hall, the Tooting Hippodrome, which will be one of the largest in the Kingdom, are practically completed. This house will be quite unique so far as its auditorium and general character are concerned.

The anniversary of the historic Middlesex will be celebrated on Thursday evening, Oct. 25, and the Brighton Alhambra anniversary on Thursday evening, Dec. 6. The Middlesex celebration is fixed for an earlier date than usual, in order to suit the convenience of several artists who have consented to appear. Mr. J. L. Graydon, the popular proprietor, always makes this a gala night.

"La Débutante" is the name of the new ballet which is to be produced at the Empire shortly, with Mlle. Genée in the title-rôle. The novelty is designed by the versatile, ingenious, and artistic Mr. Wilhelm, and the composers are Messrs. Glaser and Cuthbert Clarke.

Miss Marie Tempest is extending her stay at the Palace Theatre, owing to the fact that Mr. Charles Frohman has been unable to find a theatre in which to "present" this gifted artist in the forthcoming new play. She will on Monday next vary her extensive song list by singing some of her *Geisha* favourites. On Thursday Miss Tempest tried, for the first time at the Palace, Goring Thomas's delightful song "A Summer Night," accompanied by Mr. Frank Lambert, the 'cello obbligato being played by Mr. C. Coenen, one of the members of Mr. Herman Finck's orchestra.

Mr. Chris Davis, the well-known and successful sketch writer and black-and-white artist, has on the stocks *The Village Band* for George Mozart, who will also shortly produce, by the same author, a new burlesque society drama, in which he will portray all the characters. Mr. Davis is also writing a dramatic sketch, in four episodes, for Fred Eustace and company, and *The Queen of Clubs*, an extravaganza, to be produced by Miss Kitty Ransome and company.

The first Grand Ladies' Night of the Pimlico Masonic Lodge, of which Bro. W. E. Willson is the Worshipful Master during the present year, was held at the Holborn Restaurant (Crown Rooms), W.C., on Thursday last, Oct. 4, 1906. After a sumptuous banquet, to which seventy sat down, a concert followed, under the direction of Bro. Jack de Frece and Bro. Dave Cohen, at which the following well-known artists appeared:—Mr. George Mozart, Mr. Malcolm Scott, Mr. Arthur Aldridge, Mr. Percy Honri, Mr. Arthur Reece, Mr. George Newburn, Mr. Dennis Drew, Mr. Harry Taft, Mr. R. Clifford, Mr. Robert Machaelis, Mr. Emlyn Jones and his Ladies' Quartette, Mme. Adele Lyon, Miss Anita Clifford, and Miss Sylvia Du Barry. The proceedings concluded with a ball, the music being by the Criterion Ladies' Orchestra. The whole affair, which did not terminate until 3 a.m., proved a huge success, every visitor being delighted with the enjoyable time spent.

The new Tivoli, in Lime-street, Liverpool, will open at the end of November. Mr. Marks, of the Park Palace, is to be the manager, and the licence will be applied for in his name on the 23rd inst.

Miss Lelia Roze, who with her husband (Mr. E. Downes-Martin, J.P.) has enjoyed a glorious summer holiday at their estate in co. Down, must surely hold the ladies' record for sea-fishing this season, having landed on a single hand line forty-five skate in one afternoon, the largest weighing 40lb., the whole catch being considerably over 5cwt. Mackerel have also been plentiful, fifty minutes' trawling of a single hook landing four dozen and five fish to Miss Roze's basket. The launching of the new yacht the Edwina (named after Mr. and Mrs. Downes-Martin's little daughter) was most satisfactory. She is a roomy, comfortable boat, and sails well. It is with much regret that Miss Lelia Roze is ending her sea picnic parties for the present, as she resumes work on the 29th in Birmingham, and is in London for pantomime, as she is engaged to play the part of the Prince in *Cinderella* at the Marlborough.

The final of the clog-dancing contest promoted by the veteran Mr. J. H. Wood at the Hippodrome, Accrington, last week, took place at the house mentioned on Saturday night, when the judges—E. H. Doyle and J. G. Burns—awarded the belt to W. Brennan, Uddington, Glasgow, and gold medal to George Macintosh, of Motherwell, N.B. J. Copeland, jun., Middlesbrough, and Andrew Easton, Ashington, also secured honours in this most interesting competition. On the announcement of the verdict, George Macintosh, the gold medallist, challenged the winner to dance twenty steps and shuffle—the stipulated number in the contest for the world's championship, won by the lamented Dan Leno.

Mr. Ernie Mayne, who has just finished starring on the Stoll tour, suddenly finds himself thrown out of pantomime owing to the liquidation of the Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, where he was engaged to play Idle Jack. Here's a snap for some manager!

Mr. Philip Sefton ended his season at the Old Welsh Harp on Saturday last, the magnificent ball-room being packed. His next season there commences at Easter. He has in active preparation a new and original musical duologue by Fredk. Bingham (author of "The Gipsy Countess," Counsel's Opinion," &c.) entitled *The Banana King*, which he will shortly produce with Miss Harrie Brookes. He is resuming work on the halls as a single turn at the Tivoli, Manchester, on the 22nd inst.

The Society Pierrots under the direction of Mr. Billy Keene, will sail for Colombo and India on Friday next from Tilbury per R.M.S. Omrah, returning at the end of May next. They are the first pierrot show, or entertainment run on pierrot lines, that has ever gone to India.

The "season" at Tynemouth Palace came to an end no Saturday evening, and the last concert was marked by two interesting presentations. A number of admirers and friends presented a smoker's cabinet to Mr. Lindon Travers, the entertainment manager, and a gold ring to Mr. Henry Sprake, the conductor of the orchestra. Mr. Travers, in responding on behalf of Mr. Sprake and himself, said that next year, if facilities were granted, the grounds between the Palace and the shelter would be laid out for al-fresco concerts. Mr. Lindon Travers has been re-engaged as manager, and the place will open for two weeks at Christmas, for a short season at Easter, and from Whitsuntide until the end of September.

The annual matinée performance, by the kind permission of Mr. George Harrop, in aid of the Chief Constable's Clothing Fund, at the Palace, Blackpool, on Wednesday afternoon, drew a crowded house. The whole of the Palace and Tower artists gave their services, and in response to her promise, Miss Florence Baines ("Miss Lancashire, Ltd.") motored over from Preston to show her sympathy with the movement. She was enthusiastically acclaimed, and received four bouquets. A special feature of the entertainment was a prologue written by Mr. George E. Martin, and recited by Mr. Cyril Chantler. George Gilbey gave £5 besides his services, and it is expected that £400 will be handed over to the fund.

The Winter Gardens, Blackpool, show a profit for the year amounting to £10,446 10s. 1d., which, with £137 1s. 5d. brought forward, makes an available balance of £10,583 11s. 6d. After paying £5,706 17s. 11d. for interest on debentures, &c., the directors recommend a dividend of 4 per cent. upon £69,460, the share capital of the company (payable free of Income Tax), which will absorb £2,778 8s. The sum of £1,000 is to be written off the electric installation, £500 is placed to reserve, and £598 carried forward.

Calder's Comedy Company presented for the first time on Oct. 8 at the Muncaster Theatre, Bootle, a new and original thirty minutes' musical comedy, in three scenes, entitled *The Dandy Duke* We expect to hear of arrangements for its production in London shortly.

A remarkable bioscope film will be shown at the New Cross Empire on Monday. Some weeks ago Mr. Ernest Bridgen was fortunate in obtaining permission from the Woolwich Arsenal authorities to take a "picture" of the mechanics at work in the Government factory. This permit has never been given before, and probably will never be accorded again to a theatrical manager. Be that as it may, these moving pictures, showing how great guns, bullets, shells, and armoury of every description are made, will be exhibited exclusively at the Moss-Stoll Empires, commencing at New Cross. Mr. Bridgen is to be congratulated on his enterprise.

Mlle. Rozas was on Monday night within an ace of losing all her valuable spaniels and troupe of dogs belonging to her canine hippodrome. After their performance at the Colston Hall, Bristol, the lady saw them safely housed and fed at the Hatchet stables (the old and well-known establishment used by professionals for the stabling of animals), and at about 1.30 in the morning the Merchant Venturers' College was in flames, the building only being separated from the stables by a small street and a spirit distillery. If this had caught nothing could have saved the narrow thoroughfare. The firemen worked hard, and stopped the conflagration from spreading. What with the distressing cry of poor people who expected every moment to be homeless, the shouting of orders and noise of fire engines, and the barking of the dogs, the night was a terrible one. Fortunately the animals are all safe, although Mlle. Rozas received a great shock.

The announcement of the reopening of Mr. John Henry Cooke's Circus in Fountainbridge, Edinburgh, on Monday, will be welcomed by hosts of his admirers, young and old. The veteran equestrian manager is a great favourite in the northern metropolis, and his annual winter season is always eagerly looked forward to. He has made many strong engagements for his forthcoming term, and as the programmes will undergo a change weekly, he may confidently hope for a large share of the patronage to which his energy and eagerness to please the public fairly entitle him. Mr. Fred Lewis, the acting-manager of last season, will again be in the post in which his urbanity and courtesy have made him so many friends.

The Music Hall Ladies' Guild, the latest benevolent organisation of the profession, has relieved its first case at Liverpool. It was a distressing maternity case, and after telephoning inquiries to the popular Ma Egerton, of the American bar, a telegram was sent by Miss de Grey, "Give all help necessary, and Guild will cover expenses." The new coterie is entirely a social and charitable society, and is not connected with the Variety Artists' Federation or other professional union. Negotiations are in progress with the directors of the London Pavilion for holding a matinée there in aid of the charitable objects of the Guild. It is proposed that the entertainment shall be entirely provided by ladies, and that the mere male shall sell programmes. Miss Marie Lloyd, Miss Lily Burnand, Mrs. Fred Karno, Mrs. Fred Ginnett, and Mrs Butler are the leading spirits of the young society, the secretary being Miss Lee Grey.

Mr. Edward Lauri, of the famous Lauri family, has succeeded in booking with Messrs. Moss and Stoll his musical protean mélange, entitled *In Her Boudoir*, which is composed of the best ingredients of opera, musical comedy, and farce without horseplay. The production is distinguished by the special starring engagement therein of Australia's premier opera-bouffe artist, Miss May Beatty, and Miss Nina Osborne, a songstress, who also hails from the country which gave us Melba. Mr. Lauri goes to the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, for pantomime, and will produce next spring a musical play without words, entitled *A Gardener's Dream*.

The "Rayne Date-book" has just had notoriety thrust upon it by being quoted as an authority in the celebrated "Barring-clause actions." Affidavits in these cases were made to the effect that the halls in question were more than a mile and a half apart according to Rayne's map, which is recognised by artists, managers, and agents as the standard work of reference. It is a frequent saying amongst professionals that if you consult this little waistcoat-pocket volume, the information obtained will be as "right as Rayne."

Mr. H. B. Marinelli, the "universal" agent, has just opened his new, extensive, and most elaborately-fitted offices on the Place Boieldieu, Paris. Amongst other innovations he has organised a special branch for theatrical matters. In his new offices will be found every modern convenience: reading-rooms for artists and private rooms for managers, who can transact their business, and telephone direct from his offices all over the world.

Mr. Medley Barrett, who has been snatching a brief holiday at Ostend before the serious duties of pantomime claim his attention, was persuaded whilst there to give his celebrated entertainment at the piano at an English school, and was acclaimed to the echo by a large audience. He was gratified to hear at a café chantant that one of the most admired numbers was an English song—Mr. Henry E. Pether's ballad "The Playground in the Sky."

The Terriers gave their first social of the season on Sunday at their headquarters, the Dover Castle, Westminster Bridge-road. About eighty were present. Amongst those who contributed to the evening's harmony were Walter Norman, Tom Packer, Miss Gillman, Ernest D'Almaine, Miss Ada Norman, Lloyd Morgan, Percy Linton, Miss Zasiho, Will Charlton, Harry Barlow, Mr. Sam Stockton, W. L. Murray, Fred W. Millis, Mr. Harry Gage, George Preston, and Miss Collins. Mr. F. W. Millis occupied the chair, Mr. Fred Neiman the vice-chair, Mr. J. C. Moore presided at the piano, and Mr. Walter Norman was the M.C. The comfort of all was well looked after by the secretary, Harry Lester.

Dr. Walford Bodie, who has again been creating a furore at the Paragon, will on Sunday (to-morrow) give a lecture and demonstration at the Canterbury, entitled "What is a Miracle?" which will touch on hypnotism, scientific medicine, Christian Scientists, and the Peculiar People. The whole proceeds will be given to the Waterloo Hospital for Women and Children. On this special occasion Dr. Walford Bodie will introduce some of his London cures.

Mr. Arthur G. H. Hunt, the new proprietor of the Royal Albert, Canning Town, E., is worthily following the example of his predecessor, Mr. Chas. Relf, and has generously placed his hall at the disposal of the Seamen's Hospital Society for two nights, viz., Thursday and Friday, Nov. 8 and 9, when the usual entertainments will be given in aid of that charity. Offers of help from members of the music hall profession will be gratefully received. Any ladies or gentlemen who would like to assist at these entertainments (thus benefiting a most deserving institution), and who can reasonably hope to appear, are asked to communicate with the honorary secretary, Seamen's Hospital, Albert Dock, London, E.

Mr. R. W. Allum's long and honourable connection with the Brixton Theatre will receive due recognition on Tuesday evening next, when his friends in Brixton are honouring him with a grand complimentary concert at the Brixton Hall, Acre-lane. Among those who have promised to appear are George Mozart, Phil Ray, Tom Craven, little Maudie Francis, Edie King, Sydney Gandy, Clara Hubbard, Blanche Marion, Lina Mucklow, Lily Allen, Rose Hamilton, and many others.

Mr. Frank Gerald has been elected general-secretary—not manager—to the Variety Artists' Federation Committee, receiving 63 votes out of a possible 126. His opponent, Mr. C. Bartram, secured 42. Seventeen members did not vote, and four were disqualified.

La Sylphe, the famous "spider" dancer, makes her first appearance in the provinces next Monday at Liverpool Olympia. During the following week she will be at Glasgow Empire. A New Yorker by birth, La Sylphe—known in private life as Edith Lambelle—is now twenty, and has been on the stage since the age of six. For the last two years she has been exclusively engaged at the Alhambra. At Olympia, La Sylphe will give a Spanish dance, the Parisian gigolette (an astonishingly rapid and high-kicking dance to galop music), and an Arabian dance. She lives on fruit and vegetables. "Meat," she says, "would make me fat, and I should be unable to get through my work. I practise three hours daily." She made her first appearance in London at the Palace Theatre, a house that makes a speciality of sensational dancers.

Miss Vesta Tilley, now happily recovered from her recent indisposition, will make her reappearance at the Hackney Empire on Monday. "It will probably surprise you to hear that I rarely learn any of my songs thoroughly before going on the stage," said Miss Tilley to the writer during the course of a brief chat. "Just now I have a new song in hand about a policeman, and at present am making a careful study of the men in blue I chance to pass. I do not run about after all the policemen, you know, but just take mental notes of their various walks and attitudes. I have done the same thing with all my most successful songs. When I produced 'On Furlough' the first time in Nottingham, I knew neither the words nor the tune thoroughly, and introduced the gait and different expressions extempore." Miss Tilley says she has not travelled by train for quite an age. Her motor has whirled her North, South, East, and West over thousands of miles. And she feels all the better for it.

Mr. Henri Gros, who has carried on his valiant defence of the music halls under the depressing effect of illness, is now, we are glad to be able to state, greatly improved in health. On Tuesday he was present at the Chelsea Palace, of which he is managing-director, and was agreeably impressed by the prosperity which is attending that popular palace of variety.

Gillin, ventriloquist, opens at the Palace Theatre on Monday next, when he actually makes his London début. He has a very high roof to his mouth, which he considers a great advantage in the polythonic business.

We regret to have to record the death of Mr. William E. Burke (of Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, the well-known sketch comedians), father of Miss Billie Burke. Mr. Burke, who was in his 63rd year, expired on Friday, the 5th inst., at Huddersfield, where he had been appearing at the Hippodrome in the sketch *London to Madrid*. Being suddenly taken ill on Saturday evening, Sept. 29, while preparing to come home, he was removed to the Huddersfield Infirmary, and notwithstanding the best medical attention he succumbed from gastritis in the presence of his sorrowing wife and daughter.

Born in Waterford, Knox County, Ohio, the deceased gentleman was originally apprenticed to a druggist in Fredericktown, Ohio. Later he enlisted in the Army and fought for the North in the Civil War, and being seriously wounded in action was honourably discharged. An opportunity presenting itself he joined a circus and was speedily promoted to the front rank, singing and making famous many songs. He came to England about eight years ago, appearing at the Palace Theatre with a sketch entitled *Trafalgar Square at 4 p.m.* His fortnight's engagement extended to six months. Since then he has appeared at every hall of note, both in London and the provinces, with his popular entertainment *After the Ball*. At the time of his death he was just about to join the Society of Water Rats. Miss Billie Burke, his beloved daughter, was to have opened at the Palace on Monday, but that engagement is postponed, as she and her bereaved mother intend retiring into the country for a while. Miss Burke, it will be remembered, was one of the principals in *The Duchess of Dantzic*, *The Blue Moon*, *The School Girl*, &c., and took the leading character in the recent Coliseum *Revue*. She has played principal girl in London and Liverpool pantomimes and has travelled through America, Russia, Germany, Austria, &c.

The funeral of the deceased took place, amidst every sign of sympathy, on Tuesday, the remains being laid to rest in the family vault at Hampstead Cemetery. A service was previously held at the St. Paul's Church, Avenue-road, N.W., by the Rev. Herbert Berry, M.A., who later performed the last sad rites at the graveside, around which a company had assembled, including his daughter and many friends. The beautiful black casket encasing the remains was completely enveloped in a mass of choice floral tributes, which included a handsome cluster of roses, orchids, lilies, and ferns from the widow, a laurel wreath with a knot of violets from Miss Billie Burke, a wreath from the International Artists' Lodge, a cushion from Mr. and Mrs. Allendale, wreath of lilies from Messrs. Arthur and Jimmy Hart, a broken harp from Mr. and Mrs. Andrus, wreath of white chrysanthemums, orchids, and ferns from Miss Elinor Souray, of orchids and arum lilies from Mr. and Mrs. Bruce, a cluster of roses sent by American relatives, and wreaths from Miss Maud Cooper, Mr. Stanley Carey, Miss Duncan Burnett, Mr. and Mrs. Matthews, Mr. and Miss Theodora Roussell, Mrs. E. Revett, and from the management and staff of Huddersfield Hippodrome. Mrs. and Miss Burke are deeply grateful for numberless messages and tokens of sympathy, which they desire to acknowledge through our columns, it being impossible to reply individually.

At the London meeting of the International Artists' Lodge on Sunday a discussion arose with regard to the candidates for the executive at the coming general meeting; and it was agreed that lists be made at the London office, and that the sixteen nominations, including Mr. H. Mountford, now nominated by Mr. Lee and seconded by Mr. Schafer, should be added to this list, and that the same should be sent out to members in England.

Many members present felt that the notices of arrears sent out from Berlin were unsuitable for English members. The reason that many members were in arrears was not because they did not want to pay, but because, not being readers of *Das Programm*, they were often not aware of the fact. There were also often many difficulties in the way of payment. For instance, a brother in arrears had been, and was, in Australia, and had kept moving from place to place. Brothers should be notified from the English office and also in English. The meeting then proposed a resolution that a special letter be written to Berlin requesting that a list of payments of all members up to date be sent to the London office so as to enable everyone to know exactly how each stood.

It was agreed that the barring of the Poluskis and Orpheus from appearing at the Paragon be dealt with by the Legal Committee on Tuesday next at 1 p.m. Brother 1226 explained to the meeting the differences existing between English and Scotch law, and suggested the advisability of having a legal adviser in that country. Brother 1226 proposed that Mr. Donald Sinclair, of Sinclair and Blair, 144, West Regent-street, Glasgow, be nominated. The meeting then closed.

Miss Marie Lloyd has secured the rights of a new song, written by Mr. Fred Bowyer, the well-known writer of pantomimes and the author of that highly successful number "A little bit of sugar for the bird." The title is "She took six easy lessons for a guinea."

Mr. Walter Gibbons desires us to contradict a widely-circulated rumour that he is about to retire from the Duchess Palace, Balham.

Owing to hoarseness Miss Lil Hawthorne was compelled to rest after Monday night's performance at the Holloway Empire, staying off the remainder of the week.

Mlle. Renée, the clever instrumentalist, has just returned from a most enjoyable visit to Paris. She will shortly be seen again at the London Pavilion, where she has met with many previous successes. At the conclusion of her stay at the Piccadilly-circus house she will return to the Folies-Bergère, Paris.

Mr. Matthew Brodie has struck such oil with the new sketch, *A Drummer of the 76th*, that he had offers for the West End after the first performance. He opens at the Paragon on Monday. Mr. Brodie's "find," Miss Dorothea Vivian, has been warmly welcomed.

It is not often the case that we get two Chung Ling Soos on one bill, but this, however, has been the case this week at the Grand, Bolton, where the Great Chung Ling Soo has drawn crowded houses during the week; and the Great Little Chung Ling Soo, the principal feature in Mlle. Haydée's miniature theatre, has caused endless amusement by the life-like impersonation of the great Chinese conjurer. Mlle. Haydée, whose miniature theatre has met with such success in the provinces, concludes to-night a run of eighty weeks, and is booked to open on Monday at the Alhambra, Paris.

PARIS ECHOES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Our Parisian music-hall correspondent says:—"I trust *The Era* readers will excuse me for having neglected for some time to send the 'Echos de Paris,' but as the music-hall season in reality has only just commenced, I will endeavour to obtain their forgiveness by sending them, in a short and concise form, the most interesting news concerning Paris music-hall doings."

The event of the week has been the reopening of the Paris Hippodrome, entirely transformed, and under the joint management of Messrs. Houcke and Bostock. The house has now the finest stage in Europe, and will certainly rank as the most beautiful structure in Paris. The opening programme included the following turns:—The Mirza Golem Persian Caravane; Professor Emile Gauthier, on his aerial platform; the Luppu Wortley aerial artists in their wonderful flying act; the Mokis Indians, just imported by Mr. Bostock, in their weird and fantastic dances; Les Masarts; Les Regals; Mlle. Jenny's performing elephants; Capt. Devlin's American Zouaves; and a host of other attractions. The programme ran very smoothly for a first night, and Messrs. Houcke and Bostock must be congratulated on their huge success.

Gadbin is at the present moment the hero of Paris. He is drawing great crowds to the Folies-Bergères, where he is run over every evening by a 40 h.p. automobile containing six persons. Strange to say, the other day he was nearly run over in reality; fortunately he was only knocked over, but this has prevented his appearance for six nights. He reappeared on Wednesday evening at the Folies-Bergères, where he met with an enthusiastic reception.

Managers are really at their wits' end to find blood-curdling sensations; but, unfortunately, this is the absolutely indispensable element for the music-hall public. Parisians are no longer content with the beautiful and artistic; they *must* have the "thrill," and this attraction is a real "thriller," as the public is never certain whether the man will get up after the automobile has passed over him. Some whisper that there is a "trick." However, if there is one, the impression is as realistic as it is possible to be.

"Le Tireur D'Or," the charming ballet, still continues its successful career. The Olympia is doing a very good business, the principal attraction there being the aerial ballet *Iris*.

Mme. Colette Willy and M. Paul Frank, in their new play without words, have created quite a sensation. Mme. Colette Willy is the wife of the popular dramatic author, M. Willy.

The Théâtre Marigny, which will close to-day the most successful season it has had since it has been built, is still drawing crowds. The audiences are composed, so to say, exclusively of English and Americans. This theatre may really be called the "Opera" of music halls.

The programme, which of the highest order, comprises the Reed Pinaud Troupe in their most comical, refined, and up-to-date pantomime, entitled *An Evening in an English Music Hall*. This has really been the hit of the season. A more artistic production cannot well be conceived, and Mr. Reed Pinaud, who is himself a most accomplished artist, deserves great credit for such a production. During his performance the house is absolutely convulsed with laughter, and certainly the success of the close of the season at Marigny is due mainly to the Reed Pinaud Troupe.

Miss Ruth, in her classical Indian dances, has also created quite a sensation. Her performance is really perfection, and is absolutely refined. Amongst other acts, we may mention Mlle. Marzella, with her parrots, Maletzky, and the Akimotos Troupe of Japanese Jugglers. There has been some talk of keeping the Marigny Theatre open during the winter months, but nothing has been decided up to the present.

The Alhambra programme continues to be still about the best in Paris. The able, active, and enterprising manager, M. Neighbour, always maintains the standard of excellence which has secured for the house the reputation of being the finest music hall in Paris. In the programme we remark the Koh-i-noor Girls, La Belle Davis, the Three Rainats, Troba, Simms and Simms, &c.

Messrs. Houcke and Bostock have negotiated with the Circus Busch of Berlin for the purchase of the entire scenery, costumes, and material of Busch's great pantomime *India*. Mr. Gustave Hagenbeck, the well-known Hamburg animal-dealer, is to superintend the production and supply the animals appearing therein. This most gorgeous and grand spectacle, which employs no fewer than 300 performers, will be produced at the Hippodrome in the first days of November.

The Casino de Paris, under the new management of M. Chancel, will reopen on Saturday next. The programme will comprise two ballets and several variety turns.

Wrestling is going to be the rage of Paris next month. Competitions for the world's championship are to take place at the Folies-Bergères; the championship of the city of Paris is to be decided at the Cirque Métropole; and other *lutteurs* will contest for supremacy at the Casino de Paris. Wrestling seems a November fashion, as all Paris music halls are relying on it for that month, during which, as a rule, receipts are rather low. When, however, the managers take on wrestling the houses are generally packed.

A. C. M. E.

Quite an interesting episode occurred at the Argyle Theatre of Varieties, Birkenhead, on Saturday last, the closing night of a most successful visit from Mr. W. J. Ashcroft, the original "solid man." The audience included a numerous party of gentlemen, who had journeyed specially from Manchester to Birkenhead to renew acquaintance with the veteran comedian, and the fun was naturally materially increased, to the evident delight of those in the know.

Miss Clarice Mayne finished on Saturday at the Palace, and carries away with her a re-engagement for two years further at that house. She has recently had a flattering offer to go to America on the Keith Circuit, but owing to her forthcoming appearance at the Tivoli in a special production, she has been compelled reluctantly to refuse. Miss Mayne made her début under the guidance of Mr. James W. Tate, the gifted pianist and composer.

Miss Fanny Robina, with her medley, "The Albert Hall Concert," and Florry Cooper, with "The stars are angel faces," have been meeting with great success at the Queen's, Poplar. They start with Billie Bint on a long tour on Monday, commencing at the Palace, Plymouth.

Musical novelty marks the doings of George and Arthur Phern, in their two-scene sketch *A Concert Rehearsal*. Arthur plays a tune on a street-door, his performance having a most interested listener in the postman. The partners, who have been devotees of St. Cecilia for years, procure melody and harmony from "phernaphones," in which the tone of a single-stringed fiddle is much increased in volume by a bell attachment. Their tunes on rattles are very pretty and effective.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

WITHOUT any possible shadow of doubt that admired song, "Hello, Hello, Hello! (It's a different girl again)," by George Arthurs and Bennett Scott, is to be *the* principal boy's song of the year. Every manager of note in the kingdom has already secured this taking number. Needless to say, and almost superfluous to add, it is published by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, who, as heretofore, seem to be "scooping the pool" with pantomime hits.

MR. DAVID DAY has accepted for immediate publication Mr. Fred Lincoln's comical song, "A week and a day; or, how they made a fortnight." It is by A. E. Lawrence and R. P. Weston.

THE two really most popular songs of the moment are "In the shade of the old apple tree," and "Put a little bit away for a rainy day," and pantomime producers—who are nothing if not keen business men—in addition to securing the very latest novelties, always rely on two or more popular favourites, and this accounts for the abovementioned songs being so extensively underlined for inclusion in the coming annuals.

MR. FRED W. LEIGH'S "Bridget" and "Why do the girls love Charlie?" are in great request, artists having in mind the enormous hit made by this favourite author-composer's "Molly, I love you." Specially-written band parts are issued of both numbers.

"CHEYENNE" ("Shy Ann"), by the writers of "Navaho," is rapidly gaining favour with the high lights of the theatrical world as Boxing-Night approaches. Its bold, swinging melody and romantic, pretty story make it eminently suitable for a "production" number. This is another of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter's panto. specials.

MR. HAMILTON HILL'S opening song in America will be Edward St. Quentin's admired number, "Queen of love."

MR. DAVID DAY has in the press a pretty song calculated to dispel the "blues," and to put an audience in a cheerful mood. It is entitled "Sunshine Row," and is by Maurice Scott and George Bruce.

Two writers to whom the profession should be deeply indebted for very many of the best ditties of the time—to wit, Harry Castling and A. J. Mills—have collaborated in a comic song for Mr. Fred Earle, entitled "For my corn began to shoot," and also in one of the best parodies extant of "In the shade of the old apple tree." Messrs. Francis and Day have both in the press.

MR. TOM LEO has received a tempting offer to visit America. Whether he accepts it or not, his celebrated somnolent serenade, "Too lazy to live," has come to stay, as the pantomimes of 1906-7 will testify.

MR. FRANK COYLE sang for the first time last week at the Tivoli, Manchester, a new song entitled "The Two Flags," by Albert Hall, a comic descriptive ditty, full of humour and satire.

ARTHUR WALLIS and Geo. Encyl Lewis's compositions are meeting with unqualified success. "Pale Moonbeam," their latest "effect song," will be a prime pantomime favourite. Other new numbers are "The girl with the roguish smile," and "Fooling."

MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE is singing with great success nightly at the Tivoli, South London, and the Paragon Mr. George A. Steven's latest song, "Caroline." This is an excellent pantomime number, suitable for either principal boy or girl. It is published by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., 100, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

MISS BILLIE BURKE will, at a very early date, produce at the Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, an entirely new song-scena, which the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., have in the press.

THE Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., have just placed with Miss Ella Shields Harry Von Tilzer's latest coon song, "Home, sweet home, sounds good to me," which is expected to be as big a success with her as "Alexander."

ADVICES from New York state that Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter's song, "Moonshine," by Silvio Hein, has made a great hit in "Miss Wilson—that's all!" being the strongest number of the star, Miss May Irwin. Another very big success is the same firm's "My Irish Rosie," by Jerome and Schwartz, now sung by Miss Hattie Williams in *The Little Cherub*. Mr. Haymann, Mr. Frohman's New York manager, has also specially selected two of the Anglo-American house's songs for inclusion in *The Rich Mr. Hoggenheimer*, namely, "Any old time at all" and "Kitty, Pretty Kitty."

MR. J. F. LAMBE has written a new and original song, in conjunction with Harry Castling, entitled "'Twas the favourite song of the singer." The author and composer have received many tempting offers for sole rights, but have decided to grant a limited number of permissions free.

THE Von Tilzer-Shapiro Co. have this week purchased the publishing rights of Mr. J. F. Lambe's song, "Be advised by your father," which has proved such a phenomenal success in the hands of Miss Jessie Preston.

THE ELLIOTTS AND SAVONAS IN WAKEFIELD.

During the past week packed and enthusiastic houses have gathered nightly at the Hippodrome, the great attraction being the wonderful and picturesque performances of the Seven Savonas and the marvellous tricks of the Cycling Elliotts. These are probably the most popular turns ever put on at the Hippodrome, and, owing to the enormous success, the management have retained their services for one week longer. It is safe to say that the scenes of enthusiasm will be continued during the week, and I would advise those who are thinking of paying a visit to go early and make sure of a seat.—*The Wakefield Advertiser and Gazette*, Oct. 9, 1906.

MR. JIMMY SHIELDS, a one-legged dancer who is seldom seen in London, opens at the Hackney Empire on Monday, when he commences the Stoll tour of twenty-three weeks.

MISS BESSIE BUTT, who to-night completes her sixty-fourth week under Mr. Stoll's management, leaves the Moss-Stoll circuit on Monday next to appear for one week at the T. R., Halifax, resuming the Stoll tour on the 22nd inst. at Leeds.

MESSRS. OLIVER AND HOLMES, the well-known variety agents, of Leicester-square, write to say that their claim from Miss Lillian Lowe, ballad vocalist, was for commission and money lent, and that that lady's salary was £450 per annum.

THAT clever young author-actor, Mr. Fred S. Peake, whose dramatic sketch, *The Hypocrite*, has met with such deserved success, has been trying a new comedy sketch at Greenwich during the week. On Wednesday evening he met with an accident, a pistol going off somewhat unexpectedly at close quarters. Though badly burnt, he pluckily struggled through to the end, and only collapsed after taking two well-earned calls.

GUS ELEN.

A SUCCESSFUL FISHERMAN.
HIS EXPLOITS OFF DEAL.

Mr. Elen is an ardent sportsman, and always secures a few weeks' holiday during the year in which to follow his favourite pursuits of shooting and fishing. Mr. Elen, whether at work or play, is very thorough, which the following record of his fishing exploits off Deal testifies. During his three weeks' holiday he has captured 125lb. in weight of fish. The catch consisted of cod, whiting, pouting, plaice, eels, dogfish, soles, &c. The largest cod weighed 11lb., and he had the unusual luck of frequently getting two large soles at each haul. 36lb. of fish was his largest day's catch, and these he despatched for distribution amongst the stage employees at the Oxford. Mr. Elen says: "I had a lovely time. I lost a couple of exceptionally large fish, being over anxious to 'gaff' them, and in consequence severing my line

MR. GUS ELEN AND HIS SPOILS.

with the hook. I got a pull from them similar to that which I might expect if Hackenschmidt got hold of me." The charming wife of the coster

G. ELEN'S COAT OF ARMS.

comedian is also an ardent fisher, and entered with much zest the ladies' fishing competition on the pier at Deal.

BOW PALACE.

Since the exterior and interior improvements have been accomplished the Bow Palace looks remarkably spic-and-span. The hall has been redecorated throughout, and the auditorium as well as the stage has been furnished with the latest electrical appliances for lighting. Inside the house the scheme of colour has been well chosen, and the general effect is one of artistic cosiness. For the most part the walls are covered with a dark red paper, the ceiling is pale blue, and the pillars bestow their affections upon cream and green. Other improvements and embellishments have been carried out behind the curtain. New scenery has been painted specially for the Bow Palace, and three new cloths, one representing an Eastern palace, another a conservatory, and a third a pretty sylvan scene, are particularly noteworthy. Mr. Charles Harvey, the able acting-manager, this week offers a capital programme, one of the most popular features of which is provided by Mr. Fred Moule and Mr. E. D. Nicholls' company in the comedy sketch *The Battle of the Belles*, the first-named gentleman being the author. It is really a laughable item, and the manner in which Mr. Moule enacts the rôle of Kendal Croat, the laughing publican, and Mr. E. D. Nicholls assumes the idiosyncrasies of Samuel Flatfoote, the waiter with the "stuttering feet," is enough to make a misanthrope put on a merry face. The other people in the cast—Mr. Courtney Robinson as Hector Rodney, Miss Ada Lucelly as Laurie Linden, Miss Cathleen Cavanagh as Brenda Croat, and Miss Ada Frank as Johanna Dick—appear to advantage. Messrs. Bernard and Weston contrive to be intensely amusing with their patter, and they are, too, pretty active on their pedal extremities. Miss Lucy Coventry shows herself to be a versatile comedienne and a gifted dancer; and Mr. Sam Redfern, who is a great favourite in the East End, goes strong in his negro comedy, his song "In the cottage by the wood" being much applauded.

Miss Marie Reeve is a pretty and accomplished young lady who is heard to advantage in a couple of songs. "The Cingalee" is one. It is a lyric and is rendered in the sweetest way you could imagine. Another item in her programme is not less dainty. Its subject is "When poverty comes to the door," and it is delivered with appropriately sympathetic feeling. Mr. Bert Harrow is, indeed, as he styles himself, a rum fellow. His facial expressions are extremely whimsical, and he brings out to the fullest extent the humour of his lines. For genuine merriment we can commend Mr. Harrow. Sand dancing extraordinary is the kind of thing that Mr. Frank Cumminger—a record-breaker in that line—indulges in. He certainly strikes one as a remarkably agile and light-footed individual, and his terpsichorean efforts receive the hearty approval of his audience. Charles and Arthur Danby are, to say the least of them, an entertaining couple. They are comedians and dancers of no small merit, and their lines about "walking round the world" are exceedingly amusing. One might go far before finding two such smart comedians. Then, in the person of Miss Minnuie Moran, there is a delightfully engaging vocalist, who simply enchants with her singing. Another department in which she excels is dancing, and in that she is as sprightly and light-hearted as a lady of limited summers could wish to be. Mr. Clarence Corri's Musical Comedy Sketch Company present an absurdity, *Rough on Tuff*, written by Mr. Edgar Dereeve, with music by Mr. Corri. The little piece is most attractive, and goes with a fine swing from beginning to end. Messrs. Joe Nightingale, Leonard May, Stuart Ethall, Hyland Shea, and Leslie Digby, and Miss Winnie Raynor in the principal parts all work together with excellent effect, and the little piece has been made welcome. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux exhibit an interesting series of animated pictures.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE EUSTON.

One of the most novel acts that it has been our good fortune to witness for some time is that which Mr. Henry Mack is presenting at the Euston this week. He gives it the title—all stage monologues have a title now—of "Late Home." An inebriated husband is supposed to return to his domestic hearth in the small hours, and interviews the village pump, which he mistakes for the missus, and to which he recites, between intervals of objurgation, snatches of "The Charge of the Light Brigade." But that is not all. Mr. Mack no sooner takes off his gloves than he covers his hands, in a way entirely invisible to the audience, with a pair of an entirely different colour. The second pair being removed, he shortly after is wearing orange-coloured kids, which he dons in a way that is quite inexplicable. He also sheds several pairs of cuffs, which are immediately replaced by others, and when, at the finish of his turn, he has half undressed himself, he suddenly assumes—without any help, and in the twinkling of a bedpost—the rigid respectability of a frock coat. Those music-lovers who assisted at the first production of *Black Justice* must have reached middle age by now, and still the negro farce is being played at the Euston with as much success as ever by that happily-associated combination, Big Ben Brown, Little George Le Clerq, and company. There are some fresh incidentals introduced; but the dialogue and funny business between magistrate and policeman remain much the same as they were twenty years ago. The two comedians mentioned play admirably into each other's hands, and the result is a quarter of an hour's hearty laughter. Mr. Burt Shepard introduces parodies at the piano; Mr. Harry Anderson is responsible for "My best pal is my old gal"; and Miss Alice Blandford does her best to justify her title of the "New Zealand nightingale." The majestic and magnificent Alexandra Dagmar has a song which gives keen delight to the audience in "When the band played the Men of Harlech," which should find an immense vogue in the coming pantomimes. Miss Dagmar, however, is nothing if not versatile, and gives a famous impersonation of a Viennese soubrette, also waking memories of the snow-clad peaks of the Alps in her tirade of Tyroléennes, in which she is quite an adept. Stories, likewise, take up some portion of her time, and she is very amusing in an anecdote concerning herself.

The Five Dandies are responsible for a refined entertainment, to which Mr. Harry Corner and Miss Queenie Essex, who were seen to advantage in the Coliseum revue, contribute clever numbers. The treatment of nursery rhymes is novel, and the specimens of various songs—patriotic, coon, and sentimental—are quite in the best spirit of parody. Practical fun is the outcome of those favourite clowns and acrobats, Rezene and Robini, who are responsible for a comic interlude, entitled "The Policeman and the Baby"; and we have in Mr. George Mozart one of those humourists possessed of the satirical instinct, and able to give it full play, in a skit on full-blooded drama, such as entertained our forefathers at the Coburg, and ourselves at the Adelphi. The racing episode, *Rogues of the Turf*, has been seen in the guise of melodrama at a suburban theatre, and is therefore not altogether unknown to Londoners. It is by Max Goldberg—otherwise Mr. John F. Preston, who plays the part of an honest old trainer most effectively. He is ably assisted by Mr. Herbert Wordin as the apprentice jockey, Mr. George Harwood as Captain Dudley Clifton, Miss Hilda Shirley, a fascinating villainess, and Miss Madge Nelson as Nellie Flaxman. Real thorough-breds are introduced in the paddock of the Manchester racecourse on the day of the Manchester Cup. The episode is handsomely mounted and illustrated. The Abdullah Arabs are a dozen Moorish acrobats who form extraordinary pyramids, and are whirlwind performers. Mr. Fred M'Avoy is Mr. Adney Payne's popular lieutenant here, and has a hard-working and courteous assistant in Mr. Charles E Wellman.

QUEEN'S PALACE.

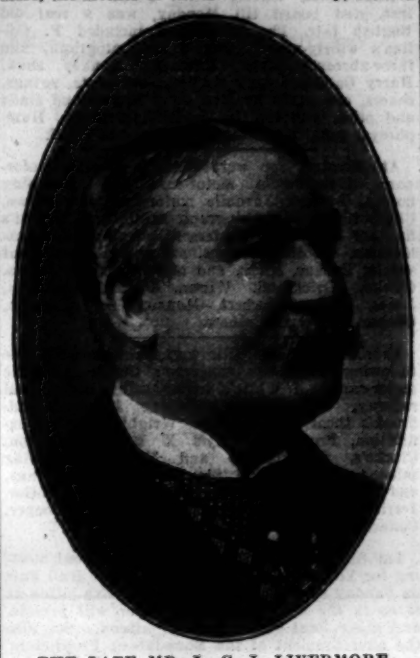
The Queen's Palace is forging ahead in popular favour, and is being better patronised now than ever before in its existence. A capitally-arranged programme this week includes Miss Arabella Allen, the well-known Dickens impersonator. Miss Allen treats us to three different characters, each of which is excellently portrayed, considering that they are of the male order. Her Quilp is a distinctly praiseworthy study, and it seems rather a peculiar choice for a young lady of much personal attractiveness. Her speech from "David Copperfield" was also admirably rendered and admirably acted. In the rôle of the very humble clerk she shows us a weak-minded, smooth-tongued hypocrite whose exhibitions of feminine ferocity, when the object of that ferocity has passed out of his sight, accentuate the puerility of his nature. Miss Allen certainly strikes us as being an able interpreter of the great novelist's creations, but we would like to see the young lady in some feminine characters. A particular pleasing singer and dancer comes along in the person of Miss Florrie Cooper. Her delivery is sweet, clear, and tuneful, and she has a pleasing presence. Her verses about people whose life's work is concerned with the sea are rendered with much expression and sympathetic feeling. Mr. Fred Harrison is extremely entertaining as a funny Chinaman; and Mr. Russell Carr excels in the direction of ventriloquism. Both Mr. Carr and his dummy are dressed in military fashion, and a very smart couple they look, and not less smart than their looks is their cross-talk. Mr. Russell Carr, by the way, is a son of Mr. Fred Russell, both father and son being celebrated in one branch of the profession. Miss Fanny Robina is quite a versatile vocalist, and her variations in the singing line prove most acceptable.

The Cirnocs, who describe themselves as "handcuff kings," appear in an interesting act, in which one gentleman releases himself from all kinds of manacles. Mr. Cirnoc is not content with merely removing the handcuffs and other prison contrivances from his person, but he shows the audience how it is done. Perhaps his show would be more attractive were the spectators kept in ignorance of the handcuff-opening trick, as there is plenty of "business" in the act otherwise. We are told that this is Mr. Cirnoc's first appearance in England after an engagement on the Continent for two years, and he now offers to forfeit £50 if he cannot release himself from any regulation handcuff or manacle. The Glenroy Troupe, consisting of three female and two male performers, are seen in a series of admirably-executed speciality dances in a scena bearing the title *The Lads of the New Brigade*. Especially commendable are their Scottish and Irish dances. A lively and laughable knockabout turn is that of the Reed-Oetzmann Troupe in their absurdity *On Tour in the Tyrol*. We witness some exceptionally neat Continental pantomime work while these people occupy the stage. The Harrold Company are presenting the sketch *The Enemy of Man*. The playlet, if rather weird and fanciful, is certainly of the kind to keep one's attention riveted to the stage for the time being. Mr. W. J. Mackay is persuasive, hypocritical, and uncanny as Satan, and the character is artistically acted. Mr. George Howarth as the poor artist who gives way to temptation in a dream and Miss Ina Alston as his wife admirably fulfil the requirements of their parts. The beautiful pictures of the new Bioscope conclude the evening's entertainment.

DUNNING AND KAHN AND KAHN, who are now on the Moss and Stoll circuit, have nearly forty weeks on the road, after which they return to town with Messrs. Payne and Gibbons.

DEATH OF LECHMERE LIVERMORE.

The announcement of the death of Mr. Lechmere Charles John Livermore will be received with much regret by a large circle of friends in and out of the profession. The deceased, who passed away at his Tooting residence on Saturday at the age of sixty-one, was a gentleman of wide experience and great activity, and with him is removed one of the few remaining pillars and entrepreneurs of burnt cork minstrelsy, which has now fallen into disfavour. He was the senior member of the firm of Livermore, proprietors of the only and original Court Minstrels. His brother Horace, the surviving member of the firm, is now director and manager of the Palace Theatre, Bristol. Mr. Lechmere Livermore made his first appearance at Drury Lane Theatre at the age of eight, in conjunction with his sister Ada, and scored a success, for at that time they were the smallest artists upon the stage. Shortly after this Mrs. Livermore, the mother of the Livermore family, secured



THE LATE MR. L. C. J. LIVERMORE.

for a short season the Adelaide Gallery, now known as Gatti's, in the Strand, and it was here that she introduced her clever children to the public as juvenile comedians, consisting of Master Lechmere Livermore, Miss Ada Livermore, Master Louis Livermore, and Master Horace Livermore, then known as the Infant Keeley. The family made a hit, and, after a short run in London, toured the provincial theatres, where they gave the entire entertainment.

After two or three years in the theatres, Mrs. Livermore was persuaded to try the halls. Here, again, they met with success, but, owing to the authorities prohibiting sketches, Mr. L. C. J. Livermore decided to try burnt cork, and, in conjunction with the Sainer family, started a juvenile troupe of Court Minstrels to tour the small towns. The families not agreeing, Mrs. Livermore decided to go back to the halls with a small troupe of Court Minstrels consisting entirely of the Livermore family and a cousin of theirs, George Gassoigne, who was professionally known as little Joe Brown, and who is now an assistant to Mr. Horace Livermore in Bristol. After touring the whole of the provinces and nearly every hall in London in the 'sixties, Mr. L. C. J. Livermore in 1870 persuaded his other two brothers to start a larger company of Court Minstrels, and take all the largest halls in every city. After travelling with indifferent success for about a year they were not discouraged, but quickly paid return visits, and so built up a world-wide reputation as high-class entertainers, and the name of Livermore Brothers Court Minstrels became a household word.

Having been so successful all these years, Mr. L. C. J. Livermore, in conjunction with his brothers Louis and Horace, invested a large amount of their capital in Jersey by purchasing the Britannia Hotel and livery stables, in Bath-street. Here the deceased gentleman took up the management, and during his stay of over five years made many friends. He was a Past Master of the Yarborough Lodge of Freemasons and Provincial Grand Officer. Being of a roving disposition, however, he resolved to rejoin his brothers, and travel with the minstrels once more, and disposed of the Jersey business, which, by the way, was a great success.

In the year 1887, in conjunction with his brother Horace and Mr. Ernest Sheldon (brother-in-law), he converted the Circus, in the Haymarket, Newcastle-on-Tyne, into a first-class variety theatre. Mr. L. C. J. Livermore only some few months ago retired from active life through illness, but unfortunately he did not live long to enjoy the fruits of his many years' labour, but passed peacefully away at his residence in Tooting, surrounded by his family.

MR. PAUL VALENTINE'S BENEFIT.

The Canterbury Theatre of Varieties was comfortably filled on Friday evening, last week, when a testimonial benefit performance was held in honour of Mr. Paul Valentine, the well-known teacher of dancing and ballet master. A very strong committee had been formed to assist in carrying out the arrangements in connection with the performance, and in order to ensure a good house, and many of these gentlemen were present. Mr. George Adney Payne was the chairman and treasurer for the testimonial, and Mr. Fred Miller acted as honorary secretary. The committeemen were Messrs. Henri Gros, Henry Tozer, H. H. Wells, J. L. Graydon, George T. Maxwell, Richard Warner, Richard Wake, Tom Maltby, W. G. Grimes, Harry Masters, C. Blyth-Pratt, Fred McAvoy, Joseph Lyons, Jesse Sparrow, Charles Beecham, William Greet, Fred Fredericks, Isaac Cohen, Donald Munro, Hugh Moss, Horace Marriott, Tom Claxton, George Mozart, Ernest de Vere, George Scott, H. J. Hitchins, Albert Gilmer, Harry Tich, Joe Elvin, John Lawson, J. W. Cragg, David Cowis, Charles Meggy, and Archie Howells.

The programme was a capital one, both as to quantity and quality, and the evening's entertainment proved most enjoyable. The items on the programme included the Abdullah Arabs, pyramid artists and tumblers, including Fatima, the wonder child; Adrim and Oram, acrobats; Big Ben Brown and Little George Le Clerq and company, in sketch, *Black Justice;* Mr. Arthur Conquest and company, in *The Sioux;* Clark and Hamilton, comedy duo; Mr. T. E. Dunville, comedian, in "The Channel Swimmer"; Doreen Girls (Paul Valentine's); Miss Maud Esmond, burlesque artist; Drew and Alders, comedians; Happy Fanny Fields, the jolly American-Dutch girl; Les Fleurs, Continental song and dance artists; Miss Florrie Gallimore, comedienne; Mr. George Mozart, comedian; Miss Victoria Monks; Miss Constance Moxon, comedienne; Oakley and James (Bert and Polly); the Poluskis, comedians; Miss Annie Purcell, in Dutch character songs; Mr. Arthur Pearl, comedian; Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, with up-to-date pictures; Miss Bijou Russell, American coon singer and dancer; Mr. Ernest Shand, comedian; Stewart and Morgan, harmonious vocalists; and Little Tich.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

Mr. C. W. Adams, the acting-manager at the Holloway Empire, was compelled on Tuesday evening to offer an apology for the absence of Miss Lil Hawthorne, the popular comedienne, who was suffering from a severe cold. The unavoidable disappointment was, of course, to be regretted, but fortunately he had been able to arrange for the appearance in Miss Hawthorne's place of Miss Jessie Preston. That vivacious lady, who opened with a song the refrain of which is "Be advised by father," made a decided hit as "Mary, his Scotch Bluebell." Miss Preston gives a humorous portrayal of the heroine of the song first introduced by Mr. Harry Lauder. Her Scotch dress and wild "Highland fling" are equally effective in evoking the laughter of the audience, and she sings the tuneful ditty with much spirit.

One of the most amusing turns of the evening is that of the Harmony Four, whose mixture of music and comic business meets with the full approval of the audience. One of the four is a quick, active performer, who employs himself most industriously and successfully in causing laughter by his quaint antics and funny exits. All the members of the Harmony Four possess good voices, particularly the tenor, and the quartette which they contribute is admirably rendered. Their reception at Holloway has been of the most cordial character. Paulinetti and Piquo distinguish themselves in a gymnastic act, one of them playing the part of clown. The performer who is responsible for the more serious part of the business appears first in full evening dress, but while supporting himself head downwards on the horizontal bar he discards these garments one by one and appears in the ordinary costume of the gymnast. He is exceedingly skilful in his work on the bar, and receives excellent assistance from his partner. Mr. Clemart, the ventriloquist, brings along quite a little party, and voices his figures very smartly. They include a nursemaid who walks on the stage by herself, a baby in a perambulator, and a naughty boy. The last-mentioned slyly kicks the unoffending infant, causing it to have a fit of crying. The imitation of the child is remarkably clever, and Mr. Clemart's patter is also racy and amusing. Miss Lilian Warren sings two songs, "The Banquet in Misery Hall" and "A little boy called Taps." Both of these are illustrated by pictures thrown on the screen. The songs are well rendered, and the audience joins heartily in the choruses.

The sketch called *Casey's Court* looms largely in this week's programme, and the entertainment given by the youthful artists, led by Mr. Bob King as Mrs. Casey, presents many laughable features. The "midget comedians" continue to make excellent use of their opportunities, and the comic business introduced in this bustling scene is carried through with much spirit. Mr. Bob King as the Irish dame deserves every credit for a capital performance, and altogether *Casey's Court* is acknowledged to be one of the best things in the current bill of fare. Mr. Will Mitcham, musical comedian, gives a close imitation of a Milanese piper, and a solo which he plays on the saxophone is greeted with applause. Miss Maud Ross, comedienne, is also in the list of contributors. On the American Bioscope is shown a series of pictures depicting a safe robbery at a bank by two men who are tracked by a clever dog. The chase after the criminal couple proves highly exciting and sensational. On the night of our visit an extra turn was given by a gentleman vocalist, who gave "We'll be lovers all the while" and "I fear no foe in shining armour." He was greeted with loud applause. The overture "Marche des Petits Marmousets" is ably played by the orchestra under the direction of Mr. Henry W. Evans.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

"Refinement, luxury, and high-class varieties" is the alluring prospect held out on the bills at Shepherd's Bush Empire, and the promise is redeemed both on the stage and in the auditorium in a way characteristic of every hall associated with the name of Moss and Stoll. The art of "bluff" has long been a favourite pursuit of Mr. Will Evans, who takes the members of the audience into partnership in his essays to sing a new song of his own composition. He is interrupted by an individual in the stalls, who asks Mr. Evans to sing one which the speaker has in his possession. The comedian obligingly consents, not, however, without certain personalities regarding the author, and later offers the reward of a couple of pairs of gloves to any member of the fair sex who will render the chorus. A lady in the stalls at length obliges, after which the author himself is compelled, in stentorian tones, to repeat the refrain. The interlude is inexpressibly funny, and causes shouts of laughter. Further merriment is made when the genial clown appears as a Spanish dancer, and later puts on the skirts of a *première danseuse assoluta*, and executes a pirouette in the midst of the most eccentric corps de ballet that was ever seen.

Another perennial favourite is found in Mr. Albert Christian, to whose artistic vocal abilities we have often paid tribute. Mr. Christian renders his songs in character, appearing first in monastic garb to sing "A merry monk am I." The scent of the ozone is brought over the footlights in the second contribution from Mr. Christian, who makes a striking appearance as a man-o'-war's-man. "There's a little flag on high," his newest song, breathes the spirit of that sound and robust patriotism that has ever been the distinguishing mark of the Briton. The flag that braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze is extolled in invigorating rhyme, set to a stirring tune. Delivered in Mr. Christian's cultured style, and employing the best resources of his fine voice, its effect is instantaneous and complete, the entire house joining in rapturous plaudits of the singer, who is repeatedly recalled.

Frivolity is conspicuous in the entertainment presented by the Leslie Brothers, who well carry out their description of "comic musicians." A specimen of their musicianly talent is given in a stirring duet on cornet and saxhorn, which is greatly appreciated. Pranks at the piano are afterwards performed by an excitable individual, who converts everything possible to the purposes of fun, shrieks of laughter resulting from his oddities. Bassoon and shepherd's pipe are subsequently combined in harmony, while "Annie Laurie" sounds quite quaintly, as rendered on the Australian cattle bells, which are not unlike those to be heard in our own meadows. The interlude is varied by a solo on what is called a "musical face," one performer succeeding in extracting some resemblance to a tune from the cheeks of his partner, who stands by with mouth wide open.

A powerful attraction of the bill is Professor Selkirk's spectacle, *In Bonnie Scotland*, in which a hundred local children are engaged. The marching and counter-marching, and other military evolutions of the youngsters, dressed in tartan plaid, is very inspiriting, and the cheers of the audience at the spectacle, which is staged in the elaborate fashion customary with Mr. Selkirk, are hearty and spontaneous. The Sisters Caselli, who are unexcelled in their speciality dancing, go through their legmania feats with rhythmic grace and precision, and admiration for their high kicking and posturing is loudly expressed. The fun of the "Zoological comedy" presented by the Donaldson Brothers, Ardell, and company is well maintained, the sights and wonders of the "Zoo" being burlesqued in freakish fashion by the able comedians who take part in the popular piece. The American Bioscope supplies clear views of the most interesting subjects; Miss Nora Emerald proves her ability as a comedienne; and others in the strong programme are Miss Kate Cohen, vocalist; and Preston and Balmaine, illustrated song singers. The new resident-manager at Shepherd's Bush is Mr. B. G. Maclachan, and the duties of assistant acting-manager are fulfilled by Mr. Jess Smith.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

The fairs ahead for next week are Bakewell, Fazeley, Southam, Burley-in-Wharfedale, City Road (Bradford), Hereford, Salisbury, Shipston-on-Stour, Axminster, Banbury, Ivinghoe, Maidstone, Market Bosworth, Newbury, Wigan Carnival, Daventry, Arnold, Chichester, Clitheroe, Devizes, Leek, Oundle, Princes Risborough, Sawbridgeworth, Sleaford, and St. Austell.

The honorary solicitor for the London district to the Showmen's Guild, Albert A. Strong, Esq., LL.B., has removed from 4, Eastcheap, to 70, Gracechurch-street, E.C. His telegraphic address is "Kratos, London," and telephone No. 11804, Central. We advise London showmen to make a note of this change of address.

Our West of England showmen readers will be glad to have word of their staunch friend and champion, Mr. Geoffery W. A. Norton. It will be remembered that, with the utmost reluctance, Mr. Norton broke away from his work amongst the show-people of the West and went to British Columbia, with a view of making a settlement there. He writes to us from Vancouver, under date Sept. 18: "I have been in Canada over a month, and though I like this part of the Dominion immensely, the labour question on the Pacific Coast has become acute, and until that rights itself I should be sorry to take up land. So I am returning to Cornwall by s.s. Lake Erie on Sept. 29, from Quebec, and will look you up at *The Era* Office about Oct. 10. I am glad to think that I shall again be associated with showland, and doubt if I could ever bring myself to parting from my 'kiddies.' So *The Era* can have my services as before in the West of England.

"Here, were it not for the immense distances, a showman could make good money; but his time here has not yet come. The only roundabout and side-shows that I have seen in Montreal, Winnipeg, and Victoria, B.C., would fare badly in the West of England as far as patronage were concerned: our people would not put such stuff on the road. Here and in Victoria and in a few other towns of importance there are small theatres, mis-called 'Grand,' which hold about 700 to 1,000 people, and give really good variety shows, at prices ranging from 15 cents to 35 cents. They are crammed nightly, and vary their programme once a week. One particularly good film I noticed, comic and very Yankee in style, and I hope to get hold of it for one or other of my showman friends.

"When I have been in mining camps, Indian villages, and ungetatable towns, where money is plentiful, I have often wished that I could transport one or other of the shows I know and see the dollars being raked in and over-fist. I hope to be at Liskeard Fair if all goes well, and I can hear those drums and organs now; and after all this wandering it will seem quite like being home again when I step into 'all the fun of the fair' and shake my friends' hands."

We regret to see that our report of Marlborough Fair does not contain the name of a big show. The other entertainments were of an interesting character, and included the well-known varieties of local showmen and London showmen who take Marlborough on their circuit of fairs. Prominent amongst these were J. and H. Jennings, with steam horses, gallopers, swings, and rifle saloons; Professor Gillham, with boxing booth and shooting gallery; Matthews, with juvenile set of ostriches and rifle saloons. The other entertainments were Edwards's rifle saloon and throwing games; and fair-ground varieties by Bond, Nail, Wellington, and Bunce.

The splendid fair at Peterborough is nearly always overshadowed by the coincidence of Nottingham Fair, and one result of the clash of dates is that Peterborough does not receive that attention its importance warrants. It will be seen, however, from the list of high-class concerns that it is well appreciated by the crowd of shows taking this circuit. There were two magnificent cinematograph theatres, the concerns of Wm. Biddall and Barker and Thurston. La Neve and Norah Sullivan, the Sandows of the ground-booth, in their expert demonstrations of muscularity and strength; Ling's fine art show; and the novelty booths of Messrs. White and Buckley. Thurston's exhibited their gondola set, motor-car track, and ostrich circus. The other riding masters were Messrs. Horne and Parr, and Barnett with park swings; rifle saloons and bottle batteries were provided by Messrs. Holmes, Parking, Thompson, and Gray. There were long avenues of throwing games, pannum, toy, and variety stalls, and amongst the providers of these were Messrs. Pont, Johnson, Harris, Gray, and Holmes.

At Lymington Fair the amusements were in the capable hands of the local showman, Bartlett.

In pursuance of his business tour of the back-end fairs the Rev. T. Horne will hold a meeting on the fair-ground next Sunday at Hull. It is hoped that, as at Gloucester, the Mayor, or some other prominent local gentleman, will preside over the meeting, which will be of a public character. For the time and place of meeting see our advertisement columns.

Bridport Fair, on Oct. 3, had for its entertainments Anderton and Rowland's cinematograph and coliseum of varieties and Jones's cinematograph and empire of varieties, Marshall Hill's switchback, Townsend's steam horses, three small side-shows, and the usual attendant throng of swings, shooters, and throwing games.

Following Gloucester Fair was the fair at Cheltenham, and to this went a considerable number of the exhibitions and attractions we noticed as being at Barton Mop—Jacob Studt and Sons' splendid theatre, Purchase's menagerie and waxworks, and many other attractions.

At Macclesfield were the well-known concerns of Messrs. J. Green, J. Walker, Hibbert and Sons, I. Richards, Montgomery, Harrison, E. P. Holland, Watson, J. Barker, Whatmore, Ormerod, and many others.

Our friendly warning to the Corporation of Darwen has borne excellent results. It will be remembered that the General Purposes Committee recommended the stoppage of music and the earlier closing of the fair. When the matter came up before the Council for endorsement it was met with strenuous and successful opposition. Councillor Pickup moved that the proposal of the General Purposes Committee be crossed off the minutes, and he said that if they were going to increase the loss they had on the markets last year by the sum of £110, which was received from the proprietors of shows, they were going to do injury to the whole body of ratepayers. Councillor Dickworth, in seconding Mr. Pickup's amendment, stated that Darwen Fair was an old-established institution, and much appreciated by the workers, who would feel that their feelings were being trampled upon if it were stopped. He did not think that a single retiring member of that Council would be re-elected at the ensuing elections if he advocated the abolition of Darwen Fair. Councillor Caterall urged that the fair was a source of enjoyment to crowds of people, who for many reasons were not able to get away to the seaside during the Wakes Holidays, and he felt confident that to hamper or hinder the showmen in their efforts to amuse the people would be a serious and regrettable blunder. There were none to speak in favour of the General Purposes Committee recommendation, and the motion that it be deleted from the minutes was carried by a large majority.

At Barry Dock, Mr. John Johnson's Victoria Theatre of Varieties is a great success. His enterprise and up-to-date ideas of what a portable theatre should be is in striking contrast to the old style of years ago. The interior of the theatre is fitted throughout with comfortable seats, and private boxes may be enjoyed by the patrons of the theatre.

As usual Retford staties was under the able management of Messrs. Tuby and Sons, who exhibited their coliseum of living pictures and varieties, sets of gondolas, steam horses, swings, and a Winchester shooting-range. The other amusement caterers and stall-holders were:—Messrs. Hunt, Gillatt, and Illingworth. The next fair at Retford is dated for March 23.

Handsworth Wakes, which began on the 5th inst. and lasted till Monday, was a real old English fair. The attractions included P. Collins's whirly-whirly, No. 2 cinématograph, and three-abreast swings, Braham's monkey show, Harry Cullis's boxing pavilion, overboats, swings, cokers, and stalls by Mrs. John Hayes, and stalls and other varieties by J. Humphreys, J. Humphreys, jun., Wagastaffe, Cooper, and Black.

At Alcester Mop were Clarke's electric motor-cars, Strickland's motor-cars and galloping horses, Butlin's Juvenile motor-cars and horses, Chipperfield's cinématograph exhibition, Wright's fine art exhibition, Professor Ruby's X Rays exhibition, shooting saloons, swing boats, cokernut sheets, Emmas, stalls, and attractions by Messrs. Clarke, Strickland, Wilson, Jerrison, Dobson, Jones, Taylor, Herbert, Monnox, Lewis, Kemp, Connor, and many others.

Evesham Pleasure Fair was maintained by the following high-class concerns: Clarke's electric motor-cars, Sid White's helter-skelter and tunnel railway, Strickland's galloping horses, Wadbrook's theatre of varieties, Wright's fine art exhibition, Professor Ruby's X Rays exhibition, Clarke's, Strickland's, and Wilson's shooting saloons, Clarke's and Strickland's park swings, and concerns by Messrs. Dobson, Kemp, Butler, Jerrison, Taylor, Chipperfield, Lewis, Cooper, Connor, Wright, and others.

The Showmen's Guild will hold its annual meeting for Yorkshire and the near North at Hull Fair on Sunday next in Payne's Bioscope Exhibition at three in the afternoon. The Mayor will preside, and other local gentlemen will attend. See also the advertisement of the Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union meeting on the Monday following; both gatherings are urgent and important.

At the "Eden" Theatre, Hemel Hempstead, one evening last week, a benefit performance was given for the funds of the West Herts Infirmary, under the distinguished patronage of the Right Hon. T. F. Halsey, J.P., the Medical Staff and Committee of the Institution, and a goodly number of the local gentry. There was a crowded audience, and the play was "the modern morality," *The Middleman*. It is highly characteristic of Mr. Whitmee's enlightened management, and also creditable to him and his talented company that they should have taken so practical an interest in the local charities.

At Burton-on-Trent the shows were—Buff Bill's menagerie, Lawrence's marionettes, A. Twigdon and J. Proctor's cinematographs, and Mackie's novelty booth. The machines were—P. Collins's two sets, switchback and ostriches, Ware's galloping horses, Twigdon's giant wheel, and gem horses, motors, &c., by Neal, Chapman, and Mercer, and P. Collins's helter-skelter. The shooters were by Hall, Neal, Saunt, and Weir, football games by Jerrison, Tootill, James, and Dyche; throwing games and variety stalls by Saunt, Mercer, Case, Charlton, Tootill, Westrop, Weir, Mercer, and Proctor.

At Barkerend for the Feast were—Crichton's cinematograph, Relph and Pedley's wheeling-the-whirl, Redfern's swinging motors, Waddington and Son's ostriches, Burgin's steam yachts, and the motor-car sets of W. H. Marshall and H. Waddington. Manual swings by Riley, Williams, and Redfern; shooting concerns by Burgess, Houldsworth, and Williams. There were twenty-four Emmas and coker sheets, six roll-up boards, and other games, six pannum stalls, and two football frames, provided by the enterprising showmen taking this round.

At Maesteg, Wales, the entertainments were under the control of the local showman—E. Danter, and with him were associated Messrs. Stockton and White, with novelty booths; Ford and Son, and Scott, with riding machines; Scott, Squires, Oxford, Jones, Deakins, and the well-known aggregation of fairground novelties of Danter and Sons.

An esteemed correspondent on the Cheshire and Lancashire round points out a singular omission in our short historic notice of the work done by the late and much-revered James Dean. It appears that in our list of the names of men intimately associated with him in the good work of founding the Guild, we omitted to mention one who for many, many years was amongst the band of hard workers who placed the Guild upon that firm ground that it now occupies in public esteem. We regret that the list we mention did not include the name of Robert Dixon, son-in-law of James Dean, and we recall now to Mr. Dixon's credit, that when the society was being founded he was its first honorary secretary. Until quite recent days Mr. Dixon was on the Executive Committee, and for many years was the honorary treasurer, and still remains an honorary vice-president.

There is a movement on foot at Braintree to abolish the old Charter Fairs, held in the streets of the town in the May and October of each year. One of the fairs was granted by King John and the other by Queen Anne. The King John Charter has mysteriously disappeared, and all attempts to trace it have failed. At Braintree it is probably the same difficulty that the showmen had to grapple with at Great Marlow—the congestion of traffic makes it inadvisable to hold the fair any longer in the open streets. The Executive of the Showmen's Guild will make all necessary inquiries, and endeavour to arrange a friendly compromise with the Braintree authorities.

Pontypool.—This capital Welsh Fair was well maintained by Mr. John Studt's motor-cars, zoological roundabout, and swings. The principal show was Brewer's cinematograph, and the entertainments of a minor character were provided by Messrs. Butlin, Wunspur, Freeman, and others.

Pembroke Fair, on the same round, was well maintained by Haggar and Son's bioscope, and the side-shows were those of Messrs. Samuel, Scarrott, and Blower. The machines were those of H. Studt and Son. The other entertainers were Messrs. North and Roberts, and the usual crowd of local stallholders.

There are two fairs at Hingham in Norfolk. The principal fair is the one held in the spring, and dated for March 7. The October hiring fair is only attended by a few local stallholders. This year, however, Scott and Son's circus visited the town on Oct. 9, which, of course, attracted large crowds. The other entertainers were Wheatley's boxers, and Messrs. Dack and Son's stock, Poll and Gizzi, with machine novelties. The throwing games were by Osborne, Poll, Gizzi, and others.

NOTTINGHAM FAIR.

By the Rev. T. Horne.

T'was Goose Fair cracked the merriest "wheeze,"
Where Babel's babble filled the breeze;
Glad Goose Fair's gambols oft would cheer
The country-side through half the year.

The title "Goose Fair," now almost universally given to Nottingham's historic pleasure fair, cannot be traced back more than four hundred years, and it is undoubtedly owing to the fact that large numbers of geese were driven there for sale from the stubble land of Nottinghamshire and from the Fen-land of both Lincoln and Cambridge. The first appearance of the words "Goose Fair" is in "The Nottingham Records," under date 1541, and runs as follows: "Particulars of the Chamberlain's Expenditure. Item, we demand allowans for xxij stalles yat the Sheryffes had on Gose Fair dey."

There are also some interesting records of a later date, as the following in 1634: "Scarlett gownes to walk the fayre. This companie are agreed that all the Aldermen and Cloathinge (livery) shall wayte on Maister Maior to walke the fayre on Saint Matthewes daye nexte, in their scarlet gownes; and this order, for the grace of the towne, to have contynewance for ever."

Of course, it goes without saying that the makers of history whose fertile imagination scorns the base alloy of actual fact have woven around Goose Fair many pretty stories, and one of them is worth repeating. "There was once upon a time a certain college don who was so dissatisfied with his experience of married life that he determined his only child, a boy, who had been motherless from infancy, should be kept from ever seeing (until his wisdom tooth was fully grown) deceitful womankind. When this period of safety had been reached the father took the full-fledged man to the fair, and instead of being utterly absorbed by the shows and other attractions of the fair, he was entirely amazed and overwhelmed with the charm and beauty of the women of Nottingham. The father and the son (according to the old ballad) have this dialogue. The youth says, as he gazed upon the beauties of Nottingham:—

"Oh, father! what are these?"
"Birds," said the Don, "they call them Geese!"
"Sweet, charming birds!" exclaimed the lad,
"If I had one I *should* be glad!
But see, they don't attempt to fly!
I'll go and catch one, father, should I?
We'll take it with us to our cell,
And I'll be bound to treat it well!"

George Hickling (the venerable poet of Cotgrave), in one of his local rhymes, thus described the fair of fifty years ago:—

We pass the Trent "bridges" and enter the town,
And straightway we haste to that place of renown—
The centre of tumult—the great market square,
With which in all England there's none can compare.

And thus soon warms to his subject:—

There's Wombwell's menagerie and Holloway's stage,
And all the most wonderful things of the age:
Fat pigs and fat children in plenty are there—
Descriptions of giants and of dwarfs rend the air.
Then there's Indian wars and Waterloo's battle,
Engagements in China and wonderful cattle;
There's "grand exhibitions" and high learned ponies,
And hares which perform, and astonishing conies;
Here your portrait is taken, and here you are weighed,
And here try your strength if a penny be paid.
"Tom-fools" and fine actors in glittering array
Exhibit their tinsel in beams of the day;
Then you see "Punch and Judy" at the turn of the street,
And jugglers and tumblers in plenty you meet.
Here's monkeys and donkeys, and animals funny,
And birds of fine plumage from lands which are sunny;
Here's an elephant huge that can "stand on his head,"
And a man eating fire as if it were bread.

* * * * * *

Then down the bazaars we elbow our way,
And gaze on the gorgeous, the tempting display:
There's gingerbread husbands and gingerbread wives,
And fourpenny trumpets and sixpenny knives.

Probably nowhere else in the wide, wide world is the annual fair so great and all-absorbing an institution as it is at Nottingham. The official figures supplied by the Corporation will give some indication of the business importance to show-people and fair-ground traders of this immensely popular fair. Over 300 standings have been let for shows of all kinds, riding machines in endless variety, throwing games, bazaars, pannum stalls, and the other numberless amusements of a popular fair

The revenue to the city funds in tolls amounts to £1,500

Another significant fact for the people eager to chant the requiem of popular fairs is that thousands more excursionists than last year's big total came into Nottingham to keep Goose Fair.

All the great Trunk lines ran specials for the fair days. The Midland brought people from Leeds, Bradford, and the Yorkshire towns served by their system—Manchester, Liverpool, and the Lancashire area, the Derbyshire towns, and from Birmingham, Walsall, and Wolverhampton, Peterborough, King's Lynn, Stamford, Bristol, Cheltenham, and Gloucester, St. Albans, Luton, and Kettering, Bedford, Wellingborough, and Northampton, Lincoln, Newark, Leicester, Loughborough, Chesterfield, and Sheffield. The Great Central Railway had an excellent service of specials on their line, including the direct London to Nottingham, from Liverpool, Manchester, and big towns on their routes, with Cleethorpes, Hull, and the Eastern coast towns. From Sheffield and other Yorkshire towns the G.C. had to considerably strengthen their ordinary trains, and also ran a few trains in duplicate. The Great Northern Railway Company also brought crowds of sightseers from their territory. Special and strengthened ordinary trains from Hertford, Hitchin, Peterborough, and Grantham; Luton, Hertford, Grantham, and Bottesford; Louth and Horncastle; Boston, Billingborough, and Sleaford; Lynn, Holbeach, and Spalding; Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Walsall; Halifax, Bradford, Leeds, Batley, and Wakefield; St. Ives and March; Yarmouth, Ipswich, and Lynn.

For three whole days the town is given over to the display and to the whole-hearted enjoyment of the fair. The vast area of the city market and various spaces in side streets are completely covered with the shows and other amusements provided by the enterprising itinerant entertainers. Traversing the heart of the town from east to west, from north to south, you make your way through long avenues and streets of stalls, and these in many instances are the enterprises of the shop-keepers, before whose very doors the stalls are erected. For the time being Cheapside, Long-row, Chapel Bar, Angel-row, South-parade, and Exchange-row are lined with the stalls of both travelling and permanent traders. As your train empties itself into the station you are immediately carried along in the great stream of your fellow-travellers, who have journeyed from all parts of England to Nottingham Goose Fair. At once you feel the power and attraction of the fair. Your pulse beats to the music and joy of it, and you find yourself speedily on the fair-ground and in the full swing and glorious abandonment of England's greatest open-air carnival. Here are huge concerns of every kind, designed by the art of man for the delight of his fellows, each one a marvel in its own peculiar feature of attractiveness: you may ride electric motor-cars, circling round a fixed track that gives you all the exhilarating excitement of up hill and down dale rapid speeding without any of the attendant dangers of the way.

If your fancy flies high, you may be wheeled and whirled through the air in Japanese ships, whose astounding vagaries of motion test the courage and enterprise of the daring voyageur. You may career round the racecourse on galloping horses, you may feed your fancy full by riding a long-limbed ostrich in a Kaffir circus, or you may imagine yourself sweetly gliding on the waterways and lagoons of Venice in your own electric-driven gondola. If you are of a bucolic temperament you may ride your own racing cockerel or farmyard rooster; and last (if you like it so) you may enjoy a trip in a Chinese junk, or be carried skyward in steam yachts or airships. When you have fully enjoyed all these (or any of these) you may patronise England's premier menageries—Wombwell's—or any of, or, better still, all of, the cinematograph theatres, each one the best of its kind and each different to the others. But what pen can describe this group of big shows, when we say that it includes such experts of the fair-ground as George Kemp, T. Payne, E. Lawrence, J. Proctor, A. Twigdon, and Mrs. F. Collins, and that the side shows have at their head that "prince" of the mystic art Samouda, and with him amongst the side-show exhibits is found J. Westray with his freak animals? The riding masters on the fair-ground this year are P. Collins, with two motor machines, one set of racing cockerels, and one helter-skelter; John Collins, with the wheely-whirly, the four-abreast gallopers, and the twin ships in the air; Arthur Twigdon, with two switchback sets and one big wheel; Edmund Holland, with Japanese airship, "wheeling the whirl"; F. Holdsworth, with slipping the slope; and M. Curzon, with set of juvenile horses.

The photographic concerns were those of Messrs. J. Caddick and C. Warwick; and amongst the stall-holders were W. Jennings, H. Sharp, the Brothers Warwick, and Mesdames Mulhearn, James, and Hall.

Of course, the enterprising smart writer of the popular press has been making copy out of the fair. One writer who ventured to attack the fair in a London daily has provoked the following answer from a resident of Nottingham, and we are glad to see that the answer in defence of the fair has been given as much prominence in the same paper as the criticisms of the special article writer.

This is a letter of protest on behalf of Nottingham folk to ask how you could send a mere Philistine (such as your representative shows himself) to give his bald and inadequate account of the charms of Goose Fair. The mere fact that he expected to find it in a field shows that he was not the right man for the job. Just as though Nottingham people ever did things in that half-hearted Southern fashion!

How can any newspaper reader gain the smallest conception of the golden vision conjured up by the words "Goose Fair," except it be presented to him by the pen of a Nottingham man or woman?

For who but they can remember the days when the gilded shows seemed fairy palaces of surpassing beauty and height, and one's infant soul rejoiced to think that so much sheer noise could be produced all at one time in one place. Our chief financial interests also rested with Goose Fair; it was a time for rifling of money-boxes, bulging with long-hoarded pence, and the poignancy of the situation, when it was discovered that the smallest man of the company had so carefully hidden his whole capital of 7d. that he was quite unable to find it again, can be better recollected than described.

Dislocation of business, forsooth! How can that compare with the fact that for three days in the year the whole child population of the favoured district is walking in pure fairyland, firmly convinced that these gigantic splendours and the dimly-lit booths with their wondrous sights, that have sprung up in a night, are of more than human origin? And for the rest of the population? It is a time of carnival, made joyous by associations.

No, sir, Nottingham folk work with so much whole-heartedness all the other days of the year that they can afford to play whole-heartedly on these three.

ANSWERS TO SHOWMEN.

W. C. (Chelmsford).—*We take it that as it was at Mitcham, so it will be at Writtle. The local authorities will take the proper and legal course of petitioning for the abolition of the fair, under the statute provided for that purpose. The Showmen's Guild will send a counter petition, and the Home Secretary will then have the matter properly before him. The Guild cannot move on mere hearsay and gossip. All that we can do is to organise the local showmen and the inhabitants to fight for their fair rights.*

J. T. and Others.—*See answer above. The same thing applies to Weston Green. Until the notice of proposed abolition is issued by the Home Office and advertised in the local press the Guild, as representing the organised showmen, cannot take action. It is for you and your fellow travellers to watch very persistently the appearance of the Home Secretary's notice in the local press, and in the meanwhile to be ready for the defence.*

E. Bert Davies.—*Write in according to your promise.*

J. B. (Stepney Green).—*Send your name in full and we will put you in communication with Mrs. George Foottit. George Foottit, jun., is now performing at the Cirque Métropole, Paris. We have answered your query, but require from all our correspondents full name and address, as a guarantee of good faith, but not necessarily for publication.*

W. C. Sorrell.—*Send to F. Savage, carriage builder, Oxford-street, New North-road, London, N., or to Tidman Bros., Bishop's-bridge, Norwich.*

THE LAST OF THE DUCROWS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me sufficient space to call the attention of the members (home and abroad) of the circus profession to one of the most deserving cases for assistance I ever met—viz., that of old Andrew Ducrow, who, is, I believe, lineal descendant of the great Ducrow, and the last of that celebrated family of equestrians? Old Andrew was connected with Mr. James Newsome's circus for forty-nine years, and subsequently was with Mr. Caban for five years. I saw the old man a few weeks ago on the South Shore Sands, Blackpool, assisting at a "Three balls a penny" stall. The poor old fellow is in extremely needy circumstances. I shall be pleased to send my little donation if you, Sir—or, failing you, someone else—would kindly undertake to receive subscriptions on behalf of the "last of the Ducrows."—Yours faithfully,

HARRY DALE,
Last of the Jesters,

Ohmy's Circus, Barrow-in-Furness,
Oct. 9, 1906.

George Gorman, 17, pleaded guilty at the Clerkenwell Sessions on Wednesday, to stealing a cycle from a friend, named James Keeley. Mr. Purcell told the Court that the prosecutor had been awarded £5 as compensation. The prisoner had been employed as a dancer by Mr. Thomas Barrasford, who had "discovered" him dancing in the streets to an organ. He had toured the provinces, and Mr. Barrasford was willing to book him there again in order that he should be removed from the bad company into which he had obviously fallen. Mr. Barrasford having said that he was willing to give the prisoner another chance, Mr. M'Connell, K.C., ordered his release on recognisances.

THE EDEN THEATRE AT HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

IMPORTANT TO PORTABLE THEATRES.

Mr. Alfred Whitmee is fighting an important battle in the interests of proprietors of portable theatres. The position of affairs has taken a somewhat serious turn. A few weeks ago we detailed the story of Mr. Whitmee's success in obtaining a temporary licence from the magistrates, and also the active sympathy the portable theatre received from a number of the town councillors when the matter was brought before them under the supposed powers of their building by-laws. This was followed by an outburst of puritanical prejudice in the local press, and a wordy war took place in the correspondence columns of the principal newspaper. Mr. Whitmee very wisely consulted the executive officials of the Showman's Guild, and under their guidance determined to rest satisfied with his dignified and most courteous answer to the misrepresentations of the enemies of the theatre that had already appeared in the press during the controversy.

We should not have referred to this determined attack on portable theatres at any length but for the necessity that is now laid upon us of showing the utterly unreasonable and one-sided nature of the local opposition to the Eden Theatre. We feel obliged to do so now, because we fear that in other parts of the country the puritans (if the opponents of the portable theatre succeed in their endeavour at Hemel Hempstead) may be encouraged to persevere in the crusade against the popular and cheap amusements afforded by similar theatres.

Writing under the signature "Ernest Robinson," the principal objector to the people's theatre makes the following points:—

1. That the average person who attends a place of this kind is usually ill able to afford it, and consequently foregoes more necessary things, and that the trade of the town suffers in consequence.

2. He could not understand the petition which Mr. Whitmee had presented, signed by 1,150 residents, in favour of the theatre, and that Superintendent Frogley had expressed his inability to understand the petition, for there was no town of the size of their town in England which had better halls.

3. There were also, he argued, far better forms of pleasure of a similar type to be had in the town during the winter months, and that the theatre was not only needless, but detrimental to the trade of the town.

To these attacks upon the pleasures of the people, and upon his own enterprise in particular, Mr. Whitmee thus replied:—

Sir,—A letter appeared in your last issue over the signature of "Ernest Robinson," which I feel calls for a reply from myself in defence. In the first place he gives a gratuitous insult to the whole of the ladies and gentlemen who were kind enough to sign our petition to the magistrates by inferring that they are ill able to afford to visit a theatre. Mr. Robinson takes three points, which I will briefly reply to.

1. The average person who attends a theatre can well afford to, and I defy Mr. Robinson to prove: (*a*) That he goes without the necessaries of life to do so; and (*b*) that the shopkeepers suffer in consequence of his visit to the theatre. Even were the whole of our audiences working-men and women earning but a meagre wage, I maintain, Sir, that they need a little relaxation and recreation, just as much, if not more so, as their richer and more fortunate brethren. In fact, their work is often of such an arduous nature that a little relaxation is an absolute necessity to them. Again, I maintain that the artisan classes of this town are better able to afford an occasional visit to my theatre than they can afford to lose a whole or a half-day's pay, a possible railway fare, and a 6d. admission to see a football match. In the latter case, the whole of the money spent is lost to the town; in our case it is re-circulated in the town among the shopkeepers principally, for the whole of the company, numbering nearly two dozen, are for the time being residents in the town, and spend their salaries therein.

2. "Supt. Frogley said 'he could not understand the petition,'" says Mr. Robinson. Had that popular and ever-courteous officer been a member of the theatrical profession he might have told the gentlemen of the Bench that, although there are two halls in the town, neither is large enough to erect the scenery of the larger and best "fit-up" companies, and also that, at present, owing to the prevailing depression in theatrical tours, there are very few on the road.

3. "There are better forms of pleasure in the town during the winter." Does Mr. Robinson insinuate by this that our entertainment has an immoral tendency, and is detrimental to those who patronise it? Has Mr. Ernest Robinson ever been inside the Eden Theatre? Also is he a householder and a ratepayer? If not, what mandate does he hold to dictate to the "powers that are" the nature of the entertainments which shall be provided for the inhabitants of this town?—Your obedient servant,

ALFRED WHITMEE.

To still further complicate matters, and in some measure to intensify the prejudice against the theatre, advantage was taken of the supposed powers under the building by-laws to assume a possible right of refusal to erect the theatre by the Buildings Committee of the Town Council, acting through their surveyor. This attack, however, failed in its purpose, for the well-known test case of the Urban District Council of Nantyglo and Blaina, Mon., v. Edward Ebley, portable theatre proprietor, governed the case, and the Council took no steps in the matter. There, apparently (despite the unfair attack of the Eden theatre by prejudiced correspondents in the press), the matter ended. It appears, however, from later information, that the enemies of the theatre merely retreated for a time in order to concentrate their forces, concluding that their best opportunity would be when Mr. Whitmee again applied for a dramatic licence to cover the winter season. Mr. Whitmee writes us that a petition is being prepared against his application, backed by a somewhat noisy but, as regards numbers, insignificant section of the extreme puritanical faction and the "unco' guid" of Hempstead.

Mr. Whitmee is being supported, and his petition for licence is being signed by some of the most influential people of the town and district. The opinion is being widely expressed by those who know the real necessities of the working-classes and others that it is wise to have good, clean, and wholesome entertainment. We heartily wish Mr. Whitmee and all the friends of the drama at Hemel Hempstead a triumphant victory over the forces of prejudice and ignorance.

As indicating the character of Mr. Whitmee's theatre and the work of his excellent stock company, we give the list of plays produced during the last fortnight—*Fallen Among Thieves, The Shaughraun, The Middleman, Dred, Jane Shore, Blow For Blow, The Private Secretary, The Maid of the Mill*, and *The Robbery of the Mail*.

Again has Mr. George Ginnett's fine sketch, *Turpin's Ride to York*, crowded the Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees. His reputation in animal training is well remembered, and stands pre-eminent in the North.

The directors of the Tower-Palace Company, Blackpool, have decided to recommend the usual 6 per cent. dividend on preferred ordinary shares, and the same per cent. on the ordinary shares (free of Income Tax). Again £9,000 will be allowed for depreciation, while £398 10s. 5d. goes to the reserve fund, this being the amount of the interest on the reserve invested. After allowing for all the above, there is a balance to carry forward of £1,794 11s. 9d., as compared with £717 14s. 5d. last year, a highly satisfactory result of the year's working

"THE DRUMMER OF THE 76th."

Historical Sketch, in One Scene, by Louis Coen, Produced for the first time at the Camberwell Palace on Monday, Oct. 8.

Napoleon Buonaparte ....MR. MATTHEW BRODIE
Marshal Lannes .....MR. CHARLES HOWE
Napoleon's Attendant .....MR. GEORGE REX
Frau Wagner .....MISS AUGUSTA TULLOCK
Charles Buonaparte Leront Cervoni MISS DOROTHEA VIVIAN

Varied views of the First Napoleon have been presented on the greater and lesser stage, but seldom has he been seen in such an agreeable light as in the sketch produced at the Camberwell Palace on Monday. The tone of the little piece is distinctly superior to that of the average sketch, and though it depends mainly upon its dialogue, the effect upon the audience was such that they were kept completely engrossed. The prominent figure of the piece is a little drummer-boy belonging to Napoleon's army, which has just achieved a victory over the Austrians at Ulm in 1805. Charles Buonaparte Leront Cervoni—for that is the name of the youngster—has no love for campaigning, and would far rather be at home with his mother. He has been wounded in the foot, and seeks shelter in a cottage owned by Frau Wagner, a peasant woman, who is ready to do anything to send the hated French back over the frontier. The boy falls asleep in an armchair by the fire, but is disturbed by the entry of Napoleon, accompanied by an attendant, who orders the lad to leave. Charles' protests gain the attention of the Emperor, who is attracted by the boy's engaging manner, and bids him stay and share his supper. He learns that the boy hails from Napoleon's own native Isle of Corsica, and the mention of his mother's name awakens memories of a "flirtation" which the Emperor had with her in his younger days, and the presumption that the lad is his own son. Charles speaks often and reverently of his mother, and when he laments his inability to write to her Napoleon offers to indite the missive. The boy hands him three francs which he has saved up to send home, and the Emperor, before sealing the packet, supplements the amount with a contribution of his own. An orderly enters with despatches, and Charles, learning that he has been talking to no less a personage than the Emperor, implores forgiveness on his knees. Bounoparte says he will punish him by making him a page attached to his own staff, and gives him a despatch-bag as his first charge. When the boy is left alone, Frau Wagner, who has been listening in the adjoining room, returns, and seizing a hatchet, demands the despatch-bag. The boy resolutely refuses, and as he cries out for help the woman strikes him a fatal blow. Napoleon rushes in, and giving orders for the woman to be shot, raises the dying drummer-boy, who expires in his arms.

A pathetic ending is thus given to the episode, which is nevertheless brightly written, sentiment and humour being cleverly mingled throughout. An ideal little drummer-boy is found in Miss Dorothea Vivian. Her fragile figure, clad in a neatly-fitting costume of the Napoleonic guard, was exactly suited to the part, which gained in significance by the intelligent manner in which it was acted. Miss Vivian spoke her lines confidently, cleverly assuming the various shades of expression so that not a single word, whether of sentiment or humour, was lost. Mr. Matthew Brodie, whose long service in the West-end theatres enables him easily to surmount the difficulties of the part of Napoleon, admirably assumed the dignity and sternness of Buonaparte in the full flush of his victorious career. The moments of sentiment were no less tenderly portrayed, and the anguish of the Emperor, as he clasped the dying boy in his arms was vivid and affecting. Miss Augusta Tullock, an actress of long experience, dealt artistically with the rôle of the vindictive Frau Wagner, and the parts of Marshal Lannes and Napoleon's attendant were well played by Mr. Charles Howe and Mr. George Rex respectively. Great attention has been paid to costumes and mounting, and the sketch is embellished by some effective music written by Mr. George Byng. The piece was warmly received throughout, the performers being heartily recalled at the close.

GRAND, CLAPHAM.

An exceptionally interesting programme is being presented here this week, and it is small wonder that standing room only is the order throughout the house. The ball of amusement is started rolling by Johnny Johnson, who has a capital whistling song, and as a siffleur shows himself possessed of considerable ability. Sibb and Sibb are paying another return visit here, and delighting all with their clever act on the trapeze. These artists have added some new tricks to their already entertaining turn, and hearty applause is awarded them. Miss Victoria Monks, on account of her great success, has been retained for another week, and it is evident by the warmth of her reception that she has made herself a thorough Clapham favourite. She has a couple of capital numbers, in each of which she appears to the greatest advantage. They are "London Town" and "Elizah Brown," and the way "the boys on the top shelf" take up the chorus is sufficient evidence of their popularity. This artist has undoubtedly quite a style of her own, and the applause she gets on concluding is certainly not more than she deserves.

Among others who stand out prominently in the programme is Mr. Charles Norton, who is presenting a mimetic monologue, in which he introduces several leading music-hall artists, including Joe Elvin as a bookie, R. G. Knowles, Eugene Stratton, and Wilkie Bard. He has remarkable powers as a mimic, and he certainly comes out of the ordeal well, obtaining many recalls. Mr. Tom Costello is again delighting habitués of this hall with another visit, and the reception he gets shows how popular he is. His first song about that much-talked-of question the reduction of the Navy, is excellent in its way, and is undoubtedly a clever number. His second number, dealing with woman's rights, is one of the best this comedian has ever sung, and with the side-splitting patter with which he intersperses the verses serves to keep the house in a continuous roar of laughter. Mr. Costello also receives a deputation of "women suffragettes" on the stage, and as a result the fun waxes fast and furious, the end coming all too soon. A turn quite different from any on the programme is that of D'Arc's marionettes, which are very smartly worked by a lady and gentleman. The wonderful state of perfection to which these have been brought make their performance most interesting. Imitations are given of various artists in the profession, numbered amongst which are Happy Fanny Fields, George Lashwood, May Henderson, and Eugenie Fougère, with her famous dance "La Maxixe." Ethel Arden and George Abel are presenting their amusing sketch *Three of a Kind*, which runs as smoothly as ever, and extracts the maximum amount of laughter from the audience. A turn which everyone looks forward to is that of the bioscope, and those shown this week are quite up to the usual standard. Rosie Lloyd has a capital song about "Never introduce your fellow to a girl"; and the Three Florodora Girls have a very pleasing little comedy entitled *Rival Sweethearts*. A capital evening's amusement is brought to a conclusion by Dale and O'Malley, two comedians with quite different styles. Their clever patter, into which they introduce several "smart American jokes," renders their turn one of the most entertaining on the programme. The orchestra, under Mr. David Dealer, are heard to advantage in their overture "Tancredi," and Mr. Harry Ketteman, the manager, does everything possible for the comfort of his patrons, in which he gets every assistance from his acting-manager, Mr. E. W. Lurring.

FLOREAT LAURI.

"We now proceed to something new—
Dance as the Paynes and Lauris do."
—W. S. Gilbert, "Bab Ballads."

Starring Provincial Tour,
After an Absence of Five Years
from the English Stage
on a World Tour, of Mr.

EDWARD LAURI

(of the Original Lauri Family,
of Covent Garden, Drury Lane,
Lyceum, Her Majesty's,
and Garrick Theatres, London,
and the Eden Theatre and
Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris),

In a Musical, Protean Melange, entitled

"IN HER BOUDOIR."

"IN HER BOUDOIR."

This Melange is composed of the finest ingredients of Opera, Musical Comedy, and Farce, absolutely free from vulgarity or horseplay. This immediate huge success was instantly booked by the World's Greatest Combine, Messrs. Moss and Stoll, Ltd.

"IN HER BOUDOIR."

Special Starring Engagement of
Australasia's Premier Opera Bouffe
Artist,

MISS MAY BEATTY

One of New Zealand's Valuable Assets.

Tour
(under the direction of Mr. Hartley Milburn.)

RICHMOND THEATRE.

Oct. 22, Hackney.
,, 29, Glasgow.
Nov. 5, Liverpool.
,, 12, Shepherd's Bush.
,, 19, Edinburgh.
,, 26, Newcastle.
Dec. 3, Manchester.
,, 10, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
,, 17, ,, ,, ,,
,, 24, ,, ,, ,,
,, 31, ,, ,, ,,
1907.
Jan. 7, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
,, 14, ,, ,, ,,
,, 21, ,, ,, ,,
,, 28, ,, ,, ,,
Feb. 4, Opera House, Cork.
,, 11, ,, ,, ,,
,, 18,
,, 25,
Mar. 4, Dublin.
,, 11, Birmingham.
,, 18, Walsall.

London, New York, and Australasia to follow.

Mr. Lauri
Will Produce Next Spring
a Musical Play Without Words,
Entitled,

A GARDENER'S DREAM.

by ANDREW MACCUNN and GEORGE LAURI.

Also a Duologue
by CHARLES H. TAYLOR,
Entitled,

"WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH OUR GIRLS?"

EDWARD LAURI.

Communications:

Mr. MILBURN, 22, Leicester Square, W.C.

FLOREAT LAURI.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS, ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17.
Feb. 11, 25, March 4, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Feb. 4, 18, 25, March 4, 18, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Dec. 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, 11, 25, April 1, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Dec. 10, Feb. 4, 25, March 4, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Nov. 19, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, 18 March 4, 11, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Nov. 26, Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 4, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
Feb. 25, March 4, 25, April 1, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Oct. 22, Nov. 1, 12 (three nights each), Nov. 26, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, Feb. 18, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Dalston, Dec. 10, 17;
Huddersfield, Nov. 19; Northampton, Nov. 26;
Wolverhampton, Nov. 19 and Dec. 3. 10;
Leamington, Oct. 22, Nov. 1 and 12 (three nights each).
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
WANTED, Sound Attractions, Dec. 3 and 17. Jan. 14, and on, with exceptions. All applications for dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, for Jan. 21, March 11 and 18. The bookings for this theatre include the principal attractions touring. Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
May 6, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
Nov. 26, April 22, May 6, onwards.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Nov. 19, Dec. 3, onwards.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Oct. 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 17, 24, Jan. 7, 14, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Nov. 1, 22, 29, Dec. 6, 13, and Xmas.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County T., Bedford.

GAIETY THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Musical Comedy, Burlesques, Dramas, Oct. 19, onward.
Share or Certainty.
Must be suitable for two houses nightly.
Can stage anything big.
Communications, BERNARD ARMSTRONG,
New Gaiety Theatre, Glasgow.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Nov. 12.
Apply,
JOHN HART, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE.
WANTED, Oct. 22, Oct. 22, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, First-class Attractions only. FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Musical Comedy, or Pantomime, carrying fit-up, Jan. 1, 2, 3. Border Town. Enormous Business can be done.
Address,
R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
QUEEN'S PALACE, RHYL.
PUBLIC HALL, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Good Musical Attractions, Oct. 22, on, with exceptions. Two nights each town.
CHAS. CHAPLIN, Sea View, Colwyn Bay.

ST. JAMES' THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, Good Companies, Nov. 5, 12.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedies for few remaining dates.
Vacant Nov. 12, Dec. 3.
Address as above.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Nov. 19 (three nights),
Dec. 3, 17 (?).
Required, Big Attraction for Xmas, Dec. 24.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

ATHENÆUM THEATRE, LANCASTER.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions (Musical preferred), for Xmas and New Year's weeks.
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

WANTED, Good Companies, immediate and future Dates. Business excellent; refer Fred J. Kirke, Esq. Address, MANAGER, Theatre, Bordon Camp, Hants.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Good Attractions, March and on, with exceptions. MARK H. LINDON.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Dec. 17 and Jan. 7, musical preferred. Messrs. WADDINGTON and SONS, Theatre Royal, York.

THEATRE ROYAL, BATLEY.
WANTED, Companies, Nov. 19 and 26, Dec. 17, Jan. 7.
J. EDWARD WHITTY, T. R., Batley.

WANTED, Musical Plays and Attractions (no dramas), for Grand T., West Hartlepool, Vacant Nov. 19, 26, Jan. 14. F. GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through disappointment, First-Class Musical Attractions,
First-Class Musical Attractions,
for weeks of Nov. 5 and 19.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Company, for Dec. 31 (New Year's Week); also Good Pantomimes, for January dates. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 3, onward.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant April 22, onward.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBORO',
Vacant Nov. 8, 22, 29, onward.
(Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant Dec. 3, 10, 17, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Nov. 12, 19, 26, onward.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Nov. 12, Dec. 3, onward.

"SPAN OF LIFE,"
Vacant Dec. 24, onward.

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
Vacant Oct. 22, onward, with exceptions.

All Communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre in the Town.
The only Theatre in the town lighted by electricity.
Oct. 15, Miss Mabel Love, in
"THE FREEDOM OF SUZANNE."
Oct. 22, "THE WALLS OF JERICHO" (Return).

WANTED, Good Companies only, Jan. 14, 21, Feb. 11, and various onwards.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Lessees and Managers, BROOKS and WOODBRIDGE.
Now one of the most successful theatres in the Provinces. Our bookings and pencillings include Mr. Lewis Waller in "Brigadier Gerard," Mr. Jas. Welch, Mr. Dance's principal companies in "The Little Michus," "Lady Madcap," and "The Catch of the Season," Mr. Louis Calvert's "Amasis," "Sunday," and "Harlequin King" companies, Mr. George Alexander's "His House in Order" company, and all the principal attractions now touring.
WANTED, No. 1 Companies, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, March 11, 18, April 8, 22, May 6, 13, and a few good Autumn dates. No Dramas required; none but good No. 1 Musical or Comedy pieces.
All coms., E. OSWALD BROOKS, Resident-Partner.
Important Notice.—New service to Ireland by G.W.R. Boat Train leaves Swansea 12.25 Sat. midnight, arrive Waterford 6.25 a.m. Sunday. Ireland can now be booked to precede or follow Swansea without interrupting performances.

FOLKESTONE AND HASTINGS.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Folkestone, Nov. 12, Dec. 3 (?); Hastings, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10 (?), 17. Vacant Spring Dates at both Theatres, for High-class Shows only.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attraction, Dec. 24, Xmas week (caused through double booking), also Dec. 17.
E. H. PAGE. N.B.—No telegrams, please.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Nov. 19, 26, and Dec. 13 (three nights), also Jan. 3 (three nights), Feb. 4, Mar. 4, and on, with exceptions.
Address, FRANK KING.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Nov. 22 (three nights), Dec. 10 (six nights).
Address, GERALD HARDING.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17.
JAMES BELL.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions for Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec. 3 and 10.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 17, March 25, April 8, onwards, with exceptions.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

WANTED, Good Attractions, for Various Spring Dates, also Autumn, 1907, musical preferred. SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

GRAND THEATRES,
CHORLEY AND RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Musical and Big Attractions, Nov. 5, Dec. 24, on, Grand, Radcliffe; also Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, Grand, Chorley. Address, SANTE, Opera House, Radcliffe.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Co's., Musical preferred, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. POTTS.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Jan. 28, Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, 1907.
All dates filled 1906.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, to book Theatre Royal, Inverness. A few vacant dates, Oct., onwards. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for three nights,
Oct. 22, 25, 29, Nov. 1, and onwards.
Mr. F. W. Purcell has taken a long lease of the above Theatre, which is now undergoing renovation, thorough cleaning throughout, and a number of improvements, will be pleased to hear from good companies. Permanent stage staff, electric, &c. Address, F. W. PURCELL,
Lingwood, Yerbury-road, Tufnell Park, London, N.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT, and THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, for Dec. 10 and 17.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Musical preferred, at Drill Hall, Hereford (holding capacity 1,400); electric lighting throughout. A. LOVESEY, Offa-street, Hereford.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, Nov. 29 (three nights), Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 25 (weeks).
Mr. Carey can also arrange for a Special Attraction for one night only, viz., Saturday, Oct. 27.
CHARLES CAREY.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, GREAT HALL.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, any kind, Oct. 22, 23, and 24. Opera House Orchestra will be available, and the Opera House will not be open to the public on these days. Wire CHARLES CAREY, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

COMPANIES WANTED.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-Class Companies,
CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE,
Feb. 11, 18, March 4, and various onwards.
NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
March 4, 11, and various onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE,
Oct. 22, Nov. 19, 26, and onwards, with exceptions.
WILLIAM MARTIN,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Attractions for QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
Nov. 19 (?), Dec. 17 (?), 31 (?), Feb. 4, 11 (?).
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Feb. 4, 11, March 4, 11, on.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Oct. 29; also Good Pantomime,
Dec. 24 and 31.
Now Booking Season 1907.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

WANTED, through disappointment, First-class Attraction for Oct. 29. Queen's Theatre, Liverpool. L. CARSON, Keighley.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Magnificent New Town Hall, moderate rental, permanent stage, excellent accommodation. F. W. WESTERN, Sandy, Beds.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Peckham Public Hall, Rye-lane, S.E. Licensed for Music and Dancing by L.C.C. For vacant dates, apply PROPRIETOR

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

Grand Autumn Production,
"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 11, 18, March 11.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

Grand Autumn Production,
"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 4, 11.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatre, Nov. 26.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 24, 31.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 10, 24, and 31.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 10, 31, Jan. 21, on.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 7, 14, and onward.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22, Dec. 3, 10, 24, 31.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22 and Nov. 5, Dec. 31.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 31.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Oct. 22 (North), Christmas vacant.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Lyceum Theatre, Govan, Glasgow.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of Nov. 19 and 26.
Wire or write,
W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 19, 26, Christmas, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 19, 26, on, Christmas.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO., in the Romantic Irish Musical Play,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Autumn, 1907, Grand Production, "Rollicking Rory."
CHALMERS MACKEY, Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Dec. 10, Dec. 16,
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Oct. 15, Grand Theatre, Middlesbrough.

Miss EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY.
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
WANTED, Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5.
Wire for Oct. 22 and 29.
Printing ready for instant dispatch.
Wire, to-day, STUART CLEVELAND,
King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Write to the Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Fifty-ninth week of present tour.
Booked and re-booked into Oct., 1907.
Cast, printing, and scenery A1.
WANTED, Oct. 22. Wire for Oct. 22.
Wire, terms, printing required, Oct. 22, 29.
Oct. 22, 29, only dates this year.
FRANK AYRTON, T. R., Darwen (return).

"WOMAN AND WINE."
The Entire Production carried. Company of Thirty Artists. Crowds of Auxiliaries. 350 sheets of pictorial without repeat.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Dec. 24, 31 (?), Jan. 28 (?), Feb. 25. E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, Met. T., Birmingham.

"NO MAN'S LAND."
WANTED, Nov. 19.
HENRY HERNE. To-day, Grand, West Hartlepool; next week, Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.

"ASSASSIN."
WANTED, April 29, May 20 (South), Aug. 5, 19, Sept. 9, 30, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 18, Dec. 2, 9, 23,
AUGUSTINE KNIGHT,
Prince's Theatre, Preston.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, good Theatres, Oct. 29, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 24, Jan. 28. Closed to £61 2s. 9d. at the new T. R., West Stanley. Return date booked. Opened here on Monday to the biggest house this season, and receipts increased each night. Managers in doubt can have their share guaranteed. Wire for Oct. 29. OSMOND, Theatre, Sacriston.

WANTED, Theatres, for "A Heart's Desire," by Frank Adair, magnificent new and original Romantic Play. Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 19, and various on. Wire or write, H. ELLIMAN, 5, Vernon-street, Dublin.

"AN UNWEDDED WIFE."
WANTED, Nov. 12 (through transfer), Jan. 7 and 14. J. EDWARD WHITTY, Q. T., Liverpool.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
"WHEN IT WAS DARK,"
Nov. 15, 16, 17, Dec. 3 (?), 10 (?), 31 (?), Jan. 7, 21.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates for
This Great Play,
Nov. 5, Nov. 5, Nov. 5,
Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, April 1.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates for
above fine Domestic Drama,
Nov. 26, Dec. 3 (?), 10 (?), 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Best Theatres, Vacant Nov. 12 (through obliging), also Dec. 3, 24, 31. Jan. 29, Feb. 11, and few later. A solid success. Now paying fourth visits. New special scenery and effects, beautifully mounted, magnificently advertised, and splendidly acted. Oct. 15, Eden T., Bishop Auckland.

ALLAN WILKIE,
supported by
Mr. G. Alexander Marsh,
Miss Iné Cameron,
Miss Carrie Baillie.
WANTED, Theatre, Nov. 26,
unexpectedly vacant,
between Folkestone
and Birmingham.
Also vacant,
Jan. 28,
Feb. 4, 11, 25 (?),
March 11,
April 29,
May 13, 20,
Aug. 5,
onwards, with exceptions.
Wire or write,
Nov. 25,
Nov. 26,
This, Llanelly; next, Aberdare.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
By Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Nov. 5 (?), and 26, London or Midlands; also Xmas week. Wire, H. Hollister, Grand Theatre, Woolwich. Monday, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Nov. 19, Jan. 7, 14,
Mr. Samuel James's
Magnificent Production of
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
A Box-office Success. Re-booked everywhere. Refer Messrs. W. Morton, J. F. Elliston, W. C. Horner, T. W. Rowe, Chas. Barnard, W. D. Forsdike, &c.
Address,
F. S. Jennings, Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

ADELL AND CHABOT'S COMPANIES.
The Name a Guarantee.
"THE ROMANY'S REVENGE."
WANTED, Nov. 5 and 12, between London and Liverpool. Closed to a record Saturday for Drama at Maesteg, in spite of Big Flannel Fair against us. Refer C. Doole, Esq. Opened at Grand Theatre, Aberavon, to £20 12s. 6d. Not bad for a small town. Refer D. Jones, Esq. "The Romany," with our cast, scenery, and special printing, is a trump-card anywhere. 60th week of tour, with the exception of four weeks' vacation.
E. A'Dell,
Met., Abertillery.

WANTED, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 31,
Mr. Samuel James's
Great Revival of
"WHY WOMAN SINS."
Entirely New Scenery. New Wardrobe.
A First-class Company of Picked Artists.
Address,
F. S. Jennings, Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, Nov. 5, also Nov. 19,
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
(By arrangement with Mr. Martin Harvey.)
Vacant Xmas Week, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, and Easter.
Eugene Bertram, Court T., Warrington.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Christmas and New Year Holiday weeks, for
"The Midnight Mail," and
Miss Maud Hildyard in "The Great Awakening."
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

MISS MARIE DAGMAR and
FRED C. SOMERFIELD'S PLAY,
"A
BEAUTIFUL CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Theatres (three or six nights), Oct. 22, Oct. 22, Oct. 22;
also Xmas, New Year, and Jan.
"THE TYRANT."
This mighty play will be produced shortly.
Fred C. Somerfield, T. R., Wednesbury.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
WANTED, Theatres, for Oct. 22, "For Better or Worse," beautifully mounted, splendidly played. Dates, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"A WIFE'S TRIUMPH."
Ernest R. Abbott and Star Company.
WANTED, Oct. 22, between Chesterfield and London; also Nov. 26 and Dec. 10. An all-round artistic triumph. 22nd month of tour. Wire for Oct. 22, Ernest R. Abbott, to-day, T. R., Leeds (return); next week, T. R., Chesterfield.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED First-class Theatres. Xmas and Easter Week. Fred Bulmer, King's T., Kilmarnock.

WANTED, Theatres, for "Mr. Hopkinson," Nov. 5, 19, Xmas; Mr. Popple, Nov. 19 and 26, Dec. 31; two Musical Comedies Vacant for 4 nights, Christmas. Communicate, Chas. Macdona, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Jan. 14 and 28, only Vacant Dates to Whit. George Stephenson, "Kitty Grey" Co., Paisley Theatre, Paisley.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company, in the above successful Drama. Address, to-day, Leonard Dalrymple, Alex., Hull; next, Queen's, Keighley.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Nov. 5 (precede Portsmouth). Fred Bulmer, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Nov. 5, to precede Portsmouth. Fred Bulmer, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Xmas week, on, with exceptions. Fred Bulmer, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

GRANVILLE and THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-Class Attraction, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 21, and Feb. 4, on, with exceptions.
Fred Granville, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
WANTED, Nov. 12, 19, New Year, Various, onwards. J. H. Clynds, St. James's, Manchester. Fifth Manchester visit in 16 months.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Oct. 29 (follow Manchester). Nov. 12 (follow Chorley), 26, various, on, till Xmas, Feb. 25 (precede Dudley). March 11 (precede Sunderland). April 1 (follow Sheffield). Miller, Grand, Forest Gate.

MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Nov. 19, Xmas, Jan. 7, onward, with exceptions, for the above attraction.
Address, F. Brooke Warren, this week and next, 4, Graham-road, Dalston, London, N.E.

"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart in the title-rôle.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Nov. 12 (North),
Dec. 31. Feb. 18.
Walter J. Bayliss, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company, in the above successful Drama. Address, to-day, Leonard Dalrymple, Alex., Hull; next, Queen's, Keighley.

"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Jan. 7, Feb. 4, 11, 18.
H. A. Jordison, St. James's Hall, M'chester.

THEATRES WANTED.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly note that all the following Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, Oct. 1, 15, and 22. I can guarantee Good Business at any Theatre. Address, L. Carson, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production which will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully Selected Artists.
WANTED, Feb. 11 and 18. Can only entertain First-class Theatres for this Undoubted Success. Address, L. Carson, Keighley.

"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
Managers wishing to make money should book this excellent Production.
WANTED, Dates, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, 31, and various Spring Dates.
L. Carson, Keighley.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S NEW PLAY,
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Jan. 7, on, Grand Production,
Christmas week at T. R., Macclesfield.
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
Will be Excellently Staged,
Brilliantly Played,
and
Strikingly Advertised.
It is not boasting when I say that Miss Litchfield's Productions never want overhauling or pulling together. Everything thought out carefully. Nothing left to Chance.
The last Rehaersals timed correctly, and consequently not cutting required.
Managers in need of a Novelty Attraction book
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
Christmas week settled.
New Year's week settled.
Vacant Jan. 7, on.
Address,
Stuart Cleveland, Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, Good Theatres,
Oct. 29,
Nov. 12,
Dec. 24.
No Greater Success Touring.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.
Wire,
James Bell, Theatre, Darlington.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
(under the direction of Mr. Charles Draycott).
WANTED, Known,
First Vacant Dates,
Sept. 23, 1907.
Business Enormous. Refer.
Only First-class Theatres and Equitable Terms entertained.
To-day, Alex. T., Birmingham; next, Q. T., DUBLIN.

WANTED, Nov. 12 or 19,
for
Production of a New
Romantic Light Opera,
entitled
"THE CORNISH GIRL."
Act. I.
An Orchard, Week St. Mary, Cornwall.
Act II.
Temple Bar in the Time of the Tudors.
A Play of Spectacular Effect and Pageantry.
Special Troupe of Dancers. Male Quartette.
Full London Chorus, which will include Twelve Trained Children's Voices.
Production by Walter McEwen.
Wire, W. McEwen, 10, Cranworth-gdns., Brixton-rd.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Nov. 5 and 19, for this Great Attraction (only vacant dates this year). Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles, for Parade. Wire, F. G. Kimberley, Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

"THE PLUCKY NIPPER" CO.
WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 5. Edward Surrey, to-day, St. James's, Manchester (return); next, Alhambra, Dudley Port (return).

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, Xmas,
E. Carter Livesey,
Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.

"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 14, 21, 28 (only dates vacant). E. Vivian Edmonds, Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Nov. 19 (Midlands or South), Vacant Xmas and New Year's Weeks.
Last Boxing Day receipts were £125, one performance, T. R., Halifax.
George Denham, this, Royalty, Chester; next, Grand, Radcliffe.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by the late F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, Xmas, New Year.
Frances Delaval, Grand Theatre, Walsall.

LINGFORD CARSON'S MASCOT.
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Nov. 5, Nov. 5, Nov. 5. Thanks J. W. Boughton, Esq., for offer, Prince's, Portsmouth, Aug. Bank Holiday, 1907. Regret date already booked. Wanted, Dec. 10, Dec. 31 (Lancs.), Jan. 24, Feb. 18, April 8, May 6, 13. Playing to record business everywhere. Geo. A. De Gray, Oct. 15, T. R., Jarrow; Oct. 22, Rotherham.

"THE TRAITOR."
E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's
Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, T. R., Sunderland.

"SINS OF SOCIETY."
"SINS OF SOCIETY."
"SINS OF SOCIETY."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Nov. 19, 26, Xmas, and on.
Bessie Elma, 10, King-street, W.C.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company, in the above successful Drama. Address, to-day, Leonard Dalrymple, Alex., Hull; next, Queen's, Keighley.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND" CO.
Bigger Success than ever.
Miss V. St. Lawrence as Fiend.
WANTED, Nov. 19, Xmas, and New Year, Jan. 14, 21, 28, March 18, 25, April 15, 22, and on, with exceptions. Montague Beaudyn, next, Prince's, Horwich.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Oct. 22, to Precede Return to Alex., Birmingham.
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, R. T., Morecambe.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY AND MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO.,
in
"THE FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Oct. 29,
Nov. 12 (three nights).
Address, Mr. Silvanus Dauncey,
Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.

"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, Nov. 5 and Xmas Week. Address, Charles Durie, Theatre Royal, Blyth.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S
"BLUEBEARD" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 14, 21. Feb. 11, and various onwards, with exceptions. William Martin, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Oct. 22 and 29, "No Escape" and "Money Makes the Man," or répertoire, everything sound, no trouble. Colemar Davies, Theatre, Northwich.

THEATRES WANTED.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres,
"FLORODORA,"
March 18, April 1, 8, 15, and various onwards.
"OLIVER TWIST,"
Dec. 3 (3 nights), 31, Jan. 7, 14, 28, April 1.
"THE SILVER KING,"
(by arrangement with Messrs. Polini and Melford), Nov. 12, 19 (3 nights each).
William Martin,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Oct. 22, 29,
between P., Blackburn (return), and T. R., Middlesbrough; and Nov. 12, between Middlesbrough and Junction, Manchester (return),
only open dates this year.
Managers with Good Spring and Autumn Vacancies 1907 are invited to forward
Dates to Charles A. Leicester,
This, T. R., Barnsley; next, P., Blackburn.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "JUDY."
WANTED, Oct. 22 (between Salford and London), Nov. 5, 12 (London or Midlands).
Charles A. Leicester,
This, T. R., Barnsley; next, P., Blackburn.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Colossal Gorgeous Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Jan. 21, Feb. 4, and onwards.
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
Vacant Feb. 18, Lancs. or Yorks.
"ALADDIN,"
"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Feb. 18, Midlands.
Address,
James Kiddie, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
WANTED, First-class Theatres only. Only Vacant Date this Year,
Nov. 19.
Spring Entirely Filled, except March 4 (between Avenue, Sunderland, and Royalty, Glasgow) and April 1 (to follow Tyne, Newcastle).
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.
E. Graham-Falcon,
County Theatre, Bedford.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Cardiff Pantomime; all new scenery, painted especially for this production.
Samuel James,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Croydon Pantomime. All new scenery, painted especially for this production.
Samuel James,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

"THE TRUMPET CALL,"
"THE TRUMPET CALL,"
"THE TRUMPET CALL,"
"THE TRUMPET CALL,"
Vacant Oct. 29 (South).
WANTED, Good Theatre,
Xmas and New Year Weeks.
Charles F. Cooke,
Oct. 15, Aquarium Theatre, Yarmouth.

"THE SCARLET CLUE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Oct. 29, Oct. 29, Oct. 29,
Nov. 5, Nov. 5, Nov. 5.
Wire,
Warner, Grand, Chorley.

WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 26, for "The Plucky Nipper." Edward Surrey, to-day, Pavilion, Altrincham; next, St. James', Manchester.

MADGE McINTOSH AND LUMSDEN HARE'S CO., in "MOLLENTRAVE ON WOMEN."
By Alfred Sutro, from St. James's Theatre, London.
WANTED, Nov. 12 (Week, Midlands preferred), Nov. 19 (3 nights, precede Oxford), and Nov. 26. Strong Company, Attractive Printing, and Pretty Scenery.
Madge McIntosh,
Wyndham's Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, Circuses, or any place where money can be made, immediately, and onwards, for Prof. Robson's Royal Biscope and Monster Vaudeville Company of Star Artists. Every turn fit to top a bill. I pay salaries, so I carry no duds. Best of printing obtainable. No expense spared to ensure success.
Ten distinct turns.
Reply to
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ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Little and Darcey's Companies, Character Actor for Joe Williams, in "The New World," and Important Double, Aristocratic Old Man and Intense Character Part in "On the Stroke of Twelve." Rehearse Blyth, Oct. 22. Photos., references, and absolute terms, to Fred J. Little, T. R., Scarborough.

WANTED, for Tour of "Rob Roy," commencing Jan. 1, 1907, Full Company, with exceptions. Special terms to good Diana and Francis. Letters, addressed "Rob Roy," c/o Strachan's Music Warehouse, Galashiels, N.B., must state part or parts played, age, height, and terms.

WANTED, smart Soubrette, petite, must sing, dance, play piano, and talk well, to work with Comedian in established Musical Comedy Act. Terms, height, age, &c.
Box 3,848, "The Era."

"LIFE'S SWEETEST SINS."
WANTED, Good Juvenile Lady, capable, strong, emotional, lead in above. Photos. (imperative), terms, refs., with addresses. Jones, Grand, Chorley.

WANTED, for "Throne of Terror," Emotional Juvenile Lady, Aristocratic Gent., Responsible. Rehearse next week. Open 22nd. Miller, Grand, Forest Gate.

WANTED, Refined Char. Actress, to Play Miss Henrietta Watson's part in "The Perfect Lover"; also Gent., for act.-mngt. H. Neilson, 16, Sydney-st., Brighton.

WANTED, Leading Lady, Chambermaid, Comedian, Man capable Juveniles or Heavies, and good Responsible Man, rehearse at once. Height, age, lowest terms, Cochrane, 2, St. Michael's-road, Stockwell, S.W. No callers.

WANTED, First-class Heavy Character Actor, tall, good appearance and voice, capable of intensity, for Sir Robert Llewellyn. Morton Powell, Lyceum T., Pentre.

WANTED, Known, a Vacancy occurs for an Amateur Gentleman in a First-class Dramatic Company, to play light comedy part and learn duties acting-manager; thorough tuition. No premium. Apply, full particulars, &c., to Box 3,845, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Tall Juvenile Leading Gentleman. State height, age, parts played, references, terms, Mark Blow, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Experienced Character Actor, to join Lady and Gentleman in highly-successful Sketch. State age, height, with last two references. Allen, 39, Sydney-st., Oxford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Gentleman, to Play Small Parts; must be tall. Norman V. Norman, 113, London-road, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

WANTED, Clever Child Actress, over 14; must look 10. Photo. and particulars, refs., stamped envelope, Edward Van Biene, Grand T., Mansfield.

WANTED, good Tenor, young, smart, able to speak few lines, for Quartette. Age, height, particulars, Box 3,834, "The Era."

WANTED, for New Production in London, Male Choristers; must be young, good appearance, good voices (absolutely essential). Apply immediately to Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, experienced Boy Vocalist; good salary to First-class Soloist, age 13 to 15; for well-known Professional Troupe. Address, The Elm Farm, Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex.

WANTED, Young Girls, with Knowledge of Dancing. Call 12 till 2 daily. 156 Westminster Bridge-road, S.E.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Engagement, by Contralto, large répertoire, can play piano, at Liberty Oct. 22. Address, Marjorie Irvine, Shaftesbury Hall, Bournemouth.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Good Principal Girl, Fairy Queen, pair Comedians, Sisters, Acrobatic Dancing Quartette, and Dwarf Comedian. Photos. all parties, lowest, Geo. Aytoun's Agency, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.

WANTED, Artists, for "Cinderella."
Send terms, particulars,
H. A. Jordison, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, DANCERS,
Good-looking and Smart,
for Troupes and Pantomimes.
Apply by letter,
stating full particulars,
and enclosing photograph,
to JOHN TILLER AND CO.,
15, LIME-GROVE, OXFORD-RD., MANCHESTER.

HANS ANDERSEN'S XMAS SEASON, W. P., BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Soprano, for Princess, two Light Baritones, Small Boy Singer, for Title-rôle. Apply at once, Weatherby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

WANTED, immediately, for Continent, young, pretty, clever all-round Dancers. Call (practice dress), Monday until Thursday, 2 till 3. Pome, The Ship, Kennington-road.

WANTED, Good Acrobatic Cat, for Title-rôle, in "Puss-in-Boots."
Letters only.
Address, J. F. Elliston, Bolton.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, Pantomime, London and Provinces. Apply, Tuesday and Thursday, 2 to 3, Edward Cranston, Rule's (2nd Floor), Maiden-lane.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Xmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, Good Ballet Dancers, for Provincial Pantomime. Photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Pair Cross-talk and Knockabout Comedians, Panto., also Dame. Interview only, Tuesday and Thursday, 2 to 3. E. Cranston, Rule's, Maiden-lane.

Pantomime.
WANTED, Clever Children, to Train for the Stage; also Troupe Dancers. Apply, Stage Door, Kennington Theatre, Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 11 a.m.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Louie Hurman, at Liberty. Principal Boy. Last year, West London T. Coms., 7, Canonbury-avenue, Highbury, London, forwarded.

WANTED, Known, Mabel Hind, Comedienne, at Liberty for Pantomime, Principal Girl. This week, Hippo., Liverpool; next, Hippo., Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Fred Clements, Comedian, at Liberty for Pantomime.
This week, The Middlesex; next, Empire, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Miss Daisy Morell, the Popular Principal Boy, at Liberty for Panto. Monday, Palace, Bath.

WANTED, Known, Florence Leonard, Liberty Pantomime, Fairy Queen, with Songs. This, Tivoli, Manchester; next, Hippo., Eastbourne.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, having gone into liquidation,
ERNIE MAYNE (the Simple One)
is in consequence at Liberty for Panto. First-class offers invited, Principal Comedy only.
Last year, Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, Jack, in "Mother Goose," the late Herbert Campbell's part from Drury Lane.
Fred Wyndham, Esq., described my performance as the hit of the Panto, the hit of the Panto. For further absolute proof of my abilities ask
Blackmore.
Now concluding Stoll Tour. Bottom of Bills. Great hits. Permanent, Ivy Glen, Stockwell Park-crescent, S.W.
Fancy me being out for Panto! My first offence.

WANTED, Known, Miss Dolly Elsworthy, Disengaged for first-class panto., principal boy. Empire, Leicester.

WANTED, Panto., by Stan. Aubrey, Baron, Page, or other comedy part, with legmania speciality. Oct. 15, Empire, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Panto., by Bob Baxter, Dame preferred. Four seasons with J. F. Elliston, Esq. Address, "Crown and Cushion," Belgrave Gate, Leicester.

WANTED, Panto., by Bob Baxter. J. F. Elliston, Esq., says: "The best Dame Crusoe I have ever had or ever seen."

WANTED, Panto, by Bob Baxter, Dame preferred; last two seasons T. R., Nottingham, with Robert Arthur, Esq. Address, Leicester.

WANTED, by Albert Ventor, Comedian, Good Offer for Panto, 1906-7. Thanks for offers, but must have my price. Coms., Brookes, London; or Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, by Harry Lorreano, Panto., Produce and Stage-manage, can Play. 1905 London, 1906 Luck's "Jack and Jill." 11, Chalk Farm-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Alf, Bert, and Marie Curtis, at Liberty for Panto., First or Second Girl, and Comedian and Speciality. Shaftesbury Hall, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Known, Conan and Doyle, vacant Panto., owing to Grand Theatre, Edinboro', closing.
Address,
108, Kennington-road,
London, S.E.

WANTED, Managers to Note, Hasting and Fields, Comedians, &c., with speciality, return thanks for offers. Liberty panto. 66, St. Stephen's-st., Salford.

WANTED, Known, Kloof and Ramsay, Vacant for Panto., original musical novelty (funny) act, both play parts, good vocalism. Oct. 15, Palace, Camberwell.

WANTED, Known, Frank Keegan and Co., Funnicst Knockabout Act on the Road, at Liberty for Panto., Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21.
Com., 8, Somerleyton-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, First-class Panto., Great Novelty, Speciality, and Comedy Parts, Bert Olrac and Clown. C/o Sanger's Circus, Burstow Lodge, Horley.

WANTED, Known, Three Moxon Bros., Continental Acrobatic Comedians, at Liberty for Panto., Animal Parts, and Speciality. Bookings direct, or through Fortune and Granville, 115, Strand, London. Out through unforeseen circumstances. This, Aquarium, Scarborough; next, Pier Pav., Southport.

WANTED, Pantomime, no Speciality could be a bigger Draw, a lightning, sensational Act, Boxing Dogs, Wrestling Dogs, great Clown, Somersault Dogs, and the world's greatest troupe of high leaping Hounds. Chard, 52, George-street, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, by two experienced performers, to join good Pantomime, Sketch, or Troupe; good acrobats, good voices, &c. W. Menri, 11, Whitpark-street, Burnley.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, a good quick Scenic Artist, used to Stock Work.
J. A. B., Box 3,834, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Assistant Scenic Artist, to commence at once. Terms and references, &c., to J. F. Elliston, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram open to accept Contract or Salary; can arrange painting of Pantomime Production. Address, C/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts, Theatre Fit-ups, Repainting, &c.; experienced. Low terms. Note address, 104, Loughborough-park. W. Henry, Scenic Artist.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address, 44, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Secretary Required for a Syndicate presenting Music Hall Sketches at Leading Halls. Investment £300. Genuine applications please address, Music Hall, c/o Anderson's Advertising Agency, 14, King William-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Young Man, as Advance Agent, one having knowledge of working Institutions and play Piano preferred. Banvard, Carrick-on-Shannon, Ireland.

WANTED, immediately, for large Provincial Variety Theatre, good Stage Electrician. State salary, when disengaged, and enclose copies of latest credentials. Letters only to Electrical Department, Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-st., W.C.

WANTED, Property Man, to combine Billing. Lowest terms and references to Lloyd Clarance, New Theatre, Consett.

WANTED, Carpenter to Play small parts, open at once. Wire immediately.
Tilbury, Theatre, Loughboro'.

WANTED, Handy Man, as Stage Carpenter, sole control, abstainer preferred, permanency if suitable. Terms, &c., Chas. Chaplin, Sea View, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, to invest £50 in a sound Theatrical concern, by Acting-Manager, disengaged. A. M., care of Harry Wilson, Esq., solicitor, Bow-street, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, Acting-Management, or Assist, young, smart, energetic, shorthand, typewriting, expert accountancy. Highest references. Box 3,841, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Manager (Resident or Tour), by Sydney Tolfree, late of P. O. W. and Tivoli, Grimsby (6 years). Ash Dene, Winsford, Cheshire.

WANTED, by Alf. A. Hawkins, Advance Agent; abstainer, reliable, and quick. F. Clements' Concert Party. Open date Nov. 1.

WANTED, Engagement, Bill Inspector, Disengaged, willing to assist management, last ref. six years. Apply, Bert Peck, 2, Gowan-avenue, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Position, by a smart, active, young man, age 27, English, in Theatre or Music Hall Box Office, nine years last situation, last six in Box Office; speaks French and German; excellent references. Cash security if required. Address, H. C., 41, Keckitts-road, Chiswick, London.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bar Manageress or in Box-office; excellent references. Address, Miss L. Dale, 43, Edwards-street, Stockton-on-Tees.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING, Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL PANTOMIME CO.
WANTED, Experienced Conductor (Pianist), for pantomime season, capable of composing and arranging. State salary, references, and age. Director of Music, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Musical Conductor, for Xmas. Age, references, lowest terms, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Conductor, Violinist. Permanency for young painstaking man. Apply, with full particulars and references, and state lowest terms.
W. R. King, The Dalston Theatre, N.E.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM, FULBOURN, near CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, Male Attendant, Violinist or Pianist preferred
Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to the Superintendent, at the Asylum.

WANTED, good First Violin, experienced, able to lead, and excellent 'Cellist (ladies), high-class Café, permanency, young, nice appearance essential. Lowest terms, reference, to Box 3,846, "The Era."

WANTED, Violin, Cornet, Tour, Twice Daily. Send age, terms, letters only, Z., 115, Hazlebury-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Smart Young Violinist; must be experienced, good Sight-reader, and capable of leading. Terms (twice daily), refs., and age, to Horace Teague, Mus. Dir., Municipal and O. H. Orchestras, Cheltenham.

WANTED, to Open Oct. 15, Good Cornet and Double Drums, shares, permanency, Cheltenham Town and Promenade Band. J. Boyce, 6, Queen's-retreat, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, to double string preferred.
Alex Corrison, Conductor,
Penzance Military Band.

WANTED, Good Cornet Player, at once. Pitching. Shares. Town Band, 11, Market-place, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, One Week Certain, Oct. 15, Cornet, Bass, Grand Opera. Lowest terms first letter, Santé, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Clarionet Player, for Theatre, Royal, Croydon; must reside in the neighbourhood. References and terms to Musical Director.

WANTED, Clarionet, Euphonium, and Bass Players, for pitching, shares. Apply, Secretary, The Dripping Well, Cambridge-rd., Hastings.

WANTED, good Trombone, First Cornet, First Violin, and First Clarionet, for the English Imperial Scotch Orchestra, Touring in Germany, two and three months in one place; Concerts only; age not over twenty years. Height, age, photo., Musical Director, Scotch Orchestra, Heinzelmännchen, Hohephorte, Cologne, Germany.

WANTED, Good Trombone, to Open Oct. 22. Apply stating age, salary, and references, to F. Camp, Gaiety Theatre Varieties, Birmingham.

WANTED, Reliable 'Cellist, and First Violin, to open Monday next, Oct. 15.
Apply, Sherwood and Co., Theatre, Wakefield.

WANTED, Violoncellist, for Café Orchestra, Ireland, option of accepting evening work. Wire or write, Phipps, 27, Lower Mount-st., Dublin.

WANTED, for Poole's Myriorama, Flute and Piccolo, and Double Bass; wear evening dress. Commence Oct. 22. Must assist with fittings when travelling. F. Mayer, Manager, T. H., Holyhead.

WANTED, Good Oboe, Permanent. Apply, with age, terms, and references, to Chas. Elphinstone, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

WANTED, Lady Pianist, Double Bass, Cornet Soloist, and First Violin, weekly towns, from Nov. 12. Write, Sphinx, Town Hall, Maybole.

WANTED, a First-class Pianist, for Variety Tour. Fare paid. Terms, Ellis, 84 Lavender-sweep, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, Pianist, Oct. 22, able to play Viola or Second Violin. Permanency.
Apply, Mr. Loader, Opera House, St. Helens.

WANTED, to Open Monday, Oct. 15, Pianist, to combine Viola. Wire lowest terms, Duxbury, Musical-Director, Opera House, St. Helens.

WANTED, Bandsmen, to Enlist in First-class Cavalry Band of Great Reputation.
Good bonus will be given for good players.
Instrumentalists wanted are
Solo and First Clarionets,
or Bassoon and Saxophone.
Apply at once to H. N., c/o Hawkes and Son, Denman-street, Piccadilly-circus, London, W.

WEST RIDING ASYLUM, SCALEBOR PARK, BURLEY-IN-WHARFEDALE.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, to form Small Orchestra (including Piano). Salary commences at £30 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing, and band pay.
Apply, stating age and experience, to the Clerk and Steward.

WANTED, Musicians, for Present and Future Vacancies. Apply, with references, terms, and giving permanent addresses, to De Frece Circuit, Hippodrome, Southampton.

WANTED, Lady Orchestral Players, experienced, Violin, Flute, Cornet, Bass, 'Cello, Pianist. One or two Evenings a week. Photo., state experience, age, lowest terms, Conductress, Patmore, 48, Cranbrook-road, Ilford.

WANTED, Musicians, before Accepting Engagements in Glasgow, to communicate with Mr. J. Bartley,
717, New City-road, Glasgow.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept., "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A Grateful Musician.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, Philip Germann, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING, Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, concluding long engagement with Jules Richeux, Esq, Pavilion, Ramsgate, at Liberty now and Xmas.

WANTED, Known, Jules Guilton, Musical Director, Composer, and Arranger, Disengaged. Pantos. arranged. 51, Fairland-road, West Ham, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Musical Director (Pianist, Soloist, First Prize Brussels Conservatoire); thoroughly experienced; highest references; able to provide Orchestra. Also by first-class, experienced Viola, French Horn. 3, Middleton-buildings, Ridinghouse-street, W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, T. C. Poyser, late Musical-Director, Grand Theatre, Leeds, Disengaged. Address, 98, Gordon-hill, Enfield, Middlesex.

WANTED, Known, Edward P. Delevanti, Musical Conductor (Pianist), Disengaged now and at Xmas. 3, Clarence-chambers, Regent's Park, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, any business. Good references.
Apply, Sim Yates, 165, Edmund-street, Rochdale.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by good Violinist; any Bus.; good refs. Violin, 23, Third-street North, Frodingham, Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, Ethel Henderson, Violin (Leader), at Liberty, any Business. 139, Park-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, at Lib. Oct. 22; good references. Address, E. Handel, Public Hall, Holyhead.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady, Violinist, orchestral and soloist, tour or permanent, good appearance. Box 3,843, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Cornet, good theatre or variety preferred, thoroughly experienced, competent, reliable. Highest refs. Tripp, 257, Stapleton-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Reliable Engagement, as Cornet, fair terms only. Address, Esoteric, c/o Mrs. D. Musket, 23, Clark-street, Kilmarnock.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, Engagement; experienced all lines; first-class performer; highest refs. Bonner, Royal Pavilion T., Ramsgate.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Solo Cornet (comb. Viola), theatre or music hall; good references. Add., E. Fritz, 80, Rossiyn-crescent, Wealdstone, Harrow.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Clarionet, any business, shares or wages; sober and reliable; good refer. Apply J. Grub, 11, Bury-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, by Good Clarionet, Engagement, or Deputising, any business, good refs., abstainer. Sheehan, 11, Pelham-st., South Kensington, S.W.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionet, Engagement, any Business; competent, reliable; would deputise, London or suburbs. Clarionet, 79, Caledonian-road, King's Cross.

WANTED, Engagement by First-Class Clarionettist, highest references, Disengaged Nov. 4. J. Hartt, Principal Clarionet, Pavilion Orchestra, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Engagement, Theatre or Variety; experienced and reliable; good refs. Chas. Mantle, 12, Windermere-st., Everton, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet.
W. E. Dovey,
38, Church-street, Egremont, Cheshire.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet. Good references, experienced, last engagement over three years. H. Huggens, 12, Albert-rd., Thorpe Hamlet, Norwich.

WANTED, by Clarionetist, Engagement, any business, bonâ fide refs., total abstainer, season finished, West Pier. McCormick, 8, Cleveland-rd., Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, four-string, good, sober, reliable, excellent references; any business, anywhere, at Liberty 20th. James, Theatre, Wigan.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bassoonist, Theatre or Music Hall, permanency or deputising, London only. 36, Rossetti-buildings, Millbank Estate, Westminster.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bassoonist, Theatre or Music Hall, &c.
Russell, 50, Eglinton-rd., Plumstead, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass, experienced and reliable, young.
Addresss, Basso, 17, Worcester-parade, Gloucester.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass and Bombardon, at Liberty Oct. 15, theatre or music hall preferred. E. J. Elliott, 67, Albion-st., Halton, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, in London, by competent Double-Bass Player; long experience, any Business. Address, Bass, 3, Rutland-street, Hampstead-road, London.

WANTED, Situation as Trombone, Theatre or Music Hall; London or Suburbs preferred; good references. Hurst, 105, Culford-rd., Dalston, N.

WANTED, Engagement, for Good Trombone, any Business; steady and reliable; good refs., &c. Trombone, 14, Clift-terrace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Engagement, as French Horn, can combine second violin. Good refs. Box 3,831, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Saxhorn or Pianist, combine if required, finishing season, at Lib. Monday. Willie Swift, 15, Empress-st., Belfast.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. Casselle, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by Experienced Lady 'Cellist, Engagement, in tea room or hotel. Address, Miss Angless, 41, Tyrrell-road, East Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, by Experienced Lady 'Cellist (Silver Med., R.A.M.), Engagements, in London, orchestra, quartette, or solo. Box 3,833, "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced Lady 'Cellist, Evening Engagement in London, Sundays excepted. References on application. 'Cellist, 118, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class 'Cellist, highest references and experience. Address, P. S., 78, Palatine-rd., Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, Known, Violoncellist, Good, Dis., experienced in variety, opera, and dramatic business. Address, Mac, 34, Leoville-st., Belfast.

WANTED, by Oboe, Engagement, Orchestra or Military.
J. P., 303, Albany-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Oboe, thoroughly experienced and reliable; can open immediately; good refs. Address, Oboist, 28, St. Paul's-road, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, age 19
All letters, c/o 7, Provost-rd., Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Known, Æneas Gibson, Harpist, Pianist, Disengaged, abroad preferred; long experience, sight reader, reliable; references. Age 31, single. Musical Instrument Dealer, Ilkley.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Flautist. Address, Miss L. Levens,
149, Upper Thomas-street, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Flautist, orchestra, variety, or any business; steady, references. A. Holt, 6, Drayton-st., Eccles, near Manchester.

WANTED, by experienced Pianist, Engagement, Music Hall or Theatre, thoroughly conversant all branches. Goddard, Fewcott Bridge, Ardley, near Bicester, Oxon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Pianist, for Dances, &c., good accompanist and reader. C., 20, Winslade-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, by experienced Pianist, Engagement, Orchestral, Variety, Accompanist, &c. Thompson, 42, Holsworthy-square, Gray's Inn, W.C.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement at Music Hall, fourteen years in last shop.
J. Mabi, 50, Grange-road, Plaistow, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady requires Engagement as Pianist, good accompanist, sight reader. Miss A. Woods, 116, Edith-rd., West Kensington, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Pianist, excellent accompanist, good reader, transpose, orchestral or concert. E., 2, Devonshire-terrace, Duncan-rd., Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagement, as Pianist, by N. Robinson, orch. or self, exper. var., dram. business, steady, reliable. 227, Bowling Back-lane, Bradford, Yorks.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by First-class Pianist, Immediate Re-engagement, any Business, Sight-reader, Transposer; young. Wire or write to-day, Campbell Theatre, Normanton. Afterwards, 45, Edward-street, Bury.

WANTED, a Situation, as Pianist, solos, duets, good sight reader and accompanist, no vamps. T. E., 36, Britannia-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced; Variety preferred; good references; now disengaged. A. Lills, 93, Queen's-road, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer and Tympanist, any business, experienced and reliable. Drums, 10, Cadogan-st., Sloane-sq., S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, First-Class Double Drummer, or Tympanist, with own Tympani; highest references; thoroughly experienced; Variety preferred. Box 3,828, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Madame H. B. Anglese's celebrated Ladies' Pompadour Orchestra, specially engaged Colchester and Bromley Horticultural Shows, and Agricultural Hall, London, Motor and Laundry Exhibitions. This first-cass Orchestra can be engaged from any number. Trios and quartettes a speciality.

All communications,
78, Norwood-road, Herne Hill, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, can supply any number of First-class Artists after Oct. 20; brilliant costume. Great success at Limerick Exhibition. Address, Conductress, Volthurst, Boundary-road, Newbury.

To Pier Managers, Corporations, &c.
WANTED, Known, a First-Class Italian Orchestra or Military Band, at Liberty for next summer season; best picked soloists; smart uniforms; répertoire includes all the latest English selections. Musical-Director, Box 3,765, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands, apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to Dec. Quartet now Disengaged.

WANTED, Engagements, the White Ladies' Orchestra, 8 to 22 performers. Highest references. Conductor, Miss Gascoyne Old, 238, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Rosabel Ladies' Military Band, for ex Theatres, &c. Miss Rose Telfer, care of Hart and Son, 28, Wardour-st., London.

WANTED, First-Class Hotel or Café Engagement, by the Minster Quartette, Soloists, two Violins, 'Cello, and Piano; both classical and popular programme. Allanouski, 35, Hagley-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, the Orchestral Association is prepared to provide Managers and Conductors with Professional Players, from Single Performers to Complete Orchestras, for First-class London or Provincial Theatres, Concerts, or Balls, &c.; or Military Bands of any number, including Conductor if required. None but bonâ fide professional musicians are admitted to membership. For particulars, apply Secretary, 28, Gerrard-street London, W. Telephone, 4459 Central. Telegrams, "Harmonists, London."

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Great Novelties and Startling Sensations, New to this Town. Big Turn for Oct. 22, and future dates. Note.—All Artists engaged for the Opening must be at the Circus by 12 o'clock, Monday next, Oct. 15. Address, King Ohmy, Ohmy's Grand Circus, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, good Riders, Clowns, &c.; also Circus People, used to Sketches, immediate and future dates. Circus and Hippodrome, Dartford.

WANTED, Novelty Specialities, Comedy Dumb Numbers, Oct. 22, 29, onwards, South Wales, Bristol, and District. Lithos. T. Gannon, Westgrove, Bristol.

WANTED, Smart Girls for gymnastic Contortionist business, good appearances, and tall for age (15). Communications with photos., Troboro, Palace, Bristol.

WANTED, a clever Comedy Tumbler, as Assistant; liberal salary to really good man. State full particulars. Letters only. 19, Norwood-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, Top-mounter, at Once, for Well-known Acrobats. Address,
Z., 10, Dalmeny-road, Tufnell Park, London.

WANTED, a Top Man, about 8st., for Acrobatic Comedy Act. All details,
Box 3,838, "The Era."

WANTED, Lad, with Knowledge of Tumbling, able to sing preferred. Full particulars first letter. Box 3,842, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Tudor's Four Champion Trick Ponies, five acts, Liberty, with or without riding goat and Turpin mare. Hippo., Blyth.

WANTED, Known, Harry Stephenson, First-class Equestrian, at Liberty November, for Winter Season. Will come any distance, and ride Championship Weeks against Jockey Act Riders. Stevo, Talking Clown; and Florrie Transfield, with Troupe of Dogs. Any of the above can be engaged, together or separate. Address, 23, Mile End, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Little Bishop, Clown and Agouste, now concluding eleven weeks' with Geo. Gilbert, Esq., Hippodromes, Lowestoft, Yarmouth, and Exeter. Monday, Oct. 15, J. H. Cooke, Esq.'s, Royal Circus, Edinburgh, for the winter season.

WANTED, Known, Lampo and Clown, Novelty Surprise Number.
Sanger's Hippodrome. On Tour.

WANTED, Known, Flora Steckel and Funny Steck, Refined Gymnastic Speciality, vacant Xmas and New Year, onwards. Agent, Stebbings, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, The Maros, Comedy Bar Act, Liberty Oct. 15, 22. Address, 126, Porter-st, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Mayon Troupe (two ladies, three gentlemen), Gymnasts, Acrobats, &c., at Liberty Oct. 13, on, with number First Acts, Halls, Circuses, or Carnivals. Communications, 30, Great George's-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Bert Leonard Trio, Herculean Acrobats and Equilibrists, Duffy's Circus, touring Ireland; Lib. Nov. 5. All coms., Fanciers' Arms, Oak-st., Norwich. Vacant for Pantos.

WANTED, Oct. 22, Lillian, and Clown Agouste, Contortionists; also Savaro, Famous Bird Imitator. Wire, this, Empire, Dover; next, Alhambra, Sandgate.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Premier Equilibrists and Tumblers, Oct. 15, 22. Wire, Thorne, Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, the Great Caicedo, next week at the Palace Theatre, Carlisle. Few immediate dates open. Address as above, or C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Almero, Aerial Norwegian Spar and Wire Act, Vacant Oct. 29, two reliable acts. Address, Ohmy's Circus, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Known, Young Man (improver) wants Engagement with Acrobats, as bearer or with Barrel Jumpers. Box 3,851, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, John Irvin, Dexterous Foot Equilibrist, in his Marvellous Entertainment, will be at Liberty Monday next; good turn for Panto. Agent, Harry Lemar, 157, Strand, London; or, John Irvin, 144, High-street, Deptford.

WANTED, Proprietors and Managers to Note my New Address,
C. Tamamoto,
Japanese Performer,
43, Altenbegh-avenue, Northfield-lane, West Ealing.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to Wm. Biggam, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Nothing too big. Send full particulars, with lithos. (if any), to Morgan, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Oct. 22, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small. P. Reymond, as above.

WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all Lines, for few weeks, small town near London, to open Oct. 29; fare and baggage paid. Terms must be low. Ellis, 84, Lavender-sweep, Clapham Common.

WANTED, Immediately, Refined Variety Artists, Pictures, Good Choirs, and Combinations, &c., &c., for Palace and Winter Gardens, Bridlington. Manager, Mr. J. W. Delmar.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, for Hippodrome, Cambridge, Oct. 22, onwards. Address, T. Scarborough Laing, Manager, Hippo., Cambridge.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
Manager, Henry Kemble.
WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, and onward, Artists all Lines, big Specialities, Animal Shows, Star Comedians, Ballad Vocalists, &c.

Must be Refined or useless.

Call, Monday, Oct. 15:
Smaun Sing Hpoo,
The Kimberley Boys,
Agnus Hastings,
H. J. Kisbey,
Adey Spencer,
Moet-Chandon Trio,
Sisters Darnton,
Brown's Bioscope,
Tom Leamore.

LONDONDERRY HIPPODROME.
WANTED, Artists, Nov. 12 and 26 (those working Irish Halls following weeks preferred, there being no boat from 'Derry on Saturday or Sunday).
W. Payne Seddon, Londonderry.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines for Loughborough, in February.
W. Payne Seddon, Londonderry.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

PALACE, LANCASTER.
WANTED, Artists all Lines.
John Fell, Proprietor.

WANTED, Artists for Glasgow Concerts. Lowest terms and permanent address to the Scottish Musical Agency, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, one night, Nov. 10, concert, Piccadilly. State lowest terms. Address, W. James, 36, Emerald-street, Holborn.

WANTED, Artists in every Line, Oct. 15 and on, the very Best, Big and Small. Ackland and Marie Walker wire. Drew Bayley, Agent. 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines for Extra Turns, Saturday evenings, commencing Nov. 10, and onwards. Nothing too big. Write, Victor W. Rowe, 28, Herbert-road, Stockwell, London, S.W.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, especially big comic acts, for immediate dates. Price no object. 31, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 5 and 12.
Charles A. James, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Britt Pettigrove write in.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now, onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

PALACE, BOSTON.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. Sapherini.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, good Comedy Acts, Star Comediennes, Star Comedians, Oct. 22, onwards.

THE PALACE, DOVER.
Lessees, The Vaudeville Syndicate.
Manager, Mr. Burt Harland.
WANTED, Artists, of all Kinds; must be new to the town.
Send full Vacancies to
Fred Durham,
1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Artists, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, 26, onwards.
Tom Prichard,
Palace Theatre, Church-street, Oldbury, Worcs.

WANTED, Known, Artists wishing to be Booked for First-class Music Hall Engagements, please communicate with Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
DALTON'S AGENCY. DALTON'S AGENCY. DALTON'S AGENCY. DALTON'S AGENCY. DALTON'S AGENCY. DALTON'S AGENCY. DALTON'S AGENCY. DALTON'S AGENCY. DALTON'S AGENCY. DALTON'S AGENCY. DALTON'S AGENCY. DALTON'S AGENCY. DALTON'S AGENCY. DALTON'S AGENCY.
Always send House Address as well as Theatre.
A feature in connection with this Agency will be Artists Vacant "Monday next," also "Artists Vacant Immediate Dates," and Artists are requested to post me if open Monday next, and mention at same time any immediate vacancies; but "Monday next" being a feature in the future, a penny stamp may mean a shop. Please note to always send private address where staying in the respective towns for early delivery of telegrams. Tele., "Granbeste Withington," Telephone, 193 Didsbury. 29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, all Artists, coming North, to send Vacant Dates and lowest terms to Jas. Anderson and Son's Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Big Stars, Specialities, Oct. 22, on. Terms, Bookings, Lithos.
Edgar Stebbings, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Stars and Big Acts of every Description, Oct. 22, onwards.
State lowest terms, bookings, &c.,
Jess Verno's Agency,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, for Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
Cadle's Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
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Big Variety Turns.

Something New and Up-to-Date.
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Something New and Up-to-Date.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.

For Immediate and Future Dates.

Send at once, Terms, Dates, and Lithos.
Those having a Good Act can rely on Immediate Work
I can give you nine months' solid work.
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
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Telephone 09144
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, for Queen's Theatre, Glasgow, Oct. 22, First-Class Turns,
Armstrong's Agency,
now under the direction of
Bernard Armstrong (nephew to Barney Armstrong),
Head Office, Gaiety Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-Class Turns, who have not worked Blackpool. Please write full particulars, &c., Fred Parr, 55, Albert-rd., Blackpool.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns, Specialities, and Up-to-date Novelties, for variety season, twice nightly, commencing Nov. 19. Lowest terms, refs., photos., and where business can be seen (send specimen litho.), James Elphinstone, Lyceum T., Stafford.

WANTED, Talent all Lines,
James Fioni's Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686, Royal.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
Rehearsal Mon. next, 2 o'clock, for W. Pardoe's Co.
WANTED, Variety Talent, share or salary. Letters, Smith and Co., Red Lion Hotel.

TYNEMOUTH PALACE-BY-THE-SEA.
WANTED, for Dec. 24 (6 nights), and Dec. 31 (6 nights), either complete combinations, on sharing terms, or high-class artists, on salary. Address, J. H. Graham, Proprietor, St. Andrew-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, and Acts of all Kinds, for Present and Future Dates, for all Principal Tours; also for Hippodrome, near London. Send list of bookings and vacancies, lowest terms, and permanent address, which is important, to Neimann's Agency, 74, The Grove, Camberwell, London, S.E. Telephone, 247 Brixton.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

WANTED, Star Novelties, Artists in all Lines, immediate and future dates. Manager, Mr. Israel Price, Empire, Merthyr.

WANTED, Specialities of all Kinds. Martino's Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby. Effie White, please send address.

WANTED, Oct. 20, onwards, for Empire, Macclesfield, Star Attractions, First Violinist, Cornettist required. J. Rolmaz, Town Hall, New Mills, Derbyshire.

WANTED, the Cream of the Profession, to send lithos., memos., bookings, vacant dates, and lowest terms.
Address, Billy Henderson,
39, Handforth-road, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, for Oct. 22, Musical Show; terms must be low; wire. Also Artists in all Lines, for Oct. 29, and onwards. Write. Would suit Artists playing the North. Lomas, Empire, Shildon, Co. Durham.

ALHAMBRA VARIETIES, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Sketches (Dramatic and Comedy), Comedians, &c., Oct. 22, onward.
James Fioni's Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Bert Coote's Special Production of the Great "Children's Scene" of "The Fatal Wedding" at the Holborn Empire, Nov. 26, '06, Children (girls preferred), ages from 10 to 14; must be Attractive, and have good idea of Singing and Dancing.
Also Special Children for Solos, Dancing, and Leading various Numbers.
Apply in person, or by letter (submitting photographs) to
Bert Coote,
150, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, for Juvenile Productions, Small Comedians, Actors, Singers, Dancers, Acrobats, Knockabouts, &c. Cadle, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Instrumentalists, and other Artists of every Description. Amateurs and Juveniles also write. Sefton, 463, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush.

PAISLEY HIPPODROME.
WANTED, First-class Acts, Oct. 22, and onwards. Paisley very convenient to Glasgow and Greenock.
Address, E. H. Bostock, Zoo, Glasgow.
N.B.—Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, for Palace, Kilmarnock, Oct. 29, on, Star Acts all Lines. Absolute lowest; once nightly. J. Cummings, 66, Whitevale, Glasgow.

WANTED, Big Musical Acts, Animal Acts, and Cartoonists, for November and December; also Chorus Ladies, for Pantomime. A. Saker & Co., 17, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

GRAND T. AND EMPIRE, DONCASTER.
Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.
WANTED, for Dec. 10, on, and the Variety Season, 1907, the Greatest Acts that money can procure. Leo Fritz's Agency, 211, York-road, Leeds; or address until Thursday, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

ROYAL
HIPPODROME,
BELFAST.
Now in course of erection,
and
when
finished
will
be
the
largest
and
Handsomest
Building
in
Ireland.

WANTED, February,
onward
all
the
Finest
Acts
in
the
World.
Price no object
New
and
Novel
Turns
of
every
Variety.
The above is booked
in conjunction with
TIVOLI THEATRE,
DUBLIN.

WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

WANTED, Known, any Star Acts who have odd weeks vacant should send list of vacancies to FRANK LYNNE, H. M. T., Walsall. (AYTOUN'S Agency.)

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen desirous of Touring (Music Hall Profession) has rare opportunity of joining well-known Management; small premium; good salaries given. Address, A. R., 123, Lavender-sweep, London, S.W.

WANTED, Lady, for Musical Novelty, Premium £3.
One Plays an Instrument preferred.
Letters,
Box 3,840, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, smart Young Lady, for Illusions, or Small Part in Sketch. H. B., 58, Heron road, Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, for Tour, First-class Serios and Sisters. Lowest terms,
DIACOFF and HERMAN, Theatre, Rugby.

WANTED, Several Smart Girls, age 15, for Music Hall Sketch, now working, to do Specialities, also Dancers. Call, with practice dress, Monday and Tuesday, 2 o'clock, C. M., 3, Dunford-road, near Holloway Station, N.

WANTED, Knockabout Pantomimist, also Young Lady; all able to do single turn. Terms, &c., for tour, Wys, 4, Conway-street, Stoke.

WANTED, Gentleman Vocalist, single, to announce Pictures, able to play Piano; 2 weeks certain, Oct. 29, near Newcastle-on-Tyne. Letters, MUSICAL PALMERS, Hippodrome, Dartford, Kent.

WANTED, Lady or Gent. Cyclist, Apprentice, used to Tea-cup Track. Address, DIACOFF, Theatre Royal, Rugby.

WANTED, Good Cinematograph, also Refined, Useful Artists, Oct. 22 (special week). May arrange tour, November. Prof. LETHBRIDGE, Post Office, Gateshead.

VICTORIA HALL, RHYL.
WANTED, Up-to-date Animated Picture Show, all Pictures; shares; electric, 460 volts.; Oct. 15, onwards. Wire, MANAGER.

WANTED, for Nov. 12, for Tour, Cinématograph, with illustrated songs, weekly towns, certainty, or good share. SPHINX, Town Hall, Maybole.

WANTED, Reliable Operator, to open at once. State lowest terms and references; must be an abstainer. PALLISTER, Pavilion, Leicester.

WANTED, First-class Bioscope Operator, with good references. Address, BROOK and Co., Cinematographers, 28, Change-alley, Sheffield.

WANTED, for Payne's Bio-Photoscopes, First-class Operators. Note.—Those that want to learn, save stamps. 346, Brixton-road.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, the Society Pierrot Party, under the direction of Mr. Billy Keene, sail for Colombo and India Oct. 19, per R.M.S. Omrah. The Pierrots par excellence. Established 1896. The smartest little show before the public. All artists of repute and acknowledged ability, and refined.
Au Revoir to all friends and well wishers.
See some of you at Tilbury next Friday.

Watch for our doings in Ceylon and India.

WANTED, Known, Nellie Van is a Big Success in New Comedy Songs. Seven return dates with Selwyn, Esq., Empire, Hull. Hippo., Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Truro, Duettists and Dancers, at Liberty Dec. 3; also panto., fairy queen and speciality. 31, Old Hall-st., Middleton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Poole (Ada and Letta), Charming Duettists and Première Dancers, free for Oct. 22 and Nov. 5 and 12. (See Cards.)

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lo Lo, Lady Gymnast, in her graceful Trapeze Act, and Little Ena, Graceful Contortionist and Dancer. Next, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

WANTED, 15th, and onwards, by Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker; also Miss Ruby Vesta, in Greatest Trunk Mystery on the Stage. Wire, Haymarket, Liverpool. After Saturday, 249, Bond-street, Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Oct. 22, by Trippello, the greatest Saxophone Soloist of the age, introduces largest peal of bells ever heard on stage (fifteen bigger than me), Burlesque Bassoon, Expert Xylophonist, &c., handsomely dressed, electric fit-up. All coms.,
224, Alfreton-road, Nottingham.

WANTED, Oct. 22, onwards, by Fred Ace, big novel musical act, Mirambaphones, Aluminium Chimes, &c. 29, Reymend-rd., Victoria Park, Bristol.

WANTED, Monday next, and on, Sid Stanto, the novel musical comedian and sabot dancer, elaborate fit-up. Wire or write, 156, Trevelyan-rd., Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Will Gay, Eccentric Character Comedian and Speciality Dancer, Liberty Monday next, also panto. Wire or write, P.O., Bedford.

WANTED, by Charles Pearman, Eccentric comedy vocalist, Oct. 15, and onwards, owing to collapse of tour. 39, Stockbrook-rd., Derby.

WANTED, by Cento, the Man in the Monkey's Skin, for his Speciality, The Cycling Monkey, Oct. 29, to follow Hippodrome, Dartford. All coms. to Empire, Shildon.

WANTED, Known, Fred Casburn, Unique Comedian, vacant Monday next. Wire, WESTGATE, New Hall, Bradford; or, 14, Dudley-st., Shipley.

WANTED, Monday next, by Dave Wallace, Great Eccentric Comedian; Marie Tilley, comedienne, Speciality Dancer. Second week, People's Palace, Portsmouth. Wire quick.

WANTED, Known, Ted Waite, Eccentric Vocal Comedian, Vacant Monday, Wire, Hippo., Wigan. Big success here.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Albert Ventor, Comedian (Proprietor Pavilion, Coventry), Oct. 22 and Nov. 5. Coms., Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, Monday next, by Jimmy Shields, Unique and Novel Comedian and Dancer. Wire, Hippodrome, Stockton. After Sat., 167, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield. Oct. 22, Stoll Tour, 23 weeks.

WANTED, Oct. 22, 29 (North preferred), to follow Dundee, Palette, the Premier Lightning Artist, and his wonderful dog Max. Monday, Palace, Dundee.

WANTED, by Sylvene, Herculean Handbalancer and Contortionist, refined act, Oct. 15, 22. Wire for Monday 100, Chobham-rd., Stratford, E.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, undisputed World's Champion Boy Wrestler, Pose Artist, &c., vacant Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 12. Representative, G. A. YATES, 29, Newington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Continental Acrobatic Pantomimist, Animal Impersonator, age 22, height 5ft. 4in. MOREL, 7, Inkerman-st., Collyhurst-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Engagements, by Artist on Musical Bells, Tune-playing, Concerts, Bazaars, Exhibitions, &c. C/o Sladen's Music Depôt, Southgate-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, open for small parts in Sketch, Disengaged through illness. Permanency preferred before big money. Wire for Monday, JAMES AMBLER, 21, Cross-hills, Halifax.

WANTED, Oct. 15, 22, 29, by the Great Original Kyoto, Japanese Contortionist, Comedy Juggler, Conjurer, &c. A laughing and applauding hit. May Geraldine, Chic Dancing Comedienne. Another enormous success, Gaiety Theatre, Blyth. A sure draw. Two distinct acts. Wire quick. After Sat., 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Harry Harcourt, Versatile Comedian; Ella Rose, Vocalist and Soubrette; Disengaged Oct. 29, single or joint. All coms., 35, Bold-st., Southport.

WANTED, the Bohemians (Will and Madge), Monday next, Oct. 15.
Wire, Palace, Lancaster. Wire.

WANTED, Monday, 15th, also from Nov. 5, Trick and Trixie, comedy musical artists. Great success everywhere. Concluded Palace, Lancaster.

WANTED, Monday next, also Oct. 29, Sardou's Illusionists, modern mysteries made more mysterious; also the popular songstress, Marie Riviers. Wire, Empire, Paisley.

WANTED, Monday next (15th), or 22nd, by Walter Bannell, comedian, and Jenny Joy, serio and ballad. Wire, one or both, 83, Shambles-st., Barnsley.

WANTED, by Perrette and Mona, novel Comedy Quick-Change Song and Dance, Double Act. "Teasing the General," Oct. 15, 22, and Nov. 5 This, Hippodrome, Coventry. Per., 74, Lupus-st., London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors and Managers, that after Feb. 4, 1907, the Mozondos will be known as Gladys and Alber.—Signed MOZONDOS, Oct. 11, 1906.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, the Mintos lady and gent., musical eccentrics and vocalists; if choirs, picture shows, distinct double and single turns. Wire, 34, Booth-st. East, Manchester

WANTED, Oct. 22 and 29, North, by the Leonards, in their unique pictorial songs This week, Aquarium, Scarboro'; next, Empire Paisley.

WANTED, Known, Dene and Dawson, "Stage Aspirants," enormous success, one long yell Empire, Camberwell.

WANTED, Monday next, 22, 29 Stanert and Yondi, Musical Comedy Duo. Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, 15th, by Doyle and Massey, eccentric comedians and burlesque boxers. Terrific success this week. Wire, Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, Comedy Act Oct. 15 and 22-29.
Address, Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next, by Sword and Robb Comedians and Dancers; also Nov. 5 and 12 Coms., 15, Ryland-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Fox and Melville sail for America, Wed., Oct. 17. Letters, c/o F. V St. Clair, en route. Back page.

WANTED, 15th, 22nd, by Gravetta and Parr Clay Modellers, Impersonators, Conjurers and Jugglers, Pot-pourri. Wire, 72, New City road, Glasgow (second floor).

WANTED, Known, Three Cheers, Original Specialty, superb scenery, chimes, introducing wonderful performing cats. Vacant Oct. 15 22. Clarendon Hall, Watford, Herts.

WANTED, by the Shamrock Trio, Vocalists and Expert Dancers, Monday next, also 22nd and Dec. 3 and 10. Wire or write, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, The New Harmony Quartette (mixed voices); good répertoire Terms, &c., c/o MILGROM BROS., 28, Mile End-road

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted
by the Great Albano Troupe, Oct. 22, Oct 22. Hippodrome, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio, Humorous Cycle Speciality, vacant Oct. 15 and 22. Address 43, Oscar-street, St. John's, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Tom Garland, Vent. and Comi., Starring this week, Hippodrome Mansfield. Bottom of Bill. Marie Loftus too. Managers write me; or Agents, ROSEN and BLISS and DREW BAYLEY.

WANTED, Oct. 15, 22, 29, Gulliver, World Renowned Ventriloquist, who has won renown on three Continents, with his Three Lilliputians
Address, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Geo. Gulliver thanks Harry Burns Esq., for Contract (2 weeks). G. E. Taylor Esq., for Offer (4 weeks). Hip., Dewsbury.

WANTED, Monday next, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist. Success again this week, Hippo. Dewsbury. Refer, G. Weldon, Esq. Wire, H. Dewsbury.

WANTED, Monday next, by Gilroy, Vent., and Boston Bioscope. I can follow any show in this line. Wire, G., Effingham-street, Rotherham

WANTED, Dates, for a New and Screaming Sketch, entitled "Pharaoh II."
Produced this week at the Palace, Manchester.
Great Success. Four Artists.
HICKMAN and GORDON,
15, Springfield-road, St. Annes-on-Sea.

WANTED, 29th, or Nov. 5, "Nailed to the Mast," or "Charley's Uncle," one or both three Artists. FRED POLLARD, Theatre, Windsor.

WANTED, by Mlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome, Oct. 29 and Nov. 19, the only vacant dates this year. Big set great show, top liner. The special engagement of Madame Rosa's dog circus should prove popular, for the spaniels and fox terriers are cleverly trained and perform some astonishing feats, including having a game of football, the performance of the canine goalkeeper causing much amusement.
Address,
Pringle's Pictures, Colston Hall, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Famous Troupe of Dogs, the four-footed animals with human brains, the biggest draw before the public, Lib. Nov. 5, on. Address, Queen's Varieties, Glasgow.

WANTED, few immediate Dates. You know the act. Chard's Dog Circus, 52, George-street, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Known, Florrie Transfield's Troupe of Performing Poodles and Terriers, the best Hind Leg Dogs in the business, at Liberty Nov. 12, 19, and 26. Address, 23, Mile End, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Pantomimist, Equilibrist, and Comedy Tumbler.
Engagement, in Comedy Acrobatic Troupe.
Good references. Address,
B. C., 1, Reed-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Engagements, public or private Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by First-class Bioscope Operator, one week, throught disappointment. Wire offers, HUTCHINS, 2, Hamilton-buildings, Great Eastern-st., London.

WANTED, Engagements, Brandon Medland's Vitascope, finest films, and speciality Desseinatograph, also Mystic Kettle, Liquid Air Show. 44, Lorrimore-road, Kennington.

WANTED, Dates for the Lingwood Bioscope, change of Films weekly; electric or Limelight. LINGWOOD, 31, Watcombe-road, S. Norwood.

WANTED, Engagement, by Practical Operator; work lime or electric; good electrician; excellent references; disengaged. G. COPLEY, 13, Spottiswoode-street, Edinburgh.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Important, that the next meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union will be held at the
Newington Hotel, Hull, on Monday next,
Oct. 15, at 2.30 p.m.,
for the transaction of important business,
when all members are requested to attend.
Signed, T. HURST, Sec.

Short Notice.
WANTED, Known, Showmen's Guild Meeting, at Hull Fair,
in Payne's Bioscope Exhibition.
The Mayor will take the Chair at 3 p.m.
Speaker, the Rev. T. Horne.
All travellers invited.
T. HURST,
Hon. Secretary.

WANTED, Known, Electrical, Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture four and six pole Showmen's Dynamos (improved pattern), also new Flame Arc Lamps, geared motors, for driving organs and roundabouts, large stocks, cable, carbons, globes, incandescents, all classes of repairs; new line, direct coupled portable electric plants, driven by paraffin.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is going ahead
with up-to-date Lines in
Field Glasses, Fancy Goods,
Clocks, Jewellery, &c.

WANTED, Known, Bunn and Co., 18, Dagnall-place, Brady-street, London, E.

Butter Scotch Packets, marked 3d. Per Packet every Packet, 5s. 6d. a gross.
The Small Butter Scotch, 2s. 6d. a gross.
Best Quality only.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

WANTED, Known, to Market Men, Pitchers, Exhibition Stall Holders, and others, the Balmoral Confectionery Company, 208, Diana-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne, are now making Bank's Royal Edinburgh White Milk Butterscotch, four large tablets in each packet, edged with all the latest tartan colours. The quickest selling packet on the market, marked 3d. per packet; also same size packet in Swiss Milk Chocolate. We are now sending sample packets out to the trade. Big packets. Big packets. Quick and prompt delivery. White Milk Butterscotch, 6s. per gross; Milk Chocolate, 7s. per gross.
Carriage forward. Cases free.

WANTED, Known.—A Word to the Wise is Sufficient. A Client writing June 25, 1906, says:—Bag puncher took £300 in a little over three months. For price, write Sole Agents to the Makers, viz., the Mills Novelty Co. MINERVA AUTOMATIC Co., 120, York-rd., King's Cross, London, N. Largest Variety of Automatic Machines in the Trade. No Junk. Don't buy worn-out machines of old pattern; get a genuine Mills 1906 pattern.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every equisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Showman's Letter Cloths, made and attractively painted in fancy colours. ROCHE, Artist, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, S.E.

WANTED, Novelties, Tattooer, and Lady Palmist, shares or salaries. Apply, OWEN BAGAN, 48, North-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Novelties for Humber's Waxwork Exhibition. Carl Collena please write. Wanted, Midget and good Tank, 112, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Good Novelties, at once. Good terms. Wire at once, C. CHAPLAIN, 95, High-treet, Birmingham.

WANTED, Living Novelties of every description, for large Shop, must have good Window Flash or useless; gas and electric light. F. DURLAND, Exhibition, 56, Kirkgate, Leith.

WANTED, Novelties, for Best Shops in London. Harry Lucas, Murphy, Irish Giant, Madam Howard, Madame Casselo with trance, Second-sight, Cinematograph, Midgets, or Good Fat write n. JOHNSON, 38, High-street, Putney. Wire for Monday. Good doorsman wanted.

WANTED, two good Living Freaks or Novelties, to open Dec. 24, eight or ten weeks. FREDK. STEWART, 124, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, Open at Once, sale of books and post-cards allowed, in addition to salary. Terms, CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Good Auctioneer, for First-class Shop in Bristol; 10 per cent. given. Apply, AUCTIONEERS, 45, High-street, Bristol.

WANTED, Young Lady, to Parade and Sing to Illustrated Song Slides; at once; long engagement if suitable. COTTRELL'S Cinematograph, Fair Ground, West Auckland, till Tuesday; Market Place, Durham, to follow.

WANTED, a good Character Reader, Lady, for Wonderland Exhibition; Shares.
137, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME, AMERICA.
WANTED, a couple of useful young fellows, willing to look after and ride and knock about, with Bucking Ponies and Mules. Those used to Fair Business. Fares paid out. Address, TRANSFIELD, Marinelli's, Holland-buildings, Broadway, New York, U.S.A.

WANTED, by Alastor (Mystic), from the Roof Gardens, Queen's Palace, Rhyl, Re-engagement, for exhibitions, &c., in his studies from the hands, face, astrological delineations, &c. 18, Lamont-road, Chelsea, London, S.W. First-class Management only need reply.

WANTED, Dates, Veno, Rubber-faced Man, Thanking Mr. Bryan, Mr. Humber, and others for contracts. This week, Waxworks, Belfast; next, Waxworks, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Engagement, for the Heaviest Girl in the World, a real High-class Side-show; finished her four weeks on Oct. 20. Permanent address, George Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire.

WANTED, Known, J. Cash (the Original Matchbox), Knockabout Comedian, Parading a Speciality; inside turn if required. Liberty Oct. 15, on. Address, 23A, Horsted-road, Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Bailey's Punch and Judy and Toby, still in Buxton, open for engagements. Address, Bennett-street, Buxton, Derbyshire.

GRAND XMAS CARNIVAL AND EXHIBITION,
PUBLIC HALL, IPSWICH,
Open Dec. 17 to 30, 1906.
WANTED, to Let, a few more Spaces, for working exhibitis; also wanted, slipping slip, or helter skelter. Write, MANAGER, Exhibition, Arcade, Lowestoft.

WANTED, to Let, Ground, for all Kinds of Amusements, in the Fancy Fair Department of the Winter Gardens, Plymouth, for winter season. Apply, W. C. and S. HANCOCK. The circus department is taken over by Mr. Alfred Hengler.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

OLYMPIA, OLYMPIA,
OLYMPIA, OLYMPIA,
OLYMPIA, OLYMPIA,
LONDON.
The Great Fair and Carnival.
The Great Fair and Carnival.
The Great Fair and Carnival.
Eight weeks, commencing Christmas.
Eight weeks, commencing Christmas.
Eight weeks, commencing Christmas.
The Mammoth Fun City.
The Mammoth Fun City.
The Mammoth Fun City.
The Mammoth Fun City.
The Mammoth Fun City.
The Mammoth Fun City.
with
Free Circus.
Free Menagerie.
Free Aerial Acts.
Free Vaudeville.
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FRAS. M. BOWEY,
Town Clerk.
October 3, 1906.

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CHARLES STANDFIELD, Secretary.
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1. TERRY'S THEATRE, STRAND.—Re-furnished and Partly Decorated.
2. MAGNIFICENT ALBERT HALL, SOUTHPORT.—900 Tip-up Chairs, and Seating for 3,000 People.
3. EMPIRE, BIRMINGHAM.—Re-furnishing and New Draperies, including Magnificent Tableau Curtains, for Moss-Stoll and Thornton Empires' Company.
4. NEW PALACE, NORTHAMPTON.—Re-furnishing.
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6. NEW HIPPODROME, MARGATE. — Re-furnishing and Complete Decoration.
7. THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.—Complete Re-furnishing and Seating.
8. STANDARD THEATRE, SHOREDITCH.
9. ZOO HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.—Re-furnishing for Messrs. Bostock and Moss and Stoll Empires Co.
10. NEW TIVOLI PALACE, DUBLIN.—New Tip-up Chairs.
11. NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, CARLISLE.—Tip-up Chairs.
12. TOWN HALL AND THEATRE, WATERFORD, IRELAND.—New Tip-up Chairs.
13. OPERA HOUSE, YORK.—Magnificent Embroidered Tableau.
14. NEW HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.—Re-furnishing.
15. NEW EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.—Tip-up Chairs, &c.
16. NEW HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.—Furnishing.
17. NEW COUNTY THEATRE, GUILDFORD.—New Seating, &c.
18. THISTLE THEATRE, MOFFAT, N.B. — Patent Pit Seating.
19. MAGNIFICENT NEW PALACE-BY-THE-SEA, CLACTON.—The whole of the Magnificent Fibrous and Artistic Decorations, Tip-up Chairs, Dining-rooms and Saloons, Magnificent Turkey, and other Coverings.
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25. BENSON'S HOTEL, BIRMINGHAM.—Re-furnishing and Bar Fitments.
26. THE NATIONAL TELEPHONE COMPANY, LONDON.—Ninth year Annual Contract for several thousands of Pounds.
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53. VICTORIA THEATRE, BARRY DOCK.—Magnificent Tableau Curtains and Border, 32 Box Draperies and Curtains, Tip-up Chairs, &c.
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EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for:—
Eugene Stratton, Beatrice Renée, Woodhouse and Wells, Lilian Lowe, Albertus and Bartram, Alf Hurley, Bros. Obo, Will Vokes, Vivian Vaudeville Co., Rita and Roma, Phillips and Terry.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Bella and Bijou, Bioscope, Katie Butler, Leo Teil, The Wedburns, Jack Warden, Ben Albert, Clark and Glenny, The Heartwells, Boris Lensky.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Bioscope, Bros. Durant, Cliff and Dog, Celtic Comedy Three, Les Bolingers, Hillman and Russell, "Behind the Footlights" Co., Ella Retford, Illustrated Song, Mahmout.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Tiller's "Mad Minstrels," Bioscope, J. H. Milburn, The Debreans, Picitte and Lizette, Two Tees, Daisy James, Herbert Darnley and Co. in "Muscles."

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Carl Hertz, Mezzettis, The Haytors, Bioscope, May Henderson, Rio Bros., Lady Mansel and Juveniles, Anartos, Arthur Gill, Bob Hutt and Co.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
The Boissetts, Madge Osmond, Eight of Hearts, Maxwell and Francis, Atroy, Selbinis, Harry Hayton, Violi, George Formby.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Joe Elvin and Co., Fred Clements, Henri Taylor Trio, Spry and Austin, Sisters Finney, Rosie Bartlett, Walter Curtis, C. J. Johnson, Bioscope, Winifred Hare.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Wilkie Bard, Nellie Stratton, C. Leonard Fletcher, Les Voces, Sanford and Lyons, Irene Rose, E. J. Sheldon, Stella Troupe, Nettie Starr, Ten Genis.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
George Lashwood, Jessie Burnett, Datas, Bioscope, Naynon's Birds, Maples, Frank Maura, Clarice Netta, Josh Dixon, Minnie Cunningham.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten, Bioscope, George Reeves, Millie Payne, Bisera Troupe, Marba and Verity, Goodfellow and Gregson, James H. Jee, Pierce and Maizee, Achmed Ibraham Troupe.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
"La Vivandiere," Bioscope, Walter King, Flo D'Orville, O'Malley and Brown, Eric, Canary Co., George Raper.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
"High Jinks," Bioscope, Albert Le Fre, Phil Hermann, Hanvaar and Lee, Ian Colquhoun, Harry Tate's Co. in "Motoring," Jean Seul.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Chung Ling Soo, Bioscope, Dion Wade, Harry Grey, Stelling and Revell, Albertus and Millar, Scottish Meisters, La Sylphe, Andos Japs, George Newburn.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Vesta Tilley, Amy Sullivan, Mezzetti and Mora, Stein, Ecetto Troupe, Barton and Ashley, Ted and May Hopkins, Ray Maskell, Bioscope, Gracie Moore, Chas. Whittle.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Will Evans, The Althoffs, Los Granadas, Harriett Vernon, Maudie Ford, Hale and Francis, Cliff Ryland, Lambert and Robinson, Bioscope, Clarice Mayne.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Harmony Four, Paulinetti and Piquo, Clemart, Will Mitcham, Maud Ross, Lil Hawthorne, Lilian Warren, "Casey Court," Kent and Keith, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Frank Danby and Co., Ludwig Amann, Victor Travers, Florence and Lilian, Avrigny Troupe, Amy Russell, Five Bogannys, Roy and Fenton, Jose Collins, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
R. A. Roberts, Ray Wallace, Brett and Orford, New Macs, Sisters Dorrell, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Imperial Russians, Three Olympiers, Bioscope, Geo. Brooks, and Lizzie Daniels.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Selkirk and Co., Donaldson and Ardell, Leslie Bros., Sisters Caselli, Preston and Balmaine, Albert Christian, Katie Cohen, Nora Emerald, Harry Marte, Bioscope.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, ST. MARY-STREET, CARDIFF.
Cinématograph Exhibition, Curio Halls, Roller Skating, Phonograph, Waxworks, Galatea, Magic Maze, Shooting Ranges.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Dan Crawley, Lilian Bishop, Karno's Co., Jack Charman, Silent Tait, Molasso Quartette, Three Dumonds, Lilian Lea.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Ancillotti and Dog, Nat Clifford, Fred Russell, Three Amaranths, Little Ganty, Madge May, Howard and St. Clair, Barowsky Troupe.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Tschernoff's Dogs, Kelly and Gillette, Carlotta Levey, Chas. Vincent, Lyons Trio, Vernon Troupe, Die Obersteirers, Dorothy L. Clarke, Hill and Whittaker, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
Howard and Elsworthy, Lily Langtry, Gwennie Hasto, Bennett and Martell, Tom Owen, Whit Cunliffe, Hylton and Brooke, Cussac Talma, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
"The Prince of Monte Carlo," Bioscope, Harry Maynard, Daisy O'Malley, Mellisch's Birds, Lucia and Viata, Forest and King, Kitts and Windrum, Alice Lloyd, McNaughtons.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Matthews and Reece, Jake Friedman, Lora, Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, Park's Eton Boys, Arthur Kenny, Mlle. De Dio, the "Duchess of Tooting."

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

CLOSED.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Mark Sheridan, Flo Hylton, Picquays, Edgar Budden, Fielding and Hull, Pictures, Will Cornish, Florence Esdaile, R. H. Douglass.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Ten Loonies, Kahn and Kahn, De Paci Bros. Terry and Lambert, Marion Scott, Redmond Bros., Prof. Dunning, G. H. Elliott.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Boswell's Circus, Ernest Ball, Joly, Hanid Alexander, Burley and Burley, Pictures, Frank Sylvo, Beatrice Willey, Barris and Ford.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Edward Lauri and May Beatty, Clara Victor, Watson Family, Pictures, Beresford Maude, Tom Parker, The Cromwells, Boden and Bell, Villons.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Marie Santoi and Co., Bugler Carr, Frank Lynne, Bioscope, James Toner, Welsh Wanderers, Jack Pleasant, "Rejected Remounts."

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Hetty King, A. G. Spry, Lawrence Barclay, Gladys Mavius, Harrigan and Holt, Bros. Horne, Sherrys, Lambert and Glover, Rosie Archer, Brown and Kelly Co., Harry Ford, Marriott Edgar, Nellie Wallace, Bioscope, Will English, Therese and May, Arthur Melrose, Newham and Latimer, Frank Darwin.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
First Performance: Hetty King, Nellie Wilson, Bioscope, Norman and Leonard Trio, Harrigan and Holt, Sisters Geretti, George Mozart, Meier and Mora, Nelson's Newsboys, Chas. Cardow, Vernando, Kloof and Ramsey.
Second Performance: Hetty King, Nellie Wilson, Bioscope, Norman and Leonard Trio, Harrigan and Holt, Sisters Geretti, George Mozart, Meier and Mora, Nelson's Newsboys, Chas. Williams, Rosie Archer, Gertrude Bradshaw.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE NEW EMPIRE THEATRE, COVENTRY (the Booking of which will be done in conjunction with the above) opens soon. Agents and Artists please note that applications should at once be made with a view to arranging Dates.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for those engaged at the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.

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AUTUMN NOVELTIES

"CHEYENNE" ("Shy Ann"),
By the writers of "Navaho."

"THERE'S A MAN IN MANITOBA,"
By the writers of "Put a little bit away for a rainy day."

"ALL THAT GLITTERS ISN'T GOLD,"
By the writer of "I've made up my mind to sail away."

"SWEET ANASTASIA BRADY,"
By the writers of "My Irish Molly."

"IN MY PAGODA,"
By the writer of "If the world were ruled by girls."

"PERU,"
By the writers of "Don't cry, little girl."

"I WANT MOLLY, AND SHE WANTS ME,"
By the writer of "Molly I love you.'

"GOOD NIGHT, MR. BROWN, I'M OUT,"
By the writer of "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you."

"CAN'T YOU FIND A SWEET-HEART OF YOUR OWN?"
By the writer of "Oh! Charlie, come to me."

"WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO LEARN TO LOVE ME?"
By the writer of "On the dear old shore."

"COME BACK TO BORNEO,"
By the writers of "Nobody knows, nobody cares."

"COME DOWN LOVERS' LANE,"
By the writers of "There's a girl wanted there."

"BOY BLUE,"
By the writer of "Just like the ivy."

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"AU REVOIR, MY LITTLE HYACINTH"

(DAVIS and DAREWSKI)

at the ALDWYCH THEATRE,

Miss ANNIE PURCELL Sing

"BY THE SIDE OF THE ZUYDER ZEE"

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RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS

All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not re-booked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL, AND DISTRICT.
MR. ALAN W. YOUNG,
Empire Theatre, Liverpool.

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, AND DISTRICT.
MR. S. GETHING,
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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

Co-operative Offices:
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THOMAS BARRASFORD TOUR.

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REHEARSAL EVERY MONDAY AT ALL OUR PLACES AT 12 NOON.

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Ada Reeve, Satsuma, M. and S. Wood, Roma and Romani, Pat Rafferty, Elton and Elma, Harry Zetter, Pictures, D'Arc Marionettes.

HIPPODROME, LEEDS.
Hal Godfrey, Mamie Iris, Edna Latonee, Johnny Holland, Harry Rogerson, Dusty Rhodes, Sammy Shields, T. E. Finglas, Harris and Worth, Frank Couch, Pictures, Tom Grave.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Fred Wright, jun., Baroux and Bion, Jack Rae, Tatten Hall, The Albanos, Harvey Boys, Martonelli Troupe, Robb Gilmore, Hallam and Stanton, Pictures, Grant and Grant.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Yukio Tani, Mabel Hind, The Valdos, Davis and Gledhill, J. W. Hall, Willie Gardner, Harry Edson, Recco, The Mackinnon Family, Pictures, Colombia Trio.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
E. Dereve and Co., Mabel Kesseler, Mac and Hill, Morimura, Hodgson and Lowther, Galetti's Monkeys, M. Kokin, Leah Arden, Pictures, Austin Rudd.

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
De Gracias, Pauline Zaro, Anthony, Delmarre, Celina Bobe, Five Olracs, Simms and Simms, Lily Iris and the Kohinoor Girls, B. Troba, Luce Bailly, Polyne, Bertha Pertina, Pictures, Belle Davis, Haydee, Rebla.

BRITANNIA, HOXTON.
Grand Variety Company.

LYRIC, LIVERPOOL.
Grand Variety Company.

All Bill Matter must be sent to the London Office Two Weeks before opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

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CALL for Monday, Oct. 8, 1906.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal, at 11 o'clock, for
Vesta Victoria, Charles Prelle, Eva Kelland, Carl Lynn, George French, Espinosa and Neilson, J. H. Scotland, Society Quartette, Gus Hindell, Alice Hollander.

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Rehearsal, at 2 o'clock, for
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Walter Emerson, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Oakley and James, Will Driscoll, Roland Hill, Daisy Morell, Hall and Earle, Maud Prenton, Deane Tribune.

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THE DREAM.

Tableau II.—"Here y'are, sir. Keb, sir!" Mr. A. Presto, the renowned magician, has just finished his turn at The Empire and leaves the theatre in our cabby's cab, admired by the crowd outside the theatre.

Tableau III.—Arrived at his destination, Professor Presto tenders the legal fare. "I say, Governor, what's this?" A heated discussion ensues, and cabby at last agrees to toss for it. "Heads!" He now wishes he had cried tails, for heads pour in from all sides, and the Professor transforms himself out of evening dress into stage attire. Then the fun starts fast and furious. The cab appears to be inexhaustible, and trick follows trick in quick succession; even the poor old horse is not secure from the power of the conjurer. Cabby can stand it no longer. "I'll fetch a copper!"

Tableaux IV. & V.—Cabby seeks and finds the object of his search.

Tableau VI.—The policeman can see nothing wrong, but the Professor plays yet another prank on both cabby and policeman. Exit the cab with the policeman inside, evidently on his way to take the part of Bottom in "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Tableau VII.—Cabby is rudely awakened from his troubled sleep by the jeers of the other cabmen on the rank, as he has just lost a job through being asleep.

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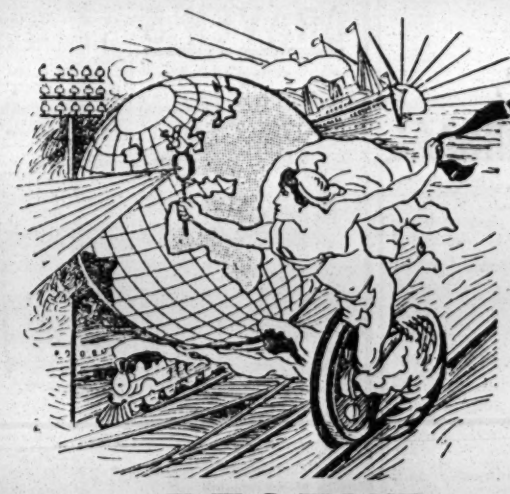

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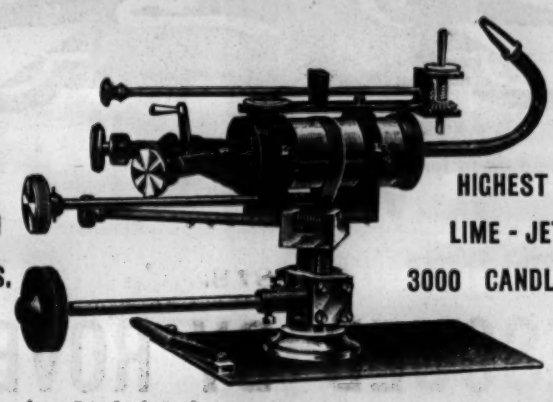

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—*The Little Michus*, that most delightful of comic operas, has made a striking success this week. This is the first visit of Mr. George Dance's company with the piece. Miss Alice Coverick and Miss Ethel Boyan, in the title-parts, sing and act with a degree of natural grace that is perfectly charming; Miss Florence Hylton is excellent as Madame Michu; and Miss Bessie Mackenzie, who possesses a fine soprano voice, appears as Mlle. Herpin. A great deal of the humour of the opera is dependent on Mr. Foster Courtenay in the part of General des Ifs. His conception of the character is intensely humorous. Mr. Gilbert Childs is a highly successful Bagnolet; Mr. William Everard uses his excellent tenor voice to good purpose as Gaston Regaud; and the graceful dancing of Mlle. Marjorie is heartily applauded. Mr. Otto Manns conducts the orchestra with conspicuous skill. The company is under the experienced management of Mr. Hugh Nolan.

PALACE THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert. Mr. Rousby's *Around Paris*, with brilliantly depicted scenes and ingeniously contrived electrical lighting effects, is received with the utmost enthusiasm; and Miss Katie Lawrence's songs are encored again and again. Among the other members of an exceptionally strong company are the Brothers Ashley, in an extremely amusing comedy sketch; Lambert and Hands, vocalists of exceptional merit; Mr. T. W. Johnson, a smart comedian and dancer; Miss Jeannette Hall, the lady baritone, another enjoyable turn; Mr. George Antill, a very droll comedian; Mr. Clive Watts, an exceedingly versatile artist; and the ever-popular Mr. Tony Iveson. The new series of bioscope pictures, *The Prospectors*, is much appreciated.

ABERTILLERY. — THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom.—Mr. Haldane Crichton opened on Monday night with his drama, *For Better or Worse*. The cast is a very strong one, and every part is well played. Miss Chrissie Dunbar was perfect as Belle Bavestock and Miss Elsie Marriott Watson was charming and sympathetic as Olive Heathcote. Endless amusement was caused by Mr. Willie Black as Horatio Ranter and Miss Jennie Hallworth as Melinda Little, Miss Hallworth's singing being greatly appreciated; Miss Bales as Aunt Gertude is very good; Miss N. De Lacy is a great favourite as Dolly Delaney; Mr. George Clive is good as Captain Hilliard; Mr. Scott Leighton's portrayal of Major Crawford is admirable; Mr. Owen Remonde is capital as Lieut. Dalrymple, and Ned Earnshaw could not be better placed than with Mr. C. Caldcleuch.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Walter Melville's company is here in a return visit with *Her Second Time on Earth*. Mr. Frank R. Robertson submits an earnest embodiment of Jack Carlton; Mr. W. H. Porter is duly callous as Guy Brand; Mr. Leonard Aardale brings all his well-known dramatic ability to bear in the character of Beppo the Italian, with satisfactory results; Mr. John Nolan submits a capital study in the part of Capt. Norman; Mr. Will Corrie is amusing as Teddy Butterfly; Mr. Cyril Vernon must be highly complimented for his artistic touches as Tom Norman; Miss Hilda Beverley gives a finished picture of Dora Grey; Miss Marie Kildare is amusing throughout as Kitty Rosebud; Miss Polly Marsh is responsible for an excellent character study of Eliza Burk; Miss D. Hildebrand is thoroughly at home in the part of Laura Norman.

HIPPODROME — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Parsons.—The Boccacios, Italian singers and instrumentalists, give a musical treat; Mr. Arthur Aiston is a smart ventriloquist; Miss Georgina Leonard scores with some excellent songs; the Dagodets are funny; and Dandy George must be complimented on his clever performance with his dog Rosie. The Three McDonalds are well received; and the Hippo. pictures complete a good show.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—*The Blue Moon* is being presented here this week by Mr. Monillot's company. Mr. Ainslie Burton's irresistible humour and quaint sayings and doings as Moolraj cause him to be a favourite at once; and Mr. Chas. Stephenson is also responsible for many of the laughter-creating situations. Miss May Audrey is a chic Millicent; Mlle. Naudin is a capable Chandra Nil; whilst Miss Dorma Morgan is successful with her capital impersonation of Evelyn; and Miss Mary Glanbrane is good as Lady Brabasham. Mr. Victor Wallace's Major is cleverly portrayed; Mr. Arthur Radcliff sings and acts well as Jack; Mr. Basil Mercer's Bobbie is an excellently played rôle; and Mr. Fred Inwood's Prince is in every way a success.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—Mr. Hall Caine's dramatised version of his novel, *The Christian*, is being performed here this week by Mr. Croke's excellent company. Miss Grace Chalmers plays the arduous rôle of Glory Quayle with an intensity and a pathos which strongly appeal to the audience. As the Hon. John Storm, Mr. Frank Tennant deeply impresses the audience, and wins applause; Mr. Chas. E. Dering gives a truthful portrait of the cleric, Archdeacon Wealthy; Mr. F. Scarth is good as Lord Robert Ure; and Mr. W. Briscoe Owen as Horatio Drake gives due prominence to a very important character in the story. Effective impersonation is also given to Father Lamplugh by Mr. Edwin Ling, the "Faro" King by Bert Conway, Mr. Lorimer by Mr. Fern Pounds, and Messrs. C. Hill, Kingston, and W. Noy in minor parts. Miss V. Welborne is sympathetic as Polly Love; Miss Molly Hayden gives us a true portrait of the old Scotch lady who has a wholesome contempt for professional humbugs and pretenders.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—This week's bill includes a musical comedy with a big cast, *The Lost Coon*, in which Dina Morris and her famed troupe of Southern belles appear in military costume, and sing and dance coon songs. Mr. Stephen Blythe is a capital baritone actor-vocalist; and comic and other song and patter "turns" are contributed by Percy Curry and Annie Cohen. The Sisters Hayden, a trio of fine vocalists, give a humorous medley of song; the Seddons are good as the lady juggler and comic waiter in their farcical act; Mephisto and Marie give a smart "turn," the former's serpentine twists and contortions being clever; Stanley and Vandyke are good in their musical sketch, *A Broken Promise*; and the bioscope, as usual, is both edifying and amusing.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—So great was the success of Mr. John H. Tomkinson's *Royal Gipsy* company here last week that the management have retained them for a second week.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—This week a strong programme is headed by Miss Marie Loftus, who, in addition to giving several songs in her own piquant manner, presents her burlesque song-skit, entitled *Singers Past and Present*; other turns are furnished by Ernesto, a smart and clever juggler; the Lorrisons, in a highly amusing interlude; the Two Zampas, baton manipulators and speciality dancers; Miss Lola Patey, comedienne; Mr. E. C. Clayton's Attergraph pictures; Mr. Charlie Gardener, comedian, and Mr. Frank Hope, trick cyclist.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—On Monday Mr. Chas. Macdona's company opened a three nights' engagement in *A Country Girl*. As Geoffrey Chaloner Mr. Martin D. Pitt acted well and sang better; the Rajah of Bhong had a capital exponent in Mr. Bernard Vaughan; Sir Joseph Verity was remarkably well played by Mr. W. C. Billington; and the same may be said of Mr. George Stone's Granfer Mummery. Mr. W. Besley Beltram was very good as Douglas Verity; and Mr. Frank Weir, in the part of Barry, was irresistible. Miss Blanche Courtney's Nan was sweetly played; Miss Violet Leslie made an admirable Marjory Joy; and Miss Rita Narcelli was equally good in the part of the Princess.

BACUP. — NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Dudley Harcourt.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company is here on a return visit with the drama, *Honour Thy Father*. Mr. Walter M. Cameron submits a masterly representation of Gabriel Garth; Mr. Bertram Rose is seen to advantage as Jack Halyard; Mr. W. R. Winning's performance as the callous villain, Duncan Bly, is sufficiently repulsive; Mr. Fred Rolls as Mike Copplestone gives a humorous study of that character; Mr. W. H. Melrose is amusing as Ned Pennycomquick; and Mr. Claude Merton does well in the dual parts of John Merry and George Bloggs. Miss Winnie Donovan is pleasing as Mercy Merry, and Miss Kate Newton scores as Gertrude Garth; Miss Mabel Coleman gives a highly finished study of Lillian Garth, and Miss Lizzie Morley is a sprightly Poppy Cornleigh. Dr. Sleek finds an able exponent in Mr. Frank Eden, and Mr. W. Newman as Police-constable Creagh is well placed.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company in *The Midnight Wedding* is here. Mr. Paumier plays Paul Valmar in an effective manner; Miss Annie Saker is a powerful Princess Astrea; the Lieut. Eugene von Streisburg of Mr. Ulick Burke is capital, and Mr. Clinton Baddeley is a capable Capt. Rudolph. Father Gerrard is well presented by Mr. W. S. Hardy; and Messrs. James E. Page as Sergeant Max, Percy Compton as Corporal Otto, and Algie Spalding as Private Bobo provide excellent comedy.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *The Freedom of Suzanne* is here. Mr. Hutchison plays most effectively the part of Charles Trevor; Miss Mabel Love piquantly and with great artistic versatility portrays Suzanne Trevor; Miss Annie Stalman is effective as Lady Charlotte Trevor; and Mr. F. C. Thurstans does well as Fitzroy Trevor.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Thos. Whiting.—The Emilions, comedy acrobats, do some clever tricks; and Mike Cray, comedy juggler, causes much laughter; Dan Robins sings some good baritone songs; Henri Bekker, assisted by Mlle. Maie, proves a pleasing conjurer; Dora Lyric, comedienne, does well, and the McKays, comedy duo and lightning oil-painters, are smart.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A Long.—Bathonians are favoured this week by the engagement of Mr. Lewis Waller's company (under the direction of Mr. Peter Davey) in *Brigadier Gerard*. Mr. Loring Fernie is excellent in the title-rôle; Miss Maude Hoffmann as the Comtesse de Roquelaure is admirable; Talleyrand is cleverly handled by Mr. George Mallett; Mr. Arthur Somers sustains the character of Napoleon with distinction.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—During the temporary absence of Mr. Schuberth, his predecessor, Mr. William Trussell is renewing old friendships. Two clever acrobatic eccentrics are Hall and Earle; Maude Prenton is a delightful comedienne; Will Driscoll continues to shine as an expert dancer; Daisy Morell, with her dashing figure and style, is always welcome; a fine reception is accorded to Walter Emerson, the well-known tall comedian; Oakley and James give an entertaining turn; Deane, Tribune, and company, in a protean sketch, *Application*, are responsible for boisterous fun; Rowland Hill, comedian, is an old friend; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are of the best.

BATLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Whitty.—Mr. Robert Perris's company is here in the exciting American play, *A Fight for Millions*. The play is admirably staged and presented with much acceptance by the company. Messrs. John C. Carlyle, Hugh Newburn, Harry Howe (an admirable low comedian), and Karl H. Edwards are capable exponents of their respective parts. Misses Alwynne Ermon, Nora Kingsley, Elma C. Turner, Mabel Howe (an intelligent child-actress), and Kitty McPherson deserve praise for earnest and successful work.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. George Alexander's company (including Mr. Stephen T. Ewart and Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay) opened here on Monday with *His House in Order*. Mr. Stephen E. Ewart must be commended for his clever impersonation of Hilary Jesson. Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay deservedly shared the honours with Mr. Ewart by her delightful interpretation of Nina; Mr. T. Edward Pearce as Filmer Jesson, M.P., played with admirable effect; and Mr. George Fitzgerald could hardly be excelled as the pompous Sir Daniel Ridgeley. Miss Augusta Haviland was excellent as Lady Ridgeley, and Miss Elaine Sleddall as Geraldine furnished a perfect impersonation. Mr. Luke Forster, in the small part of Dr. Dilnott, played extremely well; and Mr. Ernest R. Holloway furnished a character-sketch of much merit as Pryce Ridgeley.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The Kentucky Four top the bill, and have been most successful in their plantation songs; Mr. Arthur Reece upholds his reputation with a capital selection of songs; a big hit has been made by Claude Ginnett and company with their funny sketch *Rejected Remounts*; Mr. Morny Cash is a droll comedian, with good chorus songs; and that dainty and accomplished comedienne, Miss Winifred Preece, gains many admirers. Mr. Milner Verren, tenor vocalist; Laurie Wylie, with his original mimicing mannikins; Mlle. Onra, the daring equilibrist; Miss Rosa Rossetti, the musical girl; and the Palace pictures are also attractions.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John S. Walker.—The Ten Loomies, who head the bill, provide a rare fund of amusement with their musical sketch; Kahn and Kahn astound all with their illusions; Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, sings and dances in good style; Terry and Lambert return with their attractive comedy sketch; and a capital entertainment is provided by the De Paci Bros., guitarists and mandolinists. Prof. Dunning, ventriloquist; Redmond Bros., acrobatic comedians; and Miss Marion Scott, comedienne, complete the bill.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—This week the Alhambra Dramatic Company, which so far has been so successful, produce another drama, *A Fatal Fortune*, by Mr. St. Aubyn Miller. Mr. Percy M. Stevenson as Captain Seaton Desmond portrayed the adventurer with undoubted realism; Miss Nina Blake-Adams, a clever emotional actress, impersonated with rare skill the rôle of Mary Weston; as the hero, Jack Weston, Mr. Horace Denton acted with spirit; and the repulsive character of Daniel Salmon was admirably portrayed by Mr. Cyril Grier. The humour of the piece was in the hands of Miss Effie Macintosh, an inimitable Becky, and Mr. Tom H. Solly as Tim Larks. Mr. H. Arnold Allen deserves praise for his impersonation of George Thornton; and the rôle of the discarded wife, Beauty Glitters, was cleverly interpreted by Miss Norah Caronne.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Battersby.—Hardie and Von Leer's company is presenting *Two Little Vagabonds* to large audiences. Miss Valerie Cresdin's Marian Thornton is a very fine study; the Brabara Scarth of Miss Lillian Stuart is intelligently acted; Mr. Douglas Vigors as George Thornton and Mr. Edward McLean as Captain Darville both fill their rôles with much acceptance; Dick and Wally are both safe in the hands of such experienced "juveniles" as Miss Lucy Beaumont and Miss Gladys Vernon; the "Gaffer," Dido, Cough Drop, and Biddy Mullins are capitally portrayed by Messrs. Lionel Ellis, Frank Gordon, Gerald Valentine, and Miss Violet Vivian, the quartette making a very characteristic group.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—*The Great Awakening* is on a first visit here, and has created an excellent impression. Miss Maud Hildyard plays the somewhat exacting rôle of Lola Selby with skill and ability; James Selby is powerfully sustained by Mr. Martin Sands; and the adventurer, Guy Rogan, is in the capable hands of Mr. Charles R. Linney. In the dual rôle of Sir Henry Merton, Bart., and Jock Merton, his son, Mr. Bernard Copping displays much force and versatility; Mr. Charles Evelyn as Captain Harry Lambert, and Miss Doris Digby as Molly Merton, are both most efficient. Mr. Willie Scott is an amusing Billy Brass; and Miss Isa Bellington a good Selina Worts.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. George Gray and his sketch company, in *The Fighting Parson*, present a most attractive entertainment, and are meeting with every success here; Mr. Dan Thomas, a capital comedian, is a pronounced favourite; Ike Scott and Son are entertaining duologue artists; and Rose and Grayson also score heavily in a musical interlude. Miss Edna Cragge, an accomplished comedienne has many admirers; and Mr. Tom Wootwell, an admirable comedian, and Austin and Conway, vocal duettists, are leading attractions. Brown's Royal Bioscope also adds variety to the programme.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Miss Olga Nethersole has made handsome amends this week for her long absence by appearing in four of her latest and greatest creations. On Monday she held a crowded audience fascinated with her marvellous embodiment of Sapho, supported by the clever acting of Mr. Frank Mills as Jean Gaussin. Mr. William Clark, Mr. Julian Royce, Mr. A. T. Hendon, Miss Agnes Tina, Miss Mary Relph, and others also rendered able support. On Tuesday Miss Nethersole was no less successful as Paula, in *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*; and on Wednesday her conception of Carmen proved another gratification. Mr. Frank Mills as Don Jose, Mr. Julian Royce as Lucas Mendez, Mr. Eric Maturin as Don Manuel Sarceda, and Miss Molly Pearson as Dolores, the peasant maid, lent principal support. On Friday Miss Nethersole appeared as Marguerite Gauthier in *Camille*, from "La Dame aux Camelias."

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*The Prodigal Son*, which, with its stupendous mounting, appeals with all the effect of a Drury Lane success, reveals the powers of that rapidly rising and handsomely equipped actor, Mr. Norman Partriege, who, it is fair to say, is applauded as much for his graceful and intellectual acting as for his local association. Mr. Henry George, the favourite actor of many seasons, bears himself with fine dignity as the Governor; Mr. H. Hewetson makes a powerful impression as the unselfish Magnus; Mr. Fred Epitaux acts vigorously and well as the Factor; Miss Mima Renouf invests the rôle of Margaret with excellent point and emphasis; Miss Cecil Cromwell displays the fascinations of Helga in a most alluring manner; and Miss Lily Hall Caine differentiates the rôles of mother and daughter with deep-drawn pathos and sweet artlessness; Miss Alma Murray lifts the rôle of Anna into much prominence.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—This week *Florodora* is presented here by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, and Mr. Daly Cooper, as the hypnotist, Tweedlepunch, is the favourite of all with his exquisitely comic portrayal of the part. Mr. Joseph R. Tate scores as Gilfain; Mr. R. Courtice Dutton sings and acts with well-directed energy as Abercoed; Mr. Harold Perry plays the lover's part of Capt. Donegal in a highly satisfactory manner; Mr. Edwin Oxlee is successful as Leandro; Miss Edith Housley is much applauded for her vivacity as Lady Holyrood; Miss Nellie Bowman acts the rôle of Angela in a most taking style; Miss Gladys Elvey sings well and imparts the true dramatic touch to the part of Dolores; and Miss Maud Brock as the typist, Miss Gladys Ray as Valleda, and the entire chorus and cast acquit themselves admirably, the "Pretty Maiden" number being given with much eclat, and to repeated encores.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chris. Felton.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company opened here on Monday in *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Miss Madge Devereux produced a most sympathetic effect as the repentant and persecuted heroine, Mary Haysel; little Ivy Rochfort as Little Mary, and, later, Eric Dugdale, did remarkably well; Mr. Austin Milroy simulated the callous and selfish traits of Stephen Haysel in the most convincing manner; Mr. Charles Fancourt portrayed the kindly and good qualities of the Rev. Alan Grey in a pleasing and natural fashion; Miss Jennie Douglas Hicks acted as the dipsomaniac, Maria Haysel, with realistic malevolence; Mr. Wordley Hulse was successful as Capt. Thornton; Mr. Hugh Brady displayed much wit as Barney O'Reilly, Miss Nelly Hook proving a valuable ally as Eliza Muggins; and little Dot Moss kindled enthusiasm with her songs, dances, and banjo solos as little Hannah Spry.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—A capable company, headed by Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds, is presenting *The Golden Ladder* here this week. Miss Austin attains a high standard of merit in her acting as Lilian Grant; Mr. Edmonds displays clever resource as the Greek adventurer, M. Peranza; Mr. William Clayton receives much applause for his able manner as the young missionary, Thornhill; Mr. Joseph Rowlands lends timely humorous support as Samuel Peckaby, and is well assisted by Miss Nellie Graham as Mrs. Peckaby, Miss Winifred Acton as Victoria Alexandra Peckaby, and Miss May Ediss as Lily; Mr. J. Milne Taylor acts with clever effect as Michael Severn; and Mr. Fred Acton as Jim Dixon, Mr. W. Chambers as Dr. Lemair, Miss Teresa Haynes as Mrs. Dixon, Miss Fanny Williams as "the Tearer," and Mr. Eric Thompson as Rao are successful.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY. — General-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is cordially received here in Sutton Vane's successful play, *In Sight of St. Paul's*. Mr. Chichester possesses a worthy exponent in Mr. Arthur Armfield; Mr. Ernest R. Allen ably sustains the part of Tom Chichester; Mr. H. W. Domony shows skill as Harry Chichester; Mr. George W. Dapier makes an outstanding character of John Gridston; Mr. Edward Valentine as Fretley Burnside acts a useful rôle well; Miss Cissie Bellamy conveys a pleasing impression of the ward, Aileen Millar; Miss Lallah Davis acts with much effect the part of Cynthia Dell, otherwise known as "the Panther"; and Miss Jennie Hackness, Miss F. Valentine, Miss Amy Randolph, and others score in this well-staged production.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company is appearing here with much success in *Her Forbidden Marriage*. Mr. Henry Lonsdale gives a meritorious rendering of the rôle of George Madison; Mr. Louis Hector expounds villainy as Devereux in a most able form; Mr. Leonard Maxwell fills the rôle of Geoffrey Broughton satisfactorily; Miss Nellie Bonser is prepossessing and clever as Lucy; Miss Octavia Noel acts with style and ability as Lady Lancaster; Mr. Beresford Whitcombe is dignified as Sir George Lancaster; Miss Barbara Gott is impressive as the Mother Superior; and the juvenile rôle is cleverly taken by little Lucy. Mr. George Elsworthy as Benjamin Wardle, Mr. Rawdon Vivian as the clergyman, and Mr. James Raymond as the doctor act well; and the comedy rôles of Patty and Timothy are ably and respectively played by Miss Denny Fitzherbert and Mr. Fred de Vere.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company in *The Manxman*. Miss Minnie Watersford receives much applause for her sympathetic portrayal of Kate Cregeen; Mr. Alfred B. Cross as Pete is seen to advantage; a good rendering of Philip Christian is given by Mr. Beresford Lovett; the Cæsar Cregeen of Mr. James Dillon is grimly amusing; Ross Christian is capably presented by Mr. Dudley Stuart; Miss Mona Spearing plays exceedingly well the part of Miss Christian; and Miss Dorothy Duncan as Nancy is well placed.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone. — A pleasing evening's entertainment is provided here this week by Miss Claudia Lasell and company with *The Sweet Girl*. The title-rôle is undertaken by Miss Lasell, who besides being a fine vocalist is also a painstaking and charming actress. The comedy element is supplied by that capable actor Mr. Fred Eastman, who in the part of Count Leibenberg scores a great success; Miss Alice Lethbridge appears as Fitzi Weyringer, and dances herself into instant favour; Mr. Algernon Newark as Anthony Straus and Mr. George de Lara as Prosper Plewney assist in the fun-making, and Miss Grace Hunter is well placed as Countess Lizzi.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Fergusson.—*The Walls of Jericho* is being presented here again this week by Messrs. Dauncey and Leveaux's company. Mr. A. E. Anson's portrayal of Jack Frobisher is worthy of the highest praise, and Mr. Alfred S. Barber is again successful as Hankey Bannister; a new but capable Lady Alethea in found in Miss May Taverner, and Miss Nona Wynne is all that could be desired as Lady Lucy. Mr. Cecil Warde as the Marquis of Steventon and Mr. A. W. Tyrer as Henry Dallas likewise merit commendation.

PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Edwin Boyde heads a strong bill here this week. Another favourite turn is Diamond and Beatrice in a musical act. Other contributors are Rose and Calvert, the comedy couple; Fred Bronte, actor-vocalist; the Brothers Lavelle, acrobats; Lily Eplin, comedienne; Ariel and Astarte, gymnasts; Charles Beanland, comedian; Sinclair and Parr, in a novel vocal scena; and Ambrose Thorne, comedian.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody.—Lovers of the sensational are amply rewarded by a visit to the Royal, where the American domestic drama, entitled *An Actor's Romance*, has been successfully presented by Miss Lillian Beszant's company. Mr. E. Kardley-Howard in the rôle of Harold Davenport gave a powerful performance; Mr. Cecil Fowler scored as Robert Livingstone; Mr. Harry Agur-Lyons as Jack Woodford met with due recognition; Mr. Harry Wren was good as Charley Cummins; Mr. Percy Warlow played well the part of Ikey Isaacs; Miss Beatrice Hone won favour as Louise Davenport; Miss Florence Nelson as Florence Hastings, Miss Marion Ryder as Phyllis Davenport, and Miss Alice Leon as Mary were commendable in their parts. Miss Lillian Beszant as Dotty Dillingham was much applauded for a pleasing and artistic performance.

HIPPODROME.—Mr. Good's season here continues to prove successful. This week's bill of fare includes May La Vella, a versatile instrumentalist; Mabel Blanche, a quick-change artist and international dancer. Another change of pictures supplies a capital number in the programme. Mr. Good took a complimentary benefit on Wednesday, when extra attractions were billed.

GAIETY.—Proprietor, Mr. John Grantham, J.P.; Manager, Mr. Arthur James.—Appearing here with success are Nichol Pringle, vocalist and clog-dancer; Austin O'Mard, baritone; Dodd and Preston, in their dancing illusionary act, entitled *Istar*; Minto, female impersonator; Elbon Bros., comedians; Pinero, a clever gymnast, and the Gaiety Bioscope with a new series of pictures.

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company in *A London Actress* is paying a return visit here this week, and proving an attraction. Mr. Stuart Cleveland is responsible for a manly delineation of the part of Sergt. Major Crawford, and Mr. Douglas Howard makes a good Lieutenant Kingston. The difficult rôle of the fascinating adventuress, Hilda Mannering, is cleverly played by Miss Litchfield, and Phyllis Crawford is sweetly pourtrayed by Miss Maud Steeples. Mr. John Worth as Captain Mannering acts with much power, and Mr. George H. Doyle deserves special mention for his playing of Mosee Mendoza. The comedy portion is well sustained by Mr. Carl Vallender as Pat Maloney, Miss Beatrice Annesley as Biddy Maloney, and Miss Maud Saxby as Nellie.

BOSTON.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. Saphrini.—An interesting programme here is headed by the Henderson and Stanley Quartette; Marcus Boyle is successful; the Smalleys give a fine performance on the triple bars; Gilroy is a ventriloquist above the average; Ada Whitton is a smart male impersonator; and Harold Ray, comedian, Lily Seal, coon vocalist, and the Bioscope conclude an excellent show.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee Mr. Monillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company occupies the theatre this week. On Monday *Faust* was given, the artists receiving an enthusiastic welcome from a full house. This opera was beautifully produced. Miss Ethel Cadman as Marguerite delighted everyone by her singing and acting; Mr. Seth Hughes' performance of the name-part was good, especially in the garden scene; Miss Rosina Beynon, who has a charming voice, did well is Siebel; and Mr. George Neilson as Mephistopheles, and Mr. Frederick Earle as Valentine were admirable. Great praise is due to Mr. Harrison Frewin, who conducted. *Lohengrin*, *Il Trovatore*, *Carmen*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Tannhäuser*, and *The Bohemian Girl* are also in the repertory.

BRADFORD. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production, *The Blue Moon*, was presented here on Monday. A crowded audience simply roared with laughter at Mr. Edward Lewis's assumption of Moolraj and Mr. Bert Gilbert's humorous acting as Private Charles Taylor. Miss Florence Smithson's sweet voice was heard to advantage in the songs allotted to Chandra Nil, the singing girl; Mr. Leslie Gaze scored a success as Major Vivian Callabone; Mr. Herbert Clayton was a manly Captain Jack Ormsby; Bobby Scott was brightly played by Mr. G. Mudie, jun.; Mr. Thomas Holding was picturesque as Prince Badahur, and a genuine success was scored by Miss Lulu Valli as the pert and pretty Millicent.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—A return visit of Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company with Mr. Walter Melville's stirring play, *The Female Swindler*, is a strong attraction here. Miss Florrie Kelsey still retains the part of May Andrews, playing with her accustomed success; Mr. A. Kenyon Gray is again a capable exponent of James Oliver; John Coulson, the criminal investigator, is now in the able hands of Mr. Joseph Millane, and Mr. John Belton plays with effect the character part of Abraham Mikestein. To Mr. H. Wright is allotted the task of filling many rôles, in which he displays commendable versatility. In the title-rôle Miss Grace E. Leslie acts with power and effect.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Wilkie Bard was prevented, by temporary indisposition, from putting in an appearance on Monday, when Walter Curtis, the humorist, and Johnson, an entertaining coloured dancer, deputised with success. The Ten Gems contributed a wonderful performance as Risley acrobats; as comediennes, Irene Rose, Nettie Starr, and Nellie Stratton appeared with success; excellent vocalism was submitted by Lee Voces; E. J. Sheldon's ability as a sifleur met with favour; the Stella Troupe of dancers and singers submitted a bright turn, and the simultaneous dancing and humorous patter by Sandford and Lyons elicited applause. C. L. Fletcher also appeared.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—*Three of a Kind*, under the direction of Ethel Arden and George Abel, proves a diverting sketch; Andie Caine is a smart comedian; the Three Brothers Curran, boxers, meet with applause; Frank and Free are entertaining comedians; Frankie is a clever boy juggler; as acrobatic humorists and dancers Bishop and Vale are smart; Bijou Russell is an expert sand dancer, and some excellent views are shown by Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

BRIDLINGTON. — ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE. — Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots commenced their fourth week's engagement in the Grand Pavilion on Monday before a large audience. The newcomers are Mr. Arthur Sutcliffe, in humorous songs and monologues, and Mr. Frank Dunlop, Welsh comedian. Miss Emilie Tait's sweet voice is heard to advantage; Mr. Maynard Dakin, the talented manager of the company, has established himself as a great favourite here, his amusing songs being a source of delight. Mr. James A. Lowe, the solo pianist and accompanist, is most accomplished.

THE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. J. W. Delmar.—This popular place of amusement commenced the winter season on Monday evening. Mr. Delmar had secured the patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress of the borough (Alderman and Mrs. Sawdon) and members of the Corporation. The turns included Mr. Godfrey Parriss, comedian; Mons. Cire, in musical speciality; Mr. Eric Thorpe, in character songs; Miss Gertie Harrison, soprano; Harry Plowden, in amusing songs; Miss Mabel Thornton, clever comedienne; and Mr. J. W. Delmar, in an amusing conjuring act. On the opening night Mr. Chas. Danton, one of the popular members of the Waterloo Pierrots, appeared.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and their Shakespearean company opened here on Monday with *The Merchant of Venice*. Mr. Benson gave a fine impersonation of Shylock and Mrs. Benson made a graceful and charming Portia. Mr. Clarence Derwent acquitted himself admirably as Antonio; Mr. George Buchanan's Bassanio was effective; Mr. Edward A. Warburton as the Prince of Morocco displayed finished elocution; Mr. George R. Weir was very humorous as Launcelot Gobbo, and Miss Helen Haye's Nerissa, Miss Gwladys Wynne's Jessica, Mr. Percy D. Owen's Duke, and Mr. H. O. Nicholson's Gratiano deserve commendation. The programme for the week also included *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Richard the Second*, *As You Like It*, *Hamlet*, *The School for Scandal*, *Henry the Fifth*, and *Twelfth Night*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company is here this week with *Between Two Women*. Mr. Godfrey Tearle is admirable and impressive as the Rev. Philip Carten; Miss Molly Malone gives a sympathetic portrayal of Violet Thornton; Miss Elizabeth Watson is forcible and convinc

Goward is an excellent Mrs. Hake; Miss Violet Gould is good as Mrs. Fleming Smyth; Miss Jennie Wigney is a pretty Nora; and Miss Hylda Davies and Miss Vera O'Connell are good as the Sisters Dunlop. Miss Marie Daltra is an acceptable Miss Foden and Miss Minnie Willett a capable Sophie Hake.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Melot, conjurer, takes first honours at this house this week, his performance being received with shouts of applause; Bob Hamilton is a funny Scotch comedian; Conway and Garland are a clever pair; Captain Ralston is good in his naval act; Harry Coates, singing navvy, has a good voice; Elsa Brull and Arthur Helmsley in a musical divertissement, *Fun in a Music Shop*, are diverting; the Lavalls are smart acrobats; and Tom Fancourt and Jennie Rubie in a comedy turn are excellent.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—Opera House (New Hippodrome).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—Some clever turns are engaged here this week, opening with Babs Lloyd, who sings and dances herself into favour; Salida and Vone, American Creole singers and dancers, meet with general applause; a clever comedian and grotesque dancer is Mr. Alfred Bishop; and Lack and Ford score heavily as the "indiarubber man and the twister." An interesting and bewildering exhibition is presented by Primavesi, a clever magician; the Three Sisters Geronde prove themselves good vocalists and expert dancers; the Bouncing Dillons appear with eminent success, and are responsible for some genuine fun; and the Raymond Bio-tableaux winds up an excellent show.

BURY (Lancs.).—Theatre Royal and Opera House, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—This week we have a revival of *Claudian*. As the wealthy nobleman Mr. William Maclaren acts powerfully, and is well supported by Miss Lily C. Bandman as Almida. Mr. Douglas Earle impersonates Agazil with ability; Mr. Owen Chambers is capital as the Tetrarch; Mr. C. T. Chalanor is an amusing Belos; and Miss Maud Garth as Edessa and Miss Lena Oswald as Galena are both worthy of mention.

Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A good all-round programme here includes the Waldrons, in a laughable sketch, entitled *The Silly Burglar;* Hardeen, the handcuff man; Lady Julia, the ape with the human brain; Raglus, tennis ball manipulator; Kendrick and Laura, entertainers; Les Belles Americaines, vocalists and dancers; Phil Raby, vocalist; and Sadie Simpson, coon comedienne. The Ottograph pictures are very good.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead; General-Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead, jun.—The bill here includes the Seven Wulfrunas, acrobats and tumblers; Tom and Marie Montramo, in a musical sketch; York, Mac, and York, in a sketch entitled *The Widow's Worries;* Avon and Crest, contortionists; the Levitts, champion vaulters; the Brontes, in a comedy duologue, *Saucy Maud;* Dawson Dewick, comedian; and Beatty and Blanche, duettists and dancers.

BUXTON.—Opera House.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. A. Willoughby.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company appeared in *Oliver Twist* on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. The company was headed by Mr. Stanley Drewitt, who made a realistic Fagin, his acting in the last scene being particularly good. The part of Bill Sykes was in the capable hands of Mr. James Skea; Miss Edith Anton Lang gave a faithful rendering of Nancy; and Miss Dorothy Marsden, in the character of Oliver was thoroughly appreciated. Other parts were well played by Mr. Charlie Clark as the Artful Dodger; Mr. R. C. Hunter as Charlie Bates; Miss Dorothy Mayhew and Mr. Page Lawrence, as Rose and Harry Mayhew. The well-known characters of Bumble, Mrs. Maylie, Betsy, Brittles, and Giles were also faithfully represented by Mr. Edward Walsh, Miss A. Lingham, Miss Cicely Oates, Mr. T. Williams and Mr. J. C. Appleby.

CAMBRIDGE.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—The town's performances opened most happily here on Monday night, when a large audience witnessed Mr. Frank Curzon's company in *The White Chrysanthemum*. Mr. Horace Mills is always good, and as Lieutenant Chippendale Belmont is really very funny; Mr. O. E. Lennon as the heathen Chinee, Sin Chong, works indefatigably, his dancing being much admired; Mr. W. H. Rawlins is another excellent actor, and as the Admiral scores all through; Lieutenant Reginald Armitage is remarkably well played by Mr. F. Pope-Stamper, he being also the possessor of a very nice voice; Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., is good as Private Perks; Miss Nora Guy is a sweet and winsome Sybil Cunningham; Miss Katie Vesey is a great success as Cornelia Vanderdecken, her dancing and singing being full of "go"; Miss Daisy le Hay fills the small part of Betty Kenyon gracefully.

CARDIFF.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Redford.—After a short absence we have a return visit of Mr. Tree's company in *Oliver Twist*. Mr. Wm. Mackintosh, in his clever portrayal of Fagin, made such a great impression on his last appearance, that full houses have been the rule this week; his wonderful make-up was again the cause of much comment. Mr. Cecil A. Collins gives a remarkably fine realisation of the ruffianly Bill Sikes; and Mr. Harvey Braban scores a great success in his part of Harry Maylie. Oliver Twist is creditably acted by Miss Maudie Ray; and a striking delineation of Nancy is presented by Miss Marie Polini. Mr. E. C. Buffam gives an excellent interpretation of Mr. Brownlow; and Mr. C. H. Croker-King as Monks, and Mr. T. P. Haines as Mr. Grimwig are both responsible for some capital acting. Miss Elsie Carew (Mrs. Maylie) and Miss Saville (Rose Maylie) deserve mention for their well-rendered parts.

King's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—*The Coal King* is a piece of special interest to South Wales, and its visit to Cardiff is attracting large audiences at the King's. As Tom Roberts, the manly mine-manager, Mr. Lauderdale Maitland submits a pleasing impersonation; and Miss Gertrude Valentine presents a capital rendition of Grace Shirley. Sir Reginald Harford has a dignified exponent in Mr. Lionel Thompson; while as Walter, Mr. Escott Robson acquits himself most capably. Mr. Frank Dalton is at home in the part of Dick Shirley; and Mr. Alfred Terriss (Jim Williams) and Miss Sybil Coghlan (Araminta) deserve the success which crowns their comedy work. Miss Sinna St. Clair shows marked ability in her handling of the character of Mad Ann. The staging of the drama is good, the pit-bank scene being a most effective display.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—The Donaldson Bros. and Ardel, in *A Zoological Comedy*, are always a mirth-making turn, and this week their performance has been up to past records; Albert Christian, in his well-rendered character songs, is a great favourite; the Leslie Bros. are a couple of smart comedians and clever musicians; and the Caselli Sisters are the neatest of dancers. Harry Marte is a new comedian who certainly knows the way to step-dance; *In Bonnie Scotland* is still a credit to the training and capabilities of Prof. Selkirk; Preston and Balmaine's illustrated songs are well rendered; and Kate Cohen, a pleasing vocalist, and Nora Emerald, a *chic* comedienne, are two artists of merit. The bioscope, with a series of capital pictures, completes the programme.

CARLISLE.—H.M. Theatre.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—Mr. Dickie Clare and company in a musical farcical piece entitled *Lucky 'Liza* are a big attraction here this week. Mr Clare is successful as Silas Slim; Mr Leonard Maitland creates amusement by his impersonation of Paul Pettitoe; Miss Madge Brownie makes a hit in the title-rôle; and Miss Vesta Brownie is a delightful Virginia Bladerwick

The Palace.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Ltd., Carlisle; Managing-Director, Signor Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Caicedo, king of the wire, tops the bill here this week, and delights everyone by his clever feats of equipoise; Martinetti and Grossi are entertaining and amusing; Zeta Grey and company meet with applause; lovers of good singing appreciate the basso, Mr. W. G. Webber; Herbert Madden, vocal comedian, scores in pleasing style; an excellent triple bar act is submitted by Onda and Leon; the Sisters Lunelle, soubrettes and dancers, create a favourable impression; and the Pepiscope presents capital films.

CASTLEFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman.—Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Walter Howard's company (under the personal direction of Mr. Howard, the author) is paying a visit here with *Her Love Against the World*. Mr. Walter Howard as Eric, Earl of Strathmere, is an excellent foil to the more pronounced and unscrupulous methods of the Prince of Ravensburg, ably enacted by Mr. Mayor Cooke; Mr. Raymond Wood does exceedingly well as Prince Othmar; Miss Ellen Snow deserves praise for her treatment of the rôle of Princess of Idalia; and the brothers, Heinrich and Fritz, are drolly represented by Messrs. Henry B. Lewis and Richard Webb; and Misses Lizzie Lennon and Kathleen Allen make a vivacious and engaging pair as the sisters, Katinka and Gretchen. Miss Victoria Douglas acquits herself creditably as Shulah; and a commendable study is that of Miss Rosie St. John as Nello.

CHATHAM.—Barnard's Palace.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Harry Pleon tops the bill here, and is supported by Addie Dorina, protean artist; Gladys William, serio; Will Farrell, comedian; Fred S. Peake and Co., in *The Gallant Captain;* Daisy Reed, comedian; Lacey's Erascope; those original comedians, Walton and Lester; and the Monte Myro Troupe of eccentric pantomimists.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—Here we have Walter Levetio, comedian and dancer; Mlle. Sylvesto, in smart contortionist act; Fred Holland, the Surrey cricketer, who scores with his songs; and Florence Yaymen, whose burlesque coon songs and eccentric dancing are greatly enjoyed. Henri Cazman is on a return visit, and his entertainment, *Le Café-Chantant*, goes as well as ever; the Avolos give a clever and daring exhibition; Miss Agnes Molteno, vocalist; Harry Cotton, comedian; and pictures by the Edisonograph complete the attractions.

CHELTENHAM.—Opera House.—General Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—This week Mr. Geo. Dance's company is paying a return visit in *The Cingalee*. Mr. Jack Crichton made an immediate hit as Chambhuddy Ram, his comic business being smart and original; Miss Gladys Guy as Peggy Sabine sang very agreeably, especially with Mr. Crichton in duets; Miss Georgina Middleton sang sweetly as Nanoya, "My cinnamon tree" being well received; Mr. Cyril Dare as Hon. Harry Vereker was distinguished; Mr. Ethelbert Edwards did justice to "Four little maids of Ceylon" in the rôle of Bobby Warren; Miss Margery Clark was acceptable as Lady Patricia Vane; Mr. Helier le Maistre had a good reception as Boobhamba; and Mr. Grafton Williams was decidedly quaint as the High Commissioner. Miss Essie Perrin, the solo danseuse, was responsible for a *chic pas seul* and graceful skirt dance.

CHORLEY (Lancs.).—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hemingway.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones and company are here with *Life's Sweetest Sins*. As Captain Harold Marston Mr. Jones is excellent; Mr. Robert Sawin (the business-manager of the company) is responsible for a capital rendering of Kimberley Coutts; Mr. Clem Horlock also being good as Rev. Edward Gray. Mr. O. Douglas and Mr. Fred Wilson are effective as Dr. Colbrooke and Ernie Wodstone respectively; Mr. Edgar Morgan undertakes Bob Tanner with conspicuous success; Miss Hazel Dent admirably portrays Doreen Rivers; Miss Mary Ainslie sympathetically plays Fay Colbrooke; and Miss Elsie Walton is quite satisfactory as Bess Grayson.

CLYDEBANK.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert I. Montague.—*Somebody's Sweetheart*, the attraction here this week, is being presented by Mr. Ed. Harris's No. 1 company. Mr. W. H. Kirby as Martin Blabbs is a host in himself, and much of the success of the comedy is due to his untiring efforts. Miss Molly Hackett, with a fine voice, does well in the title-role; Mr. E. H. Betram is highly successful as Stanton Ashleigh; Miss Cardella Knight acts and sings nicely as Zora; Mr. D. B. Watson gives a good account of himself as Stephen Leverton; and Lem Lee has a capital exponent in Mr. I. Templar Ellis. Old Joe is safe in the hands of Mr. Reg. Hugh Hamber; and Miss Millie Gordon also calls for mention.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—*The Streets of London* is being presented here for six nights by Mr. Eade Montefiore's company. Mr. William Rokeby is genuinely funny as Badger; Mr. Riddell Robinson ably sustains the part of Gideon Bloodgood; Miss Dorothy Cacey is a distinctly captivating Alida Bloodgood; and the parts of Paul Fairweather (Mr. Chas. Kean), Lucy Fairweather (Miss Winnifred Ingham), Jonas Puffy (Mr. J. Manville), Puffy, jun. (Miss Florence Moore), and Mark Livingstone (Mr. R. Palgrave), are nicely taken.

Hippodrome.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Mr. J. K. Reynolds and company, in *Conscience*, head this week's bill; Pasquali Brothers, head-balancers and tumblers, pay a return visit, their reception being very gratifying; the Ongars present a series of tasteful dances; Natalia and Diana are a graceful pair of aerial gymnasts; a powerful descriptive vocalist is Susie Marney; and an attractive ventriloquist, Cavalli.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company, in the sensational drama *The Face at the Window*, is appearing here this week. Mr. T. W. Dunscombe makes the most of the part of Paul Gouffet, and Mr. Lionel D'Aragon renders a good account of himself as Le Loup; Mr. Alfred Warne is well placed as Henri de Brisson; Mr. Percy Horton is a capable Lucien Cortier; and Mr. C. Alan Hineson revels in the part of Peter Pottlebury. Miss Eugene Magnus plays Marie de Brisson with commendable ability, and as La Pinau Miss Marie Tennant is entirely satisfactory. Miss M. Leslie Cudd is good as Babette. Excellent houses have been the rule during the week.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is here this week with *The Eternal City*. In the sinister rôle of Baron Bonelli Mr. D. Lewin Mannering proves himself an actor of unusual talent; Mr. Henry Deas gives an excellent picture of the hero, David Rossi; Miss Sara de Groot as Donna Roma Volano is intensely passionate, her acting being artistic and finished; Mr. J. Fortescue makes a venerable Piux XI. In the character of Princess Bellini Miss May Fortescue is capital, and Mr. W. O'Flynn is a picturesque Bruno Rocco. Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood, as Chief of Police, Mr. Court as General Morra, and Mr. Herbert Legerton as Minghelli, are all that could be desired. The staging is perfect.

Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The star turn here is Smaun Ting Hpoo, a diminutive man aged twenty-three and weighing only 22lb., who is a clever horizontal bar performer and also performs on the rings; Playfair and Nikola, who describe themselves as papiergraphists, produce some lovely pictures with pieces of paper, their turn pleasing immensely; the Moet-Chandon Trio of gymnasts give a wonderful performance, and receive much applause; the Kimberley boys, comedians, sing and dance well; the Sisters Darnton contribute pleasing duets; Kisbey indulges in an amusing monologue; Aley Spencer, comedienne, contributes an agreeable musical turn, and Brown's Bioscope shows a series of new humorous pictures.

COVENTRY.—The Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—A crowded house gathered on Monday night to witness Mr. George Dance's principal company in *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Miss May Glenn achieves a big success as Catherine Upscher, otherwise the Duchess, while it would be difficult to find one more suited to the part of Napoleon than Mr. Gilbert Yorke; Mr. Ernest Torrence gives an imposing rendering of Francois Lefebvre; Mr. Steve Fitzgerald presents an amusing impersonation as Papillon; Mr. Alec Johnstone is seen to advantage in the dual part of Philippe, afterwards Vicomte de Bethune; Miss Maggie White as Renée de St. Mezard and Miss Buena Bent as Lizette are both capitally suited; Miss Dulcie Garland and Miss Lillian Blythe being respectively responsible for Duchess of Berg and Princess Borgese.

The Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—At this popular house of amusement Mr. Erne Payne, vocalist, is one of the chief attractions; Harry Bancroft gives some well received numbers as a descriptive vocalist; Lee and Kingston are responsible for considerable amusement with some funny business; Emmy Ames is a huge success in her novelty scena entitled *Emmie's Christmas Tree;* Miss Venie Clements, impersonator and vocalist, is successful; Mme. Collard introduces some clever boarhounds, who go through a number of capital tricks; C. Emlyn Jones introduces his Emerald Ladies Quartette with marked success; Joe Almasio appears in a mixed turn as a juggler and jumper; Ada Parer is a coon songstress and dancer. The Hippodrome pictures conclude the bill.

CRADLEY HEATH.—Empire.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—Mr. Junius Booth with his own company is here in *Monte Cristo*. Mr. Junius Booth in the title-rôle holds the audience spellbound. He is ably assisted by Miss Clare Elstob as Mercedes; Mr. Augustin Bowerman's Danglars shows careful study; Mr. E. H. Templeton as Noirtier gives a finished interpretation; Mr. C. W. Crowe as Fernand Mondego is effective; Mr. Leonard Marshall as M. Morel acquits himself in an able manner; and Miss Alice West as Sophie Danglars acts with much expression.

CREWE.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Crowded houses showed their appreciation of Mr. George Dance's company in *The Duchess of Dantzic*, billed for the first three nights of the week. Miss Elma Morris as Sans Gene submitted a meritorious impersonation; Miss Gladys Dale was a charming Renée de Saint Mezard; Miss Florence Radnor a graceful and dignified Empress; Miss Isabel Vivian a capable Lisette; and Miss V. Kennerley as Caroline Murat and Miss M. Easiland as Pauline did well. Mr. Frank Bradley played throughout with conspicuous cleverness as Napoleon; Mr. C. Burrunston Williams made an excellent François; Mr. Frank Attree an amusing Papillon; and Adhemar found a capable exponent in Mr. S. H. Curzon, Mr. Vernon Deville being good as Captain Regnier. Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, in *Oliver Twist*, came here on Thursday.

CROYDON.—Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The tuneful and picturesque musical play, *The Blue Moon*, is being admirably staged by Mr. Robert Courteridge's company. Mr. Alfred Clark is satisfactory in the rôle of Major Vivian Callabone; Mr. Alex. Fraser acts and sings with good judgment as Captain Jack Ormsby; Mr. A. Wykes Ashdowne just touches the right note as Bobbie Scott; Mr. Alfred Beers is quite up to the mark as Moolraj; Mr. Reginald Switz gives a brisk and racy performance as Private Charles Taylor; Mr. Arthur Soames plays with dignity and expression as the Prince Bahadur Samatsinjhi of Kharikar; and other characters are played with credit by Messrs. Hugh Glendon, George Park, Frank Halett, Edward Noble, Edward M'Dearmid, and Chas. Francis. Miss Kathleen Cartaret makes a pleasing Lady Augusta Brabasham; Miss Ethel Callanan is an enchanting Evelyn Ormsby; Miss Clarice Lockstone makes a pleasing impression in the title-rôle; Miss Florence Imeson presents a cheerful front as Millicent Leroy and meets with a cordial reception; and Misses Loie Lochner and Margery Seymour are captivating as Oma and Ramah. The costumes and accessories, the Oriental dresses and uniforms, and the graceful band of chorus ladies are worthy of special notice.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company in the drama *Driven from Home* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Felix Pitt as Anthony Raybrook is convincing; Mr. Clement Wakefield as Walter Hatherleigh is distinctly good; Mr. G. Thorne as George Clissold does well; Mr. Frederick Sandy gives an excellent portrayal of Godfrey Waring; Mr. G. Lawrence ably sustains the part of Peter Pettifer; Mr. Arnold Winter is amusing as Tom Mortlake; Mr. Henry Helling is a clever representative of Adam Marley; Mr. Percy Dawson admirably impersonates the outcast Willie; Mr. A. E. Mann does good work as John Anderson; Mr. Harry Cornwall represents Jabez Thomas in a telling manner; and Mr. John Brooks submits a good delineation of Dick Saunders. Miss Florence Trevoir as Barbara Ashdown is well placed; Miss Evelyn Marrable is delightfully entertaining as Margaret Bailey; Miss Madge Muriel is commendable as Jane; and Miss Florence Creigh creditably fills the dual rôle of Laura Raybrook and Walter Hatherleigh the younger.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hugh Emmett.—A high-class entertainment is being given here. The Novellos are exceptionally good in their unique act, *India in Europe*, introducing trained elephants and pony; Herbert La Martine is a capital comedian and novel dancer; the Sisters St. Julian are refined duettists and dancers; Walter Heriot is smart in a quick-change sketch, *An Anglo-American Alliance;* Lennie and Hast give an interesting turn; the Three Delaries, in the demon grotto, submit a clever trapeze performance; H. A. Moore is a successful mimic; Nellie Farrell sings and dances in a highly creditable manner; Talbot and Pierce deserve warm praise for their singing act, *The Spider and the Fly;* and the dramatic sketch, *Under the Seal*, is acted with completeness by Miss Margaret Parker's company. Mr. Eustace Jay is a popular and energetic manager.

DARLINGTON.—Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Miss Florence Baines and company are here with *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. Miss Baines as the "Lancashire Lass" is clever, and her singing is a feature of the comedy; Mr. Burt Burton makes a typical Jew; Mr. Will Casey as Herbert Fox is very funny; Mr. Walter Hicks gives a capital rendering of the butler; Miss Pattie Groves scores as Bridget Thompson; Mr. Patrick Evans as Harry is seen to advantage; Miss Muriel Johnson's portrait of Bertha is suitably imposing; and Mr. David Donaldson as John Higgins is smart and true to life.

DARWEN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. M. A. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mr. Frank Ayrton and company occupy the boards here with *The Power of Gold*. Mr. Charles Whitlock gives a fine impersonation of the Malay doctor; Mr. Richard Oliver is good as Paul Judson; Mark Harley is ably undertaken by Mr. Albert Sefton; Miss Lilla Wilde presents a good interpretation of Lady Brandon; and Mr. Frank Ayrton and Miss Madge Seymour as Sammy and Norah respectively supply the comedy element.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company is paying a return visit this week with *Beauty and the Barge*. Mr. Blake Adams scores tremendously as Cap'n Barley; Mr. Edward Coventry plays Lieut. Seton Boyne, R.N., in a thoroughly manly fashion, and is to be congratulated on his efforts; Edith Smedley has a charming exponent in Miss May Fairclough; Mr. Pennington-Gush appears to advantage as Herbert Manners; and Miss Mary Pemberton figures agreeably as Ethel Dallas. Major Smedley is well accounted for by Mr. Walter Pemberton; and Miss Mone Robin as his long-suffering wife merits praise. Mr. Thmoas Pauncefort as Augustus is capital; Tom Cod, the mate, is well depicted by Mr. Fred Knight; and John Dibbs is faithfully portrayed by Mr. Charles A. White; whilst Miss Ruby Wyndham is an effective Mrs. Baldwin. Other characters that should be specially mentioned are the Mrs. Porter of Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite, the George Porter of Mr. Ewart Drake, and those played by Messrs. Arthur Flinders, W. R. Hammersmith, Henry Reade, A. Thorncroft, and H. Richford respectively. The scenic effects are again very good. The *pièce de résistance* is preceded by Cosmo Hamilton's *Jerry and a Sunbeam*, ably presented by Miss Pemberton and Mr. Pennington-Gush.

Palace.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Lillie Soutter supplies the star turn here this week her vivacity and versatility securing her the favour of all; Sid Cotterell and company appear in a lively comedy entitled *The Substitute*, which is provocative of endless mirth; the Ettenas, rolling globe artists, give a clever and highly entertaining performance; the Elgars excel as vocalists; and L. B. Athos scores with his character acting; Harry Levaine has some capital songs; and his patter is very funny; while the Sisters Edwardes submit an acceptable turn of song and dance. On the Bioscope figures a capital picture entitled "The Bell Ringer's Daughter."

DEVONPORT.—Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King.—Mr. John Grant's company is presenting here a stirring drama dealing with the exciting events in Egypt in '85, entitled *At Duty's Call*, which proves a great draw in the garrison town. Mr. John Grant undertakes the leading part of Harold Alison, a captain in the British Army, and his acting is of a finished description; as the villain Mr. Harry Scott acts well; Mr. Ernest St. John has a lifelike make-up as General Gordon, and Mr. Harry Ugar as Teddy O'Hallaron is exceedingly funny. Miss Lily Crammonde as Dora Drummond is the leading lady and a capable actress, and Miss Beatrice Western is a creditable Salema, a slave girl.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—A very good house assembled to witness the performance by the stock company of the domestic drama, entitled *What Women Suffer*. Mr. Edward Lloyd undertook the dual rôle of Wilfred Coventry and John Coventry, and in addition to his other accomplishments, proved himself a quick-change artist of no mean ability; Mr. J. Durford Geddes, a new member of the company, created a most favourable impression as Squire Geddes; Mr. Alfred Brandon sustained his reputation as an able exponent of stage villainy; and Mr. Tommy Gough as Tod Potts was irrepressible as ever. Miss Ethel Kay and Miss B. Whitney as Edith Coventry and Nance Meredith respectively infused plenty of pathos into their respective parts; Miss M. C. Livesey was a very good servant, and little Miss Kathleen Saunders justified the opinion we last week expressed of her acting.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—A programme, both interesting and diversified, is this week submitted at the popular Plymouth hall. Herbert Darnley's sketch, *Moving In*, is an absurdity of absurdities, and certainly attains its object as a mirth-provoking factor; Lieut. Travis introduces many novel and acceptable features in the ventriloquial business; Florrie Cooper is heard to great advantage in the attractive song, "The stars are angel's faces"; the Mayvilles' marionette entertainment is well put on and cleverly manipulated; Howard and Collison make the most of their attractive sketch, *The Porter and the Parcel;* and Fanny Robins' medley, "The Albert Hall Concert," is an acquisition to the programme. The remaining items, namely, Bert Danson (comedian), Billie Birt (comedienne), and Vernon's pictures are acceptable.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager Mr. J. H. Asquith.—*The Love that Women Desire* an excellent drama, is the attraction here this week. The evil genius of the piece, Squire Abingdon, affords Mr. J. O. Stewart, who has a commanding personality, opportunities for strong characterisation. Miss Lalla Stanhope embodies the heroine, Sybil Thorburn, a charming and convincing impersonation; the crafty Madge Abingdon is a strong acting part, of which Miss Alice N. Livesey is a most admirable exponent; in the rôle of Philip Carnaby, Mr. Fred Lloyd is prominent, acting with power and good effect as the manly hero; Mr. John Hignett creates much amusement as Dennis O'Rourke; the bucolic policeman, Sowerberry, is naïvely represented by Mr. J. W. Wilkinson. Able character-acting comes from Mr. Leonard Montgomery as the outcast, Frank Hardy; Mr. G. Carlton Wallace fills with strength and incisiveness the rôle of the treacherous Richard Abingdon. Miss Violet Haye plays Pattie Swift very smartly. Good work is shown in the character interpretations of Messrs. Gilson Brooke (Dr. Brandreth), Hugh Wallace (Rev. Arnold Cathorne), E. Morris (Amos Gibson), and Miss N. Griffiths as Mariquinha.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon.—Claver and Piccolo arouse marked interest and approval for the talent they exhibit in a remarkable equilibristic and juggling act; Miss Winnie Scott, a refined coon impersonator and dancer, gives a meritorious performance; the Fimans present their vaudeville act, consisting of song, dance, and dialogue, and the merits of this "original comedy creation" find favour; the Falcons, who also appear in a new comedy act, deserve praise for a clever acrobatic hand-to-hand balancing performance. Other enjoyable turns are the Nettas (entertaining vocal harmony duo), Ethel Loftus (the Country Girl), Ernest Pace (bass vocalist), and the novelty equilibrists, Le Brun and Irene.

DONCASTER.—Grand Theatre and Empire.—Managing Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*The Earl and the Girl* is the attraction here this week. Mr. William Cromwell is excellent as Jim Cheese; Mr. Robert Hyett as Dick Wargrave, can be congratulated on his vocal ability; Mr. Stanley Harrison's impersonation of the Hon. Crewe Boodle is praiseworthy; and Mr. A. E. Coleby successfully sustains the rôle of A. Bunker Bliss; Downham, the American solicitor, is effectively portrayed by Mr. Frank Cane, and Mr. Talk is carefully played by Mr. Arthur Cassidy; Mr. F. W. Pattrick scores in his assumption of Mr. Hazel. Miss Gertrude Simpson is charming as Elphin Haye, being a pretty danseuse as well as an acceptable songstress; Miss Nellie Grant scores as Mrs. Shimmering Black, and Miss Helen Langton is a winsome and clever Miss Virginia Bliss; Miss Florence Wix undertakes the part of Liza Shoddam with satisfactory results.

DOVER.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. C. Dew.—*A Royal Divorce*, under the management of Mr. W. W. Kelly, has been drawing crowded houses this week. This enthralling play, admirably staged, has Miss Edith Cole as the impersonator of the Empress Josephine, and it is not too much to say that every time this talented lady enacts the rôle she seems to improve upon her previous performances. Mr. Frederick Victor as Napoleon is quite at home in the part; Mr. Percy H. Vernon is a capital Talleyrand; Mr. Graham Woods in the character of the Marquis de Beaumont proves his worth; and Grimaud (Mr. Geo. Hudson) leaves nothing to be desired. Miss Agnes Imlay as Marie Louise has a Royal presence, and in the scene between the Empress Josephine and herself is seen at her best. Miss Maggie Cardiff plays the little King of Rome with a delightful absence of staginess. On Friday night the band of the 1st Battalion The Buffs assisted in the Waterloo scene, that evening being set apart for a benefit to Miss Edith Cole.

The Empire.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. B. H. Harland.—A change to two houses a night has now been instituted at this house, and crowded audiences are the result. Lillie and Lottie, musical experts, head the bill this week; Harry Gold, in his scena, *Cloudland*, is well received; Baker E. Belphor is assisted by beautiful lantern slides in his songs; Riley and Taylor are entertaining as patterers; and Miss Bertha Norwood is a vocalist and dancer of dainty appearance and great ability. Miss Carlotta de Yonson's company appears in a sketch entitled *The Dandy Detective;* and Raymond's Bio-tableaux complete a capital evening's amusement.

DUDLEY.—Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*The White Chrysanthemum* paid a first visit here this week. Mr. Charles Schmidt is robust and effective as Admiral Armitage; Mr. H. Langdon Bruce gives an earnest portrayal of Lieutenant Armitage; and Mr. H. E. Garden is a distinct success as Lieutenant "Chippy" Belmont, his droll humour being irresistibly amusing. Mr. Richard Telford works hard and deserves great praise as Sin Chong, the Chinese cook; Mr. James Dallas is highly diverting as Private Perks; Miss Nellie Groves is particularly pleasing as the American heiress Cornelia Vanderdecken; Miss Emily Taylor is a graceful Betty Kenyon; and Miss Muriel George in the rôle of Sybil Cunningham, who possesses a voice of marvellous sweetness and compass, acts in fascinating style.

Empire.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—A wonderful exhibition of strength is being given here this week by John Marx, the strong man; "Mr. E." is well received in what is aptly described as an amusing and novel performance; the Danbys, comedians and dancers, are old favourites; the Evalos are amusing in their jocular juggling act, and also give a clever acrobatic performance; Dolly Wright is a descriptive vocalist with a sweet voice; Burg, Hand, and Wise appear in an amusing act, entitled *Ye Brown Cow Inn;* the Empire Bioscope continues to be a strong attraction.

DUMFRIES.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. Potts; Manager, Mr. Payne Seddon.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company was here for four nights, commencing on Monday with *The Christian*. Mr. E. Stanton Sharp acted with power and feeling as John Storm; Mr. P. Gedge Twyman was very much at home as Lord Robert Ure; Mr. Harry Colbeck was good as Father Lamplugh; Mr. Percy Johnson and Mr. Phipps Stanley were most successful as Parson Quayle and the Archdeacon; Miss Laura Walker displayed power and sweetness in her impersonation of Glory Quayle; and Miss Alice Maude was well placed as Mrs. Callander.

DUNDEE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mrs. Brown Potter and company appear this week in two plays, *Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots*, and *Forget-Me-Not*. On Monday evening the former play was presented before a good house, Mrs. Brown Potter giving a most impressive impersonation of the unhappy Queen, and being recalled at the end of each act again and again. The part of Lord James Stuart was powerfully played by Mr. Edwin Stanley, and Mr. Lawrence Grant was excellent as Bothwell. Mr. Harold Payne was effective as Rizzio, singing his song in excellent style. Mr. Harry Kendal gave a capital rendering of the part of Darnley, and Mr. John Cabourne as Lethington was amusing. All the other rôles were in excellent keeping, and the scenery and dresses were most effective.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—The Sisters Sprightly have been retained for another week, and these clever artists keep the audience in the best of humour during their "turns"; Hess and Lisbon display an astounding amount of agility on their roller skates; Palette, a lightning artist and smoke painter, is very clever, as are also Steeley and Dowton in a burlesque interlude, *Olla Podrida*. Billie Burns renders several sentimental songs with great success, and Minnie Fenton, Scotch comedienne, Jack Foley, Maude Mortimer, and Louise Hurman all keep the house in a happy frame of mind. Vernon's Bioscope, as usual, completes the attractions.

Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Mr. Whitmore Ledger's company provide delectable fare this week in the shape of *The Curate*, a musical comedy drama of an enjoyable nature. As Gilbert Westwood, a Russian spy, Mr. Whitmore Ledger is seen to much advantage. As Dick, the Trumpeter, Miss Haltee Jeffreys is a big favourite, while Mr. Clifford Spencer and Miss Agnese D'Aragon as Mr. and Mrs. Simon Peter Muggs are responsible for much enjoyable comedy business. All the other parts are well filled, and the piece was welcomed with many signs of approval by a large house on Monday. Sheila M'Neil, a clever Scotch comedienne, also appears, and her turn proves very acceptable.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Owing to the success last week of the Prince Edward Pictures, the management have wisely retained them for another week. In addition to the pictures, several variety turns app

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. E. J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford. — *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Morris Harvey as Freddy Popple is excellent, and keeps the "house" in roars of laughter; Mr. Fred Maguire as Jacques Kenyon renders his numbers in good style; Mr. Tom May as Platt is all that can be desired; and Mr. Herbert Dickeson ably sustains the part of Norman Popple. Miss Maimie Brickwell is a vivacious La Bolero. She acts, sings, and dances in capital style. Miss Claire Pridelle scores a success as Violet Brinton, and she is recalled again and again for her songs. Miss Lulu Louden is good as Louise the maid.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—This week the theatre is occupied by Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company in the charming drama, *The Silver King*. It is many years since the piece was played in Falkirk, and on Monday evening it was accorded a hearty welcome. Miss Daisy Scudamore admirably played the part of Nellie Denver. As Wilfred Denver, Mr. Fred D. Daviss gave a capital interpretation; Cissy was represented by a delightful child actress in Miss Flossie Hale Daviss, whose gestures and actions were very natural; Mr. L. St. George Lowther as "the Spider," made the most of his part; Mr. Edward J. George's Jaikes was a particularly fine study; Miss Dorothy Radford acted nicely the part of Olive Skinner; as henchmen of "the Spider" Messrs. Arthur Wright, A. Hornby, Warburton and Warriss Lindon all filled their parts well.

FARNWORTH.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Morton Powell.—Mr. Frank E. Burdett's company appears here this week in *The Indian Mutiny*. Mr. George Steel as Lieut. Manley gives a very good rendering; Mr. John Davidson as Major Ingleby makes the most of his opportunities; Mr. Cyril Harrison plays Capt. Manley in a convincing manner; Mr. Charles Boult as Ra Goonga is to be complimented on his capital assumption; and Mr. Villiers Stanley as Nebu Singh is all that can be desired. The comedy element is in the capable hands of Mr. Cecil Morand, who, as Terry O'Brien, keeps the audience in a continual titter; Miss Agnes Kingston as Kate Ingleby plays naturally and gracefully; and Miss F. Melrose as Ghuz-Nah also gives a capital impersonation. The part of Mrs. Ingleby has a sympathetic representative in Miss Lillie Grey.

FLEETWOOD. — QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. H. Snelson.—Miss Evelyn Moore's company is this week playing *The Crimson Club*. The chief heavy parts are ably taken by Mr. F. G. Kay and Mr. J. F. Heyward; and Mr. W. Shaw as Richard Fenton, the hero, is good. Mr. Percy Shaw supplies plenty of humour in his rendering of the part of Reginald Garside, and his whistling solo is well received. Miss Florence Delmar as the female villain is excellent; whilst Miss Barrassford as Muriel is *petite* and dainty The piece is played under the personal direction of Mr. Percy Shaw.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company is here this week with *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr. Sam Livesey must be congratulated on his clever impersonation of John Strong; as Captain Leo Mr. Joseph Carter achieved a decided success; Mr. Edwin Maydew is an effective Lucas Marlow; Mr. George Wilton makes the most of Sir John Harman; Mr. Thomas E. Marshall plays with humour as Jeremiah Parkins; and Mr. George V. Campbell scores a success as Billy Twigg. Miss Bertha Hanbury is a clever Harry Strong; Mrs. T. C. Livesey a commendable Sal Parkins; Miss Casele Le Grande a sympathetic Ruth Parkins; Miss Edith Giddens an excellent Martha Mopps; and Miss Maggie Edwards a capable Kate Strong.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General Manager, Mr. Joe May.—The top-line here this week is occupied by the Warsaw Brothers, in a laughable musical act; Ray and Calden, an original and versatile pair, on a return visit, present an act which for mirth-provoking propensities would be hard to beat: Mabel Bright and company submit an excellent musical mélange; and the Three Coopers delight everyone with a couple of song-scenas. Bert Weston proves himself an excellent entertainer; and the Bros. Bright have an attractive gymnastic display. Sidney Dolf, a juggler and comedian; and pictures shown on the King's Bioscope complete the show.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Premier position on the programme submitted here this week is given to Fasola, described as the "famous Indian fakir"; a highly-appreciated turn is that submitted by Will Letters, a descriptive vocalist of much ability; and the Miltons, banjoists; Rose Pink, child comedienne and dancer; Ross, Rose, and Rosert, in a comedy act, entitled *Always Moving;* and Downey's pictures make up a capital entertainment.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France. — Messrs. John B. Shinton and Alex. Greenwood's company is appearing at this house in *The Price of Her Soul*. An outstanding figure is Mr. Shinton, who plays Lord Rolf Mandeville in a manner which stamps him as an artist of considerable ability; the villainies of Ivan Skoboloff are faithfully portrayed by Mr. Annesley Hely; an amusing trio are found in Messrs. Will Percy, Maurice Le Sage, and Geo. Marriott, jun., who play Pat Murphy, Alphonse Didot, and Algy Fraser respectively. Chief honours amongst the ladies go to Miss Ada M. Ryder, whose Inez Steinmetz is a highly-polished piece of acting; Miss Kate Walfred is successful as Olga Lanovitz; Miss Olive Chesman as the fallen Nadine Marcovitz is worthy of praise; as is little Ida Thompson, who portrays Vera; Miss Grace Garside as Lady Jemina, and Miss Ethel Rainforth as Polly Perkins cause much amusement.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—The boards of this theatre were occupied during the first three nights of the week by Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company with *A Gambler's Daughter*. On the opening night the play was accorded a hearty reception. Mr. Robert Ayrton gave an able performance of Desmond O'Dare; Mr. T. Martin was effective as Ralph Gillman; Mr. Arthur Lennard showed skill in the part of Stephen Brand; whilst his accomplice in crime, Mr. Alfred Sanders, as Solomon Solomons, was distinctly good. Mr. Richard Pitt as John Grant met with success; and Mr. Victor Millard was seen to advantage as Jack Grant. Mr. Howell was conspicuous in the parts of Dick and Captain Stanhope; Mr. George Vinning was effective as Tom Brand; and Miss Adria Hill, in the dual characters of Mildred and Miriam Grant, deals excellently with the respective parts. Miss Harriett Loydall causing hearty laughter as Auntie Zeli. Mr. Bannister Howard's company, in *The Earl and the Girl*, was announced for Thursday.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Rea.—The Zaro Troupe, in their acrobatics, head the bill this week, and worthily sustain their position; the Bros. Venola are smart and funny on the flying rings; the Itrams introduce a novel equilibristic act; Cosgrave and Burns are talented duettists; Sleath and Aldin have a pretty little musical sketch, *Dashing Duval;* Miss Lillie Le Breton gives a skilful trapeze act; the Strads, in their impersonations of musical celebrities, submit an entertaining turn; the Izons present a droll comedy act, *The Captain and the Mate;* Lord, Murray, and Lord are successful in their exhibition of ball punching and boxing; Miss Ruby Bijou obtains an excellent reception for her Irish and Dutch costume dances, and concludes with a graceful barefoot dance.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale. —A hearty reception has been accorded Mr. Charles F. Cooke's company this week, in the military drama *The Trumpet Call*. In the rôle of Astræa Miss Doris Gilham plays with much force and fervour; Mr. Leonard Yorke as Cuthbert Cuthbertson is manly, earnest, and convincing; as Richard Featherstone Mr. John Dengs is successful; Mr. J. Betterton is excellent as Sir William Barton; and Miss Elsie Evelyn Hill as Constance gives a tender and pathetic interpretation. Comedy is represented by Mr. Joe Bracewell as Prof. Ginnifer (a very droll performance), Mr. Charles F. Cooke as Sergt.-Major Milligan, Miss Phyllis B. French as Lavinia Ginnifer, and Mr. Freddie Bentley as Tommy Dutton. Mr. W. G. Blunt gives a clever representation of James Redruth; and little Dorothy Love plays prettily as Little Cuthbert.

GREENOCK.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—*After the Ball* is being presented here by Mr. Charles Carey's company. Mr. Algernon W. Lee in the rôle of Halliwell Mentit earns well-merited applause; Mr. Percy Baverstock as Colonel Mentit makes the most of a very amusing part; and Dick Sevmour, as portrayed by Mr. Norman Bowyer, is another comical character. Miss M. Sadie is a decided success as Nancy; Nelly Mather is ably represented by Miss Queenie Finnis; and Miss Eva Ellis is an attractive Ruth Gay. Martin is ably played by Mr. Buckstone Clair.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The big attraction here is Mr. Charles Majilton and company, in an up-to-date spectacular sketch entitled *The Trippers*, and by their versatility and humour keep the audience in continual laughter. Excellent turns are also provided by Mlle. Edlee, in her poses plastique; Herbert Rule, eccentric comedian; Miss Nellie Gannon, descriptive vocalist; Miss Peggy Fame, vocalist and dancer; Hendry Hilton, card manipulator; and Harry Wright, vocal comedian.

PAVILION THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Saml. Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles A. White.—The company here includes the Ten Dixie Girls, in a musical scena, *The Silver Coon*, who meet with marked success. Thom Collins is a comedian of repute; Alec Kennedy, actor-vocalist, sings well; Fraser and Haley, contralto duettists and dancers, are favourably received; Major Moss and Son, song illustrators, deserve mention; Mr. Fred Land supplies a capital comic turn; Beattie Kent is a smart comedienne; and the Pavoscope pictures are interesting.

HALIFAX.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—*The Geisha* is being presented here by Mr. F. Mouillot's principal company, which has met with most enthusiastic receptions and crowded houses. In the title-rôle Miss Nydia Bland is charming, singing quite fascinatingly; and Miss Edith Adeson is a distinct favourite as Molly Seymour. The peculiarities of Wun Hi are artistically delineated by Mr. Edward Kipling; a typical Lieut. Reginald Fairfax is found in Mr. Wilfred Heath; and Mr. J. H. Booth, who is no stranger here, plays finely as the potentate Marquis Imari, receiving adequate support from Mr. Ed. Pollard as Lieut. Cunningham, and Mr. Ryton Hoare as Lieut. Cuddy. Miss Doris Langdon is one of the best Juliettes seen here. For Thursday and Friday *A Greek Slave*, by the same company, was announced.

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A capital bill is headed here by Macdonald's melody makers, in their successful phantom scena, *The Burglar's Dream*, which is meeting with phenomenal success; Polo and Florence have an excellent time as society acrobats; and Gilbert Girard is exceptionally smart in a refined act. Delightful American song illustrators are the Haverleys; and Regan and Ryan would be difficult to surpass in their comedy act. Bessie Butt is presenting her latest novelty, *The Scarecrow*, one of the best things seen here for some time. Onetti Sisters create a sensation with their revolving trapeze performance; and Onda and Artell's pot-pourri feats and J. A. Skerrett's electrical vocal speciality are just to the public's taste.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—A fine company is again seen here this week. The Six Æolians, under the direction of Mr. Chas. Parker, are responsible for some delightful singing; Helen Martin's Irish airs are also proving very attractive. A good sketch is pleasantly presented by Les Rallis; and Flo Challis is again accorded very popular ovations. The Sisters Redfern, Moon and Morris, Dora Martini, Prof. Bernar, together with the Meister Singers, who have created an excellent impression in *A Pierrot's Dream*, are acquisitions to the bill.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Mr. George Musgrave's company opened here on Monday in the American musical play, *The Prince of Pilsen*. As the Prince, Mr. J. B. Fox is well placed; he has a good appearance and a pleasant voice. Mr. Martin Adeson as the Cincinnati brewer is most amusing; Mr. Lawrence Wensley scores successfully as the Earl of Shrimpton; as the French waiter, Mr. Alfred Selby makes the most of the part; Miss Millicent Marsden, who appears as the widow, has a powerful soprano voice, which is heard to advantage; Miss Isa Bowman is excellent as Nellie Wagner; Miss Nell Emerald as the French maid does well; Miss Hamylton is capital as the bell boy; praise is due to Mr. Thomas M. Tunbridge, Mus. Bac., for his direction of the orchestra.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—Mr. John Leopold's company of comedians are here in their sketch, *The Houseboat*, which is exceedingly funny; Ada Fawn is once more successful in her well-rendered songs; J. H. McCann provides a diverting turn, his roller skate dancing being clever; the Smythsons, in the sketch, *Love Germs*, are much appreciated; the Sutcliffe Family present an attractive musical and acrobatic turn; J. W. Rickaby sings his songs in capital style; and the Grand pictures are quite a feature.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding Smith.—For the attraction this week we have Messrs. Levy and Cardwell's company in *Beauty and the Beast*, well played by a company of juveniles. Miss May Gibson is an excellent Fairy Queen, and Miss Kitty Trewhitt a good principal boy, with excellent support from Miss Daisy Fielder as Will Scarlet; Wee George Wood as Pip, the Baron's page, and Master Jack Harrison as Baron Hardup, the Bros. Armstrong as the Baron's two daughters are great favourites, and the same may be said of Messrs. Doyle and Gibson as Flip and Flop. Miss Dolly Dodds was Beauty.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Everton and Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—Sensation reigns supreme this week, Le Diabelo, with his "looping the devil's wheel," holding the audience in breathless excitement. The Smart Set Entertainers, under the personal direction of Mr. Walter George, include Miss Hilda Light (soprano) and Miss Georgie Martin (comedienne), and have a flattering reception for their graceful dancing and splendidly harmonised singing: Fred Carey does well with his eccentric songs; the Brookland Sisters, in neat song and dance, are as popular as ever; Mark Merry, in quaint comedy; the Two Dawns, expert skipping-rope dancers; and Corman's Juveniles, in a scena, *Christmas Eve*, are attractive turns. Some interesting pictures are shown on the screen.

HASTINGS. — GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—On Monday Messrs. L. Glenister and Wood-Ingram's company opened a week's visit in *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*, in which Miss Decima Moore impersonated the title-rôle with undoubted success. In a delightful comedy vein was Mr. Lionel Glenister's the Hon. Jimmy Keppel; Mrs. O'Mara was cleverly played by Miss Annie Brophy; the rôles of Lord and Lady Crackenthorpe had excellent representatives in Mr. Frank Bayly and Miss Kate Wingfield; Miss Estelle Despa won hearty recognition for an effective presentation of Mrs. Colquhoun; and Mr. Henderson Bland was a creditable Major Archie Phipps. The comedy was preceded by *Jerry and the Sunbeam*.

PAVILION THEATRE (ST. LEONARDS PIER). — Local Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Norman V. Norman and company are presenting this week a much-appreciated selection of pieces. On Monday *Nell Gwynne* gave much pleasure to a large audience. Mr. Norman V. Norman depicted Charles II. in his usual artistic and skilful manner; Miss Beatrice Wilson acted with her accustomed charm as Nell; excellent support was accorded by Mr. Dennis W. Cleugh as Ralph Cursitor, Mr. Norman Leslie as Lord Dellans, Mr. Francis Hope as Adam Bareacres, and Miss Sybil Ruskin as Betty Arndale. During the week *The Adventure of Lady Ursula, The Chevalier de St. George, A Scrap of Paper, As You Like It*, and *David Garrick* have been performed.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Resident and General Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams. — Miss Phœbe Mercer and Mr. Grey Lane head a varied bill with their admirably acted farcical sketch, *Mistakes Will Happen;* Messrs. Lloyd and Phillips and company are excellent in *Betrayed Friendship*, and also in *Muggins's Matrimonial Muddle*, a sketch of a highly diverting order; Messrs. Martinetti and Wallis, coloured musical comedy artists, are enthusiastically welcomed; Messrs. Grant and Allen are accorded their usual popular reception; Mr. Harry Lawson's amusing songs bring him applause; Wisper is a smart comedy juggler who delights with his tricks and patter; Miss Beattie Bloom pleases with her songs; and Mr. Alfred Overs shows some clear and capitally manipulated films in the Hippodrome Bioscope turn.

HEREFORD.—GARRICK THEATRE.—Manager Mr. H. P. Barnsley.—Mr. Cyril Keightley's répertoire company is here in *She Stoops to Conquer, The School for Scandal*, and *Miles Carew*, opening on Monday with the first mentioned. Mr. Cyril Keightley is seen to advantage as young Marlow; Miss Ethel Dane distinguishes herself in her representation of Miss Neville; as Kate Hardcastle Miss Haidée Gunn has made a great impression by her excellent acting; Mr. Baliol Holloway is remarkably good as Hastings; a clever bit of character acting is contributed by Mr. Henry Crocker as Hardcastle; the part of Diggory is undertaken by Mr. B. Pittar, and deserves more than passing notice.

HERNE BAY. — TOWN HALL. — Manager, Mr. T. B. Watson. — Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company (under the local direction of Mr. G. W. Bowes) presented *The Walls of Jericho* to a large audience here on Tuesday. Mr. Wallace G. Court was seen to great advantage as Jack Frobisher, and fully deserved the reception accorded him; Miss Maud Stuart scored a marked success as Lady Alethea; Mr. Lionel Gadsden played exceedingly well as Hankey Bannister; and Mr. A. Collins-Rolfe was good as the Marquis of Steventon. Miss Bertha Frances made a charming Lady Lucy Derenham; and Miss Olivia Etone was admirable as Lady Westerby.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. A. P. Patterson.—A crowded house on Monday gave a hearty reception to Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company in *A Beautiful Fiend*. Miss V. St. Lawrence plays Wanda Lubinoff in a most artistic manner; Miss Irene Munro's Nadine Karateff is a very fine performance; Miss Blanche Hill makes a good Patty Woodlands; Mr. Montague Beaudyn impersonates Ivan Paulovitch with force; Mr. Tom Robertson as Count Fedor Karateff proves himself a heartless stage scoundrel; Mr. Albert G. Wray makes Sergius Strogoff a fine type of a Russian gentleman; Mr. Harry Oates as Christopher Crackles is decidedly funny; and Mr. Tommy Byron as Malachi plays his part well.

HOYLAND.—METROPOLE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. R. Baker.—Mr. Charles Carte and company are here this week with *A Noble Brother*. Mr. Charles Carte, in the rôle of Jerry, the tramp, gives a fine character impersonation, and is warmly applauded; Mr. Bert Osbourne is a manly Jack Elsworth; and Mr. Arthur A. Tomlin as Henry Travers is all that can be desired. Colonel Richard Leigh is very good in the hands of Mr. Howard Thorne; and Mr. Ronald Douglas scores as the Strange Preacher. Mr. Michael Maden as Larry O'Brien, and Miss Rosie Conroy as Rosie Rapid are responsible for the humorous characters. Miss Alice Ballard is excellent as Mrs. Leigh; and as Nana Leigh Miss Doris Brooks displays great histrionic ability.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is here for the week with the popular *Florodora*. The piece is well presented by the cast engaged, which includes Miss Josephine Sullivan, a fine singing Dolores; Mr. Allen Morris, also the possessor of a good voice, well used as Abercoed; Mr. Alf. E. Passmore, an eccentric humorist as Tweedlepunch; Miss Lily Gullick, dainty and unaffected as Angela; Miss Kate Leicester, smart and incisive as Lady Holyrood; and Mr. Stanley White, easy and self-possessed as Gilfain. The chorus is capable, and the mounting and dressing of the piece satisfactory.

HIPPODROME LTD.—Resident Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The bright particular star shining this week is Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, whose first visit has won her a hearty welcome. Others in the bill are Frank Leslie, vocalist; Stidder and Dunbar, musical comedians; the Sisters Poole, a clever pair of dancers; Ted Karno's company in a bustling sketch, *The Merry Carpenters;* Arthur Royce, a musical comedian with a pretty talent for humour on the piano; Susie and Protti, two fine speciality dancers; Los Rupertos, a pair of original gymnasts of strength and grace; Clown Barker, who, with his troupe of highly trained animals, causes endless merriment; and the Hippodrome pictures.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Martin Harvey's visit has been a great success. On Monday he presented *The Corsican Brothers*, produced the week previous. Mr. Harvey's reading of the title-rôle approximates more to the Fechter traditions than the Irving. Being relieved by many lighter touches, the Dei Franchis have a fascination which holds the audience in sway. There is much subtlety in the delineation of the brothers, who are in turn moody and melancholy and frank and free. Mr. Harvey had an overwhelming reception at the end of the play, and responded in a neat little speech. The duel scene allowed Mr. Vincent Sternroyd a great opportunity, of which he availed himself to the full; Mr. George Cook played the part of Martelli with skill; Fred Wright, sen., caused some little amusement as the Colonna; the Meynard of Mr. A. Mansfield was a pleasant piece of work; there was quiet dignity in Miss Mary Rorke's Mme. dei Franchi; and the Emilie Lesparre of Miss Coleridge was excellent.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynne Miller.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production, *The Dairy Maids*, is paying its first visit this week. In the absence of Miss Violet Lloyd on Monday her place was cleverly filled by Miss Severn; the Joe Mivens of Mr. Harry Dent was a notable piece of acting; Mr. E. Statham Staples was clever as Sam Brudenell; Miss Beryl Vaudrey's Helene was refreshing; Miss Edith Blanche was as fascinating as ever as Lady Brudenell; and Mr. Clarence Blakiston did well as Dr. O'Bryne.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—Mr. Walter Melvill's company, in *A Girl's Cross Roads*, is drawing excellently here. Miss Beaumont Collins as Barbara Wade presents an impressionist sketch which reveals fine histrioic powers; the Jack Livingstone of Mr. Wilson Gunning stands well out in the picture; the Nellie Meadows of Miss Hannie Meade is effective.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Charles Baldwin's comedians appear in an amusing sketch, *The Old Kent Road;* the Sisters Marion are charming duettists; Eva Hope and company appear in interesting scenes from Dickens; and other favourites include Lily Morris, Bert Byrne, Marcus Busby, Wake and Dean, and Charles Sloman.

THE EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Miss Diana Hope and company in an episode, *Her Good Name*, and Chummie La Mara, in some popular songs, are the principal turns here; Kid Johnson and Maisie Pelham are smart in a ball-punching and singing and dancing act. Other popular artists include Will Sergeant, Juan and McQue, the Camerons, Marie De Voy, and May Hammond.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—The Boissets and George Formby are big favourites here; the Selbinis are smart cyclists; and a capital company also includes the Eight of Hearts, Viola, Atray, Madge Osmond, Maxwell and Francis, and Harry Hayton.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather—*The Ugliest Woman on Earth* is proving a powerful attraction here this week. Mr. Philip Darien, by his manly bearing and studied elocution, makes Jack Merriman a striking character; Mr. Leyton Cancellor brings out very realistically the despicable disposition of Hubert Gold; Mr. Chas. Barrett submits a clever sketch as Antonio Luchesi; and Mr. W. Wallace-Ashton is good as the London Hooligan, Raggles. Mr. Leonard Thackeray plays with artistic ability as Doctor Carr; Miss Beatrice Homer, in the title-rôle, brings out the better side of womanly nature, and soon establishes herself a favourite; Miss Nell Oliver makes a handsome though unscrupulous Rose Courtenay; and the difficulties of the part of Marita are skilfully overcome by Miss Margaret Watson. Mr. Tubby Edlin, a clever comedian, has plenty of opportunities afforded him as Tubby Herrick, of which he takes full advantage; Miss Nellie Jackson as Aggie Brown ably assists in the mirth-making.

IPSWICH. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—*Lucky Durham* was produced here on Monday night, and made a good impression. In the chief part of John Durham, Mr. Edmund Kenny gives a striking impersonation of a difficult character, proving him to be an accomplished actor. Mr. Arthur Leigh, as the Hon. Reginald Steigton, causes much merriment. Lord Mountfallon is finely represented by Mr. Robert Forsyth; and Messrs. A. E. Walker, W. V. Simmond Lynn, and W. F. Clitheroe, are all well suited. Miss Louisa Gourlay enacts the part of Mrs. Durham with much pathos and power; Miss Lilian Mason was duly hysterical in the rôle of Lady Mountfallon. Other characters are well portrayed by Miss A. E. Belmore and Miss Florence Dathunty.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock. — Large audiences continue to visit this pleasant place of entertainment in St. Nicholas Street. Among the chief items of an attractive programme this week are: The Westwoods, a troupe of trick cyclists of exceptional skill; Harry Randford and Mlle. Valentine, as jugglers and comedy artists, are both amusing and clever, and Walter Stanley, in his comic songs, evokes much merriment. A novel turn is that of La Belle Nello, whose graceful posturing deserves a better term than that of contortionist. Johnny Dywer, the Labour Candidate, sings some humorous ditties, and Charles Stevens, vocalist, and Mamie Cannon, trick pianist, are both well received. A laughable sketch, entitled *Getting Even*, is well performed by Frank Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C. R. Perkins.—Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux's company is appearing here in *The Fascinating Mr. Vandervelde*. Mr. Reginald Dance is capital as Mr. Vandervelde; Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton makes a characteristic Colonel Rayner; Lord Woolham has an effective exponent in Mr. Edward Coutts; Mr. George A. Seager is an amusing Sir B. Cardick; Mr. Russell Barry a humorous Goddlestone; Mr. George Percy a capital parson, and Mr. Vernon Travers and Mr. Gerald Henson do well as Melon and Alfie respectively. Miss Gladys Mason is a taking Lady Clarice; Miss Mary Weigall a stately Marchioness; Miss May Brooke a conspicuously successful Lady Clementina; Miss Eve Titheradge a lively Aggie Coles, and Miss Muriel Mason a good Mary.

KETTERING.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Payne.—Mr. Harry Joseph's company is here this week in *Bonny Boy Blue*. Miss Lena Stanton, in the title-rôle, gives an artistic rendering of the character, and Miss Edie Cameron is charming as Dolly. The comic element is in capable hands. Mr. Will Terry as Lawyer Copall and Mr. Bruce Green as Dame Dickory cause great amusement, and are admirably supported by Little Keeno as Jack Lively; and Mr. Adrian Ronnet is successful as Squire Longacre. Some clever dancing is contributed by the Orient troupe of lady dancers.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessees, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Hen. B. Pareezer. One of Mr. George Dance's companies presented *The Orchid* here in good style on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Mr. Harry Walsh proved an irrepressible Meakin; the Zaccary of Mr. Geoffrey Berwick was good, his dancing being excellent; the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour (Mr. Clifford Bing) and Ronald Faussett (Mr. Frank Manger) were a good pair, and Mr. Charles Seymour made a dignified Mr. Aubrey Chesterton. Of the ladies, Miss Poppy Wilkinson was good as Lady Violet Anstruther; Miss Trilby Collier achieved success as Josephine Zaccary; Miss Clara Beck proved a charming Thisbe; and Miss Cissie Brand capably took the rôle of Zélie Rumbert. As Caroline Vokins Miss Hilda Vining did much to keep the fun going.

KIRKCALDY. — KING'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Burton.—Mr. Wm. Greet's company is paying a welcome visit in *The Sign of the Cross*. The piece is well staged and receives careful treatment by artists of excellence. It would, indeed, be difficult to find one better adapted to the part of Marcus than Mr. Frank E. Petely; Miss Marie Leonhard gives an artistic rendering of the rôle of Mercia; she possesses a pleasant, sympathetic voice, a distinct utterance, and an impressive manner, which hold the audience spell-bound. Mr. C. Yorke is effective as the Emperor, while Messrs. Charles Aldred and J. Weatherall are commendable as Tigellius and Licinius; Mr. Walter Fleet is powerful as Favius, and Mr. H. T. Harris is conspicuous as the villainous Servillius. Miss Mary Newcombe is a capital Empress, and Miss Gertrude Price is fairly successful as Berenice. Worthy of special mention is the Stephanie of Miss Effie Dane. The comic relief is in the able hands of Mr Frank Wood and Miss Cissie Carlton as Glabrio and Dacia.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—Mr. Charles Windermere and company occupy the boards this week. On the first three nights *Facing the Music* was presented, with Mr. Windermere in the rôle of "the other Mr. Smith," and he kept the house in laughter throughout. Mr. C. Casson Freer was admirable in the character of the Rev. John Smith; whilst Mr. Gordon Phillott as Dick Desmond and Mr. Hy. Nelson as Sergt. Duffell were equally commendable. Miss Kathleen Willoughby and Miss Clare Manifield gave charming readings of the respective Mrs. Smiths; and Miss Evelyn Shelley was successful as Mrs. Ponting. The comedy was preceded by *The Bookworm*, from the pen of Mr. Windermere, in which the parts were capitally sustained by the author and Miss Manifield. *Where is William?* is billed for Thursday and Friday.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. Porter and W. J. Fergusson.—A capital bill of fare is arranged here, at the head of which is the New York Nippers in a clever sketch, *Bedtime*. Griff is a comic juggler of the first water, and Henry Abdy's canine hippodrome is well received;

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Miss Lilian Payne sings nicely, Arthur Stacey is a capital dancer, and the Custances are amusing in their duologue, *A Game for Two*. Mlle. Marvelle's performing cockatoos, &c., Miss Lucretia (burlesque artist), and Walter Payne's animated pictures complete the programme.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and C. Fell; Manager, Mr. John Fell.—Peggie Pryde is making her first appearance in Lancaster, and right well has she been received at every house. The Four Spanish Goldinis electric speciality artists supply a pleasing turn, and the Brothers Hampson have some smart patter; Helme and Cozens, comedy artists; Carney Brothers, duettists; Harry Carmen, comedian; Miss Daisy Lane, comedienne; and the Edison-Swan animated pictures form a first-rate entertainment.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—The attraction here this week is Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in the funny comedy *Public Opinion*. Mr. Percy Marshall is a decided success as Horace Wibsey, the solicitor, and is well suited to his part. A capital character study is to be seen in Mr. Charles Harley's excellent representation of Spencer Traughton, whilst the parts of Mr. Justice Mulley and Sir Babington Mulley are adequately rendered by Mr. Fred Lewis and Mr. Douglas Hamilton. A very natural performance of Lord Percy Kilgour is that given by Mr. Ashton Pearse, whilst Viscount Pofley, as impersonated by Mr. Douglas Greet, is also very good. Miss Nancy Beresford's Pansy Bligh is a successful portrayal of the little adventuress; Miss Emma Hutchinson appears as Lady Diana Caldershaw, and makes the most of her opportunities, proving an admirable foil to Pansy Bligh. Other characters, very ably sustained, are by Miss Connie Dene as Phyllis Dagenham, Miss Violet Harley as Charlotte, Mr. R. Beech as Finchett, and Mr. C. B. Wentworth as Smeeton.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—A return visit of Mr. William Greet's company, with the successful piece, *The Earl and the Girl*, opened to a full house on Monday evening. The eccentricities of Jim Cheese, as portrayed by Mr. William Stephens, are most diverting, and keep the audience in continual merriment. Mr Arthur Harrold plays Dick Wargrave in handsome and dashing style, and Mr. Percy E Wright evidences the possession of good histrionic and vocal abilities as the supposed Earl. Miss Frances Earle makes a piquant and pleasing Ephin Haye, the heiress in love; an exceedingly clever impersonation of the showwoman, Liza Shoddam, is placed to the credit of Miss Jennie Richards; the strong lady in a temper is excellently played by Miss Beatrice Anderson, and Miss Gertrude Melville is to be complimented on a charming and graceful effort as Daisy Fallowfield. The vengeful Bunker Bliss has a capital exponent in Mr. H. Courtin; some clever and entertaining work is done by Mr. Will Hindson and Mr. Greene Taylor as a pair of voluble lawyers, and Mr. Tom Redmond and Miss Mary Morison are also prominent.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—The popular sporting drama, *£1000 Reward*, capably played by Messrs. Pitt and Halling's company is filling the theatre twice nightly during the week. Mr. Chas. Rogers, jun., gives a convincing portrayal of the leading part of Captain Springthorne; the Madame Sinson is a thrilling piece of acting by Miss Daisy Halling, and other leading characters are in the able hands of Mr. Frank Pitt, Mr J. Newton Cowling, and Mr. Charles Halling.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—*The Fatal Wedding* is again proving a big attraction here in the hands of Mr. Bert Coote's clever company. The wronged husband is played in good style by Mr. Wilson Howard; the villainous Curtis is embodied with ability by Mr. Guy Hastings, and the heroine and adventuress in the respective hands of Miss Katherine Clarke and Miss Leah Marlborough, each receives a painstaking and convincing portrayal. The generous comedy parts of Toto and Bridget are cleverly played by Mr. Edward Morgan and Miss Blanche Stanley; and Mr. Walter Westwood as the old janitor, Schwartz, is well up to his work. It is to the children's specialities that the piece owes much of its success, and in this connection Misses Dolly and Madge McCalla lead many much-enjoyed interludes.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—A novel and entertaining sporting sketch, *The Bookie*, cleverly presented by Joe Elvin and company, is the pièce de résistance of this week's bill, Mr. Elvin's faithful and richly humorous character-study being especially enjoyed. Mrs. Winifred Hare is awarded a big reception for accomplished vocal renderings; the Finney Sisters do wondrous and graceful feats in the crystal tank; Walter Curtis enhances a big local reputation as a clever comedian; that entertaining vaudeville duo, Spry and Austin, continue to amuse; Fred Clements and C. J. Johnson are to the fore with clever comedy items; equilibristic feats by the Henry Taylor Trio arouse great interest, and Rosie Bartlett, comedienne, also secures well-deserved recognition.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Claude Shayler and Mr. Chas. Weldon.—Tom Grave's daring and sensational cycling feat served to attract two full houses on Monday. Johnny Holland and Co. are famous for comic burlesque sketches, and their contribution this week proves vastly amusing; Dusty Rhodes is deservedly popular; and other successful contributors are Hal Godfrey, with an amusing sketch, Harry Rogerson, Sammy Shields, and Frank Couch. That entertaining coon specialist, T. E. Finglas, is having a good week; Harris and Worth prove uproariously funny in their comedy encounters; Edna Latonne is a pleasing vocalist of considerable ability; and Mamie Iris a dainty and entertaining comedienne.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Lew Lake and company remain on here a second week, and their uproarious comedy sketch is again attracting and amusing crowded houses; Harry Weldon is very popular with eccentric comedy business; Harry Clifford is no less successful in a similar line; vocal numbers by J. H. Greene are well received; Walker and May, an accomplished comedy duo, secure unstinted approval; and Florence Deighton, speciality vocalist, and the San Remo Girls, in clever song and dance, also have a successful time.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—An extra special treat has been provided this week in the visit, after a long absence, of the famous Carl Rosa Grand Opera company. On Monday evening Wagner's *Tannhäuser*, was given in a manner calling for the highest praise, the audience giving them a most hearty reception. In the name-part Mr. Julius Walther both sang and acted the character to perfection; Miss Grace Nicoll was in every way a charming Elizabeth, her splendid voice being heard to great advantage; Miss Marie Alexander made a thorough success as Venus; Mr. Arthur Winckworth as the Landgrave is deserving of high commendation; Miss Ina Hill enacted the part of the shepherd boy in good style; Mr. Dillon Shallard sang extremely well as Wolfram; and as Biterolf, Reinmar, Schreiber, and Walther, Messrs. John Ebbeler, Charles Brierley, Albert Felton, and Charles Le Sueur merit commendation. The excellent chorus and largely augmented orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Eugene Goossens, won distinction. On Tuesday evening a magnificent performance of *Carmen* was given before a crowded house, under the direction of Mr. Walter Van Noorden. Mr. Edward Davies delighted all with his singing and acting as José; Miss Doris Woodall as Carmen made a great impression by her exquisite voice and vivacity; Mr. Charles Victor as Escamillo was a thorough success; Miss Elizabeth Burgess was seen and heard to considerable advantage as Micaela, and Miss Dorothy Mayfield as Mercedes and Miss Ina Hill as Frasquita are also to be highly complimented. Mr Alec Richard is very good as Zuniga. The staging and dressing of both operas left nothing whatever to be desired. *Lohengrin*, *Il Trovatore*, *Fidelio*, *Faust*, and *Maritana* were also underlined for presentation.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—This week's attraction is provided by a visit of Mr. James Willard's company in the spectacular drama, *A Woman's Pluck*. As Grace Daremont, Miss Grace Lester gives a powerful performance; Miss Violet Carr is very good as Jessie Pope; Mr. Austin Mortimer displays histrionic ability as Dick Darrell, and in the dual rôle of Mark Scanlon and Jim Daremont, Mr. Fred Norburn is a success; Mr. Harry T. Wood is a manly Winston Dale; both Mr. Dicky Bird as Roger Pippin and Miss Nellie Freeland as Olphelia Pippin are most amusing; Mr. Harry Emmerson is a capital Matthew Pope; the same remark also applying to Mr. John Campling as Sir John Daredevil. Miss Tina Shaw as Bertie Daredevil, Mr. Frank Etheridge as Sir Noel Fordyce, Miss Elsie Maitland as Mrs. Pope, and Miss Helen Elmar as Lady Daredevil. The play is well staged.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—The premier attraction here this week is Miss Dolly Elsworthy and company in a new production in three scenes of *The Orange Girl*, the chief part of Nell Gwynne being excellently portrayed by Miss Dolly Elsworthy, who is assisted by a capital company. At the other end is Whit Cunliffe, a smart light comedian, who is scoring a gratifying success with his popular and well-sung songs; Millie Hylton, accompanied by Decima Brooke, is seen and heard to advantage in a delightful song scena; lively Lillie Langtry, the vivacious and clever comedienne, repeats her customary success; Gwennie Hasto is an attractive vocalist and a clever fancy dancer; Cassac Talma, assisted by Mlle. Gronne de Forge, presents a bewildering illusionist act in a smart manner; Bennett and Martell, eccentric comedians, create much merriment; Tom Owen is a capital Welsh vocalist, and the American Bioscope still remains a popular feature of the programme.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—The chief attraction here is the marvellous mechanica talking head, Dronza, which quite bewilders the audience; Edna Knollys renders her illustrated songs with much success; Percy Galino is a clever musical comedian, his novel bone solo being especially praiseworthy; Milsted and Bell are very good in their musical scena, *The Bell of Arizona*; Walter H. Pallister's American Bioscope still remains a popular feature. Others who are entertaining are Will Lytton, a funny comedian; George Menva, the merry magician; and Horace Slade, speciality dancer.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy's company is oppearing here with the drama, entitled *The Shadow of a Crime*. Mr. Stephen Crossley gives a fine portrayal of Harry Bullington; Mr. Robert Forder sustains the part of the villian Ralph Esmond in a forcible manner; Mr. William Matthews is well placed as Jim Murdock; Sir Edward Bullington is effectively presented by Mr. John H. Manley; Miss Ina Grant acts with much sympathy and charm as Loyale Norman; Miss Dorothy Riddell is delightfully natural and winsome as Dora Bullington; the comedy element is safely entrusted to Mr. E. W. Avery as Tom Brown and Miss May Rosine as Mrs. Thomas Brown; and Miss Bertha St. Ruth is amusing as Sarah.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—A notable production of the national drama, *Rob Roy*, by a company which includes Madame Alice Esty and Mr. E. C. Hedmondt, has this week drawn crowds to the Leith playhouse. The cultured singing of the above-named distinguished artists in the respective rôles of Diana Vernon and Francis Osbaldistone is the main attraction, but the cast all round is a good one, and the performance has been greatly enjoyed. Mr. W. George Robb's impersonation of Bailie Nicol Jarvie is full of genial humour; Mr. Nelson Ramsay acts with unflagging spirit as the Macgregor; Helen finds a sufficiently warlike representative in Miss Marion Lind; and Mr. Herbert gives a fine study of the Dougal Cratur; while Miss Jeanie D. Harle is a pleasing Mattie. Praise is due to the Major Galbraith and Captain Thornton of Messrs. Alex. Hamilton and Walter Russel, as well as to the players of the many minor parts; and the augmented orchestra and full chorus, with Highland pipers and dancers, receive hearty recognition of their efforts at the hands of enthusiastic audiences.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, who have been away from Liverpool for about two years, opened at the leading theatre on Monday night. It was soon evident that their innumerable admirers in this city had not forgotten those distinguished players, for a well-filled house assembled to give them a greeting which must have proved exceedingly gratifying. For the first time here *The Housekeeper* was presented, and it was generally remarked that Mrs. Kendal, in the title-part, acted with all her old-time charm and playfulness, affording her audience the utmost delight. Mr. Kendal's Colonel Trent was a fine character-study well suited to his particular gifts, and both artists had to bow their acknowledgments of the hearty applause which followed the close of each act. As the brother of Lady Audrey, Mr Bassett Roe helped largely with the comedy; Mr. Edward Vaughan was a sufficiently love-sick subaltern; Mr. Ernest Hendrie caused a deal of merriment in the part of William Hickson; as the deaf dowager Mrs. A. B. Tapping presented a well-finished rôle; Mr. W. M. Rutherford made a solemn butler, with a capital delivery of his lines; and Miss Dora Fellows got the most out of the widow, Mrs. Rillington. The staging and dresses were a particular feature of the production.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—The appearance of Mr. Beerbohm Tree here this week has caused such a demand for seats that an extra matinée had to be hurriedly arranged for Thursday. The big event, which was looked forward to with keen interest, was the new play, *Colonel Newcome*, with which the week's stay opened on Monday. It proved a pronounced success, and cordial, indeed, was the reception given to the excellent company that interpreted it. Everyone who witnessed the portrait of the old Anglo-Indian soldier were unanimous in declaring it to be the best study ever offered by Mr. Tree. Then Miss Constance Collier came in for a well-deserved share of the evening's favours for her Ethel Newcome, a delightful picture; Mr. Edmund Maurice, as Fred Bayham, was a capital bohemian; Mr. Charles Quartermaine was manly and earnest as Clive; Mr Sidney Brough proved entertaining with the character of Lord Farintosh; a sufficiently odious Sir Barnes Newcome was submitted by Mr. A. E. Benedict; and worthy support came from Mr. Eric Warwick as Lord Kew, Miss Annie Schletter (Mrs. Mackenzie), Miss Mary Sumner (Rosey Mackenzie), Mrs. Percival (Mme. de Florac), and Miss Muriel Alexander (Lady Kew). The week's list also included *Business* is *Business*, *The Man Who Was*, *Trilby*, and *The Ballad Monger*. Mr. G. W. Anson, Mrs. E. H. Brooke, and Miss Nora Lancaster were also members of the company.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—A return visit of *The Days of Cromwell*, with Beaudyn, Livesey, and Hardy's company, has proved a strong attraction here during the week. Mr. Henry Belding appeared as Ironhand, the Avenger, a part that was excellently played; Miss Gertrude Gilman impersonated Ruby Avondale with grace and charm; the villainous Sir Marsden Mardyke afforded Mr. Robertson Foulis an opportunity for showing his high talents; Mr. Howard Hardy handled well the rôle of Mathew Mardyke; and a deal of comedy was introduced by Mr. George Harvey as the ostler Toby, Mr. Stephen Herbert as Shadrack Shadwell, and Miss Annie Clunn in the character of Betsy.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—Good business is the result of this week's programme topped by the Six Brothers Luck, in their screechingly funny sketch *Blazes*; Jack and Evelyn are a host in themselves, and their turn is deserving of every praise; Charles Morritt still continues to mystify, and his blind old friend seems to have forgotten nothing; Will Musgrave is laughable; the Three Seabournes are clever gymnasts; and Lily Black is pleasing. Barney Armstrong is decidedly a good turn.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr Harris Fineberg.—*A Warning to Women* is brought to the popular Star this week by Mr. C. Watson Mill's principal company. A capital representation of Dr. Marcus Dread is given by Mr. Mill; Miss Rosalind Tate shows her high talents as Moira Kennion; Mr. Howell Travis gives a good sketch of the wandering minstrel Shaun; Mr. Norman B. Cannon affords satisfaction as Fergus McNaughton; Mr. Henry Rutland does justice to Squire Kennion; Mr. Henry P. Kennedy makes a lively Mike McQuade; Miss Edith Rutland is seen to advantage as the cripple Miles O'More; and Miss Emmie Barton is a sweet Shella Kennion.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—A drama new to this city, entitled *An Unwedded Wife*, has been the attraction here this week. Miss Ethel van Praagh displayed a deal of talent as Marion; Mr. J. Edward Whitty made a manly Frank Armstrong; a villainous Phillip Blackstone was presented by Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes; Mr. Richard Purden proved exceedingly funny as Napoleon D. Bloomer; Mr. Logan Darra did his best with John Hawthorne; Miss Violet Wilson was pleasing as Elsie Langham; and Mr. Harry Townley, as Perkinson Pimple, and Miss Amy Coralli, in the character of Caraway Crumpet, also added to the humour. The drama was excellently staged.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—At the top of the bill here this week is Fred Wright, jun., the popular comedian, who makes his first appearance in vaudeville. He had a very cordial reception for his several selections, which included "Tired of being respectable," "The great, big English pot" (*Cingalee*), and "Chin, chin, Chinaman" (*Geisha*); Grant and Grant, the American Octoroons, found a warm greeting for their cleverly-rendered pieces; the Harvey Boys created a deal of laughter with the boxing act, *That Was Me*; the Martonelli troupe of lady acrobats went through a performance that was much appreciated; the funniosities of Robb Gilmore, particularly his corkscrew dance, were followed by much laughter; the eccentric gymnastic work of Jack Rae proved an excellent turn; Hallam and Stanton submitted a much-appreciated musical comedy sketch, *A Broken Journey*; as eccentric acrobats, Baroux and Bion were particularly good; Tatten Hall was a smart burlesque comedian; and the Albanos presented a pleasing musical act. The Wednesday matinées here are very popular.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shelley are here this week with the exceedingly funny sketch, *Miss Summerson's Baby*; the always welcome Gerald Mount brings some capital new songs; the Gallery Boy, possessor of a remarkable singing voice, gives some smart imitations of music-hall artists; *Stage Chums* is a neat trifle provided by the able comedy artists and dancers, Fred Duncan and Ernie Morton; some acceptable baritone songs come from Fred Burnaby; and Florence Wood is loudly applauded for her taking songs.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The "Royal" stock dramatic company is producing here this week *Wings of Wealth*. Mr. Percy Boucher handles the humorous part of Ephraim Isaacs with much effect; Mr. Harry Tresham is a powerful George Brandon; credit is due to Mr. Sydney Grant for his well-drawn character of Fergus Vavasour; Dr. Currie is capitally presented by Mr. Cecil Ravenswood; Mr. Robert Wilton proves most creditable as Alphonso Green; Mr. E. D. Allen is Ben Badger; and Mr. Leo Montgomery gives satisfaction as Mr. Fielding. Of the ladies, Miss Florence Palmer plays with care and discretion as Elsie Brandon and Miss Beryl Ravenswood makes a stately Lady Everdale.

PARK PALACE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—An attractive item heading the programme here this week is *Nelson's Name*, a pretty naval scena by Mr. George Leyton, who is assisted by a chorus of local boys; McCann's performing dogs afford proof of careful training; some smart comedy work is gone through on the triple bars by the Zano Bros.; capital coon singing comes from J. H. Wakefield; the Sisters Brooks (Mabel and Winnie) are dainty comediennes; and the Bonanzas are deservedly applauded for their clever hand-balancing and staircase walking.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The popular Ella Dean is top of the bill here this week, delighting everyone with her favourite songs; Urley and Mora are exceedingly smart comedy duettists and dancers; Sam Thompson, a Scotch comedian, whose quaint antics and funny songs keep his audience in roars of laughter, has proved popular; Molly Manion, a juvenile, does well with her coon songs; Garforth, a most eccentric clown, had a capital show of performing dogs and pigeons; Edith St. Roy is an expert performer on the silver wire; and Amy Elcock dances and sings pleasantly.

OLYMPIA, LTD. — Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—The remarkable conjuring tricks of Chung Ling Soo, who heads the programme here this week, have been the great attraction. The Andos troupe of Japanese acrobats were received with great applause; a pleasing comedy scena was provided by the Scottish Meisters, whose singing was of a high order; La Sylphe went through some especially fine dances; Alburtus and Jessie Millar had a humorous skit, *A Scene at the Fair Grounds*; Harry Grey proved extremely funny with his songs and sayings; several well-presented impersonations of famous stars came from George Newburn; Dion Wade, as an eccentric comedian, did credit to himself; and Stelling and Revell, on the bars, made their audience rock with laughter.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The able stock dramatic company here is this week producing *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, which still seems to possess drawing powers. Mr. Albert Sember makes a capital Robert Brierly; Mr. Frank S. Strickland does well with James Dalton; a finished picture of the detective is provided by Mr. Walter Foster; Mr. H. G. Brandon is particularly strong as Melter Moss; and Mr. Vincent A. Briscoe acquits himself ably as Mr. Gibson. Miss Lina Nazeby does justice to Mrs. Willoughby; Miss Lilian Burns plays sweetly as May Edwards; Miss Frances Barnes acts well as Sam Willoughby; and Mr. Francis E. Wybert is a capital Maltby.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.—Tiller's *High Jinks* is foremost here this week; Harry Tate, with his funny *Motoring*, has provoked much laughter; Albert Le Fre is a comedian of much ability, his eccentric dancing being highly appreciated; some fine baritone songs come from Ian Colquhoun; Hanvarr and Lee have a smart item, *The Golfer and the Maid*; Phil Hermann renders some of his popular songs; and Jean Seul, the Indian mystery, also appears.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Good business is being done here since the place was opened under the present management. At the top of the bill this week is the popular Walter Munroe, whose capital Irish songs have been received with great enthusiasm. Cline and Clark, another good booking, have delighted everybody with their black and white comedy work and dancing; Carr and Rose render several very laughable duets; Lily Hayes has some neat coon songs; Jackson, as a novelty match-box manipulator, is an acceptable turn; and Leon and Leoni ably perform on the banjo and novelty instruments.

LLANELLY.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—A success is again recorded here this week by Mr. F. Wybert Clive's company in *The Conscript*, in which Mr. E. Bellenden Clarke takes the part of Karl in an excellent manner; Miss Lilian Ross as Nadia is also very clever and charming; Mr. Walter Steele as Ivan Manloff does good work; whilst Mr. Chas. E. Johnson as Count Paul Hardski, and Mr. Walter Held as Doggervitch, are both admirable. Capital songs are rendered by Mr. Beckett Bould as Tretch, and by Miss Connie Meadows as Wanda; the latter dances very prettily too. Miss Cissie Reenan is a capital Little Karl.

NEW EMPIRE. — Under this title Mr. W. A. Totten, the late musical director, has opened the Athenæum Hall as a palace of varieties, and presents this week a good show, the programme including Alf Berg, the strong man; Chas. Green, heavy-weight wrestler; Alec Alexander, actor vocalist; Miss Lily Delmaine, serio and dancer; Flemine, one-legged acrobat; the Martinettes, knockabouts; Miss Cissie Gordon, soprano vocalist; and Mr Will T. Burgess's combination, in *Found Faithful*. Mr. Totten has painted a nice fit-up for the hall, and deserves every success.

LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon.—Messrs. Durward Lely and William Mollison's company is staging *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush* and *The Middleman* here this week. In the first-mentioned Mr. William Mollison plays Lachlan Campbell very well; Tammas Mitchell is ably impersonated by Mr. Kendall Chambers; Mr. John Clyde scores as Dr. MacClure; Mr. Alen F. Thompson is a capital Archibald M'Kettrick; Miss Evelyn McNay as Flora Campbell meets with favour; and Miss Alice Francis is good as Kate Carnegie; Miss Josephine Woodward as Margaret Howe does well; and the parts of Geordee and Jeannie are in the capable hands of Miss Martha Stewart and Miss Jeannie Fitzgerald.

LONGTON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. S. Howard. — A return visit of Mr. Frank Lindo's company in *Home, Sweet Home*, has been a very acceptable attraction here this week. The principal rôles of Stephen Armitage, Joan, and the Duke of Ancaster are taken in admirable manner by Mr. Frank Lindo, Miss Marion Wakeford, and Captain Gerald Gambier respectively. As Lucas Lyle, Mr. F. Miles Hodgson does well; Miss Daisy Rochefort is delightful as Dora, a child's part; other characters are well played by Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle, Mr. T. Lewis, and Miss Ray Rochefort.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards. —*Her One Great Sin*, presented by Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's company, is the attraction here this week. The cast—a powerful one—includes Miss Blanche St. Albans, who is seen to great advantage in the rôle of Grace Warhurst. Mr. J. Leicester Jackson gives a capital rendering of Squire Thornhill; Little Gracie is prettily played by Miss Maudie Lambert; Miss Phillis Damain makes a successful Charlie; and Mr. J. Beresford Innes submits a realistic impersonation of Reuben Warhurst. Miss Louit Walton as Bert Hurdle and Mr. Charles E. Lambert as Dan Hurdle also win credit in their respective parts.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Baskerville.—The following are appearing here this week:—The Great Northern Troupe, dancers; the Elvio Comedy Trio, in *Those Troublesome Slaveys*; Kioto, an exceptionally clever Japanese equilibrist; Miss Ida Kathrina in her scena *Dolly at Home*; Mulvey and Miriam, in *Fun in a Studio*; Les Uniques, speciality acrobats; Cyril Carle, actor-vocalist; Elliott and Warne, duettists; and Miss Effie Morde.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Hardie and Von Leer's company with *Two Little Vagabonds* is paying a welcome return visit. Miss May Hart (Dick) and Miss Margaret Nybloc (Wally) display considerable talent as the two little vagabonds, and their efforts are warmly acknowledged. Mr. Wm. Fazan does well as Geo. Thornton, and Mr. Hy. Watson is equally good as Capt. Darville. Mr. Edward Cuthbert (John Scarth) and Mr. John F. Traynor (Bill Mullins) are both praiseworthy. As Marion Thornton, Miss Laura Hansen leaves nothing to be desired, and the same may be said of Miss Mildred Hodson as Barbara Scarth.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Business-Manager, Mr. L. J. Beard. —Messrs. Carpenter and Cooper have brought us a sterling drama this week in *The Spider and the Fly*. The hero is well represented by Mr. Stanley S. Gordon; villainy being ably portrayed by Mr. Ellis J. Preston. Messrs. Fred Terriss and C. A. Preece, as "Hard" and "Soft" Roe respectively, are responsible for the comedy. Miss Nina Vaughan is the much-persecuted heroine; and the Spider is represented by Miss Amy Venimore. The scenery and effects are elaborate.

MACCLESFIELD.—THE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. H. Gatley.—Mr. H. E. Leigh's company is paying a visit here this week in *The 'Varsity Belle*. Mr. J. Danvers as Professor Septimus Stoney gives a remarkably clever and humourous portrayal; Mr. R. Harley West is excellent as George Barker; and Mr. R. Barraclough is successful as Albert Perrin; Mr. Chester as Theocritus Sparkleton is most amusing, and in conjunction with Mr. F. Lilliput as Runyard, causes much laughter. In the title-rôle Miss Josephine Ellis gives a charming presentment, and her singing of "Those loving eyes," delights the house; Miss B. Egerton is a vivacious Maud Stoney; Miss N. Beacon is capital as Eva Stoney; and Miss E. Rainbow is admirable as Mrs. Barker.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the United Theatres, Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Enthusiastic appreciation awaited the presentation of *The Walls of Jericho* here this week, Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh in their original parts of Jack Frobisher and Lady Alethea doing splendid work, and acting with a fine and captivating naturalness—a naturalness that pervaded the entire performance, and was conspicuous also in other prominent members of the cast. Mr. Charles Goodhart as Hankey Bannister, Mr. Arthur Whitby as the Marquis of Steventon, Miss Nora Greenlaw as Lady Westerby (a very nice impersonation), Miss Pamela Gaythorn as the sprightly but shallow Lady Lucy Derennam, and Mr. H. Nye Chart as Harry Dallas won honours; and all the other parts were cleverly filled and contributed to the success of the performance.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A visit of *The Girl from Kay's* here this week is particularly notable for the inclusion of Mr. Willie Edouin in the cast. He plays his original part of Max Hoggenheimer with all his inimitable characteristics and the usual unqualified success. Mr. George Dance's company is further enriched by a number of highly accomplished artists, among whom Miss Nancy Hervyn is conspicuously good as Winnie Harborough. As Nora Chalmers, Miss Aimée Grey acts nicely, and as Ellen, her maid, Miss Chrissie Ralland is vivacious and dances well; Mr. Herbert Franklyn as Harry Gordon, Mr. Tom Shelford as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle, and Mr. S. Major Jones as Joseph, the hall-porter, each makes a success of his part. All the subsidiary rôles are played satisfactorily, and the chorus and general staging are admirable.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Mr. Mouillot's company is here this week in *The Toreador*, which attracted a good house on Monday. Mr. Harry Buss as Sammy Gigg is a particularly smart comedian, and his efforts to entertain are ably supplemented by Mr. Fred Fowler as Pettifer, Mr. Howard Cridland as Sir Archibald Slackett, Mr. Atheling Farrar as Augustus Trail, Mr. H. M. White as the fearsome Carajolo, and Miss Florence Burdett as Mrs. Malton Hoppings; while Miss Zoe Gilfillan makes a charming Dora Selby; Miss Rose Helene is equally captivating as Nancy Staunton; Miss Marie Adair acts with telling discretion as Donna Teresa; and others who distinguish themselves are Mr. Alfred H. Majilton as the Governor of Villaya, and Miss Katie May as Susan. The singing is excellent throughout.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is here this week in *The Little Breadwinner*, of which Mr. Campbell is the author. Lord William Dorrington has an able exponent in Mr. Eugene Santley; Mr. Mathew Boulton does full justice to the rôle of Richard Lawrence; Mr. Alfred Maurice is well suited to the villainous part of Joseph Prior; and Mr. Stanley Leedham gives an intelligent and successful rendering of Charles Prior. Of the ladies, Miss Mary Fulton plays with great feeling as Margaret Daventry; and good parts are in the capable hands of Miss Nellie Thorne-Hallam and Miss Lissa Young; while as Meg (the title-rôle) little Emmie Thomas sings and acts charmingly.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Georg Chanti, in his wonderful transformation act, heads the bill here this week. Happy Attwood, comedian, is also prominent and well received; and other smart turns are offered by the Montaldos, in their slack-wire act, introducing trained birds; Oakdene, a clever comedy ventriloquist; Nancy Renshaw, negro comedienne and bone soloist; the Saletos, in a refined balancing act; Baby Lilybelle, comedienne and clever sand dancer; Sylvia Martin, equestrienne; and (on our visit) a deputy for Herbert Betts, comedian.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—Mr. J. H. Clyndes and company present here this week the successful romantic play, *A Royal Revenge*. Mr. Clyndes makes a distinct success of his impersonation of Estevan Alvarez; and his accomplished work is equalled by Miss Enid Edoni as Inez Alvarez, his wife, and Miss Amy Gratton-Clyndes as Cora Caslida, the gipsy dancing-girl. The more prominent of the remainder of the parts are undertaken satisfactorily by Mr. Walter Keunion (who sings well), Mr. Arthur F. Dudley, Miss Edith Whiteley, and Miss Emeline Roselle. The staging is capital.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —A return visit of Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company in *Under Two Flags* is to be recorded here this week. Mr. Mark Blow's rendering of Bertie Cecil Royellieu is an admirable piece of work, and the corresponding part of Cigarette is finely played by Miss M. Thorne. Mr. H. Benson as Rake, the valet, also does extremely well, being an accomplished singer and dancer; while a good character-study is offered by Mr. W. Draper as Lord Rockingham; and Mr. C. Edwin is an acceptable Captain Claude de Chanrellon. Various minor rôles are well rendered by the rest of the cast, and the staging leaves nothing to be desired.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The big turns here this week are a musical *mélange*, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, in which Harry Roxbury and company provide immense enjoyment; and the Mac-Naughtons, whose patter is irresistibly funny; Forest and King give a clever acrobatic act; Lucia and Viata are graceful on the wire; Harry Maynard, comedian, sings acceptably; Daisy O'Malley, comedienne, dances neatly; Chas. S. Kitts and Rhoda Windrum present a comic sketch, *The Cuckoo*; Alice Lloyd, comedienne, sings a couple of songs in smart style; and Albertine Melich presents her wonderfully trained birds. "The Stolen Bride" is this week's subject on the Bioscope.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—*A Trip to Coon Town* is a smart entertainment offered here this week by eighteen coloured artists. Plenty of singing and dancing is introduced, and the whole sketch is most enjoyable. James Fawn, the well-known comedian, is to the front with capital patter and songs; Leo Dryden, the eminent vocal character-actor, sings in his usual excellent manner; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, the great trick comedy cyclists, repeat their success of last week; J. T. McMillan, Scotch comedian, sings well; Tray and Rich are amusing comedians and good dancers; a wonderfully clever turn is the unique spade-jumping act of Fioretti; Miss Elly Gracie Taylor, comedienne, and Ada Cerito, comedienne, charmingly gowned, also contribute pleasing items; and some interesting pictures complete the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—"The Soldiers' Chorus" from *Faust*, excellently rendered by the choir and orchestra, under the bâton of Mr. Alfred Haines, opens the programme here this week. Mr. Sidney Bacon introduces with considerable

to the programme are Minnie Wren, comedienne; J. W. Elson, an amusing vocalist; Knoto, contortionist; and George Prince, the crazy comedian.

MERTHYR TYDFIL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Lewis Gilbert.—Mr. Mouillot's company is this week presenting *San Toy* to large and delighted audiences. Mr. Hugh Webb undertakes Yen How in an able manner; Mr. Arthur Cartwright is seen to much advantage as Capt. Bobby Preston, his singing being highly appreciated; Mr. Robert Rivers is amusing as Sir Ringo Preston; the Emperor has a capital representative in Mr. William Jordon; Mr. Bert Edwards as Li is deserving of much praise. Miss Irene Lavington makes a charming Hoppy; Miss Bessie Allayne is a delightful San Toy, and her singing is greatly admired; Miss Lottie Sargent is a smart and attractive Dudley.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr Bert Coote's company is this week presenting *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr. Ernest Owtrim plays cleverly as Howard Wilson; the Robert Curtis of Mr. Herbert Humber is a well-sustained effort; Mr. C. H. Hughes and Mr. Cyril Mellon are amusing as Toto and Peter Schwartz; Mr. Alan White does well as Rev. Dr. Lanceford; Miss Madge Haines submits a thoughtful interpretation of Mabel Wilson; Miss Gertrude Harrison skilfully sustains the rôle of Cora Williams; and Miss Julie Temple is an amusing Bridget; Miss Marjorie Lawrence is a dainty little mother.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company, in the drama, *The Beast and the Beauty*, is the attraction here this week, and good houses are the rule. The company is a talented one, and the piece is nicely staged. Miss Alice Bowes gives a capital rendition of the exacting part of Beauty, and Mr. W. S. Hartford achieves an undoubted success as Jack Barrymore, the Beast. As the Earl of Loman, Mr. William Passmore plays with artistic restraint; Mr. Bernard Mervyn is good as Henry Denver, and Mr. Harry Talbot does well as the lightweight champion. Miss Daisy Gwynne as Delilah Vane figures with great effect; Miss Mamie Rendle causes much amusement as the maid.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. W. R. Chatto.—Drama, comedy, music, song, and dance are all blended in Mr. Henry Swinerd's production, *Dare Devil Dorothy*, which occupies the boards here this week. Miss Dorothy Desmonde is a vivacious and altogether charming heroine, her songs being exceedingly well rendered, and Miss Mami Vere is equally successful as Ruth Montrose; Mr. Will Breaton, as Silas Crump, keeps the audiences convulsed with laughter with his songs, and the same can be said of Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith. Mr Wm. Ashley gives an excellent portrayal of the part of George Fielding, and Mr. Henry Ward is exceedingly good as the villain. Mr. Dean Cliffe imparts great humour into his impersonation of Mr. Haugh, and the specialities introduced by Miss Desmond, Miss Harcourt, and Misses Mabel and Lillie Blake, add in no small measure to the evening's enjoyment.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. C. G. Rembges.—One of the most popular turns here this week is that of the Four Juggling Geraldos, rounds of applause greeting their efforts. Binns and Binns create roars of laughter by their fooling, this musical turn being well received. John Lawson and company, in their sketch. *Humanity*, fully sustain their big reputation. Stan Aubrey, the legmania artist, is both clever and laughable, and Mabel La Blanche sings well. The Sisters Brenton provide a clever dancing turn, and the Carlyles, whirlwind dancers, do well. The Bioscope pictures creates roars of laughter.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf. Graham.—The Lukushima troupe of Japanese forms the star turn here this week, and they give a really wonderful exhibition. The Musical Johnstones provide some high-class music on the xylophone, and Terry and Bentley are very amusing in their sketch, *The Hunt*. The Two Bostons create roars of laughter, and the Sisters Neilson, duettists and dancers, please. Alex Marshall, a local youth, seems destined to make a name for himself as a weight-lifter. A novel competition is promoted this week, valuable prizes being offered for goal-kicking.

MORECAMBE. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—By arrangement with Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson, Lieut. Malvern's company has been appearing this week in *Dishonoured*, which has been very well put on. The leading part, Philip Cunningham, the wrongly dishonoured soldier, has been in the capable hands of Mr. Percy Ballard; and the stern, unbending Col. Cunningham, his father, has been well interpreted by Mr. Chas. Conway, an actor of great versatility. Miss Rosalie Heath is the much-tried Leslie Maynard; and Miss Maud Lillian plays Sybil very nicely. Mr. Chas. M. Julian is very funny as Mike Farthing; and other parts are well played by Mr. A. W. Thompson, Mr. Edwin Ramsden, Misses Rosie Dane, Lily Thompson, and Emily Allen. As the villain Peyntland Mr. Chas. Wilton is good; and Mr. Dalton J. Bosher plays the part of Capt. Cholmondeley.

MOTHERWELL. — NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—*A Trip to the Highlands* is proving an attraction here. Mr. Wal Croft is seen to advantage as Mac Mutchkin; Mr. Arthur Poole gives ample proof of his versatility as the detective; Timmins, as played by Mr. Joseph B. Montague, is a source of mirth; Mr. Gus Wheatman is good as Sir Septimus; and Mr. Wellesly Smith equally so as Lord Lackington; Mr. Frank Barcly sings well as the Hon. Frederick Lackington; Miss Maisie Ellinger and Miss Millie Engler (good singers both) find much favour as Araminta and Winnie, and Miss Kitty Clinton is a vivacious Fanny Flounce.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—Miss Winifred Emery and Mr. Brandon Thomas are appearing here this week in *Olivia*. W. G. Wills's famous version of "The Vicar of Wakefield" has attracted enthusiastic audiences. Miss Emery's work as Olivia is well done, and is rapturously received. Mr. Thomas imbues the Vicar of Wakefield with an immense amount of feeling and power. The two principals are well supported by Miss May Chevalier, who makes a happy Sophia, and is greatly admired; Miss Kate Lytton renders a good account of herself as Mrs. Primrose; and Mr. Harry Ashford is a typical Farmer Flamborough. Mr. Eille Norwood, Mr. Franklin Dyall, Mr. H. Cannon George, Miss Maidie Andrews, Master Bobbie Andrews, Mr. M. A. Wetherell, Miss Isobel Roland, Miss Morel, and Miss Harriet Trench are all admirable exponents of their various parts. The piece is exceptionally well staged and the scenery good.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing - Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—One of Mr. George Edwardes's companies is at this popular house this week, in *A Girl on the Stage*. In this rollicking piece the bulk of the work devolves upon Miss Queenie Leighton, who acts with energy, and sings in a most attractive fashion. Most of the fun of the piece is provided by Mr. Lennox Pawle as the Earl of Sanctobury, whose easy style, and quaint humour often won applause from a large audience. Praise is also due to Miss Mabel Saqui as Letty, especially good being the duet and dance with Mr. Nelson Keys, who take the part of Ethelbert. Miss Fanny Dargo and Miss Valli Valli, as the Ladies Isabel and Dorothy Congress, give valuable aid to the performance with song and dance; while Mr. Arthur Longley as Algernon Southdown, and Mr. Fred Winn as Shingle, both create much laughter. Others taking part in a successful production are Mr. Evaston Neville, Mr. Edwin Rutland, Mr. Edmund Cooper, Miss Mabel Hirst, Miss Rita Ravenscroft, Miss Cissie Berington, Miss Dorothy Garden, Miss Violet Bronson, Miss Cissie Calcott, Miss Juhta Dumas, and Miss Nellie Johnston.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clarke.—Messrs. E. L. Mitchelson and Harris Finberg's company with *The Traitor* is here this week. Mr. C. E. Clive gives a powerful impersonation of Prince Rudolf, and as Chief of Police Mr. Stephen E. Stanton is excellent. Captain Ross, R.N., is in the capable hands of Mr. T. W. Hurst, who is well supported by Mr. F. Sutherland. Miss Gwynne Warren is greatly admired as Countess Zicka, and as Elsie Dupres Miss Kathrine K. Vere is effective. Miss Maude Stewart is very attractive as Cou-Cou, and well merits her success; Miss Isabel Hunt's impersonation of Lieutenant Nicholas is worthy of her best efforts; and Miss Ruth Shepherd as Zulu is clever. The remaining characters are well filled.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Miss Ida Molesworth's and Mr. Mark Blow's company in the American success, *At Cripple Creek*, are paying a visit. Mr. Stanley Bedwell plays the part of Joe Mayfield in a very effective style, and earns much applause; Mr. Charles H. Lester as Mason and Mr. J. G. Maine as Alvarez are a pair of cunning villains; Mr. Archer D. Layland's get-up is grotesque in the part of Wahketah, and Mr. Will Hook as Reggie adds to the comic element. Miss Agnes Verity makes a success as Dynamite Ann, and Miss Lily Beagle is delightful as Belle Gordon. Miss Daisy Carlton causes much laughter as Maggie Mason, and a clever Little Tatta is given by Miss Rosie Hopkins.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—Carl Hertz, assisted by Miss Emmeline D'Alton, in *The Bridal Chamber*, is the chief attraction here this week. In addition to the famous bridal chamber scene, the professor shows an extraordinary performance in "handwriting on the wall." Lady Mansel and her juveniles supply an effective combination of talent; Bob Hutt and company, in their amusing sketch, *Welcome Home*, cause much laughter; Arthur Gill, the yokel with many voices, is well applanded; Rio Brothers, American gymnasts, supplied an exceptionally clever and clean turn; the Haytors are enthusiastically received; May Henderson, apart from her other powers, is an admirable step-dancer; the triple-bar performance of the Mezettis is well done, and secured much applause; and the Anartos, in *The Moving Mail*, scored heavily. The Bioscope proves, as ever, a great attraction.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—The top of the bill is this week occupied by *Office Hours*, a side-splitting sketch presented by Messrs. Corri and Dereve, which was enjoyed by a full house on Monday evening. Mr. W. J. Thompson as William Hurry is the chief comedian, and his specially worthy of mention for his humour and wit. Another amusing sketch is that of Messrs. Hodgson and Lowther's *The Barmaids*, which is greatly appreciated; Miss Mabel Kessler is a cornet soloist of great merit; the sleight-of-hand tricks of Morimura, the Japanese illusionist, who is assisted by Miako, are astonishing to a degree; Austin Rudd, comedian, scores again and again; Mac and Hill cause a constant ripple of merriment with their clever patter; Galettis, monkey, comedians, provoke much laughter; Mignonetti Kokin proves herself a comedienne of high order; and Leah Arden sings her ballad songs in fine voice.

OLYMPIA.—This popular hall, the home of the living picture, continues to draw good audiences. Gaumont's Patent Chronophone is a wonderful invention, the characters in the pictures produced on the screen being invested with talking and singing powers.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Geo. Alexander's company is playing to enthusiastic audiences here this week *His House in Order*. Mr. Frank Fenton's Hilary Jesson is a fine piece of acting; Miss Auriol Lee as Nina is natural, sincere, and decidedly charming; Filmer Jesson, M.P., is perfectly portrayed by Mr. Cyril Harcourt; Miss Aubrey Campbell's Geraldine Ridgeley deserves warm praise; and Miss Doris Champion's Derek Jesson is a delightful picture of a boy. Mr. Adam Alexander as Sir Daniel Ridgeley and Miss Kemmis as Lady Ridgeley are natural studies of tyrannical snobbery; and Mr. Geo. Silver is effective as Pryce Ridgeley. Mr. Chas. Tyrel's Major Manrewarde is exceptionally good; Mlle. Juliette Milo makes an excellent Mlle. Thome, and Mr. Danford Brown (Harding), and Mr. Jas. Annard (Dr. Delnott), and Mr. Cyril Cattley (Forshaw) all fill their parts splendidly.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Heading the bill here is Ancillotti and his thought-reading dog Pilu, who presents a marvellous show. Nat Clifford convulses the house with his whimsical manner; Madge May sings a couple of songs that are acceptable; and Fred Russell and "Coster Joe" present a very interesting turn. Three Amaranths (acrobatic dancers) are much admired; the Barowsky Trio put in some clever acrobatic work; Howard and St. Clair are fully appreciated, and Little Ganty thoroughly deserves the applause he receives.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Mr. Edward Terry and company are drawing big houses here this week, opening on Monday evening with *Liberty Hall*. William Todman is one of the best of Mr. Edward Terry's later parts, and his audience warmly appreciated its excellence. Mr. Owen was cleverly and consistently played by Mr. Allan Pollock; Blanche and Amy Chilworth were creditably sustained by Miss Fyfe Alexander and Miss E. Glossop Harris; Crafer was well presented by Miss Eugenie Vernie; the Hon. Gerald Harringay by Mr. Frank Cellier, jun. and J. Briginshaw by Mr. William Dexter, were good assumptions; the parts allotted to Mr. E. W. Thomas, Mr. George Howard, Master Earle, Claude E. Wallis, and Miss Ella Dixon were well carried out. On Tuesday *The Magistrate* was played, Mr. Edward Terry appearing as Mr. Posket, supported by Miss Agnes Knights as Agatha Posket. On Wednesday *Sweet Lavender* was presented, with Mr. Edward Terry in his original and world-renowned part of Dick Phenyl, Miss Gertrude Tate appearing as Lavender Holt. *Liberty Hall*, *Sweet Lavender*, and *The Magistrate* were also announced.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Representative, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—The top of the bill this week is occupied by Mr. Ed. E. Ford, whose facial contortions cause continuous merriment; Miss Mabelle's dancing proves her a terpsichorean expert; Julian Mack's comicalities are as good as ever; Francis and Alfred are clever sensational comedy jugglers; and Driscoll and Beattie, the Sisters May, and Cherry Lass also contribute. The Palace Pictures are interesting and instructive.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Herbert Ralland's company presented on Monday evening *La Poupée*, which had a cordial reception. Miss Mysie Devine, as Alesia, was in every way satisfactory; and Mr. Harry Brayne, as Hilarious, kept the audience in a happy mood; Mr. Arthur Cozens made quite a hit as Launcelot; and Mr. Walter Balfour was responsible for an admirable portrayal of Father Maxime; Mr. Arthur Dennis made a capital Loremoise; Mr. Fuller Allen was good as Baron Chanterelli; and Mr. Percival Hughes did well as Beniot; Miss Edith Hunter was a capable Madame Hilarious; Miss Dora Dickens played the part of Henri with ability; and the chorus and augmented orchestra rendered valuable service.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Mr. Harris L. Bell and Miss Lilly Pearl and company, in *A Bit of String*, have been warmly greeted here. The Boultons, speciality artists, are popular; Mlle. Bartinelli, lady bender, and gymnast, is clever; the Dunvilles, in their musical comedy act, are smart; the Excelsior Glee Singers are received with much favour; Miss Lloyd, comedienne; Mr. James Shields, comedian and one-legged dancer, and the Bio-photoscope are also well received.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. S. Golden; Secretary, Miss E. Golden.—Lovers of the sensational have their tastes catered for this week by Mr. Coleman Davies, who is occupying the boards with *No Escape*, and is supported by a powerful company. In the dual rôle of Major-General Geoffrey Arlington and Constable Grip O'Grady, Mr. Coleman Davies does well. As Sergeant Arlington Mr. Fred White makes an ideal hero, and proves himself a capable actor. Mr. Terry Davies is excellent as Vandyke Collopion, his fine presence suiting the character admirably. The difficult part of Ethel Arlington is well played by Miss E. Turner Elliot. Miss Eunice Udall as Molly Muggs and Mr. W. V. Tullock as Sampson Slowman attend to the comedy business in capable style.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. George Dance's excellent company is here this week with *The Girl from Kay's*. Miss Marie Greengrass makes an excellent Norah Chalmers; Miss Irene Vere a sprightly Ellen; Miss Jessie Fraser a successful Winnie Harborough; Mr. Stanley Ravenscroft a capable Harry Gordon; Mr. J. W. Hooper a humorous Hoggenheimer; and Mr. Claude Dampier a diverting Joseph. Mr. Harold Marks ably conducts.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. R. H Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—Mr. Carter Livesey and Lilian Roseberry, in their skit *The Would-be Actors*, create endless fun; Conway and Leland are truly named the merry monopedes; Wyndham and Waters, in a sketch entitled *The Professor and His Pupil*, are successful; Wal Robbins is an amusing black-and-white comedian; De Vere and Kenwick are well received; Hill Lane and company are diverting in musical comedy; Bicknelle shows some excellent clay modelling; Bertha Winder is a clever dancer; and the Hippo Biograph gives some laughable motoring sketches.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Orchid* is paying a return visit here this week, much to the satisfaction of many playgoers. Mr. Colin Campbell acts Meakin in a highly diverting manner; as Guy Scrymgeour Mr. Fred Thompson sings and acts pleasantly; and Mr. Haddon Cave gives a capital portraiture of Aubrey Chesterton. Mr. Cecil Frere (Fontenbras) and Mr. David Hallam (Mevignac) make a quaint pair; and the fury of Comte Raoul is capitally realised by Mr. William Benson. Mr. Harry Ray squeezes a vast amount of fun out of the part of Zaccary; Miss Mabel Seadby vocalises delightfully in the rôle of Lady Violet; Miss Nell Hopes effectively portrays the French girl Zelie Rombert; and Miss Constance Hamilton imparts the necessary vivaciousness to Thisbe. Miss Dorothy Tempest earns appreciation as the Countess Anstruther; and an attractive Josephine Zaccary is seen in Miss Gladys Ward. Miss Florence Vie quickly becomes a favourite as Caroline Vokins; and the rest of the cast work with commendable zeal. Mr. Cuthbert Hawley gets the best results from his augmented orchestra.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—Mr. Edward Marris's company presents this week *The Dandy Doctor*, and since its last visit the piece has lost nothing of its power to attract and amuse. Mr. Edward Marris impersonates the tinned meat millionaire in merry fashion. He is ably assisted in his efforts by Miss Florence Smithers, who invariably in "slavey" parts reaches a high standard of excellence. Mr. Herbert Pearce makes a dignified Colonel Pendred, whose daughter Ivy is charmingly portrayed by Miss Effie Vincent. Mr. Wallis B. Nugent as the smart young doctor does well, and Mr. Leslie Martin is efficient as Bertie Bolingbroke. Mr. Dalton Dane and Mr. John Birtles both add not a little to the success of the production. Miss Dolly Pane looks very smart as the page, and Misses Ethel Dunker, Belle Hamilton, Rosie Chandler, and Maisie Gerrard act successfully in their various parts. Specialities are effectively introduced by the Dandy Belles, the Dutch Girls, and the Yeoman male voice quartette.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—Tschernoff's large troupe of trained ponies and dogs are put through a capital performance, which calls forth unbounded enthusiasm; Wilbur Hill and Willette Whitaker are a clever pair of instrumentalists, the lady also excelling as a vocalist; the Vernon troupe of xylophonists earn a large share of applause, and Die Obersteirers display a versatile cleverness by their singing, playing, and dancing. A delightful turn is provided by Miss Carlotta Levey, who renders her songs with taste and expression. The Lyons Trio supply a pantomime sketch, and dance with animation; Dorothy Clarke vocalises to the evident pleasure of her audience; and Charles Vincent gains appreciative notice. Kelly and Gillette create uproarious laughter by their amusing antics, and hearty plaudits for clever gymnastics on a billiard table. The American bioscope closes an excellent programme.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—An admirable programme of Shakespearean tragedy, comedy, and historical plays is presented this week by Mr. F. R. Benson's North Company. In *The Merchant of Venice*, which was presented on Monday evening before a well-filled house, Shylock received meritorious handling by Mr. Henry Herbert, while Portia was very gracefully treated by Miss Dorothy Greene, an actress with a charming personality. The Antonio of Mr. Gerald Ames was marked by a thoroughness which was highly commendable, while the manly impersonation of Bassanio by Mr. Charles Francis deserves the highest praise. Mr. Reginald Davis, formerly a member of Mr. Benson's first company, now plays prominent parts in the present combination. Others taking important characters are Mr. Dagnell, Mr. Henry Morrell, Mr. Ross Shore, Mr. Lionel Bevans, Miss Mary Webb, and Miss Louise Graeme.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dotteridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maclaren's company had a hearty welcome on Monday evening in the popular play *Proof*. Mr. Gerald Kennedy's realistic portrayal of Pierre Lorance is greatly admired. Mr. W. J. Butler gives a capital rendering of the heavy part of Lazare; and Mr. Wilford Bailey is responsible for a large amount of humour as Chamboran. Mr. Carl Beechey makes a capital Duke D'Aubeterre; and Mr. Frank S. Smith is good as Victor. Miss May Grimshaw is highly appreciated in the part of Valentine, of which she gives a careful study; Miss Beatrice Shirley as Madeline, and afterwards as Adrienne, is very sympathetic; and Miss Ellina Turner is excellent as Little Adrienne. Miss Phena Powell as Madame Deprets and Miss Nita Ashby as the Duchess Aubeterre are highly successful; and Miss Ellen Morris is very good as Julie. In the cast also appear Misses Turner, Manton, Lorrimer, and Beale, and Messrs. Neville, Turner, and Sherrard.

COLOSSEUM.—Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood. — Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company is on a return visit in the successful drama, *The Worst Woman in London*, and attracts crowded audiences. Miss Florence Dalton appears in the name part, Frances Vere, and acts throughout in a powerful manner. Mr. George Gaisford plays the hero, Jack Felton, vigorously; and Mr. Paul Barry Lewers as Vincent Lyle makes a capital villain. Mr. C. R. Stone is excellent as James Milford; and the part of Philip Armstrong loses nothing as played by Mr. Leonard Booker. Mr. H. W. Monte is very good as the down-at-heel Hugh Drayton; and Mr. George Cranby makes the best of Bertie Heslop. Mr. Willie Garvey contributes largely to the success of the play in the humorous part of Bob Goldfinch; and Miss Emily Kelsey assists him in an able manner. Miss Elizabeth Watkins is very good as Ruth Vincent.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—George D'Albert is the star here, and is well received; Reichen's dogs give a remarkable performance, and secure much applause; Rosie Lloyd is a charming comedienne, with catchy songs. Spry and Monti introduce an effective combination of wit and humour; and Verno and Voyce have a good vocal scena. The Frères Borghetti are a smart troupe of acrobats; and the Four Charles introduce a capital transformation act. Jack Hylton is a good comedian; and the Royal Dottoscope concludes an excellent programme.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—The attractions at this house are many this week, chief among them being the Gentle Bros. Lang, who keep the house in roars of laughter. Dolly, Agnes, and Maud are another capital turn, and had a good reception; Jessie Barlee and Phil Smith are excellent in their comedy and musical duologue; Viviana is a graceful dancer; and Montague Biggs is a capital lady impersonator. Walter Wade causes much amusement with his songs and patter; and the Wynfords give a very good exhibition of jumping. The Dottoscope shows an interesting picture.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—On Monday Mr. Eugene C. Stafford opened to a house crowded in every part with the ever popular piece, *The Private Secretary*. Mr. D. Price Evans is a great success as Rev. Robert Spalding; Mr. W. T. Elworthy is good as Mr. Marsland, and so is Mr. J. P. E. Hussey as his nephew; Mr. W. Hargreaves repeats his sound and mirth-provoking impersonation of Mr. Cattermole from India; and very bright and pleasing is the Douglas Cattermole of Mr. R. Reade; while Mr. V. Gilbert is highly amusing as the tailor. The two girls, Eva Webster and Edith Marsland, find charming and effective exponents in the Misses Beth Elliott and Dora Gray, and Mrs. Alfred Davis does well as Miss Ashford.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*Kitty Grey* is renewing acquaintanceship with local theatre-goers. The company is that of Mr. George Stephenson, which is ably directed by Mr. J. MacCabe. The title-rôle is acted with brilliant success by Miss Hilda Guiver, who is enthusiastically applauded; Lady Binfield has a delightful representative in Miss Marie West, her singing giving infinite delight; Miss Elsie Skillings is a charming Saidie de Poulson; and Miss Nellie Lauraine makes an amusing Mrs. Bright. Mr. George Stephenson plays Sir John Binfield in an accomplished style; the part of Lord Plantagenet loses nothing of its eccentricity in the hands of Mr. Leslie Steward, his dancing gaining great admiration; and Mr. Lauri Lisle portrays the eccentricities of the King of Illyria in his own inimitable way. The remainder of the smaller parts are all in good hands, and the mounting and scenery are above reproach.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz. — A capital company is this week headed by Charles E. Ernest, "the human orchestra." The others include the Stanleys, smart young versatile vocalists and dancers; Alfred Poynton, impersonator of famous men; the Lennards, in their unique pictorial songs; Agnes Lidgate, pleasing vocalist; and Karr and Kooney, comedians and dancers. There is also shown the Empire Animatograph, with all the latest pictures.

TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, The Corporation.—J. M. Hamilton, tenor vocalist, with his company, was in possession here on Saturday. There were also Chorley and Connor, comedians and dancers; Nellie M'Nab, soprano vocalist; Minnie Osborne, coon vocalist and dancer; William Menzies, conjurer; and A. J. Gamble, eccentric comedian.

PENTRE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Counsell.—Mrs. Morton Powell's company is here in *When It was Dark*. Mr. Geo. H. Pitt must be congratulated on his impersonation of Schwabe; Mr. Cyril Austin Lee is seen to advantage in a powerful portrayal of the Rev. Basil Gotre; Mrs. Powell shows her keen study of detail in her interpretation of Helen Byars; and the difficult rôle of Gertrude Hunt is effectively sustained by Miss Mabel Mannering; Mr. Riddel Robinson acquits himself with distinction as Sir Robert Llewelyn; Harold Spence is in the capable hands of Mr. A. Carrington; and Mr. Millar Wilson and Miss Bessie Ellis contribute vivacious humour as Hon. Charlie Gayfly and Gracie Goldeye respectively.

PENZANCE.—ST. JOHN'S HALL.—*San Toy* paid a first visit here this week, being presented by a company under the personal management of Mr. A. Gordon Begg. Miss Mora Hersee made a charming San Toy; delighting by her sweet singing and dainty acting; Miss Maud Lucy as Dudley worked hard and successfully in conjunction with Mr. Bert Barton as Li to keep the fun going, with the result that there was never a dull moment when this clever pair occupied the stage. Mr. Grahame Herrington as Yen How, Mr. R. Ford as the Emperor, and Mr. Edward Christopher as Sing Hi, were one and all remarkably good. Mr. Scott Rae as Fo Hop possesses a good voice; and the same may be said of Mr. Victor G. Huntley as Capt. Bobby Preston; the Sir Bingo Preston of Mr. Harry Turner was a quaint character; Mr. James F. Leighton did effective work as Lieutenant Harvey Tucker.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Mr. George Dance's company is here in the successful musical play *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Miss Blanche Lynd gives a powerful impersonation of Sans Gêne, afterwards Duchess of Dantzic, and the hearty reception by which her efforts are awarded is fully merited; Mr. Alfred Ebberson is also strong in his successful portrayal of Napoleon Bonaparte; Mr. Cecil Parke is much admired as Vicomte de Bethune, his singing being particularly good; this may also be said of Mr. A. C. Bradshaw, whose vocal talent is prominent in the first act as Captain Ragnier; Mr. Warwick Wellington is well received as Sergt. Francois Lefebvre; Mr. Arthur Ferris is delightfully amusing as Papillon; Mr. G. Griffith makes an ideal Duke of Dantzic; Mr. E. Rickards is successfully placed as M. Dalagro"; Miss Lillian Drake acts the rôle of Empress Josephine with all the majesty required. Misses Florence Smith and Sophie Albutt are the high and mighty sisters of Napoleon; Miss Mona Gray's Renee de St. Mezard is charming and is accorded a warm reception, as also is Miss Hetty Ludlow's Lizette, her vocal renderings being particularly admired.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—A large and enthusiastic audience assembled on Monday to welcome Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Levaux's company on their second visit to Plymouth in *The Walls of Jericho*. As Jack Frobisher, Mr. Herbert Bunston, gave a splendid representation of an honourable, straightforward Englishman, whose fickle wife, Lady Alethea Frobisher, is admirably played by Miss Florence Jackson. Mr. George A. Brandam, as Hankey Bannister, the Colonial rough diamond, was deservedly popular for his genuine frankness; while the somewhat uncongenial parts of the Marquis of Steventon and Harry Dallas could not have been relegated to better hands than those of Messrs. Cyril Baleine and Sydney Hamilton respectively. Miss Molly Carton is an attractive Lady Lucy Derenham; Miss Lydia Busch is greatly appreciated as the generous and whole-hearted Lady Westerby; while Miss Edith Cuthbert as Miss Mornington infuses a welcome touch of humour by her fruitless efforts in the matrimonial market.

PONTYPRIDD. — ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—A return visit of Mr. Charles Harrington's combination in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* meets with the heartiest approval here. Mr. J. Henry Rogers enacts Legree powerfully; Mr. Leslie Beaufort scores a success as George Harris; Uncle Tom is in the able hands of Mr. J. Carr; Mr. Stanley Howards makes a capital Mr. St. Clair; and Phineas Fletcher is ably sustained by Mr. J. H. Renney. Mr. James Jackson is a success as Dan Haley; Marks is admirably portrayed by Mr. Walter Langford; Miss Jennie Malcolm shows to advantage as Aunt Ophelia; Eliza Harris is dramatically presented by Miss Hettie Johnson; and Miss Annie Watson as Topsy is irresistible.

PORTH. — THE PALACE (late Opera House).—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth. — The capital programme submitted here includes the following artists;—George Bernard, actor-vocalist; Mlle. Sara's Marblesque Trio, in classical living pictures; Loundoun Cameron, conjuror, in his spectacular magic act; George Penn, who scores a success; Dale and Vale, smart comedians and pedestal dancers; the Stavordale Quintette, banjo and harp speciality artistes; Miss Constance Bellamy, soprano vocalist; Le Vere Freres in their gymnastic equilibristic act; the Two Eltons on the triple horizontal bars; Ward and Wylie, comedians and duettists; a sketch by Adelina Collier is excellent; and some good pictures are also shown on the Bioscope.

PORTSMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—The attraction here this week is *The Geisha*, presented by Mr. Mouillot's chief company. Miss Louie Collier shone brilliantly as O Mimosa San; Miss Florrie Saunders was a dainty Molly Seymour; Miss Violet Kenyon creditably impersonated O Juliette Diamante; Wun Hi was amusingly portrayed by Mr. Edward Carlton; Mr. Lionel Braham was a very imposing Marquis Imari; and Mr. Cyril Thompson a capital exponent of Reginald Fairfax. *A Greek Slave* is also in the répertoire.

PRINCESS THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. Charles Watson Mill's company with *A Wrecker of Men* is occupying the boards here. Mr. Frederick Biron gives a powerful representation of Jim Murley; Pharosaphus was cleverly taken by Mr. Milner Noble; Mr. Millar Anderson as Railton was responsible for a capable piece of character acting; Guise Strange was admirably impersonated by Mr. Stanley Champion; the part of Risca Mallison, a woman with a past, was sustained by Miss Dora Price, with much ability; Miss Cissie Podmore acted with distinction as Doris Melville; and Miss Gwendoline Talbot as Marion Isaacs and Miss Beatrice Reynolds as Vavasole Slopper did well.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Lottie Lennox, who heads the bill here, gets plenty of applause for her amusing and tuneful songs; Welda and Wynne in their act are responsible for good juggling and dancing; the Sisters Dixon, are a pair of clever banjoists and bâton manipulators; the Four Maisanos, eccentric musicians, are well received; Walker and Lake, as patterers, are acceptable; Tom Mills, actor vocalist, is much appreciated; the Players do well in the interesting playlet, *Touched Up*; Payne's Bio-Photoscope has some taking pictures; Maud Marlow is a smart burlesque actress; and J. H. Crew is quaint.

PRESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company is here this week, in the realistic play, *For Life—and After*. Mr. Vernon Sansbury, as Richard Grey, is convincing, and makes a success in a difficult part; Miss Grace Heywood acts with good feeling and restraint as Marion Grey; Messrs. Osborne, Vautier, and Henry Hare, are thoroughly capable in their respective parts; Miss Dean, Miss Fawcett, and Miss Vayne are alike excellent in arduous parts. Comedy relief is ably provided by Miss Barnwell and Mr. Chris. Mason. The play is well staged, the last set especially being original and effective.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff. — Mr. Augustine Knight is presenting *The Assassin* here this week to crowded houses. Miss Ella Vane as Countess Wanda shows exceptional dramatic ability; Mr. Augustine Knight as Prince Demetri ably acquits himself in a difficult part; Miss Hettie Senior is seen to great advantage in the rôle of Connie Jonathan; Mr. Edward E. Ashby makes an ideal Ivan Ivanoff; Miss Frances Waring successfully portrays Nita; Mr. Edwin Jenner is an excellent representative of Captain O'Neil; Mr. Cecil H. Raymond creates much merriment as Baron Alphonse; Miss Marie E. Robertson makes a charming Katrina

very smart; Barton and Franklin, instrumentalists, singers, and dancers, gave a pleasing performance; and other acceptable turns were given by Sisters Hall, vocalists; Mark Leslie, swell coon; Sisters Walmsley, in the scena, *From School to Stage*; and Lilly Lena, comedienne.

Royal Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth. —Mlle. Von Eita, lady illusionist, gives a smart performance here. Billy Williams, comedian, is well received; Marie Jones, assisted by Ernest Munro, does some clever quick-changes; some good tenor singing is contributed by Jack Truman. Haig and Novel, comedy artists; Selby and Myers, comedians, patterers, and dancers; Morzetto, smart juggler; Claude Tomlin, the singing midshipman; and Little Bert also contribute to a good programme.

SALISBURY.—County Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—Messrs. H. and F. Poole's myriorama commenced a week's engagement here on Monday. The animated pictures are some of the best we have had; and the following variety turns are introduced:—Harry Dowsett, comedian; Miss Florence Hamilton, soprano; Geo. French's acrobatic cyclists; Houston, Chinese magician; Learto and his dog Babs; and the Snow Family, expert skaters. The band is under the direction of Mr. Charles Weldon.

SEACOMBE.—Irving Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kierman.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is attracting excellent houses here this week with the popular musical play, *Three Little Maids*. The Vicar's three charming daughters, Ada, Hilda, and Edna Branscombe, are delightfully personated by the Misses Cora Lingard, Daisy Silverton, and Eva Weigh. The matter-of-fact and businesslike Lady Mallory finds a suitable exponent in Miss Alice Rene, and Gretchen could not be in better hands than those of Miss Laura Wright. Lady Rosemary Beaulieu, Venetia Grafton, and Lady Mary Crichton are adequately personated by Miss Hilda Stericker, Miss Lilian Courtney, and Miss Edith Mayward respectively. Miss Price is suitably depicted by Miss Kitty Whiteley; Mr. Victor Kerr gives general satisfaction as Lord Cheyne, and Mr. Guy Williams presents a delightfully comic and consistent personation of Brian Molyneaux. Mr. Charles Leverton is fully equal to the demands made on him as the Rev. Mr. Branscombe; Mr. Charles Caffrey submits an amusing and good-tempered little Cupid, and Mr. Eric Barrington's M. de L'Orme is a capital character-study.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—*A Traitor Prince* is here this week, the drama being presented by Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company. An efficient Prince Rao is found in Mr. George M. Montanini; Mr. T. P. McBride is a hearty Lieut. Derrick; the Hon. Bobby Dalrymple is cleverely portrayed by Mr. Len Philip; as Richard and Col. Vane, Mr. Austen H. Longford does well; Vashti is ably played by Miss Vesta Sandford; Miss Rose Routledge is a pleasing Lola Vane; Mrs. Martha Blossom is well-sustained by Miss Clara O'Grady; Pansy Blossom is vivaciously played by Miss Kitty Thomas.

SHEERNESS.—The Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—Harry Lynn and company hold the premier position on the bill here, appearing in the amusing comedy act, *Dead to the World*; Harry Wenburn, comedian, is paying a welcome return visit; the Three Pandoras gain applause for a well-deserved skipping-rope dance act; Martini and Son, illustrated song artists, are highly successful; Lily Watson, character comedienne, meets with a good reception; Charlotte Lunn is a pleasing comedienne; Joe Mac amuses with his smart patter, and Harry Bent, humorist, also deserves praise. The pictures complete the programme.

The Palace.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—The Nicholsons open the bill here with a laughable comedy act; Mr. Byden Currie as a comedian and mimic would be hard to beat. His banjo playing is good, and he also has a clever little dog; Miss Josie Watson is a smart burlesque actress; Mr. Phil Reymond, the popular comedian and character-actor, is a great favourite, his new songs being cleverly written and excellently rendered; Vaux is a smart society ventriloquist with plenty of humour, and Mr. Harry Royde is a clever comedian.

SHEFFIELD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Finely staged and acted with exhilirating vivacity, *The Duchess of Dantzic* again charmed the eye and pleased the ear of an enthusiastic audience on Monday. Miss Kitty Gordon was a graceful and bewitching Catherine; Miss Lily Edmunds was pretty and chic as Lizette; and other accomplished and handsome ladies were Miss Lilian Best, Miss Josephine McCarthy, Miss Nancy Hearne, and Miss Doris Greville. Mr. Frederick Moyes repeated his fine impersonation of the Emperor; Mr. H. C. Barry fairly revelled in the amusing part of Papillon; and Mr. Albert Chapman as the Duke was first-rate.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*A False Wife* was again presented to a Sheffield audience on Monday by Mr. F. Marriott Watson's company. Miss Florence E. Florence and Mr. F. Marriott Watson were again successful in leading parts, and the support was good all round.

Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The Temptress* was played for the first time in Sheffield on Monday by Mr. W. H. Hallett's company. In the title-rôle, Miss Lydia Donovan looked handsome in her charming costumes, and acted with considerable dramatic ability; Miss Ivy Chandos was a vivacious Rhoda Brown; Miss Grace James a graceful Marian Fordyce, and Miss Effie Bartlett a successful Madge. The character of Sir Oswald Fordyce was made an interesting study by Mr. Claud Ashworth; Mr. W. P. Sheen caused hilarity as Bob Tanner; Mr. Allen Carruthers made Francis Fitz-Fluke a most amusing personage; and Mr. Weldon Atherstone acted in a forcible manner as Lucas Denbigh.

Empire Palace.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. George Lashwood is again starring here, and singing his latest songs with his acustomed refinement and verve. Another Sheffield favourite is dainty and charming Miss Minnie Cunningham; Datas, the man of memory; Frank Maura, "the Mexican wonder"; Rose Naynon and her trained birds; Miss Clarice Netta, a talented soprano vocalist; Miss Jessie Burnett, comedienne; the Naples, expert dancers; the American Bioscope with new pictures, and Mr. Josh Dixon, a quaint comedian, are also among the attractions.

Grand Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Miss Frances Ferina, Mr. John Hitchins and company opened on Monday in *Pity the Blind*, and other performers billed were the Sisters Tinsley, duettists and dancers; Kit Keen, coloured comedian; the Davenports in their spiritualistic expose and illusions; Miss Mabel Le Roy, serio-comic, and Mr. Lester May, vocal comedian. A popular item is Pallister's Biograph.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—The charming musical dream-play, *Blue-Bell in Fairyland*, was performed here on the first three nights of the week. Mr. Lawrence Emery made a capable Dicky; Mr. Frank Lennard was very successful as the Sleepy King and Mr. Joplin; Mr. Harry Vernon and Mr. Will L. Clement were a clever pair of comedians as Blib and Blob; Miss Vera Vizard was a tuneful fairy; Mr. Albert Mack was agile and smart as Peter the cat; Miss Lily Olive acted creditably the part of Mrs. Hearty; Miss Maud Harris and Miss Rena Robertson were a talented pair as Mab and Winnie, and their coon dance was particularly well done; Miss Lily Eyton, in the important part of Bluebell, sang sweetly and exhibited talent in her acting; Miss Alys Eren was satisfactory in the rôle of a rich lady; Miss Hardee Fitch filled the dual parts of Dorothy and Will o' the Wisp in a praiseworthy manner; Mr. Sidney James as First Bootblack was extremely bright and smart; Mr. Jack Cremo acted creditably the part of the Reigning King; Miss Constance St. Bride a Reigning Queen and, later, the Water Lily, sang effectively; Miss Nellie March was pleasing as the Autumn Leaf; Mr. Edgar Pinge made an active and successful Yellow Dwarf.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Grand Theatre.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. William Greet's company is scoring heavily with *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. Alfred Donohoe does well as Jim Cheese; Mr. Thomas Kennard (Dick Wargrave) and Miss May Yates (Elphin Haye) both sing and act in delightful style, and others who lend efficient support are Miss Lina Hicks (Liza), Miss Kathleen Gerrard (Mrs. Black), Miss Ida Stratham (Daisy), Miss Winnie Plumpton (Miss Bliss), Mr. Leslie Owen (Hon. Crewe Boodle), and Mr. Ernest A. Plumpton, the smart stage manager, who plays Downham.

Palace.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—Mr. Fred. Maxwell and Co. again score a huge success with *The Heathen and the Christian*. Frances Haskoll wins applause for her illustrated songs; the Sisters Coolville, a shapely couple, dance well; the Du Gros trio excel in their gymnastic act; Harley and Harden prove an entertaining pair; Stewart and Morgan sing remarkably well; and G. C. Doughty and Co., with a merry little sketch, *Captain Cupid*, cause merriment.

Hippodrome.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—The best turn in the bill here is given by Shrillo, a wonderful whistler; Billy McClain's coloured sextette are smart dancers, and Farley, Rennie, and Farley evoke enthusiasm with their funny act *Fun at a Railway Station*; Bert Woodward, cycling coon; Talberto and Douglas, comedy artists; Two Whites, duettists and dancers; Chas. Banks and his dog Woof; and the Cratons, in a sketch, *Front and Behind*, also appear.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — Empire Theatre. — Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—*When London Sleeps* is proving an attraction this week, and Mr. Lester Cottingwood's company presents the piece in a striking manner. Mr. C. Wentworth, in the rôle of Captain Rodney Hayes, shows skill, and has capital assistance from Mr. Harry Barham as Mark Blackwood. David Engleheart as presented by Mr. Sam Arthur arouses much enthusiasm; Sammy Blyth is played successfully by Mr. D'Arcy Kelway; and Mr. Frank Howard is good as the Hon. Bertie Broomhead. Miss Mabel Scudamore impersonates Queenie Carruthers with ability; Miss Maud Yorke portrays Hilda Carode creditably; Carrie Jones is well taken by Miss Bessie Frank; and Maudie is interpreted successfully by Miss Daisy Clifford.

SOUTHPORT. — Opera House, Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—Mr. George Dance's chief company is this week presenting for the first time here the diverting musical comedy, *Lady Madcap*. Miss Isabelle Dillon undertakes the title-rôle with a chic and abandon eminently suited to the character; Mr. Harold Parkes, in the part of Oroya Brown, creates much merriment; Mr. Vincent Erne is a humorous Corporal Ham; Miss Ethel Beech a piquant and clever representative of Susan; and Miss Maud Davis a graceful and finished Gwenny Holden. Mr. J. Knox-Orde is a diverting Count de St. Hubert; and Mr. Ray Russell and Mr. James Graydon do full justice to the parts of Bill Stafford and Posh Jenkins.

Albert Hall Winter Gardens.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—After being closed for a week this popular variety hall was reopened on Monday, when an unusually large audience patronised the excellent all-round entertainment provided. The premier attraction was supplied by the engagement of Tom McInerney, the champion wrestler. The programme for the week embraced Daisy Davidson, the New Zealand soprano; Shang Hai, the Eastern magician, in his up-to-date performance, entitled "Orienta"; Evelyn Desa, banjoist, vocalist, and dancer; Fred Lyndo, eccentric comedian and dancer; Granho and Jackson, in their original scena, *In a Restaurant*; Stylo, loop juggler; the Violas, exponents of second sight; the Olive Trio, comedians and dancers; and the Bioscope with the latest films.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. P. Hutchison's company appeared here on Monday and Tuesday in *A Country Mouse*. Miss Lilias Earle is excellent as Lady Sylvia Bowlby, and Violet Aynsley is cleverly depicted by Miss Margaret Marshall. Miss Hilda Honiss gives a charming and natural delineation of Angela Munir. Jephcot is ably portrayed by Mr. Frank Hill. The parts of the Hon. Archibald Vyse, John Bowlby, M.P., the Duke of St. Kitts, and Lord Robert Wykeham are all skilfully handed by Mr. Templer Powell, Mr. Charles Bedells, Mr. Thomas Sydney, and Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox respectively. *Cousin Kate* is billed for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Boswell's Circus and stud of cantankerous mules and dogs provide a good deal of amusement; Tiny Winnie Wilmot, a child seven years of age, has made a successful debut, her singing and dancing charming the audiences; Burley and Burley are a couple of merry comedians; the child pianist, Hanid Alexandre, is accorded a good reception; Ford and Barris score in their singing and legmania turn; good cornet selections are contributed by Joly; and the remaining turns are Ernest Ball, actor-vocalist, Beatrice Willey, vocalist, Frank Sylvo, juggler-comedian, and the American Bioscope.

Tivoli.—The Ringling Trio provide a new and laughable entertainment, *A Manager's Lunch*; the Cape Girls are good vocalists, and neat top boot dancers; J. C. Scatter, in his local song and talk, does well; May and Arthur, in a comedy sketch, introduce some good coon singing and dancing. The remaining items are Lottie De Abbey, clever character delineator, Charles Ashdowne, eccentric comedian, and Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope.

STAFFORD. — Lyceum Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone. — Miss Rose Faith's company was the attraction here for the first three nights of the week with *No Cross, No Crown*. As Sir Francis Luthell, Mr. W. Carrenden submits a powerful portrayal; the villainous nature of Austin Blake is skilfully depicted by Mr. Herbert De Ville; Mr. Harrison Chapman is an able Professor Nebb; Mr. Fred Gresham is a highly humorous Dr. Ashby; Mr. C. George, a capable Rowson Haines; and as Clare, Miss Rose Faith proves her ability as an emotional actress. In the dual rôle of Lady Margaret Luttrell and Mistress Gray, Miss Gwen Stewart is very effective, and Miss Rita Rosslyn ably sustains the part of Dame Priscilla. For the last three nights of the week Mr. Geo. Dance's company, in the *Duchess of Dantzic*, was announced.

STALYBRIDGE.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Louis Ellison; General-Manager, Mr. Eugene E. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. D. Oswald.—The Three De Veres occupy the premier position in the programme, and are excellent in their acrobatic comedy speciality; the Cellos, too, are very acceptable in their musical turn; Maude Roma, comedienne, Pattie Bella, and Leslie and Player are very good in the comedy line; Joe Oliver, the singing coon, has an excellent voice; *Man and Wife* is a good comedy sketch, which occupies the attention of a quartette of artists; and *A Trip from Dover to Paris* on the Bioscope concludes the entertainment.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre Royal and Opera House, Ltd.—Proprietors, the St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—Mr. Auguste Van Biene and company opened here on Monday for three nights in the comedy drama, *The Broken Melody*. As Borinski Mr. Van Biene gave a powerful and skilful rendering of the part. He was well supported by Messrs. H. Ludlow (Ivanhoff); Faulkner Cox (Mortimer); C. A. Morgan (Dickson); Lawrence Grove (Beaujoir); Miss Typhia Morris (Mabel); Miss Rosie Lewis (Mrs. Dickson); and by Misses Mary Mannering and Rosemary Bees as Mrs. Spinnaker and the Duchess respectively.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—The Four Kweeries head the programme here this week in a sensational illusion. Others in an attractive bill are Geoffreyes and Benson in the sketch *Spoofed*; Will E. Haines, a clever character comedian; Bros. Harrison in *Quaint Concerts*; Bert Williams, an excellent ventriloquist; Amber Austin, coon singer and dancer; Allsop and Bekwith, comedy duo; Massona, the boy juggler; and the Barrascope.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—The first visit of Mr. George Dance's company in *Veronique* has been remarkably successful, large audiences having been attracted and evidently delighted with the performances. As Florestan Mr. J. Warren Foster acted ably and sang most pleasingly; Mr. Ellis Holland as Mons. Coquenard caused abundant laughter, and Mr. Tom Seymour as Mons. Loustot was amusing in a marked degree. Miss Nellie Wigley made a captivating Veronique, her vocalism commanding success; Miss Agnes Teady acted and sang with pleasing effect as Madame Coquenard, and Miss Edith Devonshire charmingly filled the part of the Countess de Champ d'Azar. The chorus is an excellent one, and the augmented orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. Clement Locknane.

Empire.—Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—De Biere and Co., illusionists, have mystified large audiences here throughout this week; Jimson's sketch, *The Burglar's Surprise*, is highly entertaining; George Hyam is an amusing comedian, and Reed and Leone, novel electric comedians, are a great success; King and Delane, in a refined comedy act, *At the Club*, are pleasing; Millie Denham's songs are acceptable; and the Lovelaces, song illustrators; Tim Johnstone, actor vocalist, and Arthur Slater, "the whistling man in white," comprise the remainder of the programme.

STOKE.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—Mr. F. V. St. Clair heads the bill here, and scores a huge success in his topical songs; a good sketch, *The Collar Stud*, is presented, Miss Edith Muir, and Messrs. Hubert Bartlett and Arthur Wallis are most successful in their respective parts; the Three Sisters Transfield contribute a capital musical turn; the Three Ladderites contribute a daring performance; the Zaracs, in their funny bar turn, are also clever; Barrington is a trick pianist whose turn is novel; Madge Daly is a pleasing vocalist; Johnny Worman is a capable comedian; and the Hippodrome Pictures are, as usual, excellent.

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Theatre.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—This week we are favoured with a return visit of Mr. Allen Malone with his company in *The Prince of Rogues*. Mr. George Rammell delineates the title-rôle in a capable manner; and Mr. Malone as Frank Farrell is prominent; Mr. Percy Sage as Josh Buggins is capital; and the same can be said of Mr. H. Evan Gibbon as Gilbert Kenry. Miss Georgina V. Thomas is a capable Rita Congreaves; and Miss Ethebred Smart wins favour as Winnie Harwood.

SUNDERLAND.—Avenue Theatre.—Manager and Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—Mr. George Dance's company in *The Orchid* is paying a welcome return visit here. Mr. Bertie Wright continues to fill with vivacity the rôle of Meakin, the gardener; the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour finds an apt exponent in Mr. Sinclair Holden; Mr. Edward Nainby is an amusing Comte Raoul de Cassignat; and Mr. Stenson Liddard makes the most of his opportunities as Aubrey Chesterton; Dr. Ronald Faussett is in the able hands of Mr. Louis du Cane; Miss Dorothy Firmin plays with chic the part of Lady Violet Anstruther, and her vocal efforts are worthy of special praise; as Caroline Vokins, Miss Emily Stevens is excellent; and the Zelie Rombert of Miss Florence Wakeman could not well be improved upon; Miss Ruby King ably fills the rôle of Thisbe; whilst Miss Desiree Desmond is a pleasing Josephine Zaccary.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's popular company in *Death or Glory Boys* drew a crowded house here on Monday night. Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson gives a powerful rendering of the somewhat difficult rôle of Captain Glyn Ferrers, and Mr. Jerrold Ord is particularly smart as Colonel Fergeson; Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson is a manly Jack Malden; whilst as Lieutenant Duff Mr. Lancelot Usher is clever and amusing; Miss Violet Carlyle gives a refined and pathetic rendering of Nena Fergeson, and Miss Amy Ellam is a winsome Edith; the Jane of Miss Marian Armitage could not well be improved upon.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Directors and Managers, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Alfred Brown and Syd. B. Stringer. —*The Casey Circus* (which headed the bills here last week) remains under engagement, and is as popular as ever; another diverting turn is that of the Five Delevines, in a most amusing act entitled *Flipp and Flopp*; George Collins, a comedian of considerable ability, is heartily received; Lade Henderson is a clever character vocalist; the Three Sisters Chester score by their smart dances, songs, &c.; the Jalvans prove themselves to be jugglers and top spinners of no mean order; the Crown Trio please by their various musical items; Athas and Collins are a clever comedy couple. The entertainment winds up with an admirable show of animated pictures.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Edward Gray.—*The Three Little Maids* (Mr. Charles Macdona's company) opened here on Monday. Miss Mabel Kerridge as Ada scores distinctly; and Miss Bessie Walters as Hilda and Miss Edith Colley as Edna are also good. The Lord Cheyne of Mr. J. Herbert Willis is a fine performance; and the Cupid of Mr. Joseph Edwards causes loud laughter, and, together with Miss May Wright, who plays Gretchen capitally, gains well-merited applause; Lady St. Malloy is played in excellent fashion by Miss Kate Graham Beck.

SWINDON.—Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—On Monday a crowded house greeted Mr Fred Karno's company in that amusing musical comedy *Saturday to Monday*. Brightly staged, the piece goes with a swing, and the audience is kept in continuous laughter by a capable company, headed by that clever comedian, Mr. Rolando Martin, who, as John Willie Jaggs, proves himself to be the right man in the right place. He is ably supported by Miss Amy Rogerson, very pleasing as Clorinda; and Miss Daisy Stone, bright as Violet Blake. As Jaggs's offsprings, Mr. V. Crawford, Mr. Patten, and Master T. McDonagh, are highly successful in providing much fun. Miss Ada Maskell, Mr. J. W. Bradbury, Mr. Dick Harcourt, and Mr. C. H. Summers all work well in their respective parts.

TONYPANDY. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ridgewood Barrie.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe and company are on a return visit here with *Lady Godiva*. The name-part, as assumed by Miss Ethel Griffies, was an unqualified success; Miss Katherine Brook won approval as Lady Aldyth; Miss Edith Lorraine was suitably placed as Elfride; Mr. F. B. Woulfe presented the part of Tom in a thoroughly acceptable manner; Mr. Wm. Macready ably represented Algar; the part of Leofric was well sustained by Mr. R. Leath-Innes; Mr. A. E. Dunstan was an excellent Edgar; Mr. Rob Anderson was an effective Robin Shackleton; and Unwolf Unwolfson was in the capable hands of Mr. Ernest Hamilton. *Nell Gwynne* and *Jane Shore* were presented during the week.

TORQUAY. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. A. Pearse.—*The Night of the Party* opened to an uproarious house on Monday, when the extremely funny doings of Mr. Sebastian Smith as Mr. Crosbie kept the audience in continuous laughter. All the characters were well placed, and the Lady Hampshire of Miss Evelyn Howard was a charming performance. Mr. Edmund T. Sayers made a capital Alderman Oargen; Mr. Aiden Lovatt was a dignified Sir Charles Hampshire; and Mr. Frank H. Denton a manly, pleasing Mr. Frayne. Mention should also be made of Miss Lena Graham, Miss Stanley Ronalds, Miss Maude Linden, Mr. Douglas Munro, and Mr. Ernest Rivarz.

TREHERBERT. — Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Poole; Manager, Mr. J. Gunn.—C. H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury opened here on Monday with *The Blind Foundling*. Mr. Chas. H. Phelps gave an excellent reading of the part of Gerald Dalton; Mr. Frank Harvey made an admirable Parson Ray; Mr. Alfred Fry, as the adventurer, Mark Redman, proved successful; Mr. Bernard Webb was responsible for the part of Jasper Waterford; Dick Dobbins was in the capable hands of Mr. Harry Tilbury, who caused roars of laughter; Mr. John Byron deserves mention as Agly Fitzcholomondly; Miss Bella Tilbury, as Isabel, was pleasing and capable; Miss Millie Doris, as Winnie Dobbins, kept the audience in a merry mood with her humour and songs.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—The Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Manager, Mr. L. J. Gunnell.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company in *The Span of Life*, fills the bill for the week. Mr. R. L. Trelawney makes a dashing hero in the character of Dick Blunt, and is ably supported by Miss Ella Willmer as the leading lady; Mr. Sanderson Moffat gives a powerful impersonation of the villain, while the comedy parts are played with much humour by Miss Kitty Russell as the maid and Mr. Walter Hale as Nutty Brown. The latter two introduce some specialities of song and dance in the third act, in which also the Almo Trio, who form the human bridge, which is the feature of the play, give a very clever acrobatic performance, including the Comedy Three bar act; Miss M. Douglas is a clever juvenile who doubles the parts of the youthful brothers, while Miss Phyllis Hamilton as Mr. Jelf, Mr. Jas. Barrett as Joshua Garnett, Mr. Chas. Noel as the Inspector, and Mr. J. Peterfell as Azreck all contribute some excellent work in their respective parts.

WAKEFIELD.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—*The Gay Parisienne* is being presented here this week by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Mr. Will Harman evokes much merriment by his rendering of Ebenezer Honeycomb; Miss Evelyn Hughes is dainty and lively in the title-rôle; Mr. Horace Lingard does well as Major Fossdyke; Mr. Clifford Seyler is clever as M. Pompier; Mr. Edgar Ashwyn is admirable in vocal effects as Tom Eversleigh; Miss Madge Soutter is quaint and amusing as Ruth; Miss Holford Beringer is seen to advantage as Mrs. Honeycomb; and Miss Ethel Iviney is pleasing as Nora Honeycomb.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—The Cumberlands, acrobatic cycling wonders, head the bill this week; Cliff and Kean are always popular here; Mlle. Zelda scores in a musical turn; Mr. Albert Ventnor, comedian, makes a hit; Mr. J. H. Carney, comedian, dances well; and Wal Owen, silent comedian, is amusing.

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—A big novelty here is Fred Ginnett's *Rejected Remounts*, which is creating oceans of fun. Marie Santoi and her Merry Little Japs are much appreciated; James Toner, the singing newsboy, is successful; the Welsh Wanderers, a troupe of singers and a harpist, are loudly encored; Bugler Carr is a talented musician and equilibrist; Jack Pleasants is a comedian of no mean merit; the bioscope pictures, *The Phantom Motorists*, are amusing.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Miss Frances Delaval's company, in *The Biggest Scamp on Earth*, is playing here to appreciative audiences. The villainy of Derrick Knight was displayed to perfection by Mr. Herbert Cecil; as Vivian Wakefield Mr. Fred Lillywhite scored largely; and Miss Frances Delaval's Naomi Belvedere is a clever character part. Mr. Leslie Yorke distinguishes himself as the father of Derrick; Mr. G. Osmond Tearle is an ideal showman, and as proprietor of the Hall of Mystery gives a meritorious performance; Mr. Jas. Stewart as Rufus does well; Miss Clare O'Sullivan is charming as Irene; Mrs. Edmund Lyons as Mother Hawke, Miss Hetty Stewart as the nurse girl, and Miss Carrie Johnson as Bobby, are effective.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company is reappearing here this week in *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr. H. Tripp Edgar, as Lieut. Beresby, is responsible for a clever realisation of that character; a dignified and earnest Viscount Dorsington is Mr. Oswald Lingard; and as the traitorous Colonel Hungerford, Mr. Richard A. Greene acts with good effect; Mr. George Traill does well as Colonel Sir Henry Curwen; a remark which also applies to Mr. Alec Flood, as Colonel Bagshawe; Mr. Aubrey Fitzmaurice, as Captain Stanhope; and Mr. Henry Burnard, as Captain Rashleigh; the Hon. Francis Tresham is well presented by Mr. Cecil C. Klein; Miss Celestine Bertram is a piquant and interesting Batty; Miss Florence Tressilian a tender and lovable Hon. Margaret; and Miss Madge Sagny a kindly Mrs. Bagshawe.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The Jackley Wonders head the bill here this week, and the marvellous acrobatic performance is watched nightly with astonishment; Ryder Slone is an accomplished comedian; Charles Craston wins favour with his songs; the boy Glen is a smart youth; Maggie Rimmer is a dainty comedienne; and Sid Brandon sings well; Bliss and Bliss also appear; and the Bioscope adds to the attraction.

WEDNESBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. J. Battersby.—Miss Marie Dagmar's company is here in the new sensational drama, entitled *A Beautiful Criminal*. Miss Marie Dagmar plays with artistic taste as Elinor D. Arville; Mr. C. Somerfield, in the important part of Will Maynard, is capable; the parts of Cyril Langdon and Geoffrey Langdon are effectively delineated by Mr. Roy Fortesque; a well-studied rôle is that of Leonard Vimbert, presented by Mr. T. G. Vane; and Mr. Alec Findlater makes the most of the part of Harold Hingston; Miss Cherry Veheyne is seen to advantage as Phœbe, Miss Amy Naughton does well as Florette de Vere, and the comedy part of Janet Miles is in the worthy hands of Miss Molly Monaghan.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Manager, Mr. Herbert Vere.—Mr. Morton Powell's company opened here on Monday night with the stirring drama, *The Woman Who Gambles*." The piece is well staged, and the company includes Mr. James Duncan, who makes a capital Count Otto Steinbach; the Countess is cleverly sustained by Miss Gertrude Hunt; the strong-willed Baron Cratzlaw is undertaken by Mr. Horatio Sinclair, whose forcible acting evokes admiration; Mr. Reginald Fox portrays the character of Lieut. Karl Ctzarteriskl with dramatic power; Mr. Ernest H. Clarke is well-placed as the Chief of Police; Mr. J. O. Stevenson causes amusement in the part of the Hon. Bertie Bray; Mr. Fred Prior is good as Peter Peteroff; Cora Gouldhart has a clever exponent in Miss Florrie Halton; Miss Brenda May is all that one could desire in the character of Zanette; Miss Florrie Hall is a capital Zila Zeyelda; Miss Lily Malvern is a striking Stella Melakoff.

New Hippodrome.—Managing Director, Mr. T. M. Sylvestor; Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—Harry Tate's *Motoring* sketch heads the bill here this week; a smart turn is submitted by Charles Dixon; a clever and interesting little sketch is introduced by Ernest Montefiore, entitled *The Little Colonel*; Johnny Fuller proves himself a clever acrobat and dancer; a distinctly effective turn is that of Takio, who is well received; Charles Lilburn gives a pleasing show; Hick's Clerks, in a musical sketch, entitled *A Day at the Seaside*, keeps the audience in almost continuous laughter; the Hippodrome Pictures also add to the enjoyment of the evening.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—Mr. George Testo Sante and company are playing this week *The Life of a Showman*. Mr. G. T. Sante in the rôle of Brien Leader gives a firm exhibition of strength; the heavy part of Kendrick Marais is in the capable hands of Mr. Logan Darra, and that of Agatha Winter is safely entrusted to Miss Amy McNeill. Some pleasing violin selections are introduced by Mr. J. G. Sante, who plays with effect the part of Laurie Grey; and others who deserve commendation are Mr. F. Gwyn Richardson as Sir Noel, Mr. Edward Warden as the Rev. Cyril Arliss, Miss E. Bamford as Lena Hartland, and Miss Grace Harlington as Angelina Mutton.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—J. W. Rowley's geniality and amusing patter make him a great favourite here. The comedy act of Cullen, Carthy, and Cluley is overflowing with original comicalities. The selections (especially on the glasses) by the Musical Silvo evoke applause. The Five Bon Bons are old favourites who are more popular than ever. Almon as an upside-down performer is undoubtedly clever. The Bio-Tableaux are interesting. Clever indeed are the impersonations by Harry Thurston. The remaining items on the programme, which meet with deserved favour, are Grace Langelly, a smart and graceful coon and dancer; Minnie D'Aubyn, an attractive burlesque artist; and some up-to-date films on Raymond's Bioscope.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne. —Mr. Fred J. Kirke's company opened here on Monday, in *The Naval Detective*. Mr. Kirke gave a thoroughly good interpretation of Lieut. Jack Beresford; Mr. Frank Beaulieu was sufficiently villainous as Dr. Schreiner; Mr. Mark Practice made an excellent Captain Hustle; the Hon. Bertie Fairlox was facetiously portrayed by Mr. Walter T. Hybert; Mr. Chas. Burns was good as Hans Winklepump; as Susan Scrubbs Miss Edith Claris was decidedly funny; Miss Annie Brunette was successful as Lulu Kaufmann; and Miss Lily Seymour made a praiseworthy Rebecca Gentle.

WEST STANLEY.—Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; Responsible-Manager, Mr. John Cassidy.—Mr. John H. Negus's company, in *A Miserable Marriage*, is here this week. Mr. George D. Knight gives a fine portrayal of Arthur Cameron; Mr. W. Robert Barbour is a clever Arron Hewsemann; Miss Madge Northcote represents the part of Lizzie Bowman in capital style; Miss Nellie Fern is good as Lady Cameron; Miss Shirley Dalton ably sustains the rôle of Agnes; Mr. Fred Carroll scores as Joseph Midgers; the part of Jefferies, the tramp, is effectively played by Mr. J. B. Elliott; Mr. E. A. Ryleston acts well as Simeon; Tom Willett is carefully portrayed by Mr. E. A. Stanley.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. F. L. Connynghame is paying a welcome return visit with *A Mother's Love*. Mr. Arthur Mervyn gives a striking impersonation of Paul Wingate; Mr. Arthur E. Prince is responsible for some powerful acting as Geoffrey Mannering; Mr. F. L. Connynghame creates much amusement as Mat Ruddock; Miss M. Lavinia Ellie is a clever Ellaine Mervin; Miss Dorothy Monkhouse ably fills the part of Mary Stuart; Miss Holly Haslewood is responsible for some good work as Marjorie Wing

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DAS BLUMENBOOT,"
Play, in Four Acts and an Interlude, by Hermann Sudermann, produced at the Lessing Theatre, Oct. 6, 1906.

Hoyer ..... HERR FORST
Baronin Erffingen ..... FRAULEIN LISSI
Raffaëla ..... FRAULEIN HOFMANN
Thea ..... FRAULEIN WURST
Baron Erffingen ..... HERR SAUER
Broesemann ..... HERR RITTNER
Fred ..... HERR GRIMWALD
Graf Sperner ..... HERR MARR
Bollmann ..... HERR REICHER
Stroessel ..... HERR MEINHARD
Griesling ..... HERR BASSERMANN
Sonja ..... FRAULEIN EBERTY
Paula ..... FRAULEIN BENEDICK
Clara ..... FRAULEIN ALBRECHT
Arthur ..... HERR JUILLERAT
Gottlieb ..... HERR MARX
Junges Mädchen ..... FRAULEIN DIEKMANN
Julius ..... HERR TRUSER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, OCT. 11.—A Sudermann *première* is always a red-letter event in our theatrical annals, and, needless to say, every seat in the house was filled. Among the audience were managers from every part of the country, besides distinguished literary, social, and artistic luminaries. It may be stated at once that the new play was a distinct success, the esteemed author being compelled to appear many times in response to enthusiastic applause. The action passes—as in many of Herr Sudermann's plays—in the "milieu" of up-to-date fashionable Berlin circles. Some of the critics detect a resemblance to the plot of a former successful play by the same author—*Sodom's Ende*. With a pen that cannot quite be termed "scathing," but rather wittily and amiably satirical, Herr Sudermann exposes the follies and frailties of a certain class in his own masterly manner. He shows us how bad we are, how good we ought to be, but at the same time we confidently hope that not all our mothers and daughters are as naughty as the Baroness Erffingen and her young daughter Thea. The former is a kind of modernised Lucrezia Borgia. Her first husband shot one of her lovers in a duel, and, when left a widow, she married another of the numerous throng. Now she is a widow for the second time, with two daughters—Raffaëla and Thea. The Baroness, despite her grey hairs, is at heart the rake and voluptuary she ever was, and her maxim is to make her daughters like her, astonishing as this may seem. She declares they shall inherit her love of life and beauty, her savoir vivre—her love of love itself, and in Thea, the younger, she finds a willing disciple. Thea is a slangy, cheeky child, a demi-vierge, but with a certain fascination and occasional better impulses. She declines the Count her mother had selected for her, and marries (in the second act) her cousin Fred, an idle young good-for-nothing, also with occasional better intentions. Thea, it is true, makes her conditions before entering into the matrimonial compact; one is that they pass the wedding-night in the circus café, "To the Merry Guinea-pig," the other is perfect liberty in the matter of incidental *amours*, each agreeing to tell the other his and her adventures. To all this Fred consents, and the "interlude"—passed in the Merry Guinea-pig—is the best thing of the kind Herr Sudermann has ever written. The various types of the showman world are there, and a come-down gentleman clown says some plain truths to the frivolous bride. Thea's elder sister Raffaëla is married to a wealthy merchant—Broesemann, who pretty nearly keeps the whole family. Raffaëla would have been perfectly happy with her worthy husband had not poisonous thoughts been instilled into her mind by her mother and sister. It being considered a *sine qua non* that a married woman must have a lover, Frau Broesemann takes one to herself, with the result that her husband kills him with a boat-hook at a garden fête. This wakes up the foolish Thea and Fred to a better state of things, and the former is cured of her wish to make her "life like a flower-boat, with music and laughter all around—a dream of bliss." The play was faultlessly acted, new to the company being Fräulein Ida Wuest, a young and extremely talented artist.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Successful Musical Play, entitled
"A COUNTRY GIRL."

A Country Girl is always a favourite with Peckham audiences, and another visit from this sparkling and melodious musical comedy shows that it has by no means exhausted its power to attract. Mr. George Dance's company give a presentation of the piece which is acceptable in every respect. Mr. Coningsby Brierley is the life and soul of the performance as the irrepressible Barry, singing and dancing throughout the evening with much cleverness. Mr. John M. Hay is very acceptable as Geoffrey Challoner, his song of "Girlie" in the second act being delivered with much success. Miss Cissie Sephton as Mme. Sophie ably assists Mr. Coningsby Brierley in his duets, acting and singing with much vivacity and charm. She scored a great success in "Hello, little girl!" Miss Ellaline Thorne is good as Nan, her assumption of the country accent being admirable, and she rendered "Under the bamboo tree" in capital style. Miss Ernestine Desborough uses her fine voice to great advantage as the Princess Melaneh and her superb rendering of "Under the Deodar" is one of the features of the evening. Mr. F. J. Rooney sings well, and is a dignified Rajah of Bhong, but his make-up is scarcely in keeping with the part. Miss Barbara Babington looks very attractive as Marjory Joy, and possesses a very sweet voice. Mr. H. A. Mather presents a clever study of senility as Granfer Mummery, and Mr. Charles Stafford does all that is possible with the rôle of Douglas Verity. Mr. Arthur Jackson is amusing as the fussy old baronet, Sir Joseph Verity, and Miss Leslie St. John is a dignified Lady Anchester. The minor parts are all creditably played, and full justice is done to the various concerted numbers by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Herbert Robinson. Mr. George Blunt acts as business-manager, and Mr. Charles Stafford as stage-manager.

WILLIAM MORGAN JUBILEE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—"Lest they forget," will you kindly permit me, through the medium of your columns, to call the attention of the many friends of Mr. William Morgan to the forthcoming celebration at Scarborough, when, as a recognition of fifty years of management, he will be entertained at a banquet, over which the Earl of Londesborough will preside, and be presented with a testimonial of the esteem in which he is held by the members of the dramatic and musical professions and other friends?

Mr. Morgan, as manager of the early Bradford theatres and proprietor of the Aquarium at Scarborough, of which city he has twice served the office of Mayor, is so well esteemed that I feel sure his friends only need this gentle reminder to make them anxious to participate in this interesting celebration. Mr. Valentine Fowler, of Scarborough, as hon. secretary, will be pleased to give all further particulars.—Yours faithfully,

EDWARD TERRY.

THE Prince of Wales' Theatre, Liverpool, which was unsuccessfully offered at auction last week, has been sold privately for business purposes.

DEATH OF STEFANO GATTI.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Stefano Gatti, who, after a long and painful illness from cancer, passed away at his private residence in Bedford-square, on Friday, the 12th inst., at the age of sixty-four.

Mr. Gatti was a native of Dongio, Canton Tessin, Switzerland. His uncle, Carlo Gatti, came to London in the fifties, and opened a café in Villiers-street, Hungerford Market, close to Charing Cross Railway Station. The business proved so successful that Carlo Gatti invited his nephews, his only relatives, to England to help him in its management. Agostino and Stefano Gatti left their native place for London, and both of them took an active share in the ordinary daily work. At the suggestion of Stefano, chops and steaks were added to the daily menu; and the engagement of a string band to play while the customers were eating their dinner was also his idea. The business greatly prospered. In 1862 Messrs. Agostino and Stefano Gatti left the shop in Villiers-street, and took a lease of the Adelaide Gallery, Strand, which they opened with music. But they reckoned without the Vicar of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, who opposed the music, and his efforts resulted in the band being discharged. Both brothers, however, were determined to succeed, and diligently stuck to their work.

Eight years later the brothers, with characteristic boldness, secured a lease of one of the biggest houses in London, Covent Garden Theatre, where Arditi and Riviere were the conductors, from 1873 onwards, of a series of promenade concerts, at which appeared many of the most celebrated vocalists and instrumentalists of the day. *Jack and the Beanstalk*, with *Sinbad the Sailor* and *Valentine and Orson*, were also produced by the Gattis during the Christmas seasons at the close of the "seventies," when admirable mounting and clever artists helped to secure undoubted success. The brothers Gatti next assumed the

THE LATE MR. STEFANO GATTI.

tenancy of the Adelphi, in succession to Mr. F. B. Chatterton, and commenced a series of productions which may be said to occupy an important page in the theatrical history of that period. Among these were Dion Boucicault's final efforts, *Forbidden Fruit* and *The O'Dowd*, and *Michael Strogoff*, with its river of fire, and Henry J. Byron in the part of the war correspondent. The first great success was *Taken from Life*, written by the late Henry Pettitt, and produced in December, 1881. In the following year Edwin Booth appeared at the Adelphi in *The Fool's Revenge*, his Bertuccio being a very powerful performance. It was in 1883 that Mr. George R. Sims, in combination with Mr. Pettitt, wrote *In the Ranks*. The partnership proved a remarkable success, and was continued until death dissolved it. *The Harbour Lights* was also received with enthusiasm, and had a long run. Dramas by Wilkie Collins, Robert Buchanan, Charles Reade, Comyns Carr, and Haddon Chambers, well acted and finely mounted, were produced, but the Pettitt and Sims plays were by far the most successful. William Terriss succeeded Charles Warner as leading man, and in such dramas as *The Union Jack*, *The Silver Falls*, &c., rendered himself a supreme favourite, his handsome person and bold, breezy style exactly fitting him for the heroes of Adelphi melodrama. In 1889 he made a trip to America, and his place was filled in the interim by George Alexander, Kyrle Bellew, Chas. Warner, and Henry Neville. Some three or four years later Terriss, who had meanwhile fulfilled engagements at Drury Lane and the Lyceum, returned to the Gattis, and successfully appeared in *The Swordsman's Daughter*, *Boys Together*, *In the Days of the Duke*, and other dramas. Mrs. Patrick Campbell also achieved a notable triumph in that effective melodrama, *The Trumpet Call*, produced some fifteen years ago. Pettitt's death and Terriss's cruel assassination in December, 1897, had a serious effect upon Adelphi melodrama, and its popularity gradually but surely declined. In 1898 *Charlotte Corday* was produced, with Mrs. Brown-Potter and Kyrle Bellew in the leading rôles. Gillette made a real success in *Secret Service*, but *The Heart of Maryland* did not have a very long career. A well-remembered event was the appearance here of Sarah Bernhardt as Hamlet in 1899. During their long life both brothers retained their attachment for their mother-country, and were elected as Members of the House of Assembly.

Mr. Agostino Gatti, when he died—a millionaire leaving six children, willed all his property to Stefano, who now is succeeded in his business by his two nephews, Messrs. John and Rocco Gatti, who have been associated with their uncle for some time in the superintendence of a large business, which, in addition to the restaurants, includes the active management of the Vaudeville Theatre, which they acquired in 1892.

The late Mr. Gatti was the founder of the Charing Cross Electricity Supply Corporation, in which he had a large interest. He was the owner of a great deal of property in the Strand, and was a man of immense wealth. In character he was very unostentatious, and gave money to charity with great liberality. He numbered many friends, especially among the members of the theatrical profession, and was personally very popular. Mr. Stefano Gatti never married. He felt the loss of old companions and friends very deeply, and the brutal murder of William Terriss, on the threshold of the Adelphi Theatre, gave him a terrible shock, from which it is believed he never wholly recovered.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral of the late Mr. Stefano Gatti took place on Tuesday. At the requiem mass at 10 a.m. at St. Patrick's Church, Soho, the officiating priests were Canons Bere and Surmont, and Fathers Subra, Sheen, Quinn, Conway, Bendon, Brown, and McGuckin. Three of these reverend gentlemen—namely, Fathers Bendon, Conway, and McGuckin—took part in the funeral service at the graveside in St. Mary's Cemetery, Kensal Green. The principal mourners were Mrs. Agostino Gatti (sister-in-law), Mr. John Gatti (nephew), Mrs. John Gatti, Mr. Rocco Gatti (nephew), Miss Gatti (niece), Baroness de Ville (niece), and the Baron de Ville, who occupied the first two coaches. Following in the funeral carriages were also Mr. Geo. R. Sims, Mr. Richard Butler, the Very Rev. Canon Surmont, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. J. M. Glover, Mr. Mervyn Dene, Mr. Walter Gibbons, Mr. G. H. Glasier, Mr. R. Chadwick, Consul Julius Sichel and Son, Mr. Herbert Blackmore, Mr. Herbert Clark, Mr. C. Dundas Slater, Mr. Fladgate (solicitor), Mr. E. W. Seale, Mr. Clyde Young, Mr. Henri Gros, Mr. H. Wilson, Mr. E. A. Baker, Mr. R. A. Northcott, Mr. A. Monica, Mr. M. R. Morand, Mr. John Pritchard, Mr. A. E. Grant, Mr. Joseph Lyons, Mr. St. John Brenon, Mr. A. Moore, Mr. E. A. Morton, Mr. Joseph Davis, Mme. Mona, Mr. E. Johnson, Major Nunn, Mr. R. Chadwick, Mr. Alec Knowles, Colonel Clifford Probyn, Miss Louie Pounds, Mr. Arthur Williams, Mr. Courtice Pounds, Mr. Leslie Stuart, Mr. Walter Slaughter, Mr. Ivan Caryll, Mr. Walter Dickson, Miss Clara Jecks, Mr. Edward Jones, Mr. Leonard Merrick, Mr. Herbert Brown, Miss Ethel Newman, Miss Camille Clifford, Mr. W. Lestocq, Mr. J. W. Mathews, and Mr. Walter Emden.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Edward Terry, and Mr. George Dance sent telegrams expressive of their sympathy and their regret at being unable to attend the funeral. Telegrams and letters of condolence came from all parts of England and the Continent. Some thirty or forty carriages were in waiting to convey the mourners, but several theatrical managers and others who could not take advantage of them went to the cemetery in their own private broughams and motor-cars. Among others who were present at the interment were the staffs of the various business concerns with which the deceased gentleman was associated, including the Adelphi Restaurant and the Charing Cross Electricity Supply Corporation, of which the late Mr. Gatti was a director.

Mr. Stefano Gatti is laid to rest in the vault in which his brother, Mr. Agostino Gatti, who died in January, 1897, was interred. The coffin bore the following inscription:—

STEFANO GATTI.
Died 12th October, 1906,
Aged 61 years.
R.I.P.

The number of wreaths was very great, and required three separate hearses to convey them. They were borne in front of the coffin. Among the senders were Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. Beerbohm Tree ("a token of affectionate remembrance") and Mr. Arthur Bourchier (both of whom were prevented by provincial engagements from being present); Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Slaughter, Mr. Leslie Stuart, Mr. C. H. Brookfield, the Baron and Baroness de Ville, Mr. C. H. Taylor, Mr. Herbert Clark (business-manager of the Vaudeville Theatre), Major Nunn, Mr. J. P. Mendoza, Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, the City Swiss Club, the Unione Ticinese, Mrs. D'Oyly Carte, Mr. and Mrs. Dundas Slater, Mr. and Mrs. Monico, Mr. W. F. Fladgate, Mr. Brandon Thomas, Mr. H. E. Haines, the officers and staff of the Charing Cross and Strand Electricity Supply Coropration, Messrs. W. Younger and Co., Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Kelly, Mr. George Shelton, Miss Clara Jecks, Mr. Sidney Smith and staff of Drury Lane Theatre, Mme. Suzanne Adams, Miss Zena Dare, Miss Phyllis Dare ("inloving memory of a dear and kind friend"), Miss Cynthia Latham, Mr. J. W. Mathews, Mrs. Joseph Lyons, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Latham, J. Lyons and Co., Mr. John Pritchard, Mr. Frederick Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Collins, Mr. and Mrs. George Ashton, Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, Mr. Herbert Blackmore, Mr. Neil Forsyth, Mr. F. W. Wyndham (Edinburgh), Miss W. Hart-Dyke, Mlle. Adeline Génée, Mr. Walter Dickson, Mr. H. J. Hitchins, staff of the Empire Theatre, Mr. Edward Jones (musical-director) and Orchestra of the Vaudeville Theatre, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Terry, the working staff of the Vaudeville Theatre Mr. Charles Hawtrey ("in memory of my dear friend"), Mr. T. Mc. D. Dendle, the members of *The Belle of Mayfair* London and touring companies, Mr. A. Knowles, Mr. S. E. B. Seale, Mr. Walter Gibbons, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Seale, the directors of the Alhambra Theatre, Mr. R. Chadwick, Consul Julius Sichel, Mr. Carl Sichel, Mr. G. R. Sims, Mr. Richard Butler, Mr. G. H. Brougham Glasier, Mr. and Mrs. Golding Bright, Mr. Harry Wilson, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Temperley. Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Hicks sent a wreath "With the deepest sympathy and ever loving and affectionate remembrance of dear 'Uncle,' from Ella and Seymour Hicks." The Vaudeville staff tribute bore the inscription "In affectionate remembrance of our good friend and ever kindly manager." The performers in *The Belle of Mayfair* sent "In loving and affectionate remembrance from his company." The Adelaide Gallery staff sent a magnificent floral harp as a "Token of love and profound respect," and the Adelphi Restaurant staff also sent a beautiful wreath.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Musical Play entitled
"THE GIRL BEHIND THE COUNTER."

With two such London "stars" as Miss Isabel Jay and Mr. Hayden Coffin in the cast, *The Girl Behind the Counter* came to Stratford on Monday night with excellent credentials, and the packed audience that assembled to witness the piece gave eloquent testimony of their appreciation. Undoubtedly Mr. Fred Fredericks's enterprise in booking such a strong attraction with Mr. Frank Curzon's actual company from Wyndham's Theatre should result in a heavy week's business. Miss Jay makes a delightful Winnie Willoughby, and her exquisite vocalism enchants everyone. "Life is just what you make it" is a very charming contribution, and her duets with Mr. Hayden Coffin are rapturously received. Mr. Coffin has, of course, a part that suits him exactly as Charles Chetwynd, and he looks equally at home either as the returned gold digger or in the Court garb of the second act. "The land where the best man wins" and "Some day" afford excellent scope for his great vocal ability. Mr. J. F. McArdle scores a great success as General Sir Wilkie Willoughby and his "Sir Walter Raleigh" burlesque is one of the funniest thing imaginable. All too little is seen of the phlegmatic waiter of the Baron's Court Exhibition, as impersonated by Mr. George Barrett, whose drollery is quite irresistible. Mr. G. Davy Burnaby makes a decided hit in the light comedy rôle of Lord Gushington, and his rendering of "Beastly, awfully jolly!" goes wonderfully well. Miss Violet Englefield makes a very prepossessing Millie Mostyn, and sings "Enid" with appropriate naïveté. Mr. Lionel Victor makes the most of his opportunities as the office boy, Adolphus Dodd, and, besides his own vocal efforts, shares the success of a very pretty duet—"Greenaways"—with Miss Kathleen Courtney. The latter as Susie plays in bright and engaging style; and Miss Helene Rose as Ninette is decidedly successful. Mr. Fred Allandale cleverly depicts the volatile Monsieur Duval; Miss Violet Crossley fulfils all requirements as Lady Willoughby; Rudolf, the commissionaire, is excellently played by Mr Ernest W. Laceby; and Mr. A. E. E. Edwardes does well as the doleful-looking waiter Joseph. The orchestra is this week augmented, and is conducted by Mr. Howard Talbot, the composer of the music. Mr. J. Herbert Jay is Mr. Curzon's general manager for the tour, and Mr. E. F. Bradley is the courteous acting-manager.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN WORSWICK.

With the death of Mr. John Worswick, managing-director of the Royal Court Theatre and the Hippodrome, Wigan, is closed a most remarkable and eventful career. "All the world's a stage, and one man in his time plays many parts." This truism finds no greater amplification in the business world than in the life's work of Mr. Worswick, who, in the course of the sixty-six years that he lived, had been in succession factory hand, bellman and sword-bearer to the ancient borough of Wigan, publican, bill-poster, actor, theatre proprietor, ironmonger and general furnisher, company director, and interested in various other businesses. A shrewd and calculating business man, he was the master of resource in an emergency, and many are the stories that are told of him in the exercise of these qualities. A man of strong determination and will-power, he carried to success every undertaking he took in hand, and throughout his time personally supervised every detail of his commercial affairs. His illness developed serious symptoms four weeks ago, and culminated with his death at his residence at St. Anne's-on-Sea on Friday evening, the 12th inst.

Mr. Worswick was born at 118, Chapel-lane, Wigan, on Nov. 7, 1839. At the early age of nine years, as was customary at that time before the days of factory legislation, he was placed in the same mill in which his father was employed—Tipping's Mill, Henhurst Bridge, Chapel Lane. Two years later, after his day's work in the factory, he used to assist the actors at the Theatre Royal, now demolished, and this brought him in contact with many of the leaders of the theatrical world of that day, and greatly influenced the course of his future life. In 1860 he ceased working in the mill, and began to sell tea round the country-side. He did so well that he was able to purchase a horse and cart, and entered into business as a carrier between Wigan and Hindley. On June 11, 1863, Mr. Worswick was appointed bellman—an

Photo by Crippen.

THE LATE MR. JOHN WORSWICK.

office which carried with it the duties of sword-bearer in civic ceremonies and bill-poster to the Corporation of Wigan. The last-mentioned part of his work laid the foundation of one of the most extensive bill-posting business in the Kingdom, viz.—John Worswick and Sons.

In 1864 he commenced to share and "farm" entertainments in Wigan, and surrounding Lancashire towns, including Southport and Blackpool. These were in the "good old and prosperous days," and the ventures proved very successful. Amongst the companies he toured was Sam Hague's original negro minstrel troupe. Mr. Worswick himself was a clever actor, and frequently appeared as substitute at the theatre, etc., and was ever in demand in amateur stage-play performances for charitable purposes. In 1884 he bought a share in a wooden building erected as a circus in the Market-square at Wigan, and worked it to advantage as a music-hall. In May, 1886, in partnership with Mr. H. L. Gee, he leased land in King-street, and erected the Royal Court Theatre, a handsome and well-equipped building, which was opened in November of the same year. In 1890 he took up an interest in the old Theatre Royal, upon the stage of which he had appeared many times in various rôles, chiefly Shakespearian. He also managed the theatre for various lessees and witnessed many vicissitudes through which the old place passed. He was also for a time the licensee of the Shakespeare Hotel attached to the theatre.

In 1903 he leased land adjoining the old theatre, and built the grand Hippodrome, which was opened in March the following year. Mr. Worswick was also one of the directors of the Lytham Pier Company.

Mr. Worswick married in 1862, and leaves behind a widow, five sons, and two accomplished daughters.

The funeral took place in the Catholic churchyard, Wrightington, on Tuesday, amid manifestations of regret of friends and relatives and those intimately associated with his local enterprises.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Comic Opera, by A. Vanloo and G. Duval, entitled
"THE LITTLE MICHUS."

The stage at the Grand this week has been occupied by a first-class company in one of Mr. George Edwardes's great successes, *The Little Michus*. The company is a strong one at all points, and the scenery, dresses, and chorus are excellent. There is, however, an additional attraction in the shape of Mr. George Groves in the part of General des Ifs. The two Michus are played by the Misses Iris Hoey and Thelma Raye, a charming and dainty pair. Miss Florence Parfrey is good as Mme. Michu, and Miss Alice Oppitz satisfactory as Mlle. Herpin, the schoolmistress; while Miss Adeline Lester contributes a humorous sketch of the old market woman. Mr. W. Tailleur Andrews is a fine, manly representative of the dashing soldier, Gaston Rigaud, his singing being deservedly applauded; Mr. Leonard Mackay possesses a good share of quiet humour, and makes a good representative of Aristide; and Mr. Jack Cannot is well suited in the part of Bagnolet, into which he puts plenty of fun, dancing admirably. Mr. George Miller is very amusing as Pierre Michu, the much-worried father, who mixed the babies in the bath, and so gave rise to the confusion. Mr. Willie Warde, jun., who is responsible for the dances, represents an old market man, and draws many a laugh. There remains Mr. George Groves, who is of course quite inimitable and exquisitely funny. On Monday he scarcely allowed his audience a minute's breathing time between their fits of laughter. His extraordinary attitudes, his weird descriptions, and his witty retorts follow one another without an effort in such rapid succession that the laughter never ceases. The whole production is admirable, and has been received with the greatest delight by full houses.

MR. TREE LECTURES IN LIVERPOOL

The Guild of Undergraduates assembled in force at the University of Liverpool on Tuesday to listen to an eloquent lecture by Mr. Beerbohm Tree on "The Highways and Byways of Shakespeare." Mr. Herbert G. Williams, who presided, made appreciative reference to Mr. Tree's eminence in the dramatic art.

Mr. Tree, who was heartily received, said the fertile soil of Shakespeare's imagination was particularly congenial to him, as his career had more and more resolved itself into that of a Shakespearean actor, and his theatre, greatly to his own satisfaction, had tended more and more to become the house in which Shakespeare was the predominant feature. When they asked an actor to address them he knew they had a lurking hope that he would not give an academic exposition such as might more effectively be procured from some of their own members, but that he would in some way disclose the secrets of the prison-house, and speak about Shakespeare as an actor of Shakespeare. The practical experience of an actor in relation to Shakespearean productions was probably more interesting to them than would be learned theories upon Shakespeare and Bacon, or upon the mysterious "W. H." of the sonnets. He had endured considerable criticism in daring to produce Shakespeare in a manner that seemed to his mind calculated to render the great dramatist's works popular and understood. There was a certain school who apparently imagined that Shakespeare should be presented on the twentieth century stage in the same manner and with the same limitations as were necessarily observed on the stage of the Globe Theatre in the sixteenth century. Some people also seem to regard Shakespeare as a sacrosanct writer who considered the limited conditions of his own day as perennial and eternal, but to him (Mr. Tree) Shakespeare was a much greater man, who did not regard those conditions as ideal or final, and who had longed for a more spacious setting. Surely there must have been a consciousness of the after-life of his genius and that splendid conceit which all artists must have and ought or they went under. His was the master-mind which rose superior to the limitations of his own century, bending to his will the theatrical machinery of his own time, and writing plays that could be presented with all the developed opportunities of subsequent centuries. To worthily depict Shakespeare, scenic embellishment must be as beautiful and costly as the subject of the drama being presented seemed to demand, and it should not be subordinate to but rather harmonious with the dramatic interest. Wagner had made the nearest approach to Shakespeare in his dramatic genius, availing himself of all the effects with which modern art could help him, no doubt saying to himself as Molière said, "Je prends mon bien on je le trouve." Wagner perhaps would not have been so great but for the divine right of a mad king. He wished there were a few more mad kings about. Only the weakling harked back echoically to the methods of a bygone generation. That painter was surely greater who saw nature, human and otherwise, with the clear eyes of his own time rather than through the blurred spectacles of a bygone age. No man was great in any walk of life unless he was, in the best sense, of his own time.

Referring to the modern stage, Mr. Tree said he took it that the entire business of the stage was illusion. To gain this end all means were fair. Illusion was the first and last word of the stage; all that aided illusion was good, all that destroyed illusion was bad. That simple law governed them—or should govern them. In that compound of all the arts which is the art of the modern theatre, the sweet grace of restraint was, of course, necessary, and the scenic embellishments should not overwhelm the dramatic interest, or the balance was upset, the illusion gone. Shakespeare's character drawing, his drama, was not mediæval, it was representative of human nature no less in modern than in far distant days. Kings were his slaves. What were the actualities of their lives as compared with their value in the pages of his genius! They served but as the models for his spacious canvas. It was, indeed, the enormous merit of Shakespeare that they could ignore in his case the passage of centuries. Interesting as a purely archaic might be to the epicure in archæology, a work of art, if it was to continue to live, must appeal to after ages as well as to the generation in which it was presented. Shakespeare's greatness was not only a national greatness. His reputation, his influence, widened and had already extended beyond the bounds of the Empire. His greatness, indeed, was not only historical, but also geographical.

Mr. Tree then dilated upon his forthcoming production at His Majesty's of *Anthony and Cleopatra*, and gave interesting details of the nature of the work this entailed upon him, and something of the evolution of a Shakespearian production. To put this play on the modern stage exactly as it was printed in the Shakespeare folios was to attempt the impractical and to court failure. As printed, of the five acts of the play two of them consisted of eleven and thirteen scenes respectively, the whole five acts comprising no less than thirty-eight separate scenes. In the preparation of a prompt book he at once found that many of these scenes could be merged into one, and those of them who did him the honour of witnessing his production would find that the thirty-eight scenes and the five acts were incorporated into four acts and eighteen scenes.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

An excellent concert was given by the students of the Guildhall School on Wednesday evening. The programme commenced with a duet for two pianofortes, "Variations on a theme of Beethoven" (Saint-Saëns), neatly executed by Miss Muriel Hearson and Miss Katie Gray. Tartini's violin solo, "Sonata in G Minor," had a gifted exponent in Miss Hilda Lett, who played with good tone and remarkable freedom of execution; Miss Katie Gray also did herself credit in her piano solo, "Frühlingsrauchen," by Sinding, and "Zug der Zweigen" (Grieg). A very clever mandoline solo was given by Miss Lillie Selden, A.G.S.M., who chose the Adagio and Allegro from Max Bruch's by no means easy "Concerto in G. Minor," the youthful performer at the close being heartily applauded. Other instrumentalists were Mr. Wallis Bandey, who gave good expression to Moszkowski's piano solo, "Etude de Concert in C sharp Minor"; and Miss Kathleen B. Hicks and Miss Dorothy S. Wright, who were heard in a duet for two pianos, "Variations on an Original Air," by Arthur Somervell. The vocalists also did great credit to their professors and to the school. Mrs. Daisy Goulder, although slightly nervous, sang "The Sands of Dee" with purity of intonation; and Miss Elsie Lester used her fine contralto with admirable effect in Lewis Carey's clever musical setting of the hymn, "Nearer, my God, to Thee." Leoncavallo's pretty song, "'Tis the day," was capitally sung by Mr. Harold Pattison; Mr. Robert Carr, too, gave good expression to "Songs of the East"—"Invocation to the Nile" (Egypt), "Drinking Song" (Persia), and "Song of the Sword" (Japan)—three songs by Granville Bantock, of which the most characteristic was the "Invocation to the Nile." Mr. Carr has a fine bass voice, and is the School (bass) prize-winner of 1904. Another clever vocalist was Miss Maude Willby, who sang "Villanelle," by Del' Acqua, in capital style. A pupil of Signor G. Garcia, Miss Helen Elsie Wright, sang well, but was somewhat unfortunate in her choice, as Allitsen's "Like as the hart" hardly suited her voice. Miss Jenny Hyman was of the utmost service as accompanist.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Play, by E. W. Peple, entitled
"THE PRINCE CHAP."

Since the announcement was put forth that Mr. A. H. Canby's company, in *The Prince Chap*, was to visit Holloway, patrons of this house have been anxiously awaiting its arrival, and it must have been a great gratification to the management to witness the enthusiasm of a very large house on Monday and throughout the week. The reception of the piece, which is presented precisely as it was given at the Criterion, in the matter of company, scenery, costumes, and all effects, was cordial in the extreme, and at the close the curtain has had to be raised at least a half a dozen times. The utmost praise is to be accorded the company as a whole, but it is to Mr. H. R. Roberts that the attention of the audience is chiefly directed. Mr. Roberts' acting of the rôle of the sculptor, William Peyton, is distinguished by ease, and his finish, pleasing stage presence, cultured voice, and distinct elocution combine to render the assumption perfect. Claudia, in Act I., is undertaken in a pleasingly childish manner by Little Betty Green, and in Act II. by Little Geraldine Wilson, the arch and winning nature of her acting taking the house by storm. Miss Lorna Laurence also achieves a success as Claudia in the last act, her performance being marked by great charm and artistic feeling. Mr. George Shelton makes a great hit with his clever playing as Marcus Runion, his impersonation being a quaint and humorous piece of comedy acting, which keeps the house in a continuous state of laughter. Mr. Wilfred Draycott's Earl of Henningford is a carefully-studied performance, and the parts of Ballington, Jadder, and Fritz are commendably undertaken by Messrs. A. E. Greenaway, Arthur Eldred, and Ivan Berlyn. Miss Ethel Hollingshead creditably undertakes the rôle of Alice Travers, and Miss Kathleen Kellie, who enacts the part of Mrs. Harrington, is responsible for some very impressive acting. No better exponent of Phœbe Puckers could be found than Miss Adie Boyne, her easy and amusing style being greatly appreciated. *The Prince Chap* is preceded by a one-act comedy, entitled *The Burglar and the Judge*, in which Mr. Ivan Berlyn scores considerably as Mr. Justice Gyves, being ably supported by Mr. Arthur Eldred as Burglar Joe and Mr. A. E. Greenaway as Parkhurst.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Drama entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

That *East Lynne* will always attract was clearly demonstrated at the King's on Monday evening, when a crowded audience manifested the utmost approval of this well-worn play. The episodes in which Little Willie and his erring mother took part appealed powerfully to the more emotional members of the audience. The occasion served to introduce Miss Dorothy Grimston to the playgoers of Hammersmith. She played the character of Lady Isabel with power and sincerity, and duly won the sympathy of the house. Miss Grimston gave signs of ability which should ensure her attaining to a position on the stage not far below that of her celebrated parents. As Archibald Carlyle, Mr. Walner Gregory was exceedingly satisfactory, and the cool villainy of Captain Levison was well accentuated by Mr. Frank Harding; Mr. Harry Barford was a capable Justice Hare, and Richard Hare was capitally played by Mr. Harvey White. The Lawyer Dill of Mr. Edward Sidney quite suited the humour of the audience, and Mr. James A. Storey displayed the necessary dignity as Lord Mounisevern. Mr. Lloyd Townrow as Bullock, the policeman, was irresistibly funny, the front scenes in which he appeared being eagerly looked forward to. Miss Helena Millais made a charming Barbara Hare; and Miss Agnes Byron as Cornelia Carlyle rendered good service to the piece. Miss Mary Stafford-Smith skilfully represented Joyce, and Miss Marion Beresford was a smart Suzanne. Miss Dorothy Townrow effectively undertook the part of Wilson. Little Willie found a very graceful impersonator in Miss Dolly Swift; and Miss Maud Lord nicely pictured Little Isabel.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Musical Comedy entitled
"THE LADY MADCAP."

After two weeks of Gilbert and Sullivan's operas, a return is made to the musical play of the present day, and *The Lady Madcap* is quite one of the best of the recent musical comedy productions. Mr. Paul A. Rubens has written some really charming songs, the book bristles with amusing lines, and the whole production is one of the brightest possible character. In the rôle of Lady Betty, the madcap, we find that charming young actress Miss Vera Vere, who plays the part in a delightful manner. She is full of energy, and her high spirits are quite infectious. Miss Vera Vere sings admirably, and her dancing is decidedly good. Mr. H. V. Surrey is a first-class comedian, his embodiment of Trooper Smith being screamingly funny. Mr. Surrey is naturally compared with the originator of the character, Mr. G. P. Huntley, but he is no slavish imitator, and plays it to a large extent on his own lines, and is most successful. Mr. Alex. Chentrens as the Count St. Hubert has some delightful songs, which he sings in a most artistic manner, and his rendering in French of some of the present-day popular songs is excellent. Miss Maisie North is a charming Gwenny Holden; and Miss Peggy Primrose is captivating as Susan. Mr. Percival Knight is distinctly good as Stoney Stratford; while his confederate, Posh Jenkins, is portrayed in a most whimsical fashion by Mr. Oliver J. Round. Colonel Layton is capitally played by Mr. R. S. Comber; and Mr. F. C. Leister does well as Captain Batherswaite. Mr. Douglas Philipps is smart as Captain Harrington, and his song, "It's a way they have in the Army," has a rare swing with it. Mr. Tommy Nelldon appears as Corporal Ham, and is very amusing in the character. Mr. Martyn Roland acts Lord Framlingham in a suitable manner; while Mr. Ralph Henson makes an acceptable Palmer. The other characters are carefully played, and there is an excellent chorus, whose hard work is to be commended. Mr. Ernest Hartmann has the orchestra under his able direction; and Mr. Arthur Davis is the manager for Mr. George Dance, whose company this is. The scenery is of the prettiest description, and the dresses are very tasteful.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Tuesday, Oct. 16,
the Comic Opera, entitled
"THE GONDOLIERS."

It is with great pleasure that we record the hearty welcome given to the D'Oyly Carte principal opera company this week on their return visit to the pretty theatre at Notting Hill Gate, under the business-management of Mr. H. R. Bellamy. The programme for the week consisted of *The Mikado* Monday and to-night, Tuesday *The Gondoliers*, Wednesday *The Yeoman of the Guard*, Thursday *Iolanthe*, Friday *H.M.S. Pinafore*. A house crowded in every corner, and including Mrs. D'Oyly Carte in a private box, welcomed *The Gondoliers* on Tuesday night, and encored every item for all the world as if a new opera were being put before them. As we listened to the felicitous phrasing of the libretto and the flowers of fancy with which the lyrics teem, one could but think that Mr. W. S. Gilbert must have been "born under a rhyming planet." The dainty melodies, sparkling like champagne, which sprang from the facile pen of the late Sir Arthur Sulli-van, too, steep the senses in delight and rapturous appreciation. Mr. C. H. Workman is admirable as the needy Duke of Plaza Toro, his dignity and delightful drollery and mock heroic melodramatic manner are excruciatingly funny, and the songs and *jeux d'esprit* allotted to him are delivered in inimitable fashion. Mr. Leicester Tunks is very well cast as Luiz, his attendant, and afterwards King of Barataria, and he shows to much advantage in the sweetly pretty duet with Casilda, "Bury, bury, let the grave close o'er." This latter part of Casilda is deliciously rendered by Miss Mabel Graham, who acts and sings charmingly with winsome grace, refinement, and spontaneity. Mr. Fred Billington as the kind, genial old gentleman Don Alhambra del Bolero who, as Grand Inquisitor, grapples with the most difficult problems of State and expounds them in song, is most laughable and clever. Miss Hope Hastings makes a fascinating Gianetta, and sings the song "Kind sir, you cannot have the heart" exquisitely, and acts with agreeable animation and vitality. Miss Lulu Evans is a bright and vivacious Tessa, and trips it on the light fantastic toe in most taking manner. Mr. Pacie Ripple gains applause for his rendition of "Take a pair of sparkling eyes," and is first rate as Marco; whilst Mr. Albert Kavanagh is full of life and humour as the other gondolier, Guiseppe Palmieri. Miss Theresa Rassam is good as the stately Duchess of Plaza-Toro, and she excels in her songs and duets with her lord and master, the Duke of Plaza-Toro. Mr. Fred Drawater does well in the small part of Antonio; and Misses Mabel Burnage, Elsie Carey, and Bessell Adams head a most capable and efficient chorus; nor must we forget Miss Ellen Whyte as Inez, the King's foster-mother. The operas are reproduced under the stage direction of Mr. F. A. Leon, whilst Mr. François Cellier conducts the augmented orchestra.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Domestic Drama entitled
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."

Mr. Walter Howard's drama *Two Little Drummer Boys*, which is being played this week at the Dalston Theatre, is sandwiched between a musical comedy and the most boisterous of musical farces. Last week *Florodora* enthralled by its melody, and next week comes *Sergeant Brue*. In *Two Little Drummer Boys* Mr. Edward Bikker represents the busy officer General Kingsley, V.C., and plays the part to perfection; Mr. Fred Emery, Mr. Archie Helsby, Mr. Charles Gallier, and Mr. Philip Redgrave are brother officers; and certain minor military individuals are represented by Mr. J. Margarth, Mr. Harry Lyndon, and Mr. Frank Hoyd. Mr. Harry Greenburn appears as the Rev. John Rivers, Vicar of Riverdale, and is appropriately placed and dignified throughout; Mr. Fred Newburn is a warder; and Mr. F. Winter and Mr. T. Kennedy capably fill the characters known as Tom Grant and Joe Smith respectively. Miss Edie Macklin is quite a favourite as Molly Meadows, the regiment's sweetheart; Miss Mildred Eversleigh is just sufficiently dignified as Alma Kingsley, the General's daughter; while Miss Kathleen Magee is dramatically realistic as Margaret Rivers, otherwise known as Drunken Meg. The two little drummer boys are represented by Miss Lily Beverley (Eric Carsdale) and Miss Maggie English (Jack Smith). They act admirably together, the different natures of the characters not being for a moment forgotten. Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is presenting the drama.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Comedy, by Paul Rubens, entitled
"MR POPPLE (OF IPPLETON)."

"One of the freshest and most original comedies of recent years" must be the judgment passed on *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)*, which was introduced to a large and expectant audience at Kennington Theatre by Mr. Chas. Macdona. The highest expectations of Mr. G. P. Huntley's delineation of the part which he so triumphantly created were more than realised, for he kept the house full of merriment the whole of the time he was on the stage. Bright and lively as the comedy is, it is nevertheless no exaggeration to say that the feature of the performance was the clever study which Mr. Huntley gave of the character of Freddy Popple. He was ably supported by a strong company, the music was catchy, the songs were topical, the dances tricky, and the staging all that could be desired; but, despite all this, it was Freddy Popple, the simple, unaffected country gentleman, with rustic mannerisms and a pocket-ful of apples, who captivated the audience, and Mr. Huntley's happy efforts on Monday added yet another laurel to his brow. He was admirably seconded by Miss Nellie Legarde as La Bolero, for she is an accomplished comedienne, and sings well, her song, "La-la-loo," being triply encored. As Louise, maid to La Bolero, Miss Nellie Hodson exhibited a great deal of vivacity, her messenger boy dance and song being accorded a big ovation. Mr. Basil Foster was effective as Norman Popple; and much fun was caused by Mr. Sidney Young and Mr. James Stevenson as the giddy old admirers of La Bolero. Miss Kate Forster and Miss Ella Daincourt were very good as the indignant suburban wives of La Bolero's admirers, the former playing the predominant partner to perfection. Mr. Arthur Grover deserves a word for his interpretation of the part of La Bolero's lover, and his song in the first act was finely rendered. Miss Eva Kelly looked exceedingly pretty as Norman Popple's sweetheart, and acted her girlish part as prettily as she looked. Mr. C. M. Daly displayed much versatility as Platt, becoming quite a warm favourite with everyone. The "Scarlet Runners" of the chorus danced and sang quite brilliantly, whilst the whole of the concerted numbers went with a swing which reflected the greatest credit on the musical conductorship of Mr. Julian Rutt.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by E. Hill-Mitchelson, entitled
"THE FRENCH SPY."

Mr. Fred Benton and his company are paying a return visit to the Theatre Royal this week with *The French Spy*, which is repeating its former success. Mr. Richard Fulton makes a manly and outspoken Captain Sommers; and an incisive portraiture of Count Romanoff comes from Mr. Max Coutts. Mr. L. Chaseby is a smart representative of Lieut. Maxwell, and Mr. George Sherraton does well as Petross Romanoff. Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe is a soldierly representative of General Trepoff, and Mr. Claud Aymond makes a dignified Lord Aynsley. Mr. Charles Digby plays the foppish Viscount Alexis with excellent effect, and Mr. Seymour Perry is always amusing as the diminutive Knipps. Mr. Fred Benton looks the part of the German strong man, Fritz, and gives a most consistent performance. Miss A. Harrison Tate plays very powerfully as the handsome adventuress Olga; Miss Gertrude Evans handles the part of the Countess Andre with much tact and sympathy; and Miss Cissie Cleveland makes a bright and engaging Julie.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Musical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Owen Hall, entitled
"SERGEANT BRUE."

Messrs. Lockwood and Crossman's company, in *Sergeant Brue*, is receiving a very warm welcome from the discriminating public of Poplar, who always appreciate talent. Mr. Arthur Reynolds in the title-rôle makes an excellent type of the good-tempered and jovial policeman, and earns hearty applause for his able rendering of the part. As Crookie Scrubbs Mr. Charles McLagan could not be bettered. He is a finished comedian, and can be really funny without being vulgar, his comicalities and witty sallies keeping the audience continually on the laugh. Mr. E. Percy Rogers is very successful as Michael Brue, and Mr. Charles Sims as Mr. Crank, the magistrate, is also very good. Miss Mary Hay is well suited with the part of Aurora Brue, her "Panama" song receiving a well deserved encore. Miss Marion Harpare invests the servant girl, Daisy, with a distinctively humorous character, and Miss Mabel Keith makes an attractive Mabel Widget. The Lady Beckenhall of Miss Hebe Bliss is charming and clever. Her singing is worthy of high commendation, "Instinct" receiving hearty applause and many demands for extra verses. Mr. Harry Soutar is very satisfactory as Matthew Habisham, and Mr. Cecil Hood is a capital Inspector Gorringe. Smaller parts are all well filled, and the chorus do their work with excellent effect.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Oct. 16,
the Comedy, by Brandon Thomas, entitled
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

Notwithstanding the many years she has been before the gaze of the public, *Charley's Aunt* is still as vigorous as ever, and from the large crowds that have attended each performance at the Shakespeare Theatre this week it is also very evident that her powers of attraction have not diminished. Produced under the direction of the author, and acted by a really capable company, the piece on Monday evening met with a most cordial reception. Mr. Stanley Cooke as Lord Fancourt Babberly avails himself to the utmost of all the comic opportunities which the part presents, and he keeps the audience in a continual state of merriment throughout. Mr. C. B. Keston gives an admirable delineation of Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, Bart., and scores a decided success. The rôles of the two undergraduates, Jack Chesney and Charlie Wykeham, are in the safe hands of Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. Richard B. Mason, who both contribute sterling performances. The pompous Stephen Spettigue has an excellent representative in Mr. Walter Beaumont, who looks and acts the part admirably; whilst Mr. Sydney Compton as the college scout, Brasset, causes much merriment. Miss Lena MacNaughton is a handsome and commanding Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez; and Miss Lilyan Lait, Miss Kitty Carew, and Miss Gladys Storey are charming in their respective rôles of Kitty Verdun, Amy Spettigue, and Ela Delahay. *Charley's Aunt* is preceded by a one-act play by the same author, entitled *Fourchette and Co.*, which is well received, the various rôles being sustained by Miss Gladys Storey, and Messrs. C. B. Keston, Syd Compton, and George Ellis.

THE GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Musical Pantomimical Comedy, entitled
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."

The Brothers Renad and company are paying a return visit here this week with their merry musical comedy *The Swiss Express*, and Woolwich playgoers, who already owe them thanks for many hearty laughs in the past, have been turning up in good numbers to increase their indebtedness. Uproarious merriment is indeed the order of the evening while these talented brothers are on the stage, for while they have little or nothing to say, they seem to have a positive genius for the invention of comically illustrative business. At the same time, their acting is entirely good-humoured and free from offence of any description, and the audience so thoroughly enjoy the perplexities to which poor Doctor Gull is put by the eccentricities of his footmen that they have no room for pity for the doctor himself. The last-named character is drolly played by Mr. Johnny McElroy, whose rendering of the harassed medico is humorous in the extreme, the doctor's exasperation during his nerve-shattering experiences on board the express being portrayed with great skill. Miss Ida Ernest makes a vivacious and pleasing Virginia, dancing nicely, and scoring a success with her "Bungalow" song. Mr. Alec Wylie is amusing as Dudley Green, a "masher" of the most pronounced type; Mr. George Martin does well as Rob Rollingstone; Mr. Harwood Cooper works hard in the dual rôle of Jack Gadabout and Admiral Bombshell; Miss Dora Moorhouse makes the most of Mrs. Septimus Squeeze; and Mr. C. Gray as Squeeze and Mr. A. Bernard as the landlord contribute to the fun of the evening. A much-appreciated item is the dancing of the Edene Quartette.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, entitled
"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

"The Belle" bids fair to be always popular, and is being played here to the largest audiences of the present season of Mr. Bannister Howard's management. A largely augmented orchestra, special scenery, and pretty and varied costumes, all went to complete the success.

Mr. Paddy Duprès was excellent as Ichabod Bronson, and in his songs scored heavily; and Mr. John Doran as Harry well embodied the all too susceptible man about town, and was in good voice. The Polite Lunatic of Mr. Max Copeland was a quaint study, both in get-up and manner. Mr. Alfred Sandoe as Doc. Snifkins, and Mr. Walter Uridge as Kenneth Mugg played well together as the manager and low comedian of the Cora Angelique Opera Company. Mr. Frank Lawton in his original part of Blinky Bill, whistled, acted, and danced himself into great popularity, and had many encores. He received excellent support from Miss Florence Hersée as Mamie Clancy, her dancing and singing in a Japanese scena in the last scene being alike good.

Miss Empsie Bowman at once gave refinement, grace, and daintiness to the part of Violet Gray, the Belle, and Miss Lily Maxwell as Fifi Fricot was as full of verve as a typical Parisienne could be. Miss Winnie Browne, in a series of magnificent costumes, well impersonated Cora Angelique, the comic opera queen.

The brothers Count Ratsi and Patsi Rattattoo were in the hands of Messrs. Lionel Yeoman and R. L. Cody, their simultaneous actions and twin-like appearance being genuinely funny. A deal of amusement was extracted from the newspaper illustrated interview with young Bronson, where Messrs. Owen O'Brien and Townley Searle as the Reporter and Photographer respectively, burlesqued the situation. A bevy of tastefully-dressed damsels appeared as chorus in various guises, and Mr. Ernee Woodville was the musical director.

CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND.

On Thursday, Oct. 18,
the Comedy entitled
"THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL."

"The comedy is finished; I have now nothing to do but write it." Thus spoke Richard Brinsley Sheridan, and surely never dramatic author more deserves his success. That to-day *The School for Scandal* is as much appreciated as in 1777, when it was originally produced at Drury Lane, is an argument more eloquent than columns of adulation. The version played at the Castle Theatre, Richmond, closely follows the original, and the comedy proved it had lost none of its sterling excellence which for a century and a quarter has delighted playgoers and lovers of the drama. Mr. Philip Gordon played Sir Peter with delightful freshness, and proved himself an actor of ripe experience; his fine elocution was a feature of the performance. Mr. Edward Landor did admirably as Sir Oliver Surface, and won success by a clever performance. The hypocritical Joseph Surface was capital. As the devil-may-care Charles, Mr. Ian Maclaren scored a complete and legitimate success. Rowley found an unobtrusive exponent in Mr. Stafford Dawson. The humours of the Semitic money-lender Moses were not neglected by Mr. W. Kane; Mr. Gordon Phillpott was sufficiently acrimonious as Sir Benjamin Backbite; Miss Edith Coleman was charming as Lady Teazle; Maria was capably represented by Miss Violet Barnett; excellent work was done by Miss Gertrude Littlewood as Lady Sneerwell; Mrs. Henry Howard as Mrs. Candour was natural, and proved herself to be a clever and capable actress. Minor parts were very satisfactorily filled by Messrs. Bryant, Meharry, and Barnes. On Friday evening *David Garrick* filled the bill. Mr. Arthur Howard is in charge of the front of the house, and may be complimented on his success.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts,
by R. C. Carton, entitled
"MR. HOPKINSON."

Mr. Chas. Macdona's principal company is appearing here this week in this highly diverting production, and a good house gave the play a favourable reception at the first of six performances on Monday evening. They seemed to enjoy immensely the drolleries of Mr. Frank Stanmore in the title-rôle, which were really very funny. Miss Marie Hassell was a great favourite in the part of the Duchess of Braceborough; and Mr. Chas. Heslop achieved a marked success as the Hon. Otho Dursingham. Good work was also put in by Miss Gladys Jesson as Lady Tyra Eggiesby, by Mr. Arnold Lucy as the Duke of Braceborough, by Mr. Shirley Lea as the Earl of Addleton, by Mr. Reginald Dane as Lord Cawthorpe, by Mr. Geo. McCloskie as Mr. Smethurst, by Mr. Vincent Galley as Parbury, by Mr. J. G. Lowther as Blunt, and by Mrs. Katherine M. Romsey as Eliza Dibbs. A comedietta, entitled *A Love Game*, in which the two parts were ably sustained by Miss Marjorie Chard and Mr. C. M. Heslop, preceded the play.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Drama, by Edward Thane, entitled
"THE SLAVE OF SIN."

This week the exciting melodrama *The Slave of Sin* is drawing large audiences to the Lyric. Gordon Morley, the unfortunate hero of the piece, is played with considerable skill by Mr. Arthur Bawtree, who is a gentleman much appreciated by Hammersmith playgoers; Miss Minnie Grey as Elsie Beresford receives applause at every appearance; Mr. Fred Morgan as Dr. Selby, pithily described on the programme as a disgrace, proves once more his ability to impersonate a villain with success; as Professor Morley Mr. J. P. Dryden is decidedly well placed; while Mr. A. P. Kaye is quietly amusing as Wily. The title-rôle is played by Miss Nellie Fletcher, who portrays the adventuress to the life. In the light comedy part of Clara Jenkins Miss May Seton causes much amusement. She is assisted in the pleasant art of making fun by Mr. Geo. Ellis, who gives us a droll study of a French hairdresser. Mr. Bert Morley, with skill, gives a pathetic picture of Stephen Fletcher, a street artist; as Mother Moocher Miss Nell Gilmore does good work. Others who deserve a word of commendation are Mr. Ashton Winslow as Pawson, Mr. Ernest Jones as Peter Tomlin, Mr. J. E. Manning as Jim Ankin, Mr. John Bell as Governor Simons, Mr. James Kitson as Warder Thompson, and Mr. Jack Dale as Bobby.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Oct. 15,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur Shirley, entitled
"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."

This powerful play of Mr. Shirley's is always a big attraction in Marylebone, and this week, Dottridge and Longden's company made a bigger success than ever. As the drunken stoker, Billy Brewer, Mr. Fred G. Evison gives an admirable display of histrionic talent, his every action being in keeping with this character. Mr. Robert Grey is eloquent and plain-spoken as Leonard Royle; Mr. Arthur Gilroy is fervent and passionate as Hassan Padisha; Mr. Charles McCann does exceedingly well as Donald Craig; Mr. H. Dobell Lyle is suitably cast as Jasper Thornleigh; whilst Mr. Alfred Goddard is responsible for a most vivid portrayal of Harry Steyne, his struggle with Billy Brewer, in the cab of the engine of the midnight mail being so realistic as to send shudders through the house. Miss Mildred Carr is piquant and pert as Nancy Brewer; Miss Grace Chesterfield is a benevolent Mrs. Mildmay; Miss Phyllis Dailley is decidedly good as Lady Phyllis Eustace; and Miss Ada Oakley's impersonation of the persecuted Mary Steyne could scarcely be improved upon, and her success is quite deserved. The piece is capitally mounted and staged, and the all-round excellence of the company is most marked.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

On Thursday, Oct. 18,
the Comic Opera,
"VERONIQUE."

Surely the residents of Richmond owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. George Dance for his delightful entertainment of Thursday; it was a graceful act, too, to bring his *Veronique* company to the Surrey borough at a time when musical events are ever welcome. The production met with an enthusiastic reception, and the house was packed from floor to ceiling. Quite excellent was the interpretation. Mr. Leslie Holland—who also produced the opera—was unctuously funny as Mons. Coquenard, and kept the audience in a ripple of merriment; his business throughout was of the drollest character. Especially was this evident in Act I., where he receives his captain's commission; he was equally happy in Act II., in his share of the mock duet, in conjunction with Mons. Loustot, cleverly played by Mr. Fred Lyne. Miss Ethel Negretti was delightfully clever as Agatha, and fully entered into the fun of the play; possessing a singularly powerful voice, her various songs were finely rendered, and she contributed very materially to the success of the production. Perhaps her best effort in the piece was her delightful treatment of the ballad "The Apple Tree." To Mr. Roland Bottomley fell the rôle of Florestan, and it could not have been in better hands. In excellent voice, he did ample justice to Andrée Messager's score, and many of his numbers were redemanded. Miss Ruth Lincoln was irresistibly charming as Veronique, and sang very sweetly. "The Swing" song brought the inevitable encore. Perhaps one of the most artistic hits of the performance was reserved for Miss May Leslie, who, as Aunt Benoit, won much applause for her tasteful interpretation of "The Garden of Love." Mr. Courtenay Comber was cast for Seraphin, and did remarkably well; nor should Denise (Miss Grace Sinclair) be omitted for honourable mention. She sang with much sweetness throughout. Miss Lena Maitland was dignified as La Comtessé de Champ Azur; Mr. Tom Robertson was reliable in a part that presents but few opportunities; excellent work was done by Mr. Maurice Ogle; and the chorus merit more than ordinary mention.

The danger of leaving "properties" in an unprotected state at railway stations was exemplified on Saturday last, when a man at Liverpool received six months' hard labour for stealing a theatrical hamper, with contents valued at £25, from the Exchange Station. The previous Sunday afternoon a lady artist arrived in town with the hamper, and left it for a short time outside the cloakroom, from which spot it quickly disappeared. The thief was caught whilst attempting to sell a pair of slippers taken from the hamper.

"LADY KINTON'S NECKLACE; or, THE HYPNOTIST."

Play, in Three Acts, by George Henry Trotman, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Ilkeston, On Monday, Oct. 15.

Servais Le Roy	Himself
Leon Bosco	Himself
Mlle. Talma	Herself
M. Chartier	Himself
Professor Le Gros	Frank Melrose
Robert Fenton	Henry Danson
Lord Kinton	Stafford Smith
Bothwell Daraville	John S. Chamberlain
Davy Bonny	Chas. A. James
Nye Jenkins	Vincent Foster
Herr Hackenspreight	Thos. Burdett
Mevu Beere	Wm. Roberts
John	Wm. Fudler
William	Ed. C. Gates
Thomas	Martin Chesney
Billy Brighton	Willie Atom
Rufus Merrivale	Robert A. Innes
Lucie Daraville	Queenie Fraser-Brunner
Annie Jones	Marie Ault
Mary Gray	May Harley
Lottie Mayday	Daisy Anderton

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

An interesting play into which the feats of a number of popular illusionists are ingeniously worked saw the light at Ilkeston on Monday, and met with an enthusiastic reception. The play commences with the preparations for the festivities in connection with the silver wedding of Lord and Lady Kinton, which are being held in the gardens of the Old White Bull. Whilst Lord and Lady Kinton are on their way to the gardens they are robbed by some men in possession of a motor-car, a diamond necklace being amongst the spoils. One of the men is recognised by Lord Kinton as Rufus Merrivale, who is engaged to his niece, Lucie Daraville, but when accused of the theft Rufus firmly protests his innocence. A conversation takes place between Professor Le Gros and Robert Fenton (the real thieves), during which Le Gros informs Fenton of a quarrel he witnessed sixteen years previously between Bothwell Daraville and Lord Kinton, who were brothers. Lord Kinton was struck insensible by Bothwell Daraville, who hastily left the country under the delusion that he had killed his brother, leaving Le Gros in charge of his fortune, and also making him guardian over his daughter Lucie. Le Gros, having run through the fortune, now wishes to marry Lucie to avoid having to account for the money, and whilst he is trying to force her to accept him Bothwell Daraville returns under an alias and upsets his plans. Upon Bothwell Daraville making himself known to Le Gros he is threatened with exposure unless he agrees to give Lucie to Le Gros, but refuses. In order to clear Rufus Merrivale's name Daraville obtains the help of Talma and Le Roy, and the latter searches the rooms of Le Gros, and finds the stolen necklace, which is handed over to Lucie Daraville for her uncle, Lord Kinton. Talma and Lucie are seized by Le Gros and Fenton, and Talma is taken to Fenton's waxwork exhibition, where, amongst other wax figures, she sees one of Rufus Merrivale, which had been used at the time of the robbery to throw the blame on the real Rufus. Talma is securely tied up with ropes, but she quickly frees herself from them, and escapes. Lucie Daraville is carried to Le Gros' experimental chamber, where Le Gros intends, by means of hypnotism, to force her into an immediate marriage with him, but the hypnotist, who turns out to be Le Roy, spirits her away, and Le Gros' villainy is shown up.

The play was in the hands of a capable company. Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner was an admirable Lucie Daraville, and the part of Rufus Merrivale was well taken by Mr. Robert A. Innes. Lord Kinton found a good representative in Mr. Stafford Smith, and Mr. John S. Chamberlain as Bothwell Daraville was an acquisition. Miss Marie Ault as Annie Jones provided some excellent comedy, and deserved all the applause she received; and Mr. Willie Atom was smart as Billy Brighton. Mr. Frank Melrose worked well as Le Gros, and in Mr. Harry Danson as Robert Fenton had a suitable helper. Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco are the principal performers, and in Act II. give an exceedingly smart magical entertainment, which was received with every appreciation from all parts of a packed house.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The friends of Mr. J. T. Sheridan, electrician for the Waldorf Theatre, will regret to hear that he is in a serious state of health, and his immediate removal from London is advised by his medical attendant. An effort, which is likely to be successful, is being made to secure his admission to the Royal National Hospital for Consumption at Ventnor.

The Committee of the Heads of Departments' Association met on Tuesday, when several applications for membership were dealt with. One applicant was strongly recommended by his manager. The question of subscribing annually to the Royal Hospital for Consumption was considered, with a view of the Association being in the position of an Annual Governor and able to supply a member with a letter of admission. The committee regretted to hear of the serious illness of a member, Mr. J. T. Sheridan, and decided to render him any assistance desired to enable him to undergo special treatment for the next two or three months.

The fourth annual concert in aid of the Stage Employees' Benevolent Funds of the Heads of Departments' Association, Carpenters and General Staff Branches, and National Association Theatrical Employees, will be given in the Covent Garden Opera House, by kind permission of Mr. Frank Rendle, on Sunday, Dec. 2. Mr. Landon Ronald has consented to conduct the London Symphony Orchestra. The committee are endeavouring to secure an attractive programme. Tickets will be issued next week.

The new departure at the Grand Theatre, Islington, where, this week, two complete performances are given nightly, is of considerable importance to the stage staff. The management announce that "not a line of any drama will be cut out, but each will be played in its entirety." The first performance commences at 6.15, and the second at 9 o'clock. In these circumstances the staff will be at work from 6 o'clock to 11 o'clock or 11.30, practically two hours longer than at most other theatres. It is stated that members of a company booked for the Grand were asked to do the additional show without extra remuneration, and some of the members of the company refused and resigned. It is hardly likely that the stage staff will give two hours' extra work without extra pay. If such an innovation should become general, the stage staff would have to be in a position to earn enough by such work to subsist on that occupation alone, as it would be practically impossible for men following any other employment to attend at such early hours.

A meeting of stage employees will be held on Sunday evening at the Hare and Hounds Hotel, Upper-street, Islington, at 8 o'clock.

A presentation of a handsome marble clock was made on Tuesday evening at the Tunbridge Wells Opera House to Mr. P. J. Walker, the stage-carpenter, in recognition of his successful organisation of the recent annual outing of the staff. Mr. W. E. Urquhart, supported by Mr. L. J. Gunnell, made the presentation in complimentary speeches.

"THE MORALS OF MARCUS."

Sir Marcus Ordeyne, Bart. . MR. C. AUBREY SMITH
Sebastian Pasquale ..... MR. DENNIS EADIE
Hamdi Effendi ..... MR. SYDNEY VALENTINE
Stenson ..... MR. CHARLES V. FRANCE
Bobby Tremlett ..... MR. WILFRED FORSTER
Judith Mainwaring .... MISS LILLAH MCCARTHY
Mrs. Ordeyne ..... MISS HELEN ROUS
Dora Ordeyne ..... MISS OLIVIA GLYNNE
Mrs. McMurray ..... MISS SADIE JEROME
Antoinette ..... MISS MARIANNE CALDWELL
Lady Elmira Wynn ..... MISS SYBIL AUDREY
Miss Lestrange ..... MISS GORDON WALKER
Maid ..... MISS VALERIE SALBERG
Carlotta ..... MISS ALEXANDRA CARLISLE

It is not often that an adaptation of a novel is more agreeable than the original; but this is certainly the case with *The Morals of Marcus*. In Mr. William J. Locke's book almost excessive emphasis is laid upon the merely sexual and sensuous attraction of the heroine. The passion of Sir Marcus Ordeyne for Carlotta seems little more than the infatuation of an elderly man for an emigrant from a Turkish harem. One is made to wonder what sort of a life they will lead when the honeymoon is over, and how long the "child of nature" will remain constant to her mature benefactor. In the play a great deal of this feeling is removed by the fact that the representative of Carlotta is decidedly Saxon. One cannot imagine her telling improper stories, and when at last she "finds her soul," we have some faith in her not losing it again.

What is the essence of the acknowledged attractiveness of this play? Chiefly, we think, the acknowledgment of the purely physical basis of sexual love. Sir Marcus Ordeyne flatters himself that he is not as other men are, that he can preserve a purely philosophic attitude towards the opposite sex, and that he is a confirmed celibate. The Greeks in their drama were always teaching that it is dangerous to defy Venus, who invariably has her revenge upon those who ignore her power. And the goddess "comes down heavily" on Sir Marcus Ordeyne. The moment the right woman appears—the woman with sufficient beauty and piquant sensuous *naïveté* to appeal to his long-suppressed "propensities," he yields to the charm, and is soon the absolute slave of his passion. Amusing as Mr. Locke's piece is in parts, it has an underlying vein of pathetic irony. We cannot help feeling for the unfortunate Mrs. Mainwaring, who is so much better fitted to make Ordeyne happy than the childish beauty with whom he is "in love." And this is what makes *The Morals of Marcus* something more than a merely amusing "entertainment of the stage." It touches us nearly; it is an old story with new characters, a truism of human experience, offered to us with delightful and diverting embellishments. And, while the pathos is only hinted at, and a "happy ending" is secured by an adroit turn in confined space, the dainty drollery is distributed over the whole of the action. We could not have conceived that the novel would have made so agreeable and interesting a play.

The play is divided into four acts, the first of which takes place in the garden of Sir Marcus's cottage at Surbiton. Here, and not near the Thames Embankment, as in the story, Carlotta introduces herself to the philosophic baronet, and establishes herself in his household. In this act we are introduced to Ordeyne's friend, Sebastian Pasquale, and also to Mrs. Judith Mainwaring, the lady with the bad husband, from whom she is separated. Between her and Ordeyne there has existed, for eight years, a steady platonic friendship, and she is naturally uneasy when she sees Sir Marcus's heart going out to Carlotta, whose beauty, audacity, and originality fascinate him entirely. Sebastian Pasquale, a confirmed libertine with a foreign accent, is also charmed with the young Turk, and, in the third act, induces her to run away with him. This, however, he only accomplishes by the help of Mrs. Mainwaring, whose husband is now dead, and who hopes that Ordeyne may marry her. She tells Carlotta that Sir Marcus belongs to his old friend, and the girl, believing this, yields to Pasquale's entreaties, and goes with him to Paris.

In the last act she returns, deserted by the rascally Pasquale, and having, as she says, "learnt wisdom by sorrow." This is all the harder for Mrs. Mainwaring, as Sir Marcus, in his lonely and hopeless state, had almost resolved to make a marriage of reason with his old friend. Carlotta's arrival, however, alters the case immediately. Sir Marcus tells her of his love, and she receives his offer with deep affection and pathetic gratitude.

The Morals of Marcus is capitally cast, and Mr. Bourchier has again shown his cleverness in the selection of artists each admirably suited for his or her task. Mr. C. Aubrey Smith's style and person well fit him to impersonate the philosophic and sententious student, who finds out rather late in life what love means. Mr. Aubrey Smith is excellent in every phase of the character. He is ponderous courtesy itself in the lighter passages, and very powerful in the short but intense scenes of passion and earnestness. Mr. Dennis Eadie gives a neat and crisp embodiment of Sebastian Pasquale, hitting off cleverly the dainty airs and paltry affectations of the polished *roué*. Mr. Sydney Valentine endows the rôle of Hamdi Effendi with weight and interest by his personal importance, and by the forceful emphasis with which he delivers the few but pithy lines of the part. With few and simple materials he makes an impression not easily erased. Mr. Charles V. France is the ideal of a self-respecting and faithful manservant; and Mr. Wilfred Forster does useful work as Bobby Tremlett. Miss Lillah McCarthy realises very happily the refined, plaintive, and carefully-civilised Mrs. Mainwaring; Miss Helen Rous gives a firm and well-balanced portraiture of the wise and worldly Mrs. Ordeyne; Miss Olivia Glynne being duly dashing and "up-to-date" as Dora Ordeyne. Miss Sadie Jerome makes a handsome and imposing appearance as Mrs. McMurray, and plays the little part with ease and ability. A decided hit is made by Miss Marianne Caldwell, who throws herself with great spirit into the character of Antoinette, and depicts most amusingly the exuberance and oddity of the buxom Frenchwoman. Miss Caldwell's bursts of ecstasy are very comic, and she looks the part remarkably well. Miss Sybil Audrey deserves praise for her neat performance as Lady Elmira Wynn; and Miss Gordon Walker is quite commendable as Miss Lestrange.

The success of the production is achieved by Miss Alexandra Carlisle, whose creation of Carlotta is exquisitely winning and delightfully wayward. She is sweetly pretty, and depicts all Carlotta's little ways with absolute self-possession and serenity. It is difficult to analyse the fascination of the part and the player; but everyone who sees *The Morals of Marcus* must admit that the infatuation of Ordeyne is easily accounted for by Miss Carlisle's bewitching simplicity and charming unconsciousness. The mixture of quaint childishness and arch acuteness in Carlotta's character proves even more effective on the stage than in the novel, and Miss Carlisle succeeds in capturing the affections of her audience completely. The piece is prettily mounted, and the superintendence of Mr. Sydney Valentine has secured a most smooth and perfect production. *The Morals of Marcus* makes a very interesting play, and the little drama which it contains—the old but always interesting situation of a man between two women—is brought out much more distinctly than in the printed page. The omissions which have been made are most judicious, and altogether the adaptation has been done with equal skill and spirit. It makes a most amusing, enjoyable, and interesting entertainment.

THE IRVING REMINISCENCES.

Mr. Bram Stoker's "Personal Reminiscences of Henry Irving," which has been published by William Heinemann, is not only an interesting biography of an eminent man, but a remarkable literary achievement. Mr. Stoker is a novelist of striking power; and his humorous and picturesque treatment of the valuable materials in his possession redoubles their value. Thus we get a broad view of Irving's character and career, embellished with a vast amount of new and admirable anecdote. The difficulty of dealing with a book like this is that it is a puzzle how to select any particular page for especial quotation. It is readable from beginning to end. We have the whole drama of the actor's life, its adventure, its variety, its triumph, and its pathetic end. Whether he is telling a funny story, or expressing a deep emotion, Mr. Stoker's style is always equal to the occasion. He has given himself plenty of room, in these two handsome volumes, to do justice to his subject; but he never descends to "padding," and the whole work is an excellent example of the art of biography. And it is not only concerning Irving that we derive information. Celebrities with whom the actor came in touch are drawn for us with a few vivid touches, and these "side-lights" are both numerous and graphic.

To actors these "Reminiscences" must prove full of interest. Again and again we come across explanations of how special stage effects were obtained, how technical difficulties which presented themselves were overcome; and thus we are enabled to form an idea of the thought and contrivance which went to make up the *tout ensemble* of a Lyceum production in the "palmy days" of the Irving *régime*. And, while Mr. Stoker can be quietly satirical, he is never unpleasantly personal or cruelly severe; and, in dealing with individuals, he shows as much tact and cleverness, as much courtesy and judgment as acuteness of thought and accuracy of observation. Altogether, no praise can be too warm for the way in which Irving's biographer has done his work. The two volumes are handsomely bound, and are illustrated with excellent reproductions, photographs, and drawings by celebrated artists. The type is delightfully large and bold, and the publisher's part of the task has been most creditably performed.

We take at random a few extracts from the text. Mr. Stoker is explaining where Irving got his idea of Digby Grant in *Two Roses*:—

It was an inimitable character which Irving impersonated in a manner so complete that, to this day, I have been unable to get it out of my mind as a reality. Indeed, it was a reality, though at that time I did not know it. Years afterwards I met the original at the house of the late Mr. James McHenry—a villa in a little park off Addison-road.

This archetype was the late Chevalier Wikoff, of whom in the course of a friendship of years I had heard much from McHenry, who well remembered him in his early days in Philadelphia, in which city Wikoff was born. In his youth he had been a very big, handsome man; in the days when men wore cloaks used to pass down Chestnut-street or Locust-street with a sublime swagger. He was a great friend of Edwin Forrest, the actor, and a great "ladies' man." He had been a friend and lover of the celebrated dancer, Fanny Elsler, who was so big and yet so agile that, as my father described to me, when she bounded in on the stage, seeming to light from the wings to the footlights in a single leap, the house seemed to shake. Wikoff was a pretty hard man, and as cunning as men are made. When I knew him he was an old man, but he fortified the deficiencies of age with artfulness. He was then a little hard of hearing; but he simulated complete deafness, and there was little said within a reasonable distance that he did not hear. For many years he had lived in Europe, chiefly in London and Paris. There was one trait in his character which even his intimate friends did not suspect. Every year, right up to the end of his long life, he disappeared from London at a certain date. He was making his pilgrimage to Paris, where, on a given day, he laid some flowers on a little grave, long after the child's mother, the dancer, had died. Wikoff was a trusted agent of the Bonapartes, and he held strange secrets of that adventurous family. He it was, so McHenry told me, who had brought in secret from France to England the last treasures of the Imperial house after the *débâcle* following Sedan.

This was the person whom Irving had selected as the archetype of Digby Grant. Long before, he had met him at McHenry's; with that "seeing eye" of his had marked his personality down for use; and with that marvellous memory which, in my long experience of him never failed him, was able to reproduce with the exactness of a "Chinese copy" every jot and tittle appertaining to the man, without and within. His tall, gaunt, slightly-stooping figure; his scanty hair, artfully arranged to cover the ravages of time; the cunning, inquisitive eyes; the mechanical turning of the head, which becomes the habit of the deaf; the veiled voice which can do everything but express truth—even under stress of sudden emotion. Years after *Two Roses* had had its run at the Vaudeville and elsewhere I went to see Wikoff, when he was ill in a humble lodging. In answer to my knuckle-tap he opened the door himself. For an instant I was startled out of my self-possession, for in front of me stood the veritable Digby Grant. I had met him already a good many times, but always in the recognised costume of morning or evening. Now I saw him as Irving had represented him; but I do not think he had ever seen him as I saw him at that moment. I believe that the costume in which he appeared in that play was the result of the actor's inductive ratiocination. He had studied the individuality so thoroughly, and was so familiar with not only his apparent characteristics, but with those secret manifestations which are in their very secrecy subtle indicators of individuality grafted on type, that he had re-created him—just as Cuvier or Owen could from a single bone reconstruct giant reptiles of the Palæozoic age. There was the bizarre dressing-jacket, frayed at edge and cuff; the ragged frogs and stray buttons. There the three days' beard, white at root and raven black at point. There the flamboyant smoking-cap with yellow tassel, which marks that epoch in the history of ridiculous dress out of which in sheer revulsion of artistic feeling came the Pre-Raphaelite movement.

Mr. Stoker has, of course, the advantage of being a novelist and an essayist, and he writes in a style which is, in itself, prepossessing. He has a keen sense of humour, and tells the following anecdote with genuine gusto. It relates to one of Irving's visits to Bristol:—

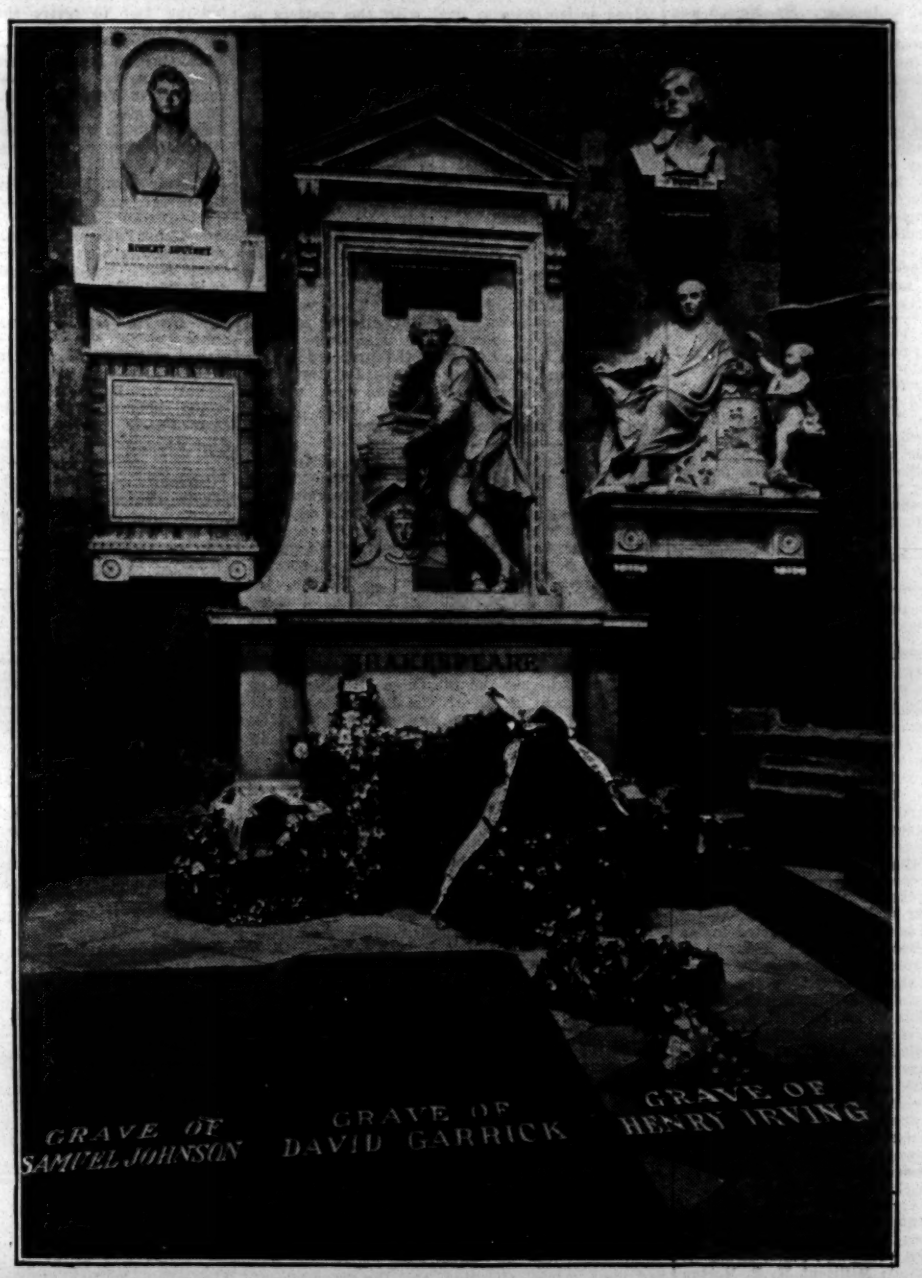
One of these men, Arnott, the property master, and a fine workman, had had an odd experience during the Bristol week. Something had gone wrong with the travelling "property" horse used in the vision scene of *The Bells*, and he had come up to town to bring the real one from the storage. In touring it was usual to bring a "profile" representation of the gallant steed. "Profile" has in theatrical parlance a special meaning other than its dictionary meaning of an "outline." It is thin wood covered on both sides with rough canvas carefully glued down. It is very strong, and can be cut in safety to any shape. The profile horse was of course an outline, but the art of the scene-painter had rounded it out to seemingly natural dimensions. Now the "real" horse, though a lifeless "property," had in fact been originally alive. It was formed of the skin of a moderately sized pony; and being embellished with picturesque attachments in the shape of mane and tail, was a really creditable object. But it was expensive to carry, as it took up much space. Arnott and two of his men ran up to fetch this down, as there was not time to make a new profile horse. When they got to Paddington, he found that the authorities refused to carry the goods by weight on account of its bulk, and asked him something like £4 for the journey. He expressed his feelings freely, as men occasionally do under irritating circumstances, and said he would go somewhere else. The clerk in the office smiled, and Arnott went away; he was a clever man, who did not like to be beaten, and railways were his natural enemies. He thought the matter over. Having looked over the time-table, and found that the cost of a horse-box to Bristol was only £1 13s., he went to the department in charge of such matters and ordered one, paying for it at once, and arranging that it should go on the next fast train. By some manœuvring he so managed that he and his men took Koveski's horse into the box and closed the doors.

When the train arrived at Bristol there had to be some shunting to and fro, so as to place the horse-box in the siding arranged for such matters. The officials in charge threw open the door for the horse to walk out. But he would yield to no blandishment, nor even to the violence of chastisement usual at such times. A little time passed and the officials got anxious, for the siding was required for other purposes. The station at Bristol is not roomy, and more than one line has to use it. The official in charge told him to take out his damned horse!

"Not me!" said he, for he was now seeing his way to "get back" at the railway company, "I've paid for the carriage of the horse, and I want him delivered out of your premises. The rate I paid includes the services of the necessary officials."

The porters tried again, but the horse would not stir. Now it is a dangerous matter to go into a horse-box, in case the horse should prove restive. One after another the porters declined, till at last one plucky lad volunteered to go in by the little window close to the horse's head. Those on the platform waited in apprehension, till he suddenly ran out from the box, laughing, and crying out:

"Why, you blamed fools. He ain't a horse at all. He's a stuffed 'un!"



IRVING'S GRAVE.

SIR HENRY IRVING'S TOMB.

The memory of Sir Henry Irving was reverenced on Saturday, the anniversary of the great actor's death, by the visit to Westminster Abbey of hundreds of people, and numerous floral tokens, many of them anonymous, were laid upon his grave. The theatrical profession was largely represented, among the first to pay his tribute of respect being Mr. George Alexander, who, with loving care, arranged the wreaths in order that the various inscriptions might be more easily read. The name of an old friend of the deceased actor was recalled by a wreath with the words "Bram, Florence, and Noel Stoker. In loving memory." A spray of choice flowers was inscribed "Always in loving remembrance of dear Uncle Henry, from your only niece, Mary." A bunch of rosemary bore the words "Rosemary—this for remembrance of the great and beloved name of Henry Irving, on the first anniversary of his death." A wreath with the inscription "In loving memory of a great actor, a great artist, and a great gentleman, from six old Lyceum pittites" was also conspicuous. Wreaths also came from the "Gallery First-Night Club" and from members of some of Sir Henry's companies. Among the other floral remembrances was a cross of red geraniums, bearing the card of Mr. George Stone Benedict and Miss Benedict, of New York. Flowers and wreaths continued to be deposited for several days afterwards, during which a large chaplet of laurel leaves sent by the British Empire Shakespeare Society was allowed to remain. It bore the inscription "H. I.—In homage to the memory of our first president, Henry Irving," while on a ribbon attached to the wreath was traced the couplet:—

"I shall remember while the light lives yet,
And in the darkness I shall not forget."

Simple flowers mingled with more elaborate tributes of love and honour, showing a desire on the part of all classes of the community to keep green the memory of a man who so well merited the nation's esteem.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Frank Matcham, the well-known theatrical architect, has almost recovered from the accident which he sustained a little more than two months ago, and is now well on towards recovery. He has gone to Torquay in the hope that his native air will complete his restoration to health.

A new Dickens play, entitled *The House of Dombey*, adapted by Florence Teignmouth Shore and Walter Dexter, will be produced at the Cripplegate Institute, Golden-lane, E.C., on Saturday, Nov. 3.

"THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR."

Nicolai's Opera, Revived at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, on Friday, Oct. 12.

Sir John Falstaff ..... MR. CHARLES MANNERS
Mr. Ford ..... MR. LEWYS JAMES
Mr. Page ..... MR. CHARLES MAGRATH
Fenton ..... MR. WILSON PEMBROKE
Master Slender ..... MR. BAILEY
Dr. Caius ..... MR. MOFFETT
Mistress Ford ..... MISS KATE ANDERSON
Mistress Page ..... MLLE. ZELIE DE LUSSAN
Anne Page ..... MISS GARLAND

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A large audience assembled at the Lyceum Theatre on Friday evening, when the Moody-Manners Opera Company revived Otto Nicolai's opera, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. First produced in Berlin in 1848, barely two months before the composer's death, and revived in London by the Carl Rosa Company in 1878, this opera, although enjoying considerable popularity on the Continent, has not been heard in this country for about eighteen years, and therefore the revival by Mr. Manners may be considered in the nature of a novelty. The central figure of Falstaff in Shakespeare's immortal comedy has inspired various composers to give the play an appropriate musical setting, and, besides Nicolai, Salieri in 1798, Balfe in 1838, Adam in 1856, and Verdi in 1893, essayed the task. Nicolai's effort has been eminently successful, and he has produced what is distinctly a masterpiece in the realm of humorous opera. It is full of bright, sparkling, and melodious music. The humour is conspicuous throughout, and the various episodes are limned with grace and lightness of touch, and yet with true musicianly skill. The orchestration is skilful, and is characterised by spontaneity, freshness, and variety. The libretto, based by Mosenthal on the famous Shakespearean text, deals with three of the principal adventures of the amorous knight.

Mr. Manners has added to his fame by his portrayal of Falstaff. His make-up was excellent, and he represented in a masterly manner the many foibles of the boastful and cowardly old rake. It was a splendid piece of acting, and Mr. Manners's magnificent and sonorous voice was in harmony with the striking and ample figure which he so well depicted. Mlle. Zelie de Lussan as Mrs. Page was the roguish and merry wife to the letter. She acted and sang with the tact, vivacity, and distinction which are always associated with her appearances, and her rendering of the florid music allotted to her, particularly in "The Hunter of Herne" song, was instinct with all her beauty of tone and perfection of method. Miss Kate Anderson, who is making great strides in her profession, portrayed the bewitching Mrs. Ford in a delightful style. Her beautiful, sympathetic voice invested Nicolai's ornate music with a charm which was thoroughly enjoyed, and her acting was natural and spontaneous. Anne Page was sweetly played by Miss Garland; Mr. Lewys James, with his fine voice and easy acting, represented the suspicious Mr. Ford with much success; Mr. Wilson Pembroke as Fenton made an excellent impression, and his full, ringing voice was heard to great advantage. Mr. Charles Magrath as Mr. Page sang and acted admirably; while Mr. Bailey and Mr. Moppett, in the parts of Master Slender and Dr. Caius respectively, played and sang with humour. The chorus sang brilliantly, and the orchestra, under the direction of Herr Eckhold, played finely throughout, the overture coming in for a special share of applause.

Mr. Manners is to be heartily congratulated on his successful and satisfying revival of the opera, and in a speech in response to loud calls at the end of the performance, he gave expression to his feelings of pleasure at the way in which his efforts had been appreciated by such a splendid house. Mr. Manners said that although they might not be aware of the fact, it was nearly eighteen or twenty years since *The Merry Wives of Windsor* had been staged in English. It was then performed by the Carl Rosa Company, before Mr. Rosa's death. He (Mr. Manners) was convinced that, notwithstanding the apathy of London towards English opera, the British people were ready to support opera such as they had had that night. There was no greater admirer of Wagner than he, but he believed lovers of opera could enjoy a light, merry opera, as well as that of a more sombre aspect. On the Continent, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was regularly performed, and the success achieved that night would encourage him to exploit the field of other operas. They knew what *Tannhäuser* and *Carmen* and the others could do. He was resolved to give other operas a chance, and they could afterwards return to the old favourites with renewed fervour.

MR. BOURCHIER IN DUBLIN.

At the conclusion of Mr Arthur Bourchier's visit to the Theatre Royal, Dublin, on Saturday last, in reply to the demand for a speech, he said: Ladies and gentlemen, although we players experience nothing but kindness and hospitality when we come to you, we know very well that if we don't deserve it you will not hesitate to let us feel it. In these days, when a vigorous attempt is being made in certain quarters to praise foreign art at the expense of English endeavour, it is a great comfort to the toilers to find a press and a public free from all affectation, and who take sufficient interest in our work to point out its defects with a kindly encouragement calculated to spur us on to do the best that in us lies towards improvement in a difficult art, whose greatest charm to the zealous artist is that it is only by the continual exercise of that art that any approach towards perfection can be attained.

The stage is so wide in its scope that it caters for those who want to combine amusement with instruction as well as for those who merely want to be amused. Perhaps I may be allowed to place *The Walls of Jericho* in the former class. During the twelve months' run it recently enjoyed in London I was the recipient of many letters from all sorts and conditions of people. One letter from a clergyman particularly lingers in my memory. He wrote as follows: "Your play is a sermon which you, the preacher, have surrounded, like a dose of medicine, with plenty of sugar, so that your hearers hardly realise that it is a sermon till the curtain is down. I once tried to attack a prevailing evil under the guise of an anecdote. The offertory that followed my sermon was very small, and on the following Sunday my congregation was smaller still! I trust that you will not suffer the same experience."

Well, ladies and gentlemen, I was able to assure the writer that my congregation showed no signs of diminution; on the contrary, that it grew and grew in size week after week. Throughout this past week the same happy experience has been ours; and, emboldened by your reception and an offer from Mr. Mouillot, I am trying to arrange to come next year for a fortnight. If I am successful in cancelling engagements already made I shall look forward to appearing before you in a répertoire which will include, besides *The Walls of Jericho*, *The Arm of the Law*, and other modern plays, two Shakespearean productions, *The Merchant of Venice* and *Macbeth*. I shall also try to produce a new play here for the first time on any stage.

"A Maid of Many Parts," a comedy, in one act, by Mrs. Langtry and Graham Hill, and *Guinevere*, a tragedy, in three acts, by the latter writer, were produced for copyright purposes at the Court Theatre on Saturday.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree, who has been scoring socially and artistically in Liverpool this week, will reappear at his own theatre on the 29th inst. in *Colonel Newcome*. All records in advance booking were broken in Liverpool, the sum paid over for reserved seats nearly reaching four figures. The music for *Antony and Cleopatra*, which is to follow *Colonel Newcome* at His Majesty's, will be composed by Mr. Raymond Rose.

One of the most interesting features of the farewell matinée to Miss Emily Soldene at the Palace Theatre, on Nov. 13, will be furnished by Mr. Owen Hall, who has written a one-act tragedy, entitled *Agnes's Secret*. Mr. Hall, who thus makes his first contribution to the serious literature of the stage, will personally superintend its production. The committee has been strengthened in a notable degree by the addition of the names of Lord Farquhar, Lieut.-Col. Clifford Probyn, L.C.C., Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, and Mr. Louis Calvert. Miss Mary Moore, Miss Marion Terry, and Miss Phyllis Broughton have also joined the Ladies' Committee, of which Mme. Melba is president and Miss Ellen Terry vice-president.

Mr. George Alexander, whose taste in dress is so often reflected among the élite of London society, has been provided by his charming wife with a new object of admiration. It consists of a waistcoat resplendent in green and gold, silk strips of those hues being woven together in a unique way. The first appearance of the novelty on the stage of the St. James's caused an impression, and the garment will certainly form one of the most effective ornaments of *His House in Order*.

Mr. Frederick Stanley, the senior partner of Stanley, Woodhouse, and Hedderwick, died on the 12th inst., in his eightieth year, from the effects of an operation which he underwent last August. He assisted Mr. Charles Morton in starting the Philharmonic Theatre, and was solicitor for the Theatrical Managers' Association. His genial manner made him very popular, and he was well known to most of the leading members of the theatrical profession.

Mr. E. S. Willard has entered upon his twelfth American season with every indication that it will be one of the most gratifying of his distinguished career. Mr. Willard's performance of Colonel Newcome is generally regarded as one of the finest things he has ever done. He has been presenting the new piece to "standing-room only," and were it not for his arrangements with the authors of the other plays in his répertoire, it is quite certain that he could depend on *Colonel Newcome* exclusively for the success of his season.

Mr. James Glover, who has been chosen as the next mayor of Bexhill-on-Sea, was started on a career which ultimately led him to be musical-director of Drury Lane by a rare stroke of good fortune. A lady sleight-of-hand performer advertised for a pianist, and promised him a long engagement at 35s. a week, but dismissed him the first week because he did not polish his boots. She, however, did him a good turn, for when he arrived at Southampton to begin the engagement he found that he was advertised as musical-director. "When I found myself stranded," relates Mr. Glover, "I immediately returned to London with a large stock of handbills with my name on them as musical-director, and promptly wrote to every London manager demanding free seats for his theatre as a right. Mr. W. F. Griffiths, then manager of the Prince of Wales' Theatre in Tottenham Court-road (the old 'Dusthole'), now Scala, instead of sending me tickets for Miss Genevieve Ward in *Forget-me-not*, asked me to come down, offered me an engagement as musical-director with Mr. Charles Collete on tour at £3 a week, and that started the ball rolling."

Golf enthusiasts are so numerous at the New Theatre that a club has been formed among the company engaged in the production of the popular *Amasis*. The club consists of Mr. Louis Calvert, the producer; Mr. Michael Faraday, the composer; and Messrs. Herbert Ross, Rutland Barrington, Norman Salmond, L. de Frece, and Roland Cunningham. So far the little coterie has been singularly successful in their engagements, and enjoys the distinction of holding an unbeaten record.

Miss Lennox Grey, who has been saved from the bitter prospect of spending the rest of her days in the workhouse by the charity of certain friends who desire to remain anonymous, gratefully acknowledges their beneficence. "The generous offer of those gentlemen who are going to allow me a pound a week," writes Miss Grey, from the Strand Union, Edmonton, "fills my heart to overflowing. May God reward them for their kindness." The philanthropic action alluded to was the result of a conversation between eight gentlemen in a restaurant last week, when Miss Grey's unfortunate position was referred to, and the determination to contribute half-a-crown a week each towards the veteran actress's support was agreed upon.

Friends of Miss Dot Stephens will be glad to know that the little lady has so far recovered from the consequences of her recent accident as to be able to come up to town. She is at present staying at 7, The Grove, Hammersmith.

Mr. Cecil Raleigh, whose pen has flowed none too freely of late, has just completed a three-act play for Mr. Lawrence D'Orsay, who enjoys great popularity in America. The piece is to be produced in New York under Mr. Daniel Frohman's management, and Mr. Raleigh will cross over to superintend rehearsals.

The brilliancy of Mr. George Edwardes's production of *Les Merveilleuses*, which is due at Daly's on Saturday next, will be enhanced by an orchestra of forty-nine instrumentalists and the largest chorus ever yet employed at the theatre. The full cast of the opera will consist of Messrs. Robert Evett, W. Louis Bradfield, Fred Kaye, W. H. Berry, A. J. Evelyn, Willie Warde, Gordon Cleather, Scott Russell, V. O'Connor, Norman Greene, and George Graves; and Misses Evie Greene, Denise Orme, Gabrielle Ray, Elizabeth Firth, Jessie Broughton, Eleanor Souray, M. Erskine, Nina Sevening, D. Dunbar, Barker, and Mlle. Mariette Sully.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard is likely to remember his first experience of a French racecourse. He was present last Sunday at Longchamps during the riot, and writes that he never saw anything to equal it. A curious effect was created by the sight of several well-dressed gentlemen, finding they could not recover their money, marching off with chairs on their backs. The way the infuriated mob broke down the railings was wonderful; it was all done in ten minutes, and the whole place was ablaze.

Mr. Luscombe Searelle, whose collaboration with the well-known American authoress, Ella Wheeler Wilcox, in *Mispah*, has resulted in the production of a fine poetical play, is well entitled to his share of the flattering encomiums which have been bestowed in the United States. Mrs. Wilcox, as well as Mr. Searelle, has written some fine blank verse, but the merit of *Mispah*, which is founded on the Biblical story of Esther, lies admittedly in its dramatic qualities, and for these Mr. Searelle, so well experienced in the art and business of the drama, is responsible. A novel expedient has been resorted to in a little book of the play, in which the work of the two authors is differentiated, Mrs. Wilcox's share of the piece being printed in italics and that of Mr. Searelle in ordinary Roman.

Mr. Martin Harvey's revival of *The Corsican Brothers* has been received with the greatest enthusiasm, both at Birmingham and Hull, and the play will in future have an important place in his répertoire. Mr. Harvey's next production will be that of a play founded on the story of "The Flying Dutchman." The character of Vanderdecken is one that should be admirably suited to Mr. Harvey's artistic temperament.

Mr. Frank Bertram has been the recipient of the following amusing letter:—"Dear Sir,—During your visit to Sunderland with *The Breed of the Treshams* my wife and I visited your play three times, and it pleased us so much that we have decided to go to our fancy dress ball as Batty and the Rat. We are about the same size, and the clothes will fit us. As it will be a grand advertisement for your play, will you send the costumes, with the swords and boots, carriage paid? We shall want them three days, as we shall be photographed in them (another grand advertisement for you). We do not want any payment, only the costumes carriage paid." Mr. Bertram has sent the gentleman the address of a well-known London costumier who supplies him with the costumes.

Mr. David Bispham, the popular singer, makes the interesting announcement that early in December he will produce in London, under the management of Mr. Frank Curzon, a new light romantic opera on *The Vicar of Wakefield*, written for him by Mr. Laurence Housman and composed by Madame Liza Lehmann. Mr. Bispham will himself play the part of the Vicar, and will have the invaluable help of Miss Isabel Jay, who, in the part of Olivia, will return to that form of opera which exercises her gifts as a vocalist in the most favourable way. A fine cast has been engaged and the work is now in active rehearsal. Mr. Bram Stoker, whose book on Irving has been received with such a chorus of approval, is the business manager for Mr. Bispham. Mr. Bispham's own song recital will, it may be mentioned, take place at Bechstein Hall on the afternoon of Monday, Nov. 19.

A well-known figure of the theatrical world, both at home and abroad, has passed away this week in the person of Mr. James Nelson, who died suddenly at Swansea on Wednesday. Mr. Nelson was a partner of the Sass-Nelson company, which has latterly achieved great renown in Australia and South Africa. The lamented actor, who has, for the past ten years, resided in South Africa, was a member of the old Surrey stock company, and took part with Mr. Sass in many of the popular melodramas produced under the Conquest management. Like many another Surrey actor, he ultimately found his way to the West End, where he was associated with Mr. Charles Hawtrey in a number of his productions. Mr. Nelson returned to England in the spring of the present year, and a few weeks ago accepted an offer from Mr. James Welch to go on tour with him. The deceased, who had many estimable qualities, was held in the highest regard, and his death will occasion the most profound regret.

Mr. C. I. Coltson, the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, has received from Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, of the Waterloo-road, a cheque, together with Mr. F. H. Pedgrift's cheque for £4 6s., both sums being devoted to the Fund from the proceeds of the sale of Messrs. Rayne's "Date Book." Mr. Coltson writes: "Messrs. Rayne inform me that in the interest of the Fund you have generously assisted in pushing the sale of their book free of all charge, and I beg your acceptance of my very sincere and grateful thanks for the help you have thus been able to afford the Fund." A lady who was unable to get to the Abbey last Saturday sent the Fund 5s. in loving memory of Sir Henry Irving.

At the Queen's Theatre, Gateshead, on Monday next, drama will once more take the place of variety.

Mr. Sidney Bacon, the courteous and astute manager and co-lessee of the Metropole, Queen's (Gateshead), and Grand (Newcastle) Theatres, has been persuaded by a large number of friends to allow himself to be nominated as a candidate for a seat on the Town Council of the first-named town. Five years ago Mr. Bacon wooed the electors without success, but since that time his reputation as a sound business man has been brought more prominently before the public, and there is every reason to believe that he will come out "top-dog" this time.

The Broughton Packer Bath scholarships, one for violin and one for violoncello playing, at the Royal Academy of Music, will be competed for on or about Thursday, Dec. 13. Candidates will be required to play a piece of their own selection, and a piece at first sight selected by the examiners. In addition, violin candidates are to prepare Concerto No. 13 in D major (first movement only), Kreutzer; and violoncello candidates "Allegro Appasionata," Saint-Saëns, Op. 43. The competition for the George Mence Smith scholarship, which is to be awarded to the lady vocalist who exhibits the best voice in conjunction with musical aptitude, will take place on or about Tuesday, Jan. 8, 1907. Candidates are required to prepare two pieces, of their own selecteion, one florid and one declamatory, and such pieces may be in English, French, German, Italian, or Latin.

Awards in the recent Royal Academy of Music scholarships have been made as follows:—The Ada Lewis scholarships.—Singing: Janet Lydia H. Woolley (of Nottingham); Millicent H. P. Norton and Lily Mitchell Fairney, highly commended; and Margaret Ismay, commended. Pianoforte: Vivian Langrish (of Bristol); highly commended, Greville Turner Cooke and Agathe Manns. Viola: Phyllis Ingram Mitchell (of London). Double bass: Paul James Stanley (of London). The Erard Centenary scholarships.—Pianoforte: Norah Mignon Cordwell (of London); Dorothy L. Grinstead, Gertrude M. Mustard, and M. Cicely Chapman, being highly commended. Harp: Dot Lyons (of London), Grace D. Maxted being highly commended.

The Campbell Clarke scholarship was won by Marie Isabelle Wadia (of London), Elsie J. Redfern and Mildred E. Harvey being highly commended. The Wessely Exhibition was secured by Edward Stanelli de Groot (of Brighton), Dora F. Coombs being highly commended. The Ross scholarship was awarded to Thomas Gibbs (of London), Percival Driver being highly commended, and J. Melvin Nightingale commended. The Stainer Exhibition was won by Henry Gilkece Dutton (of Tewkesbury). The examiners in the various competitions were Mme. Agnes Larkcom, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Messrs. F. Corder, W. Adlington, Oscar Beringer, T. B. Knott, Claude F. Pollard, A. Kastner, John Thomas, Fred Walker, R. Cummings, A. Thompson, Josef Blaha, Alfred Gibson, Hans Wessely, Arthur Barlow, Fredk. Ranalow, Lloyd Chandos, Carlo Albanesi, Benno Schonberger, Lionel Tertis, Chas. Winterbottom, and Alfred Burnett.

Mr. Lionel Glenister and Mr. Wood-Ingram, who are now achieving great results with their tour of *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*, with Miss Decima Moore in the title-rôle, have re-engaged Miss Moore for their spring tour of this favourite piece.

Mr. Granville Barker will make his welcome reappearance at the Court Theatre in the revival of *Man and Superman*, which will take place on Monday, the 29th inst. The cast will be completed by Messrs. James Hearn, Lewis Casson, Edmund Gwenn, Hubert Harben, and Edmund Gurney; and Misses Lillah McCarthy, Florence Haydon, Agnes Thomas, Grace Lane, and Mary Hamilton.

A wedding of considerable interest in theatrical, musical, and other circles took place at All Saints' Church, Fulwell-road, Sunderland, last week. The contracting parties were Miss Dorothy Nita Machin, second daughter of Mr. C. E. Machin, the popular proprietor and manager of the Avenue Opera House, Sunderland, and other provincial theatres, and Mr. William Jackson, son of the late Mr. William Jackson. Both bride and bridegroom have musical tastes, have passed various examinations, and hold diplomas. Mr. Jackson, indeed, is the author of several musical works, and has written all the music required for sketches by Mr. Machin. There was a large attendance at the church, and the ceremony was performed by the Rev. F. Aubrey E. Leake. The bridesmaids were Miss Phyllis Machin (sister of the bride), Miss Isabel McGarry, Misses Davidson, and Miss Ira Sprague (cousin of the bride). The best man was Mr. Mervyn Ritson, and the bride was given away by her father.

The bride, who looked charming, was attired in a dress of cream ivory silk with overflowing tucked crepe de Chine trimmed with real Brussels lace and orange blossoms, and wearing a large Empire belt. The travelling dress was of wine-coloured cloth, with boa and muff and a hat to match. The bridesmaids were in pale blue, their dresses bearing some similarity to that of the bride. They wore picture hats to match their dresses, and carried beautiful bouquets. After the ceremony there was a reception at Mr. Machin's house, at Roker, followed by a party at the Avenue Theatre. The presents were very numerous and included a silver tray and methylated spirit lamp and kettle from the staffs of the Avenue and Royal Theatres.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Burton Cooke, C. Hayden Coffin, F. Cremlin, Quinton McPherson, Spencer Trevor, Fredk. Volpe, Hubert Willis, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). Three cases of alleged insanitation in provincial theatres were under consideration, and the secretary received instructions to deal with the matters involved. Percy Baverstock, Arthur Morris, and Robert Corray were nominated for election. Dennis Eadie and Harry Russon were nominated for reinstatement, and four former members were reinstated.

The secretary reported the result of an arbitration held since the last meeting of the Council, and he also reported that he had received notice of a claim by a member under the insurance scheme. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received, and two suggestions contained therein were adopted by the Council. The secretary reported telegraphic communications between himself and a commissioner in connection with provincial meetings of the A.A., and announced that Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree was considering the question of holding another in some other provincial centre in the immediate future. Questions in connection with the proposed Irving Memorial were before the Council, and their consideration was adjourned until next week, when a specially convened meeting of the Council will be held to deal with the entire matter.

Mr. Bannister Howard intends to revive old fashioned pantomime at the Crystal Palace Theatre this Christmas. Any effort to return to the rollicking performances of bygone days deserves to be supported, and there can be no doubt that Mr. Howard's enterprise, over which no expense will be spared, will be crowned with success. The subject of the pantomime is *Aladdin*, the book of which will be supplied by that experienced pantomime writer, Mr. Fred Bowyer. Miss Lillie Lassah will impersonate Aladdin, and Miss Lillie Gallick the Princess; and the cast will also include Mr. Arthur Pool, Mr. A. E. Passmore, Miss Josephine Sullivan, and the Ongar Brothers. The second boy will be Miss Nellie Barnwell, and the second girl Miss Gladys Ray, a sister of Miss Gabrielle Ray, who was originally brought out by Mr. Howard. Mr. J. D. Cawdery, one of the oldest performers at trap-work, will be demon and clown, and the harlequinade and shadow pantomime will be a strong feature of the entertainment. The pantomime will be produced by Mr. C. Lake, and Mr. Joseph Sainton will compose and arrange the music. Mr. W. E. Sharpe will still continue to actively manage the front of the theatre.

Mr. Allan Wilkie has secured the services of Miss Gertrude Gilbert (late leading lady with Mr. Ian Maclaren), and is now in the position of having three recognised leading ladies in his Shakespearean company, as he still retains the services of Miss Iné Cameron and Miss Carrie Baillie, who took the principal parts with the Osmond Tearle company. This, together with the support of Mr. G. Alexander Marsh, makes one of the strongest combinations ever seen in the provinces.

Servais Le Roy and W. Scott Phipp are to be congratulated on the immediate success of the new mystical play, *Lady Kinton's Necklace*, produced on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Ilkeston. We are informed that, although the play is packed with novelties, they are still being crowded in. A notice of the play appears in another column, and a copy of the day-bill will be found in our companies' page. The advertising department has had most careful attention, and the management claim they have already (for a start) more real original notions than any other show on the road.

Mr. William Morgan, managing-director of the People's Palace and Aquarium, Scarborough, and thrice in succession mayor of the town, attained on Aug. 3 last his fiftieth year as an amusement caterer, and a testimonial fittingly to commemorate the occasion is being organised. Mr. Morgan may well claim to be a pioneer of provincial touring, for fifty years ago he brought a complete metropolitan company into the provinces, thus paving the way for the great development which has since led to successions of London companies occupying provincial playhouses practically all the year round. Mr. Morgan's initial enterprise was at Bradford, where for several seasons he ran high-class Saturday night entertainments at St. George's Hall. Then he built and managed the Prince's Theatre, Bradford, and became lessee of the Preston Theatre Royal. Subsequently he earned great popularity for Blackpool Winter Gardens by several years of management, and since then has successively controlled the Morecambe Winter Gardens and the Scarborough People's Palace and Aquarium, of which he has been managing-director since 1890. The testimonial is being promoted by a committee of which Sir George Sitwell is chairman, and amongst the members are the Earl of Londesborough, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. John Hart, Mr. T. Sergenson, Mr. J. H. Huddlestone, and Mr. George Harrop. Subscriptions are not to exceed £1 1s., and may be paid to the hon. secretary of the Fund, Mr. Valentine Fowler, Huntriss Hall, Scarborough.

The annual elocution competition of the British Empire Shakespeare Society will take place at the St. James's Theatre on Friday afternoon next at 1.30, when Mr. George Alexander, one of the vice-presidents of the society, has kindly consented to act as judge. Many members from the provincial centres help to swell this year's large entry. The prizes in connection with the competition will be given away by Her Highness Princess Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein, also at the St. James's Theatre, on Nov. 29.

Mr. Sydney Sydney, the author of the successful musical farce, *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, is writing for Miss Florence Baines another play, taking for his subject an extraordinary decision given by the English House of Lords in an Australian matrimonial case.

Miss Florence Baines is publishing two songs, which are to be given away as an advertisement for the *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, company. One is "The Lancashire Country Girl," the song with which Miss Baines was so successful in the Tivoli revue, and the other is "The children's Party," which the popular comedienne has effectively utilised to introduce her children's imitations. Miss Baines wishes to advise her fellow artists that the songs may be had free on application to her, though the frontispiece bears a warning to artists and managers that the privilege of performing these songs is vested in Miss Baines only, and any infringement will be followed by prosecution.

The sixth bi-monthly meeting of the members of the Actors' Association will be held in the Saloon at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, on Thursday, the 8th prox., at 2.30 p.m.

Mr. James P. Moore, who has recently vacated the management of the West Bromwich Theatre, was, on Wednesday last, appointed to the position of Provincial Grand Sword-bearer for Worcestershire, and to celebrate the event a pleasing little function was held at the residence of Dr. Herbert Manley, in West Bromwich, when Mr. Moore was presented with a beautiful suit of Provincial clothing by a few of the West Bromwich brethren of the Godson Lodge.

Mr. George Robertson, of the Theatre Royal, Loughborough, has arranged with Mr. Brandon Thomas for the small towns and "fit up" rights of that play of marvellous vitality, *Charley's Aunt*, and will start his tour at Christmas next.

Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer scored a remarkable success at he Theatre Royal, Sheffield, last week, the receipts constituting a record. Under the management of Mr. John Hart, this theatre is bidding fair to revive the good fortune of its earlier days.

Mr. Charles Hannan's farcical comedy, *The Electric Man*, as we foreshadowed last week, is to find a home at the West End, and will be produced at the New Royalty Theatre early next month. Mr. Harry Nicholls will impersonate the title-rôle, and other important engagements are pending.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Harben received congratulations this week on the birth of a little son. Mr. Harben, who was formerly a member of Mr. and Mrs. Kendal's company, is one of the many clever young actors who have become "Courtiers"—in other words, realised the opportunity of playing good parts in brilliant productions, under the management of Messrs.. Vedrenne and Barker. Mrs. Harben, who is professionally known as Miss Mary Jerrold, also toured with the Kendals, has played at the St. James's, and is one of the most natural and charming of ingénues—with a sense of humour. Descended from Douglas Jerrold, she is the sister of Mr. Inglis Allen, author of *The Dear Unfair Sex*, recently produced, with Miss Ellis Jeffries in the chief part, in New York.

Curiously enough, the last evening of the Brixton Theatre's career as a dramatic house coincided with the Hospital Saturday Fund collecting day, which Mr. Ernest Stevens has regularly observed during his management. The collection this year amounted to £2 4s. 9d.

"Her Love Against the World," the latest achievement of Mr. Walter Howard, is proving one of the best financial successes on tour, and has greatly enhanced that author's already enviable reputation as one of the premier provincial playwrights. Mr. T. Edward Ward, who is producing Mr. Howard's next play, called *Second to None*, at the Grand Junction, Manchester, at Easter, has met with the utmost confidence at the hands of resident-managers, and has secured a fine list of bookings for next autumn.

Mr. R. W. Allum, who has been connected with the management of the Brixton Theatre for over eight years, had a substantial token of the respect and esteem in which he is held locally by the presentation, on the 12th, of a cheque for a substantial amount, subscribed by the patrons of the theatre and friends. Mr. Ernest Stevens, the late lessee and manager of the theatre, also presented his lieutenant with a massive gold ring, bearing the inscription, "Ernest Stevens to R. W. Allum, with good wishes, October, 1906." From Mr. J. Murray Herriot, late business manager here, came a pretty silver-mounted office clock, inscribed, "R. W. Allum, from J. Murray Herriot, with good wishes, October, 1906." On the final fall of the curtain on Saturday night the staff presented Mr. Allum with a handsome silver card case and a pair of gold sleeve links. Mr. Allum has found a new sphere for operations, his next appointment being that of acting manager of the new Putney Hippodrome.

Miss Emma Litchfield, who has toured *A London Actress* for five years, will shortly discontinue it for a time, having in preparation another sensational drama, entitled *A Clever Imposter*, from her own pen, which will be produced at Theatre Royal, Macclesfield, on Dec. 24. This is the third drama from Miss Litchfield's pen, and she will play the leading rôle, in which she will assume five different disguises.

A revised version of *Yellow Fog Island* will be given at Terry's on Monday, and will be preceded by a farce, entitled *A Restless Night*, which was originally produced under Mr. Nation's management a score of years ago. The chief part in the piece will be sustained by Mr. Charles Groves.

Success of a remarkable kind has attended Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's tours this season, the demand that exists for good comedy companies being demonstrated in all parts of the country. *The Freedom of Suzanne*, with Miss Mabel Love, is having a wonderful reception, and new records have been established everywhere. Mr. Percy Hutchison is now with this company in his old part, supporting Miss Love.

The British Empire Shakespeare Society gave their first dramatic reading of the season at the Passmore Edwards' Settlement, Tavistock-place, on Sunday. *Henry the Fifth* was the play chosen for the occasion, and it won the enthusiastic applause of a crowded house. That fine Shakespearean actress, Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, read the not over-grateful part of Chorus with some exquisite shades of meaning; Mr. Lewis Casson, aided by his fine elocutionary powers, gave a virile and highly-appreciated rendering of King Henry. The part of Pistol was in the hands of Mr. Acton Bond, who read it with his customary high degree of excellence; Mr. Michael Sherbrooke as Fluellen was a host in himself; Miss Margaret Busse submitted a charmingly ingenuous Katherine; and Miss Margaret Parker—who also read the stage-directions with great clearness—ably acquitted herself as the Hostess. Mr. Kenyon Musgrave, Mr. Courtenay Foote, Mr. John Macfarlane, and Mr. Lewis Willoughby gave valuable service in doubling parts; and the remaining rôles were ably filled by Mr. Asheton Tonge, Mr. Hann, Mr. Cecil Duncan, and Miss Kate Turner. The reading was under the direction of Mr. Acton Bond.

Miss Helen Vicary, whilst endeavouring to get on a Hammersmith omnibus on the 12th inst., slipped and fell backwards, cutting her leg severely. The wound bled profusely, and the sufferer was conveyed to St. George's Hospital, where she received prompt attention. Miss Vicary was greatly shaken by the accident, but hopes to resume her professional duties shortly.

The announcements in the *London Gazette* of the 9th inst. included the following: Volunteer Rifles—1st Volunteer Battalion, the Prince Albert's (Somersetshire Light Infantry): Major E. Lewis is granted the honorary rank of Lieut.-Colonel. Lieut.-Col. E. Lewis is the much-respected lessee of the Theatre Royal, Bath, and joined the 1st (now A) Company of the 1st Somerset as a private as far back as 1875, has passed the examination in tactics, and holds the Volunteer long service medal, the Volunteer decoration, and the Coronation medal.

"The Girl from Biarritz," a new first piece by Mr. Leonard Rolson, has been secured by Mr. A. H. Cawby, to precede *The Prince Chap* on tour. The initial production will take place at Hill Theatre, Aberdeen, on Oct. 29.

"Robin Hood; or, The Outlaw of Sherwood Forest," the play by Messrs. Dennis Cleugh and Cecil Duncan Jones which Mr. Norman V. Norman will shortly produce, was written as a pastoral play for Mr. Norman some time ago, and since then a prologue has been added. The play is founded on a series of the old legends and ballads relating to the famous outlaw, and the part of Maid Marion, which will be played by Miss Beatrice Wilson, is made a strong comedy rôle, and, in fact, partakes somewhat of the character of a hoyden.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge's pretty theatre at Barrow was taxed to its utmost capacity on Wednesday last, the occasion of a special visit of the draughtsmen from Messrs. Vickers, Sons, and Maxim to witness the performance of Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *The Freedom of Suzanne*. Miss Mabel Love (the charming Suzanne), whose birthday it happened to be, was presented by the draughtsmen with a beautifully-made model of H.M.S. Dreadnought, heavily laden with the daintiest of chocolates, to wish her "Many happy returns of the day." It was successfully launched from the dress circle, amidst the cheers and good wishes of the audience.

Mr. Paul Rubens is well forward with his new musical play, *Miss Hook of Holland*, of which he is author, lyrist, and composer. The novelty, which is described as "a Dutch musical incident, with chatter, jingles, and tune," will be produced by Mr. Frank Curzon at or about Christmas. A simple love story, coloured by quaint touches of Dutch character, is developed in the piece, the scene of which is a cheese market on the borders of the Zuyder Zee, and, later, the interior of a Dutch liqueur distillery on a festival day. The cast will include Mr. G. P. Huntley, Miss Ethel Cadman, Mr. George Barrett, Miss Gwennie Brogden, and Miss Gladys Ivery.

The memory of Verdi is now perpetuated in New York, where a statue of the great composer was unveiled on the 12th inst. Speeches were delivered by Count di Massiglia, the Italian Consul-General, and Admiral Calli, the special Italian representative, and a parade of the different Italian societies of New York was a feature of the celebration.

A scathing denunciation of the Berlin stage was made at the congress of the combined Associations for Promoting Public Morality, which is being held at Hanover. Baron von Oertzen, the principal speaker on this subject, divided the Berlin theatres into four classes:—First, the two Royal theatres, pure in intention and devoting themselves largely to classical drama and opera; secondly, the modern stages, wholly indifferent to ethics, whose mainstay is Sudermann; thirdly, those theatres which consciously and of set purpose make their profit out of immoral plays. The fourth category included the variety theatres and cabarets, the audiences at which were stated to be in some cases so bad that even the worst entertainments could do them no further harm.

Prizes for the two best productions by Italian playwrights in the native language are offered by the Italian Government in the hope of encouraging the national drama. Ninety-five per cent. of the plays on the Italian stage, it is said, consist of translations or adaptations from foreign sources—chiefly French. The competition will remain open till the beginning of Lent, 1908.

Miss Ada Ferrar, who recently returned to town from a visit to Stratford-on-Avon, is a comedienne with a sense of humour "on and off." The eldest of the clever Ferrar sisters, she has been associated with many of the best managements of the day, and played all sorts of parts—from comedy to tragedy; from Shakespeare to Pinero. Her sister Beatrice is equally well-known as an actress; but Miss Jessie Ferrar—perhaps inspired by the sight of matinée hats from over the footlights—has left the stage and evolved into Mme. Auburn of Bond-street. Perhaps Miss Ada Ferrar was most successful in sinking her own personality, being completely changed in voice, in look, in manner, in the part of the old blind nurse, in the original production of *Paolo and Francesca* at the St. James's Theatre.

Lhevinne, the Russian pianist, who made such a notable success at Queen's Hall last week, left England on Saturday for a six months' tour in America. Born in Moscow in 1874, his whole life has been spent in perfecting his art, for his fine technique and peculiarly soft touch are the result of hard work and unflagging enthusiasm. He made his début at the age of eight, and was only fourteen when Rubinstein invited him to play at a big orchestral concert in Moscow, afterwards publicly thanking and embracing the little boy. M. Lhévinne received the Rubinstein prize in 1895, winning this coveted honour in a competition of over thirty promising pianists. For the last four years he has been a professor in the Imperial Conservatory in Moscow, besides giving recitals in all the large cities in Europe.

The members of the Amateur Players' Association accorded an enthusiastic reception to Mr. H. Chance Newton, at their headquarters in Victoria-street on Wednesday, when he made his first appearance among them as their president. Mr. Newton opened a debate on "First-night criticism," and in the course of his address the president, who is well qualified to speak on the subject, compared the critic of the past and of the present, much to the advantage of the latter. With regard to whether the critic should attend the first performance of a play or the seventh opinions were varied, and a great deal could be said on both sides. This aspect, however, only touched the amateur actor from his playgoing point of view, as an amateur actor was always criticised on his first night, his run seldom exceeding that limited period. "Critics," continued Mr. Newton, "varied in their capacity to 'hustle,' and whereas one man is not hampered by the conditions prevailing with a first-night criticism and immediate going to press, others equally brilliant preferred to ponder and re-write. No doubt this latter was the preforable course, and produced the best work. Still, the critics write for the public, which likes its news red-hot." An interesting discussion followed the presidential address, and finally, on a resolution being put to the meeting in favour of first-night criticism, it was carried by a large majority.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE was ingeniously "heckled" rather than interviewed by a representative of the *Manchester Courier* last week. Said the "interlocutor" to the actor: "Can you give an answer to the argument so often repeated that the personality and popularity of an individual actor go far towards ensuring public support?" "When an audience applauds enthusiastically," replied Mr. Tree, "I will not presume to think that in my case it is due to my personal efforts, but that others—perhaps in the case of *Colonel Newcome*, Thackeray—had a 'look in.'" This led the way to a question concerning the tendency of public taste. "When business interests are considered," said Mr. Tree, "one's enthusiasm must be tempered with sanity, but as a general rule I hold one should never be merely a camp-follower of the public." "Then," said the interviewer, "I must put to you a solemn question: Is it or is it not true that the public taste for the all-absorbing musical comedy is on the wane?" "Like football, it is always with us," said Mr. Tree. "I am all for healthy, physical exercise, and shall believe in the decline of musical comedy when I hear of the decline of football as a beautiful sport."

MR. TREE, in defending Mr. Michael Morton's version of "The Newcomes," mentioned that Thackeray's daughter had written as follows:—"My father often wondered if the creations of the brain could one day come into actual being. I am sorry he is not here to see his speculation verified." Thackeray, if present, would have been ninety-five.

MR. TREE, at the conclusion of his lecture on "The Highways and Byways of Shakespeare" at the Liverpool University on Tuesday, told his hearers how, too late, he had discovered that when asked to speak into the gramophone he had recited the "To be or not to be" speech from *Hamlet* in Falstaff's voice and Falstaff's speech on "Honour" in Hamlet's voice. He then delivered the two speeches in the same way in which he had talked them into the gramophone. As a vocal entertainment, Mr. Tree's "recitations gone wrong" must have been delicious. Could he not be induced to repeat it at one of his benefit matinées in London?

THE easiness of criticism and the difficulty of performance were exemplified in an incident which is related in Bram Stoker's Irving Reminiscences. After *Henry VIII.* had run some forty nights at the Lyceum, Irving got a letter to the following effect: "The complete success of *Henry VIII.* was marred when the King kissed the china doll. The whole house tittered. . . . Herewith I offer the hire of our real baby for the purpose of personating the offspring. . . ."

To this Mr. Stoker replied: "Mr. Irving fears that there might be some difficulty in making the changes which you suggest with regard to the infant Princess Elizabeth in the play. If reality is to be achieved it should of necessity be real reality and not seeming reality; the latter we have already on the stage. A series of difficulties then arises, any of which you and your family might find insuperable: If your real baby were provided it might be difficult, or even impossible, for the actor who impersonates King Henry VIII. to feel the real feelings of a father towards it. This would necessitate your playing the part of the King; and further would require that your wife should play the part of Queen Anne Boleyn.

"THIS might not suit either of you—especially as in reality Henry VIII. had afterwards his wife's head cut off. To this your wife might naturally object; but even if she were willing to accept this form of reality and you were willing to accept the responsibility on your own part, Mr. Irving would, for his own sake, have to object. By law, if you had your wife decapitated you would be tried for murder; but as Mr. Irving would also be tried as an accessory before the fact, he too would stand in danger of his life. To this he distinctly objects, as he considers that the end aimed at is not worth the risk involved.

"AGAIN, as the play will probably run for a considerable time, your baby would grow. It might, therefore, be necessary to provide another baby. To this you and your wife might object—at short notice. There are other reasons—many of them—militating against your proposal; but you will probably deem those given as sufficient."

MR. A. W. PINERO may smile at being reminded when he reads Mr. Stoker's book of how he was able, most innocently, to "poach" Irving's reception in the production of *The Corsican Brothers* at the Lyceum in 1880. In the first scene, which is the house of the Dei Franchi in Corsica, opportunity had been taken of the peculiarity of the old Lyceum stage to make the entrance of Fabian dei Franchi—the one of the twins remaining at home—as effective as possible. The old stage of the Lyceum had a "scene-dock" at the back, extending for some thirty feet beyond the squaring of the stage. As this opening was at the centre, the perspective could by its means be enlarged considerably. At the back of the Dei Franchi "interior" ran a vine-trellised way to a wicket gate. As there was no side entrance to the scene-dock it was necessary, in order to reach the back, to go into the cellarage and ascend by a step ladder as generously sloped as the head room would allow. But when the oncomer did make an appearance he was some seventy feet back from the footlights and in the very back centre of the stage, the most effective spot for making entry, as it enabled the entire audience to see him a long way off and to emphasise his coming should they so desire.

BUT in the arrangement the fact had been lost sight of that another character entered the same way just before the time of his oncoming. This was Alfred Meynard, Louis's friend from Paris, a somewhat insignificant part in the play. Somehow at the rehearsal the appearance of the latter did not seem in any way to clash with that of Fabian, and be sure that the astute young actor who played Alfred did not call attention to it by giving himself any undue prominence. The result was that on the first night—and ever afterwards during the run—when Alfred Meynard appeared the audience, who expected Irving, burst into wild applause. The gentleman who played the visitor had not then achieved the distinction which later on became his, and so there was no reason, as yet, why he should receive such an ovation. From the great stage talent and finesse which he afterwards displayed I am right sure that he saw at the time what others had missed—the extraordinary opportunity for a satisfactory entrance so dear to the heart of an actor. It was a very legitimate chance in his favour, and nightly he carried his honours well. The young actor was A. W. Pinero.

ONE very interesting fact has been made public in the pages of Mr. Stoker's book—viz., that Henry Irving, with the exception of a thousand pounds which he obtained as a legacy from a Mrs. Brown, was never subsidised, but earned all the money which he spent on his elaborate productions. When he took the Lyceum, its entire holding capacity was £228. After the house was enlarged in 1881, at a cost of £12,000, it was made to hold another £100, and later on by changes and improvements £420 could be got into it. Irving spent £60,000 on the "expenses of the house." Between starting management in 1878 and the day of his death in 1905, Irving's takings for his own playing amounted to over £2,000,000.

"ROBIN HOOD."

A Romance, in Four Acts, by Henry Hamilton and William Devereux,
Played for the first time in London at the Lyric Theatre,
On Wednesday, Oct. 17.

Richard Cœur de Lion..MR. PHILIP CUNINGHAM
Prince John .....MR. WILLIAM DEVEREUX
Fitz-Aylwynne .....MR. S. B. BRERETON
Hugo de Longespée .....MR. FRANK WOOLFE
Sir Aymer le Botelier .....MR. J. H. IRVINE
The Abbot of Jourvaulx..MR. HERBERT VYVYAN
Mauvoisin .....MR. H. J. CARVILL
De Tracy .....MR. SHIEL BARRY
Haco .....MR. R. C. SMITH
Much the Miller .....MR. FRANK COCHRANE
John Little .....MR. HERBERT JARMAN
Friar Tuck .....MR. A. E. GEORGE
Will Scarlett .....MR. OWEN ROUGHWOOD
Allan a' Dale .....MR. CECIL CAMERON
Stutely .....MR. H. VINER
George a' Green .....MR. CECIL MCGUINNESS
Clem o' the Clough .....MR. P. PIGAN
Robin Hood .....MR. LEWIS WALLER
Eleanor of Acquitaine ....MISS HELEN LEYTON
Adela .....MISS DOROTHY MINTO
Alison Much .....MISS GEORGIE ESMOND
Elspeth .....MISS GERTRUDE AYRE
Lady Marian de Vaux ....MISS EVELYN MILLARD

A joyous, active, interesting, and very agreeable entertainment is Messrs. Henry Hamilton and William Devereux's drama, which was presented to a London audience for the first time at the Lyric Theatre on Wednesday, after a trial trip last week at Birmingham. It is really surprising how acceptable and effective a piece the collaborators have made out of the meagre materials at their disposal. The old ballad and a bit from "Ivanhoe"—the reception of King Richard by Friar Tuck in his hut—are practically all the authors had to "go upon"; but the action never drags, and the piece has plenty of "movement."

The authors were careful, at the outset, to provide themselves with a "love interest." Lady Marian de Vaux, lost in Sherwood Forest, meets bold Robin Hood, and is enamoured of the dashing outlaw at first sight. But there is much in this same act besides incipient love-making. There is the comical capture and detection of the artful Abbot of Jourvaulx, who has tried to smuggle through Robin's lines a number of money-bags hidden at the bottom of the panniers of the donkey on which the false Abbot rides. He is made to dance for the amusement of the jolly foresters and to dine on bread and water. Sir Hugo de Longespée, a Norman baron, who is aiding and abetting Prince John in his projected usurpation of the crown, is about to hang one of Robin's band when an arrow comes flying and buries itself in a tree. In the shaft is a note: "I have another for the heart of Prince John." In the confusion which follows Robin's follower escapes. In the next act, on the battlements of Nottingham Castle, Sir Hugo presses upon John his claim for the hand of Lady Marian, who, sorely beset and helpless, sends to Robin a silver arrow which he has given her, to show him that she is in want of his assistance. John has vowed to capture the audacious outlaw before leaving Nottingham, and a party is despatched to a mill-house on the Trent to arrest him. Lady Marian's attendant, Adela, hastily attired in forester's clothes, is carried off in mistake for Robin, who has been disguised as an old woman.

In a hall at Nottingham Castle in the third act, Robin—again using a disguise—rescues Lady Marian on the eve of her nuptials with the hated Sir Hugo. Robin presents himself at the castle as a minstrel, and manages to smuggle into her ladyship's boudoir a suit of boy's clothes, in which she gets away safely. When Prince John's retinue would follow, the forester stands in the doorway with drawn bow, and arrow pointed at the Prince's heart. John, terrified, orders his followers to throw down their arms, and Robin disappears, having first shut and bolted the doors of the hall so that the enraged courtiers beat upon it in vain rage as he escapes. In the last act King Richard returns, and reassumes his rightful rule. The lovers are united, and all ends happily, Robin being made Earl of Huntingdon.

Interspersed with the action of *Robin Hood* are some capital songs. Mr. Herbert Bunning has written delightful music to Mr. Henry Hamilton's lyrics, which are really of a superior order.

One in the first act, "In the Maytime," is admirably sung by Mr. Cecil Cameron, who also charms the ear by his rendering of the pretty romance "A man and a maid," and brings down the house with Blondel's ballad "Oh, Richard! Oh, my King!" Mr. Lewis Waller, who was suffering on Wednesday from a bad cold, brings to the part of Robin Hood all the eager vitality and bright, romantic alertness which he has so often employed in characters of this class. It is an easy task for an actor of Mr. Waller's calibre, and he makes the most of it, not only by his force and energy, but by the tact and discretion with which he avoids anything like exaggeration or bravado. Miss Evelyn Millard plays Lady Marian de Vaux with the assured accomplishment of the experienced artist, and looks very picturesque in the becoming costumes of the character. Miss Helen Leyton, who appears as Eleanor of Acquitaine, makes an imposing appearance in sumptuous royal robes, and suggests with skill the stern dignity of the intriguing Queen. Miss Dorothy Minto is a very pretty and piquant Adela, and acts with all the necessary archness and good-humour. Mr. Philip Cuningham was very suitably selected as the representative of the stalwart Cœur de Lion. He does full justice to the Crusading monarch's famous qualities. The important rôle of Prince John is sustained by Mr. William Devereux with marked individuality and very commendable characterisation; and Mr. S. B. Brereton gives an entirely creditable embodiment of Fitz-Aylwynne, the High Sheriff of Nottingham. Mr. Frank Woolfe causes Hugo de Longespée to stand out boldly from his surroundings by vigorously emphasising the relentless hardness of the baron's dark nature; and Mr. J. H. Irvine is quite excellent as Sir Aymer le Botelier. Mr. Herbert Vyvyan contributes a quaint and comical impersonation of the Abbot of Jourvaulx; and Mauvoisin and De Tracy are ably embodied by Mr. H. J. Carvill and Mr. Shiel Barry, the latter giving a striking exposition of a sleek, subservient, and slightly silly knave—which is cleverly conceived and smartly carried out. Mr. Frank Cochrane not only depicts Much the Miller humorously and well, but distinguishes himself by his spirited singing of a bacchanalian ditty in praise of the "big black jack." Mr. Herbert Jarman, with his striking stature, is an ideal representative of John Little, and suggests the sheepish geniality of the giant very drolly. Mr. A. E. George is all that could be desired as Friar Tuck, whose bibulous propensities and jolly, careless nature are unctuously displayed by the actor. Mr. Owen Roughwood is effective as Will Scarlett; and the rest of Robin's men have good representatives, Mr. R. C. Smith making the most of the small rôle of Haco. Miss Georgie Esmond is a buxom, "bonnie," and merry miller's wife; and Miss Gertrude Ayre does useful work as Elspeth.

The scenery of Robin Hood deserves special notice; indeed, one set—Mr. Joseph Harker's mill scene in the second act—evoked a spontaneous burst of applause by its rare beauty. Mr. Harker and Mr. R. McCleery have each done a pretty forest scene, and Mr. McCleery's hall in Nottingham Castle is entirely artistic. The dresses have been cleverly designed by Mr. Percy Anderson, who has made the most of his opportunities; and to Mr. Waller, assisted by Mr. Herbert Jarman, is due great credit for having produced the play so completely. *Robin Hood* was received with acclamation at the Lyric Theatre on Wednesday.

MR. ZANGWILL'S NEW PLAY.

Nurse Marjorie, a comedy, in four acts, by Israel Zangwill, was produced at the Liberty Theatre, New York, on the 3rd inst. Miss Eleanor Robson, who was chosen by Mr. Zangwill to be the incarnation of Merely Mary Ann with results that spoke volumes for Mr. Zangwill's perspicacity, has vivified another character conceived by the same author—Nurse Marjorie; and the results are likely to be quite as satisfactory in this case as they were in the other. In her latest impersonation Miss Robson again reveals the charm of a winsome personality, and makes the character she assumes one that the great theatre-going public of this city will surely take to their hearts and remember. In other words, Nurse Marjorie should occupy a niche in one's memory side by side with the one occupied by the boarding-house "slavey."

John Danbury, M.P., a friend of the working man, is afflicted with a squint, and a comic paper has said that he is unable to look an opponent "straight in the face." So he spends a few weeks in a private hospital to have the squint removed. The last person he sees before he takes ether is a female nurse with an incipient moustache and a generally unprepossessing appearance, to whom he takes a violent aversion. The nurse is changed whilst his eyes are bandaged, but he knows nothing of the substitution, nor that Nurse Marjorie is young and beautiful. She, becoming aware of his unhappy mental state, decides that his is a double squint, moral as well as optical. When the bandage is removed he falls in love with her at once, and by pretending that he is still unable to see properly delays his departure from the hospital, although the Labour Party demands his reappearance in Parliament and his father appeals to him to come home and help to settle a strike in his shipyard. Danbury believes that Nurse Marjorie belongs to the proletariat, of which his constituency is composed. Whilst encouraging him in this belief, the young woman is piqued to discover that his ambitions have the mastery over his heart, and that in marrying one of her humble origin he sees a chance to advance himself in his political career. So she arranges for the return of her unattractive predecessor, which seems to be the only way to drive John Danbury out of the hospital. Before this happens, however, Danbury, senior, has decided that Nurse Marjorie is trying to ensnare his son, and in his effort to separate the pair goes so far as to offer the girl twice her income if she will agree not to marry John. Now, as a matter of fact, Marjorie is the daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Donegal, and has an income of twenty thousand pounds a year, so the elder Danbury, a very gruff and outspoken gentleman from Newcastle, commits himself in a way that makes him look foolish anon. In concealing the fact that she is a lady of title Marjorie finds a useful accessory in her former nurse, Biddy O'Mulligan, the proprietor of a "fried fish emporium" in Whitechapel. John Danbury is led to believe that Biddy is the nurse's mother, and when Marjorie pays a visit to the fried fish shop and Danbury surprises her there, the nurse's cloak and bonnet are stowed away in a corner, and Marjorie, with her sleeves rolled up and a coarse apron over her gown, is bending over the boiling fat, and picking out "penn'orths and ha'porths." The sight is almost too much for John Danbury, much as he loves the "common people," and Biddy makes it harder for him by reeling off an imaginary list of undesirable relatives, several of whom are "doing time." But Nurse Marjorie presently stands revealed as a young lady of aristocratic parentage, and when this happens the young politician turns from her. He is wofully disappointed because she is not poor, and there is an end to his love-making. But he changes his mind, and as Marjorie is really in love with him they come together in the last act, Danbury, senior, being largely responsible for this happy consummation, for his feelings undergo a revolutionary change when he discovers that the pretty hospital nurse is the daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Donegal.

Mr. Reuben Fax as the elder Danbury had a perfect North Country accent—something rarely heard on the American stage—and his representation of the loud-voiced, dictatorial shipwright was so true to life that his every exit was followed by a round of applause. Miss Ada Dwyer's Biddy O'Mulligan was a richly humorous characterisation. Mr. H. B. Warner created a very good impression as John Danbury; and Mr. Hassard Short was amusing as a lovesick cockney "buttons." Mr. A. G. Andrews, Mr. Leslie Kenyon, Miss Essex Dane, and Mrs. Kate Denin Wilson played prominent parts well.

ACTORS' DAY.

The Organising Committee of the above particularly wish to call attention to the following:—

(1) All contributions should be sent to the Trustees, Actors' Day Fund, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

(2) Cheques should be made payable to the Trustees, Actors' Day Fund, and crossed "Messrs. Coutts and Co."

(3) The acting-managers of all companies are asked to kindly assist by forwarding, on behalf of those who request them to do so, all contributions from the members of the companies in one amount, giving no details of individual salaries.

(4) Where this arrangement is not made, individual members are asked to be kind enough to forward their contributions direct to the trustees, in which case the amount of the contributions will, under no circumstances, be disclosed.

(5) All who have promised their support on Actors' Day, and who are not playing, are invited, if they are in a position to do so, to send a proportionate contribution direct to the trustees.

The following artists, in addition to those whose names have already been published, have promised their support:—Allen, Tom; Alexander, Fife; Andre, Olga; Anson, G. W.; Baily, Harrington; Barker, J. A.; Baverstock, Percy; Benford, Dan; Bretton, Hilda; Bury, Rosamund; Butler, C.; Buckley, Hugh C.; Byrne, George; Chevalier, Marcelle; Coutts, Edward; Craven, Reginald; Crawford, Mattie; Dalton, Fred R.; Dare, Colet; Dare, Gladys M.; Darcier, L.; De Burgh, Beatrix; Dene, Connie; Dexter, William; Dillon, Frances; Donovan, Lydia; Erskine, Eve; Fitzgerald, George; Foldi, Irma; Fysher, Edwin J.; Gordon, Arthur; Graeme, A.; Grey, Isabel; Hamilton, Cosmo; Harcourt, Johnson; Hargreaves, William; Hartford, W. S.; Hawkins, Iris; Hope, Pamela; Jackson, Alfred; Jeffries, Edith; Jenoure, Aida; Kean, Mrs. Osborne; Knight, Agnes; Knight, Julius; Knowles, J. H.; Lawrence, Dulcie; Leverett, Henrietta M.; Leybourne, Thomas; Locke, W. J.; Lomas, Herbert; Lonsdale, Sibyl; Loyd, Frederick; Malyon, Eily; Mantell, Frederick; Marmont, Percy; Mason, Muriel; May, Ethel; Mayhew, Alec; Minster, A.; O'Malley, Ellen; Osmund, Violet; Percy, George; Pollock, Allan; Reade, Randolph; Robertson, Helen; Robin, Mona; Russell, J. Fritz; Ruston, Ernest H.; Ruttledge, Frances; Spalding, David; Stockholm, Thomas; Vinden, E. Stuart; Wade, Cicely; Wallis, Claude; Weigall, Mary; Wells, Florence; Whitty, May; Wilford, C.; Withers, Frank; Wood, Ethel; Wynne, Cecil.

All information can be obtained from the Organising Committee, 10, King-street, Covent Garden.

PRESENTATION.—During the second performance at the King's Theatre, Gateshead, on Saturday last, the performing company presented Mr. Joe May with a handsome smoker's cabinet. Mr. Tony Iveson made the presentation before a huge audience, and the popular manager replied suitably.

"THE AMATEUR SOCIALIST."

An Eccentric Comedy, in Three Acts,
by W. Kingsley Tarpey,
Produced on Saturday Evening, Oct. 13, at the Criterion Theatre.

Sergeant Fell .....MR. E. Y. RAE
Inspector Bott .....MR. E. DAGNALL
Lady Pennefeather ....MISS CARLOTTA ADDISON
Spencer Goldthwaite Pennefeather
MR. LOUIS GOODRICH
Evelyn Rivers .....MISS LILIAN BRAITHWAITE
Sir Hubert Pennefeather ....MR. ERIC LEWIS
Hon. Philip Wykeham
MR. P. H. CLAYTON GREENE
Mr. Moberley .....MR. F. PERCIVAL STEVENS
Cora Moberley .....MISS MARGARET BUSSE
Gibson .....MR. RAWSON BUCKLEY
Lady Mabel Wriothesley..MISS ETHEL MATTHEWS
Price .....MR. PERCY H. JACKSON

Farce again at the Criterion! Farce, too, with no risky imbroglio, no peccant husband, no déclassée masquerading with a whitewashed reputation given her by the adapter from the French, no situations depending on doors and windows, but honest farce with reasonable sense of probability, with a real instinct for comic situations, and with dialogue that is generally smart, and often droll. On Saturday, before the curtain rose, Mr. W. Kingsley Tarpey's power as a humorist was only known to the leisured few who were able to be present at the performance of *Windmills*—the title originally chosen for *The Amateur Socialist*—at the Comedy Theatre, on June 17, 1901; but now he must be recognised as among the few authors for the stage who can add to the gaiety of nations by a real sense of humour, and a power to express it to his own profit and to that of the management who produces his work on the stage.

Sir Hubert Pennefeather, the protagonist of *The Amateur Socialist*, notwithstanding his wealth and title, sacrifices his position, drops the "Sir," and devotes his leisure to the spread by pamphlet and speech of Socialist propaganda. His Socialism, too, is of the most aggressive type, and in the first scene, which is enacted in Hyde Park, he addresses in inflammatory language a meeting of costers, who take his advice, and march on Rotten Row—a resort of the hated aristocrats, which he asserts to be very appropriately named—of which they assume possession until the police, under the direction of Inspector Bott and Sergeant Fell, disperse the rowdy crowd. Sir Hubert, in company with the Hon. Philip Wykeham—who, by the way, has been introduced to the baronet as Phillips—is pursued by the officers of the law, but, by taking a circuitous route, gets home safely with his protector and whilom ally. Philip, naturally intensely amused at the turn things have taken, thinks it better to remain "Phillips," and conceal his rank, in order that his suit for Evelyn Rivers—Sir Hubert's ward—may be viewed favourably by the amiable fanatic, who regards titles as an outrage on the "rights of man." Sir Hubert considers "Phillips" to be a practical Socialist, and that his behaviour in baffling the police has been nothing less than noble. In fact, Phillips is invited to dinner, and is only too delighted to accept, to be near Evelyn. Two other unexpected guests arrive—Mr. Pritchard and Mr. Brown, whose cards bear the magic words, "The National Socialist Brotherhood." They are welcomed with open arms by Sir Hubert, whose enthusiasm and ardour are not even damped when Mr. Pritchard, who asks for "a word in his private ear," and tells the baronet his name is Bott—Inspector Bott—and that he has called on a little "matter of business"—that he has, in fact, with his friend, Mr. Brown—otherwise Sergeant Fell—come to arrest him on a charge of inciting to violence and of obstructing the police in the execution of their duty. Here is a distinct chance of martyrdom for Sir Hubert. Never in his wildest flights of imagination had he dreamed of such an opportunity for making the world ring with his reputation as an "enlightened" reformer of social abuses, a champion of the slum-dwellers, and an antagonist to the leisured classes. He immediately insists on the inspector and sergeant remaining to dinner, and, with the fall of the curtain on the second act, Bott—who prides himself on the fascination he possesses for the ladies—is seen taking Lady Pennefeather in to dinner.

In the third act the scene is the magistrate, Mr. Moberly's private room. Sir Hubert and his companion, now under arrest, have passed the night very comfortably, and it is evident from the conversation between Inspector Bott and the stipendiary that the charge against the baronet is likely to break down. The chief piece of evidence—a false beard—has been lost, and the cabman, who had been liberally rewarded for his share in the temporary escape of "the amateur Socialist," is intoxicated when he comes to the police court. The police are severely censured for bringing such an unfounded charge against a member of the aristocracy, who "would leave that Court without a stain on his character." The charge against "Phillips" is dismissed. During a quarter-of-an-hour's wait, he steals out and marries Evelyn by special licence—which he has carried in his pocket all through the piece. Sir Hubert is very angry at the turn things have taken. There will be no posing as a martyr, and his ward is now the wife of one of the despised aristocrats. He finds a little consolation, however, in the probability that, before the Hon. Philip Wykeham comes into the title, the whole of his order will have been swamped by the wave of Socialist aggression.

The farce was taken in the right spirit by the highly accomplished company. Mr. Eric Lewis in the title-rôle scored one of the greatest successes of his life. The character belongs to the realms of amiable noodledom; but Mr. Lewis's alternate spells of gentle amiability, bland benevolence, and rabid social intolerance, were so convincing and yet so funny, that the house absolutely rose at him. He preserved admirably, too, the comedy tone, and obtained his success—a brilliant one, indeed—by means at once unobtrusive and artistic. His Sir Hubert should set Londoners laughing for months to come, if the merits of piece and performer be recognised as they should be. Mr. E. Dagnall, who has "produced" the piece for Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen, who has now taken the theatre, was responsible for an embodiment of Police-inspector Bott, which should clearly add to his reputation for acute observation and genuine originality in character impersonations. Mr. E. Y. Rae gave him excellent support as Sergeant Fell; and there was much to commend in the Gibson of Mr. Rawson Buckley. Mr. Louis Goodrich established his reputation as an actor of keen insight by his clever sketch of Spencer Goldthwaite Pennefeather, who expresses his disgust at his father's absurdities in speeches in which much unconscious fun lurks. The part might easily be overdone, but the right tone was always insisted upon by this exceedingly promising young actor. Mr. P. H. Clayton Greene furnished an excellent contrast by his manly and consistent rendering of the Hon. Philip Wykeham ("Phillips"); and Mr. F. Percival Stevens's sketch of the metropolitan police magistrate was absolutely irreproachable. Miss Lilian Braithwaite had little more to do than to look sweet and adorable, and of course succeeded perfectly, and with such an excellent actress in the cast the author might increase the love interest. Miss Ethel Matthews was quite distinguished and aristocratic as Lady Mabel Wriothesley; Miss Margaret Bussé was engaging as Cora Moberley, whose opinions change with the spring fashions. Miss Carlotta Addison was delightful, this fine actress expressing the distress of Lady Pennefeather with sincerity and humour. Mr. Percy H. Jackson completed the cast adequately.

Preceding *The Amateur Socialist* came the play, in one act, by Gladys Unger, entitled

"THE LEMONADE BOY."

The hero of this promising but gloomy little piece is Pippy, whose stand for the sale of lemonade on the shore at Eastbourne is next to the sweetstuff-stall of Maria, with whom he has fallen in love. She is a bit of a flirt, having not altogether discouraged the attentions of Jan Claypole, the bathing master; while, at the same time, she is more than flattered by the attentions of Guy Turner—a masked songster—who wishes her to elope with him, not however until she has scooped out the contents of her till, and purchased a new hat. Pippy overhears the bounder's declaration, and, by wounding himself in the leg with a broken bottle, appeals to Maria's pity, and delays her departure until she is too late to keep her appointment to go to London with Turner. She turns on Pippy in a rage, and accepts the hand of the bathing man. The characters are somewhat vague; but Miss Minnie Terry showed ability as a nursemaid; Mr. O. P. Heggie made a forcible and pathetic figure of the title-rôle; and Miss Nella Powys struggled with an assumed cockney accent as Maria, Mr. E. Y. Rae completing the cast capably as the bathing man. At the conclusion of *The Amateur Socialist* the author was called and heartily cheered.

"LES MERVEILLEUSES."

With Mr. George Edwardes's production of an adaptation, by Basil Hood (the music being by Hugo Félix), of Victorien Sardou's *Les Merveilleuses*, some particulars of the original piece may be interesting. Parisians had, at the time of the *première* at the Variétés, on Dec. 6, 1873, recovered the gaiety that had been almost eclipsed by the disaster of the Franco-German War and the terrible times of the Commune; and the first night, according to our correspondent of that period, could fairly be reckoned as one of the most remarkable curiosities in the annals of Parisian theatricals. Never was excitement more strongly manifested. Such was the demand for "places that during the morning of the production a few stray tickets were as eagerly competed for as if they would bring the chance of an immense fortune to their possessors. At noon as much as 110 francs were readily paid for an orchestra stall, and 120 francs was eagerly offered for one in vain when the doors were opened." It is evident, from our correspondent's remarks, that millionaires were far from common thirty-three years ago. Had the day of gigantic trusts then arrived a five-pound note would have seemed a poor price to pay for a coveted seat at a much-discussed *première*. We are told also "Four hundred francs was the price given for a little box on the ground floor, from which a very poor view of the stage could be obtained." *Le haut monde* of Paris had evidently made up its mind to be present, and consequently the best places on the opening night were occupied by literary, theatrical, and fashionable celebrities, constituting a truly remarkable audience.

The costumes and appointments of the piece were understood to have cost no less a sum than £3,000, and with author's fees and the closing of the Variétés for a ten days' rehearsal our correspondent calculated the initial outlay on *Les Merveilleuses* to have been £4,000—a very large amount for a Parisian production in those days. M. Sardou, very liberally, no doubt, exercised an author's prerogative in deciding the methods adopted in presenting a remarkable and brilliantly striking picture of a vanished epoch, and with the efficient and highly important assistance of the costumier, property man, and scene-painters, the distinguished playwright placed before the public a really wonderful picture of the manners, language, customs, and dress that marked the population of Paris at the period of the Directory. Said our informant at the time: "He has conjured up a departed and almost forgotten world—strange, eccentric, feverishly excitable, melancholy and gay by turns, turbulent but dazzling. He brings on to the stage quite a carnival of colours, a sparkling, witty crowd, clothed in every vagary of the fashions then in vogue—tight-fitting, short-waisted robes on the ladies, whose hair is dressed in almost every conceivable style; and the men in long-tailed, shiny-buttoned coats—light blue, yellow, violet, green, and black, with fantastic stockings, enormous cocked hats, and prodigious cravats." The resurrection of the Directoire on the stage of the Variétés was, so far as outward appearances went, complete, but the play, as a play, was considered to be somewhat flimsy in texture. It should be quite easy for the adaptors to increase the dramatic interest of the piece, especially with its crowd of Incroyables, speaking many witty things, and the author's admirable sketch of the manners of the period, which at times "is quite Aristophanian in its comic aptitude." Much of the original dialogue was stinging in its sarcasm, and on the whole *Les Merveilleuses* was generally regarded as a fine *genre* picture, cleverly and ingeniously composed so as to accord with the taste of the public.

The action of the play commences in 1797, when the fury of the *sans-culottes* had abated, and a democratic assembly had become a power for good. The genius of young Napoleon Bonaparte was showing itself in the Italian campaign, and the hero is a young officer who has just come back from the series of brilliant manœuvres under *Le Petit Caporal* which ended in the battle of Marengo. Dorlis, who had been forced to leave his wife after the honeymoon, discovers on his return that she has sought and obtained a divorce, and is about to enter into a *mariage de convenance* with a rich and elderly suitor. This is all that is necessary to write of the plot. We may be sure that the good genius of the piece—Lodoiska—does all that is necessary to secure a happy ending. Miss Denise Orme will play the young wife Illyrine, Mr. Robert Evett the young officer of the Republican army, and Mr. George Graves the elderly lover, with plenty of opportunities, we hope, of creating fun, though it is understood that special comedy relief will be supplied by two police spies impersonated respectively by Mr. Fred Kaye—who has appeared in most of Mr. George Edwardes's productions since *The Gaiety Girl*—and Mr. W. H. Berry. Miss Evie Greene will have a grateful part in that of the good genius, Lodoiska; and Miss Mariette Sully will figure as a cousin of Illyrine.

The proper title of *Les Merveilleuses* should have been *Un Jour sous le Directoire*; for the story is of as flimsy a texture as were the *décolleté* dresses of Mmes. Bachelin, Lodoiska, Inguerlot, and other of the characters around whom Sardou grouped personages—faithful reproductions from paintings by Isabey, Vernet, Saint Aubin, and others. There was no rôle worth mentioning in the original production; but Céline Chaumont, by her consummate art, succeeded in imparting something like life to the rôle of Illyrine, and scored a well-deserved success. M. Dupuis and Mlle. Gauthier were much applauded in the amusing scene wherein the sentimental Lodoiska has the delightful emotion of throwing herself into the arms of a man who is on the eve of being guillotined. Dorlis was impersonated by M. Preston, but the part required to be played by a younger man. The other characters were in the hands of a bevy of ladies who only had to look pretty; and this they did to perfection. The tasteful Directoire costumes and the splendid scenery did the rest; and the dazzled and amused audience at the *première* in December, 1873, gave the piece an excellent reception.

AMUSEMENTS IN GLASGOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—The Moody Manners Opera company began its autumn visit on Monday with a brilliant performance of Bizet's *Carmen*. Herr Richard Eckhold conducted. Mlle. Zélie de Lussan as the Gipsy was, if anything, more delightful than ever, singing and acting in splendid style. Mr. Joseph O'Mara was the Don José. In acting he was at his best, though his singing seemed to be marred by cold. Escamillo was superbly impersonated by Mr. Lewys James. He had a very warm encore for the "Toreador song," and responded. Very charming was the Michaela of Miss Kate Anderson. These four principals were repeatedly recalled. Mr. W. Bailey as Remendado, Mr. C. Moppett as Dancairo, Mr. Carter as Morales, Mr. Halpin as Zuniga, Miss Rigby as Frasquita, and Miss Alvord as Mercedes made up a first-rate cast. *Faust* was given on Tuesday, on Wednesday *Tannhäuser*. The other operas for the week are *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and *Pagliacci*, and the evergreen *Bohemian Girl*.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—This management's grand spectacular production of *The Lady of the Lake* is now in the third week of its run, and continues to draw good houses.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—*Dorothy o' the Hall*, the new play which Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry are introducing this visit, proves an enjoyable and healthy drama of the romantic type. Miss Neilson as Dorothy Vernon has a part that affords her unlimited scope, and the picture she gives of the self-willed young heiress of Haddon Hall is most entertaining. Mr. Fred Terry as Sir John Manners is suited to a nicety, and as the gallant lover he acts with romantic fervour and convincing sincerity. Mr. J. Carter-Edwards is good as Sir George Vernon, and another well-played part is the Earl of Rutland of Mr. Frederick Groves. Mr. Jerold Robertshaw gives the necessary sinister touch to his embodiment of Sir Malcolm Vernon. Two particularly well-played parts are the Queen Elizabeth of Miss Miriam Lewes and the Mary Stuart of Miss Lillias Waldegrave. Miss Claire Pauncefort is quaintly humorous as Lady Vernon, and a charming maid is the Jenny of Miss Mary Mackenzie. Mr. D. J. Williams as Lord Burleigh, Mr. Horace Hodges, as the Jester, Perkin, Mr. Malcolm Cherry as St. Loe, and Mr. Walter Edwin as Mark give able support in their respective parts.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—A full notice of the second Shakespearean revival (*Cymbeline*) at this house will be found in another column.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. Charles Harrington and company are here with *The Sailors of the King*, in which Mr. Harrington gives a fine portrayal of the bluff old Admiral Drake. Mr. Frank Stephens has a fine voice, and gives a telling representation of the hero, Lieutenant Drake. Miss Sylvia Stella as the adventuress of the drama, Rebecca Crosby submits a vigorous presentment of feminine wickedness. The villain of this play is a clergyman, Orrel Drake, ably represented by Mr. R. F. Stacey. Miss Madge North as Felicia Phyrnne is a charmingly attractive heroine, and Miss Hero Hathaway as Penelope Penn, a demure young Quakeress, is delightful. Miss Lily Prescott as Daisy Dent gives an admirable representation of a betrayed and deserted girl, while Mr. H. Webb as her father, Rufford Dent, is equally good. Mr. Harry Conway as Captain of a warship looks and acts the part excellently. Comedy is abundantly supplied by Mr. Fred Owen as Wilkenstein, Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., as Barnet Fair, and Mr. Walter Farnworth as a Loafer.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Miss Elaine Verner and company are this week presenting the popular drama *The Middleman* and *Saints and Sinners*. The company opened on Monday with the former play. Mr. Harding Thomas submits a powerful delineation of Cyrus Blenkarn. The Joseph Chandler of Mr. Frank Lyndon is a strikingly good performance. Mr. Percy Brown satisfactorily portrays Captain Julian Chandler, and Mr. Edward De Vere presents a finished portrait of Batty Todd. In the comedy parts Edgar Kent as Jesse Pegg, and Miss Elaine Vernon as Mary do excellent work. Miss Ada Clarke is an attractive Mancy. In the characters of Mrs. Chandler and Maud Chandler Miss Maud Beard and Ruby Romer sustain their respective parts with effect.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—At the Princess's Theatre last week Mr. Walter Melville's play, performed by Mr. Douglas Bruce's company, *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*, has been transferred to the Lyceum, and, judging by the enthusiastic audiences attending nightly, seems to have caught on in the "Shipbuilding" Burgh.

NEW GAIETY.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joseph Barker.—Mr. Montgomery's dramatic company continues to attract good houses. The sensational drama *When Rogues Fall Out* is well presented this week. Mr. H. A. Clarke as Sir Henry Lorrimore, Mr. Horace Booth as his son Jack, Mr. A. D. Adams as Stephen Ralston, are well acted rôles; the Dick of Miss Mattie Crawford appeals strongly; and in Miss Nellie Barker we have a capable Polly Peach. As Hettie Stanton and Madge Lorrimore Miss Marie De Roos and Miss Laurie A. Pardy respectively add interest to the drama by their excellent acting in the parts named. Mr. H. Hesselgrave plays Jack Burton and superintends the production

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—Owing to indisposition Bella and Bijou were unable to appear on Monday evening, but a capable substitute was found in that well-known musical combination the Celtic Comedy Trio. Boris Lensky provides a rare musical treat; his violin playing was listened to with great appreciation; Ben Albert sings funny songs and proves himself a great favourite; Clark and Glenny present their humorous sketch entitled *The Haunted House*; Leo Tell gives clever imitations of musical instruments and animals; Jack Warden is seen in a clever character episode entitled *Only a Vagabond*. Other good turns are the Heartwells, in a musical comedy sketch, *Society*; the Wedburns, patter comedians; and Katie Butler, comedienne.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Mahmout, the Albanian wrestler, is here this week, and several very interesting and exciting contests have been witnessed with local and foreign wrestlers, the Albanian proving himself a tough customer to tackle. Ella Retford, a clever and bright comedienne and a neat dancer, caught the fancy of the audience right away; the Celtic Comedy Trio have lots of amusing business, and their musical items are good, and much enjoyed; Les Bollingers, the Parisian rag painters, give an ingenious and novel turn; Hillman and Russell appear with success in a vocal comedy duologue entitled *The Somnambulist*, which affords them opportunity for showing their vocal ability; Cliff and his clever dog surely represent the acme of animal training, judging by the tricks shown; Durrant Bros. give a smart trapeze and acrobatic act, with much clever comedy business; Lesketh Meade's illustrated songs prove highly popular; and the Bioscope completes an excellent entertainment.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Vesta Victoria heads the bill here, and the result is crowded houses twice nightly. This clever artist is highly popular, and her latest songs give ample opportunity for her talent. George French is a quietly quaint comedian; Eva Kelland, a sweet songstress, has made a hit with several catchy and melodious songs; Espinosa and Neilson are smart dancers and their imitations or burlesques of the style of Russian, nigger, Continental, and other dances are much enjoyed; Charles Prelle's dog circus, with ventriloquial effects, is a clever and original item; Alice Hollander, the Australian contralto, has a voice of much mellowness and beauty, and her singing of "Ave Maria" is enthusiastically received; J. H. Scotland, the popular baritone; Carl Lynn, mimic; and Gus Hindell, in a song-scena, complete a first-rate bill of fare.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Lily Burnand, comedienne, tops the bill here, and has a rousing reception, her singing being greatly enjoyed; Foreman and Fannan, comedians; Gus Garrick, grotesque comedian; Lillie Lassah, comedienne and dancer; Tom Yorke, coster comedian; Evelyn Taylor, comedienne; Fred Herbert, topical vocalist; Gravetta and Parr, speciality artists; and Angelina, expert lady juggler, also successfully contribute to the bill.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—John Tiller's company top the bill, and are seen to much advantage in a laughable sketch entitled *Mad Minstrels; or, Sport at a Spa*; Picitt and Lizette are clever and amusing; the Debreans create much laughter as shadowgraphists; and J. H. Milburn has had a good reception, as befits such a popular old favourite. The bill also includes Daisy James, comedienne; the Two Tees, musical grotesques; the American Bioscope; and Herbert Darnley's company of comedians in the sketch *Muscles*.

QUEEN'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Bowerman.—The bill is strong in comedians here this week, as witness the names of W. J. Ashcroft, Charles Bignell, and G. W. Fyvie. They are all well known and popular with Queen's patrons. Violet Morgan, mimic, is very smart in her quick changes; while Cordite and Buffalo have a good reception for some wonderful rope-spinning feats, the lady being extremely clever. *The Canine Streets of London* is the title of a drama illustrated by a clever troupe of performing dogs, which is watched with considerable interest. Arthur Andrews, comedian and dancer; Benson and Waite, comedy artists; and the Bioscope complete the programme.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr. Wm. Biggam.—A varied programme is contributed here by the Edgar Forrest Combination in a lively sketch, *My Friend the Enemy*; Gravetta and Parr in a clever pot-pourri act; Barney Noble, a versatile vocalist; Read and Write, comedians and top-boot dancers; Alf Ripon, ventriloquist; Esther Hood, soprano; Geo. Macdonald troupe of dancers; Jack Belton, and Bros. Laurence, in song and dance items; and Archie Jack, descriptive vocalist.

AMUSEMENTS IN DUBLIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Chas. Hyland.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is delighting large audiences here with *The Spring Chicken*. Mr. George Gregory gives a humorous reading of the character of Mr. Gridle; and Miss Irene Verona fills the rôle of Mrs. Gridle in an exceedingly clever manner, and her songs are heartily enjoyed. Through illness Miss Gertrude Glyn was unable to appear as Rosalie, but the part was effectively portrayed by Miss Beatrice Dunbar; Mr. John Brabourne gives an amusing representation of the advocate, Gustave Babori; and Miss Gertrude Gilliam is charming as Dulcie Babori, and sings very nicely. Miss Nancy Langtyre is most successful and captivating as the Baroness Papouche; and Mr. Frank Hector displays considerable ability in his personation of Baron Papouche. Miss Nellie Lonnen makes a pleasing Emmy Lou, and her song and dance were warmly appreciated; Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., as Boniface, and Mr. William Spray as Stephen Henry, act their parts with great credit; Mr. Jocelyn Hope, as the proprietor of the Crimson Butterfly is most successful; and as the head waiter, Mr. Ernest Mahar's embodiment is all that could be desired. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Ernest Vousden, does its work in creditable style.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Parrington.—Mr. George Dance's company is appearing here with the popular and picturesque musical play, *A Country Girl*. Miss Maisie Gay, with her pleasing and winsome manner, and effective singing, is greatly admired as Nan; in the eccentric part of Barry, Mr. Charles Walenn achieves his accustomed success; and Mr. St. John Hamund gives an amusing and characteristic representation of the Rajah of Bhong. Mr. Percy Carr as Geoffrey Challoner is exceedingly good; and Mr. J. Graves plays Sir Joseph Verity in capital style. Mr. F. W. Pedgrift distinguishes himself in the character of Granger Mummery; and Mr. Robert Corray acts well as Douglas Verity; Miss Winnie O'Connor portrays the Princess Mehelanah admirably; Mr. Percy Corray is particularly good as Lord Anchester; and Miss Kathleen Ronayne is a charming Lady Anchester. Miss Addie Lennard as Mme. Sophie sings and dances extremely well; and Miss Nancy Rossiter wins hearty plaudits for her excellent portrayal of Marjory Joy.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—Mr. Lingford Carson's répertoire company, in *A Modern Adventuress*, is here this week. Miss Muriel Thompson gives a finished and effective rendition of the rôle of Violet Meredith; and the part of Pietro Donelli is ably undertaken by Mr. Charles Draycott. Mr. Morley Carroll is a capable William Delby; and Miss Marie Robson an interesting Vivette Delby. John Crompton is successfully represented by Mr. Arthur Byron; and Miss Daisy Norman creates much amusement as Sally Hodges. Harry Delby is well played by Mr. Sydney C. Cranston; and Mr. Ernest J. Fare is an acceptable Wallace Danton. Mr. J. H. Scratchard is an excellent Steve Meredith; and Mr. J. Dobson Clyde an efficient Walter Beale.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Topping the bill here is an old favourite, Mark Sheridan, with a budget of new songs; he meets with an ovation nightly. A cordial reception is extended to Fielding and Hull for their interesting vocal medley; and R. H. Douglas is a highly-successful versatile comedian. The Picquays, head and hand balancers, are well received; and Florence Esdaile, ballad vocalist, wins much applause for her excellent singing. A remarkably clever male impersonator is Flo Hilton, who makes a decided hit; and Will Cornish delights the audience with his silver bells and chimes. Edgar Budden, bone soloist and skate dancer, obtains considerable appreciation; and the Empire pictures are up to date.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Morton Comedy Trio lead the bill here this week, and obtain much appreciation; the Kurios, in a clever comedy act, cause much laughter; and the Zerbinis' musical interlude is loudly applauded. Wheeler and Wilson give a smart comedy acrobatic turn; and Belle Braham, with her beautifully illustrated songs, is nightly encored. Bayne and Hope, in their scene from *David Garrick*, receive due recognition; and Ruth Molloy is well to the fore as a mimic. George Hall is a clever siffleur and vocalist; and O. B. Krebo, comedy juggler, and the bioscope, complete the bill.

LA TOSCA, the well-known artist's model, has nearly recovered from her accident, but is unable to undertake a long sea voyage; consequently, she has been obliged to cancel a ten months' arrangement with Mr. Munro, of the New Zealand International Exhibition, at Christchurch.

So enthusiastic was the reception given to *The New Barmaid* at Luton last week that several of the well-known residents, headed by Mr. Louis Beard (Mr. Graham Falcon's genial manager) came round at the end of the performance on Saturday night and personally complimented Mr. Alexander Loftus and his company on the success they had achieved there.

A NEW comedy by Robert Ganthony, entitled *Union Jack*, is to be produced by amateurs at the Castle Theatre, Richmond, on the last two days of the month.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.—DEAR SIR,—You have done my gown quite beautifully. I had no idea that dry dyeing was so perfect. Many thanks for the care you have taken with the embroidery.—Truly yours, FLORENCE ALEXANDER, 57, Pont-street, S.W. I have received my furs. I sent them to you three days ago; you have now returned them equal to new. I congratulate you on the speedy way in which you execute orders. —Thanking you, Yours faithfully, H. PEDGRIFT, 9, Rushham-road, Balham, S.W. Please clean coat and return as soon as possible. I was delighted with the one you did for me in August. It was the best piece of work I have ever seen done.—Yours truly, MAGGIE MORTON, Hurworth, Grimwood-road, Twickenham, Oct. 15, 1906. T. Harris, Esq., Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co., 6, Argyll-street, W.—ADVT.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

The following additional subscriptions have been received since last week towards the fund now being raised for Doris Stephens, best known in the profession as "Dot" Stephens, whose lamentable accident on the railway on June 30 last has awakened such widespread sympathy:—

Amount already acknowledged..	£753	0	6
I Defy the World Company:—			
Julian Malvern	0	2	6
C. M. Julian	0	2	6
Charles Conway	0	2	6
Dalton J. Bosher	0	2	6
F. P.	0	2	6
Arthur Chisholm	0	2	6
Charles Wilton	0	2	6
Mr. Mugg	0	2	0
D. Ballard	0	2	0
Rosie Dane	0	2	0
E. H. Cartwright, 1s.; K. Heath, 1s.	0	2	0
J. Bannister Howard's North *Florodora* Company:—			
Stanley White	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Bennet Nunan	1	1	0
Alfred E. Passmore	0	10	6
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert St. John	0	10	6
Kate Leicester	0	5	0
A. Morris	0	2	6
Josephine Sullivan	0	2	6
Patricia Desmond	0	2	6
J. A. McKibbin	0	2	6
Mr. and Mrs. Farrow	0	2	6
Fred J. Reece	0	2	6
F. Ablett	0	2	6
C. A. J.	0	2	0
Sydney Penrhyn	0	2	0
Mr. and Mrs. Hahn	0	2	0
Johnson and Potter	0	2	0
Geoff Arthur	0	2	0
Kathleen L. Russell	0	2	0
F. N.	0	2	0
Ernie Myors, Lily Lonsdale	0	2	0
Billie Collard	0	2	0
G. Graham, 1s.; Charles Bradley, 1s.; Harold Slade, 1s.; George Speed, 1s.; Phil H. May, 1s.; L. Hastings, 1s.; Maud A. Hower, 1s.; Florence D'Egville, 1s.; Marie Duncan, 1s.; Nellie Seymour, 1s.; Ada F. Florence, 1s.; Gladys May, 1s.; J. Tomkins, 1s.; "All My Work," 1s.	0	14	0
The Toreador Company:—			
Florence Wood	0	5	0
Herbert Austin	0	2	6
George R. J. Austin	0	2	6
W. Champney	0	2	0
Norah O'Neill, 1s.; Miss Mason, 1s.; Owen Ford, 1s.; Henry Arthur, 1s.; Will Norriss, 1s.; Marie Arnold, 1s.; Geo. H. Taylor, 1s.; Nina Carlton, 1s.; Beatrice Grosvenor, 1s.; Marie Beresford, 1s.; Syd Granville, 1s.; Eliza Earle, 1s.; Leah Howard, 1s.; Tom Maundy, 1s.; A. W. Barker, 1s.; Ralph Lynn, 1s.; W. Collins, 1s.; H. N., 1s.	0	18	0
Collected by Otto C. Culling, Theatre Royal, Bury:—			
Otto C. Culling	0	10	6
J. T. Smith	0	10	0
Wm. Dillon	0	5	0
Eliott	0	2	6
H. J. Martin	0	2	6
B. Greenhalgh	0	2	6
A. Eshersberg	0	2	6
H. B.	0	2	6
F. J. Phillips	0	2	6
F. W. Fielden	0	2	0
Wm. McLaren	0	2	0
M. H. M.	0	2	0
E. Kipling, 1s.; J. W. Booth, 1s.; S. Bridge, 1s.; F. C., 1s.; J. H. A., 1s.; B. H., 1s.; F. W. H., 1s.; R. B. H., 1s.; S. J. W., 1s.; H. W. N., 1s.; F. B., 1s.; H. B. P., 1s.; J. K. H., 1s.; S. M. H., 1s.; H. H., 1s.; C. A. H., 1s.; J. B., 1s.; A. Marshall, 1s.; R. S. D., 1s.; F. C., 6d.; E. G., 6d.	1	2	0
After the Ball Company:—			
J. Wilfred Chilton	0	10	6
Miss M. Sadie	0	2	6
Miss Queenie Finnis	0	2	6
H. Buckstone Clair	0	2	6
Percy Baverstock	0	2	6
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Halle	0	2	6
Louis Laval	0	2	6
Norman Bowyer	0	2	6
Harold Wantage	0	2	6
Nellie James	0	2	0
Madge Lacey	0	2	0
Daisy Caulder, 1s.; Dorothy Westerleigh, 1s.; Florence Hafner, 1s.; Evelyn Ashley, 1s.; Maisie Ashley, 1s.; Harold Clemence, 1s.; Percy Bayliss, 1s.	0	7	0
The Prince of Pilsen No. 1 Co.:—			
Charles Thorburn	1	1	0
Nell Emerald	0	10	6
The Sea-Shell Girls	0	10	6
J. B.	0	10	6
Shrimps	0	5	0
Meg Hamylton	0	5	0
M. Marsden	0	5	0
Alf. Selby	0	5	0
N. Barnwell	0	5	0
Lawrence Wensley	0	5	0
Chorus Gents	0	5	0
G. V. A.	0	5	0
J. B. F.	0	5	0
M. A.	0	5	0
C. A. W.	0	2	6
T. H. Harrison	0	2	6
Thos. Tunbridge	0	2	6
W. J. D.	0	2	6
E. H. and M. B.	0	2	0
Dick Pass, 1s.; E. S. V., 1s.; Anon, 1s.	0	3	0
J. Bannister Howard's *Florodora* Company (Midlands), Per Charles Lake:—			
Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Lake	0	10	0
Miss Daisy Lake	0	5	0
Gus Danby	0	5	0
H. C. Joye	0	5	0
Dorothy Dempster	0	2	6
Rosa Sullivan	0	2	6
M. Mayne	0	2	0
W. E. Brightwell	0	2	0
Frank Green	0	2	0
D. Shaw, 1s.; L. Millar, 1s.; M. Edmunds, 1s.; E. Foster, 1s.; M. Keats, 1s.; F. James, 1s.; J. Swallow, 1s.; D. Dance, 1s.; E. James, 1s.; W. C. Roadknight, 1s.; T. Crosbie, 1s.; C. Barclay, 1s.; J. Duffield, 1s.; A. Meynell, 1s.	0	14	0
Miss Gladys Innes	10	0	0
Collected by Mr. Neal McCay in America:—			
By Dollar Subscription	90	Dollars.	
Mr. Glen MacDonough	25	,,	
Frank Worthing	5	,,	
James Blakely	5	,,	
W. H. Denny	5	,,	
Gustave Kerker	5	,,	
Victor Herbert	5	,,	
Neal McCay	5.28	,,	
	145.28 = £30		

DEATH OF CONSTANCE LOSEBY.

We record with deep regret the death on Saturday of Miss Constance Loseby, who enjoyed great popularity in burlesque some thirty years ago. She appeared at the opening of the Gaiety Theatre under the late John Hollingshead's management in December, 1868, as Columbine in Jonas's operetta *The Two Harlequins*, and as Raimbault in Mr. W. S. Gilbert's extravaganza *Robert the Devil*. Miss Loseby remained at the Gaiety for six years, playing in Mr. W. S. Gilbert's *Thespis*, Lecocq's *Cent Vierges*, Offenbach's *Princess of Trebizonde* and *Trombalcasar*, Reece's burlesque of *Martha*, and other pieces. Among the parts in which she gained greatest distinction were those of Clairette in *La Fille de Madame Angot* and the Princess in *Aladdin II.*, in which Nellie Farren represented the boy.

Miss Loseby also appeared as Galatea in W. S. Gilbert's well-known classical play *Pygmalion and Galatea*; as Oberon in the Gaiety revival of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Mr. Phelps appearing as Bottom; Tresham in H. J. Byron's burlesque *Guy Fawkes*, produced at the Gaiety on Jan. 14, 1874, Mr. J. L. Toole appearing in the title-rôle; Polly Pall Mall in *The Prisoner of War*; Rigobert in *The Magic Flute*; Dolly in Alfred Cellier's comic opera *The Sultan of Mocha*, produced at the St. James's on April 17, 1876. Miss Loseby also appeared as Cinderella at the Amphitheatre, Holborn, in December, 1874, and the following Christmas as the Princess in *Aladdin the Great* at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, the title-rôle being played by Mrs. John Wood. Later, Miss Loseby became engaged at the Alhambra, where she successfully appeared in versions of several French operas, including *Genevieve de Brabant*.

Miss Loseby was buried yesterday afternoon in Brompton Cemetery. The coffin was brought from Milford by train, and the *cortège* started from Waterloo Station shortly after one. The mourners, who occupied two carriages, were Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher (son-in-law and daughter), Mr. C. E. Nash, and the Misses Cooper. The deceased lady was interred in the grave of her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Loseby, who died in 1888. The Rev. A. W. Bird Jones, of St. John's, Chelsea, conducted the services in the chapel and at the graveside. The coffin, which was of polished oak with brass fittings, bore the inscription:

CONSTANCE COULFIELD,
Born 1850,
Died Oct. 13, 1906.

Two very old friends of the deceased attended at the graveside—Mr. W. T. Day and Mr. Fredk. Thomas Bell.

Several very beautiful specimens of the florist's art were to be seen among the wreaths. The daughter's tribute consisted of arum lilies and white flowers, and bore the message, "To my dearest mother, from her broken-hearted child Connie." Mr. Geo. R. Sims sent a wreath of lilies, chrysanthemums, and white roses "with deepest sympathy," and Miss Phyllis Broughton another of arum lilies and pink flowers bound with a pink sash, "in loving memory of dear Connie." Other wreaths were from Mrs. and Miss Crichton, Mrs. Sleeman, M. and E. Hanke, the Red Lion Slate Club, a "Life-long friend," "From her devoted servant Annie," "With deepest respect and regard from Mary," the staff of the Red Lion, and Mr. Edwin Rothwell.

MR. R. W. ALLUM'S BENEFIT.

The estimation which Mr. R. W. Allum has gained during his eight years' connection with the management of the Brixton Theatre was demonstrated on Tuesday, when he was accorded a complimentary concert at the Brixton Hall. The well-appointed hall was closely filled in all but the front seats, which nevertheless proved remunerative, as they had all been disposed of. An admirable programme, in which many concert-hall artists were sandwiched between popular variety turns, was greatly enjoyed, each performer being loudly cheered. One of the foremost favourites was Miss Edie King, who in her song of "Let me show you" demonstrated very cleverly the various styles of dancing characteristic of the Dutch girl, the Spanish senorita, and the ballerina. Miss Rose Hamilton gained a hearty reception for one of her most popular selections; the Sisters Lavender bewitched the audience in a duet of "Josephine" and a skilful dance; and the Sisters Melba, prettily attired as boy and girl, contributed a dainty love duet. The Two Penns made a distinct mark with their funny "cross-talk," which ended in the low comedian relapsing into a representation of Coupeau's delirium tremens scene from *Drink*, which he did very dramatically. A droll sketch was presented by Harvey and Holt; Miss Nellie Tayler sang of "Daisy" and deluged the stalls incidentally with bouquets; Miss Blanche Marion's coon song and dance was highly relished; and Mr. Harry Leyton gave an effective impersonation of "The Fallen Star."

A feature of the evening was the rendering by Mr. Fred J. Hunter of Elgar's "Land of Hope and Glory," accompanied by full orchestra and organ. Mr. Hunter sang the ode with splendid vigour, and the audience joined in the stirring refrain with impressive effect. Mr. George Dawson revealed the possession of a robust and cultivated tenor in a well-known ballad; and Mr. Edwin Lewis, also a tenor vocalist of excellent quality, sang "Watch with me love to-night." Other fine vocalists were found in Mr. James Saker, who sang "The Green Isle of Erin" with agreeable expression; and Mr. P. Gorton Young, who rendered "The Deathless Army" with great effect. Miss Marian Liddle, though not quite perfect in her intonation, acquitted herself creditably in a difficult operatic solo; Miss Alice Stroud gave a powerful rendering of "Angus Macdonald"; Mme. Edith Hunter sang "Spring is here" gracefully; Miss Edith Cooper recited a humorous piece by Conan Doyle; and others who contributed to the long and diversified programme were Miss Tina Mucklow, Miss Lily Allen, Miss Louie Oswold, Mr. Sidney Gundy, and Mr. Percy E. Barkshire.

After the last item Mr. Allum, who was received with loud and continuous cheers, came forward and asked the audience to allow him to return his heartfelt thanks for their kind and loyal support at his benefit. He appreciated the kindness in more ways than one, and his thanks were especially due to the artists, many of whom had come a long way and at great personal inconvenience to render the occasion a success. He was sorry to see so many empty seats, but it was satisfactory to say that the tickets for them had been sold, although the purchasers had not responded with their presence to enjoy the grand and beautiful concert which had been given. He hoped to have the pleasure of meeting them on some other occasion, not at the old theatre, with which he was severing his connection after a period of over eight years, but at his new place, the Putney Hippodrome. He again thanked them for their kindness and loyal support.

The committee of the concert included Mr. Nelson Francis, manager of the Empress, who was present in the course of the evening, as was also Mr. E. V. Page, the former manager of that house. A full orchestra was conducted by Mr. Edwin Moss, and Mr. Frank Swinford officiated at the organ, which was utilised very effectively.

"HER MARRIAGE VOW," a drama, in four acts, by Owen Davis, was produced for copyright purposes at the Dudley Opera House on the 11th inst.

MISS DOT ROBINS has just returned to London, after a successful tour in the Highlands with her concert and dramatic company. Her latest London sketch, *The Necklace of Death*, has been a great attraction everywhere.

ON THE ROAD, OCT. 22.

AFTER THE BALL.—T. R., Coatbridge.
ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE.—Athenæum T., Lancaster.
ARE YOU A MASON? (MACDONA).—Seacombe.
AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES.—Grand T., Luton.
ASSASSIN.—Colosseum, Oldham.
AT CRIPPLE CREEK.—T. R., Ashton.
AT DUTY'S CALL.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
BANDMAN-PALMER.—Palace P., Brighton.
BEAST AND THE BEAUTY.—Court T., Wigan.
BEAUTIFUL FIEND.—Bexhill.
BEAUTY SHOP.—O. H., Perth.
BELLE OF MAYFAIR.—O. H., Southport.
BELLE OF NEW YORK (HOWARD).—Kennington Th.
BENSON, F. R. (N.).—O. H., Dudley.
BENSON, F. R. (S.).—Market Drayton, Stourbridge.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. AND CO.—Marlborough T.
BREED OF THE TRESHAMS.—T. R., Birkenhead.
BULMER, MR.—T. R., Sunderland.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
CHARLEY'S AUNT.—Crystal Palace Theatre, S.E.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (MACDONA).—South Wales.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE).—Empire T., Oldham.
CHRISTIAN, THE (HOWARD).—Maryport.
CINGALEE, (S.)—Exeter.
CITY OF SIN, T. R., Ryde.
CLAUDIAN.—T. R., Bolton.
COAL KING.—O. H., Wakefield.
CONVICT'S DAUGHTER.—Lyceum T., Pentre.
COUNTRY GIRL (N.).—Newcastle.
COUNTRY GIRL (S.).—Portsmouth.
COUNTRY MOUSE.—Crown Th., Peckham.
DAIRYMAIDS, THE.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
DANDY DOCTOR.—T. R., Worcester.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Grand Theatre, Birmingham.
D'OYLY CARTE.—Coronet Theatre, W.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIG (N.).—Stratford.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIG (S.).—Bury.
EARL AND THE GIRL (HOWARD).—Hereford, Malvern.
EARL AND THE GIRL (M.).—Hull.
EARL AND THE GIRL (W.).—Warrington.
EARL AND THE GIRL (N.).—Bournemouth.
ETERNAL CITY.—T. R., Belfast.
EXECUTIONER'S DAUGHTER.—P. T., Preston.
FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT.—O. H., Torquay.
FATAL WEDDING (N.).—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
FATAL WEDDING (S.).—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
FAUST UP-TO-DATE.—Grand T., Fulham.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
FLORADORA (HOWARD) (M.).—Stourbridge & Stafford.
FLORODORA (HOWARD) (N.).—West Bromwich.
FLORODORA (HOWARD) (S.).—Northampton.
FOR LIFE AND AFTER.—Palace, Newcastle.
FOUR JUST MEN.—T. R., Huddersfield.
FREEDOM OF SUZANNE.—Avenue T., Sunderland.
FRENCH SPY.—Grand T., Brighton.
FRIVOLITY.—Theatre Royal, Dover.
GAY PARISIENNE (MACDONA).—Darlington.
GEISHA.—Buxton and Harrogate.
GIRL FROM KAY'S (N.).—O. H., Cork.
GIRL ON THE STAGE.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
GOLDEN LADDER.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
GREAT AWAKENING.—T. R., Barnsley.
HELD IN BONDAGE.—Alexandra T., Hull.
HER FATAL PAST.—T. R., Castleford.
HER LOST SELF.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
HER LOVE AGAINST THE WORLD.—T. R., Chatham.
HER LUCK IN LONDON.—Prince's T., Llandudno.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—T. R., Bilston.
HIS HOUSE IN ORDER (N.).—T. R., Dublin.
HIS HOUSE IN ORDER (S.).—T. R., Cardiff.
HOUR OF HER TRIUMPH.—Morecambe.
HUTCHISON REPERTOIRE.—H. M. T., Blackpool.
INDIAN MUTINY.—T. R., Glossop.
KITTY GREY.—Alexandra T., Greenock.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Woking and Dartford.
LADY MADCAP (N.).—Croydon.
LADY MADCAP (S.).—Preston.
LA POUPEE (LEVILLY).—Gaiety T., Manchester.
LA POUPEE (RALLAND).—Gaiety T., Leith.
LION AND THE MOUSE.—Grand T., Blackpool.
LITTLE BREADWINNER.—Junction T., Manchester.
LITTLE MICHUS (EDWARDES).—P. O. W., Birm'ham
LITTLE MICHUS (S.).—Dundee.
LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE.—Grand T., Nelson.
LUCKY DURHAM.—T. R., Norwich.
MANXMAN.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
MARRIAGE OF

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. Hindell.—*(1). The Alabaster Staircase was produced at the Comedy Theatre on Feb. 21 last, and ran only a few nights. (2). Write to the author, Mr. Robert Marshall, 62, Green-street, Park-lane.*

A. C. Speach.—*When Mr. Lewis Waller revived* Monsieur Beaucaire *at the Imperial Theatre, on June 10, 1905, Miss Evelyn Millard was engaged as the leading lady, and the play was in the bill until the autumn season.*

J. Laurence.—*Try the* Church Times *or the* Christian World, *which is published at 13 and 14, Fleet-street, London.*

A Reader.—*We should think it is extremely unlikely that it had a sliding roof, but cannot say for certain.*

Harry Melbourne.—*The Moody-Manners Opera Company opened an engagement at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, on Monday, Aug. 20 last.*

Frank Harris.—*Labiche died in 1888, Delacour in 1883, Dumanoir in 1865. As to Deslandes, there were two dramatic authors of that name, Raymond and Paulin. Raymond Deslandes died in 1890, and Paulin Deslandes in 1866. With reference to Fred Grove Palmer we can find no record.*

Frank Parker.—*Salvini made his first appearance at Drury Lane on April 1, 1875, as Othello, under the management of Mr. Mapleson.*

Birmingham Correspondent.—*We cannot trace the date. You might obtain the information by writing to Mr. Jack De Frece, 178, Charing Cross-road, London.*

Helen Dunster.—*As the comedy mentioned is not at present being played in London, or on tour in the country, there is little probability of its being staged in or near Manchester before Dec. 1.*

J. H. Mathams.—*Yes.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Terry.—Oct. 12, Vera Snowdon, wife of Cecil Terry (Terry and Snowdon), of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Allan—Riley.—Oct. 13, at Christ Church, Albany-street, Regent's Park, Reginald Weber Allan, musical composer, to Kathleen Marguerite Riley.

Allan—Riley.—Oct. 13, 1906, at Christ Church, Albany-street, Regent's Park, by the Rev. Webb, Reginald Webber Allan, youngest son of William J. Allan, of Southport, to Kathleen Marguerite, only daughter of Mrs. Sophie Riley, of London.

Tiller—Walker.—17th inst., John Tiller, of Lime House, Lime Grove, Manchester, to Jennie Walker, daughter of the late George Walker of Manchester.

DEATHS.

Bell.—On Oct. 11, at his residence, 70, Little Heath, Charlton, S.E., Caleb Moore Bell, the much-beloved father of the Sisters Deare.

Caulfield.—On 13th inst., at Milford, Surrey, Constance Caulfield (Constance Loseby), widow of the late John Caulfield. Aged 55.

Gatti.—Oct. 12, at his residence, 10, Bedford-square. Stefano Gatti, theatrical proprietor, in his sixty-second year. R.I.P.

Hunter.—Oct. 12, at his residence, The Laurels, Holloway-road, Harry Hunter (Wm. Henry Jennings), of the firm of Francis, Day, and Hunter, in his 64th year.

Jennings.—On Oct. 12, at his residence The Laurels, 419, Holloway-road, after two years' illness, William Henry Jennings (professionally known as Harry Hunter, of the Mohawk Minstrels). Aged 65 years. Will professional friends kindly accept this intimation.

Loseby.—Oct. 13, Constance Loseby, vocalist and burlesque actress.

May.—Percy May, died Oct. 12, age 19 years. Brother to Jennie Belmore and Lulu Burgoyne. It was young to die. Rest in peace.

Ormerod.—Oct. 12, John Ormerod, director of the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, aged 73.

Ristori.—Oct. 9, at her residence in Rome, Adelaide Ristori, actress, aged 84.

Round.—Lily (Doris), third daughter of the late Henry Round, of Liverpool, sister to Mrs. W. Saunderson and Mrs. Fred Emney (Sisters Doris), who fell asleep after a long illness, Oct. 17. In loving memory of our darling sister. "At rest in the garden of sleep."

Smythson.—At Masterton, New Zealand, Aug. 28, Walter Sydney Smythson, second son of the late George Horatio Smythson and Indiana Lindsay Smythson, of Lombardy House, Guernsey, and brother of Geo. H. Smythson (The Smythsons). Guernsey papers please copy.

Wood.—At the residence of his daughter (Mrs. Arthur Thatcher), 32, Quay-street, Manchester, at 7.30 Saturday evening, Oct. 13, J. H. Wood, in his sixty-fifth year. Late of Mechanics' M. H., Hull; People's M. H., Oldham; &c. Gone, but not forgotten by his children. R.I.P.

Worswick.—At Mayville, St. Annes-on-Sea, on Saturday, Oct. 13, 1906, of heart failure, John Worswick, of the Royal Court Theatre and Grand Hippodrome, Wigan. Aged 66. Interred at Wrightington, Oct. 16. Gone, but not forgotten. R.I.P.

In Memoriam.

Adye.—In loving memory of Harriette Adye (Inez Howard), the beloved mother of William, Henry, and Hettie Chattell, who died Oct. 14, 1901.

Owen.—In loving memory of Emmie Owen, who fell asleep Oct. 18, 1905.

"Now when the morning was come, Jesus stood on the shore."

"Heaviness may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."—E. J.

Toft.—In memory of William Toft, who departed this life Oct. 14, 1904. Also his wife, May Toft; died May 10, 1905.

They are gone but not forgotten;
Never shall their memory fade,
Sweetest thoughts shall ever linger
Round the grave where they are laid.
Never forgotten.—David Turnbull.

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Ace, Mr. Harold
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Alexander, Prince
Andre, Madame
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Archer, Mr. J.
Armour, Mr. Wm. A.
Ardeck, Miss Agnes
Arnold, Miss Tiny
Artois Brothers
Ash, Miss Marie
August and September
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Baldry, Mr. H.
Baldwin, Mr. Chas.
Baroni, Mr. H.
Bartlett, Miss Lucy
Bayard, Miss
Bayne, Mr. Ronald
Bedford, Mr. E. A.
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Clifford, Mr. Nat
Clyo, Mr. Harry
Collette, Miss Eva
Connell, Mr. James
Conrad, Mr. Harry
Conroy, Mr. E. L.
Coopers, The Three
Costello, Mr. Tom
Coyne, Mr. Edgar
Craige, Miss Edna
Cranston, Mr. Ottley
D'Alcourt, Miss M.
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De Camo, Mr. C.
De Sousa, Miss May
Dobbs, Miss Edith
Donoldson, Mrs.
D'Ostas, The
Doughty Mr. Henry
Dudley, Miss H.
Dunbar, Miss Milly
Earle, Miss G.
Edgar, Mr. Ralph
Edwin, Mr. J.
Entwistle, Mr. H.
Everard, Mr. Walter
Faber, Mr. Arthur
Farrell, Mr. Chas.
Finney, Mr. James
Fitzgerald, Mr. Geo.
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Leo, Mr. J.
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Levey, Miss Carlotta
Levey, Mr. H. B.
Lewis, Mr. Edward
Leyton, Mr. George
Lockner, Miss Hilda
Loftus, Miss A.
Lowe, Mrs. Lillian
Lubert, Mr. R.
MacClelland, Mr. Harry
Mace, Mr. Fred
Marsh, Mr. Albert
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Matthews, Mrs. E. C.
Maude, Miss Beatrice
Maxam, Mr. Harry
Maynard, Mr. R. T.
Mayne, Mr. W.
McEwen, Mr. Walter
Mellon, Miss May W.
Metheringham, Mr. J. W.
Michel and Polo
Milton, Mr. Ethel
Monti, Bros.
Morgan, Miss Edna
Munro, Mr. D.
Murray, Miss Lillian
Neilson, Miss Naomie
Newton, Mr. Cecil
Norman, Mr. E. B.
Olley, Mr. C.
Ottavia, Mr. George
Parke, Mr. Cecil W.
Paull, Mrs. William
Peterman, Mr. J. B.
Pettigrove (sen.), Mr. B
Phillips, Mr. Nath.
Poline, Mrs.
Prince, Mr. Maurice
Pringle, Mr. Ralph
Raynham, Mr. Walter
Revell, Mr. H.
Revett, Miss Daisy
Reynolds, Mr. Harry
Rooney, Mr. Michell
Russell, Mr. Harry
Sansbury, Mr. V.
Scarth, Mr. Frederick
Schafers, The Musical
Schubert, Miss Flo
Selbo, Mr.
Sharlotte, Miss Freda
Shine, Mrs.
Smith, Mr. G. H.
Smithson, Miss Florence
Soden, Mr. John
Sprane, Mr. Henry
Sprays, Les
Stanert, Mr. Frank C.
Stephens, Mr. Yorke
Steuart, Miss Emmie
Stone, Mr. J. B.
Story, Mr. Tom
Streeley, Mr.
Sturat, Miss Rosie
Sturmont, Mr. Leo
Terry, Mr. Herbert E.
Thomas, Mr. A. D.
Thurlestone, Mrs. Wltr.
Travers, Miss Helen
Urquhart, Mr. H.
"Vasco"
Vassar, Dr. Carl
Vere, Miss Doris
Veri, Madame A.
Vilero and Vine
Wallace, Mr. Fred
Wallace, Mr. Tom
Warde and Wylie
Wardroper, Mr. Henry
Watson, Mr. J.
Westlake and Clifford
White, Mrs A.
Williams, Miss Cora
Wilsher, Mr. Fred
Wilson, Miss M.
Woulfe, Mr. F. B.
Wriglev, Mr. W. R.
Wright, Mr. Harry
Wyndham, Miss K.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Alice Lloyd—Saturday, Oct. 20.
Fanny Dango—Saturday, Oct. 20.
Arthur Playfair—Saturday, Oct. 20.
Louie Edmonds—Saturday, Oct. 20.
Tom Brantford—Saturday, Oct. 20.
Joseph A. Cave—Sunday, Oct. 21.
Cecil Morand—Sunday, Oct. 21.
George Bastow—Sunday, Oct. 21.
Henry Silvani—Sunday, Oct. 21.
Townsend Whitling—Sunday, Oct. 21.
Mme. Sarah Bernhardt—Monday, Oct. 22.
Mabel Rees—Monday, Oct. 22.
Cissie Loftus—Monday, Oct. 22.
Florrie Haydon—Monday, Oct. 22.
Minnie Terry—Monday, Oct. 22.
Lily Lassah—Monday, Oct. 22.
Cecilia Loftus—Monday, Oct. 22.
Florian Fratelli—Monday, Oct. 22.
Eric Lewis—Tuesday, Oct. 23.
J. B. Howe—Tuesday, Oct. 23.
May Elliott—Tuesday, Oct. 23.
Rose Moncrieff—Tuesday, Oct. 23.
Marie Clavering—Tuesday, Oct. 23.
W. T. Clitherow—Wednesday, Oct. 24.
Herbert Colley—Wednesday, Oct. 24.
Cyril Austen-Lee—Thursday, Oct. 25.
G. W. Kenway—Thursday, Oct. 25.
Alfred Lester—Thursday, Oct. 25.
Florence Nelson—Thursday, Oct. 25.
Edwin Ling—Friday, Oct. 26.
Tony Iveson—Friday, Oct. 26.

Mr. S. Feinman's opera, *Holy Sabbath*, was again presented by the clever Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company, at the Pavilion Theatre, on Monday to a large house. Excellent performances throughout the week have been given of *Rachel; or, The Flag of Judah*, *Gabriel*, *The Zionist*, and

The success of *The Amateur Socialist* at the Criterion Theatre is so pronounced that Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen announces that after this week Wednesday matinées will be given of Mr. Tarpey's amusing play, in addition to the Saturday matinées already announced.

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE STAKES, October 24.
First and Third Class Trains will run as under:—

Down Trains.	E	A	F		C	D	B					
	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	noon	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Liverpool-street, depart	8.40	9.50	10.20	11. 5	12. 0	2.35	4.15	4.30	5.12	8.20		
St. Pancras, "	..	9.45	10.18	..	12.20	2.40	4.10	..	5. 7	..		
Newmarket, arrive	10.33	11.45	12.10	12.50	2.20	4.48	6. 5	6.19	7.17	10.18		

Up Trains.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	D.E.	A.F* †	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Newmarket, depart	8. 3	8.59	12.30	3.57	4.10	4.10	4.15	5.30	5.50	6.15	7.47	
St. Pancras, arrive	10.23	11.15	..	2.43	6.10	6. 5	6. 0	..	7.35	8. 0	8.35	..
Liverpool-street, "	10.15	10.56	12.40	2.47	6. 3	6. 5	..	6. 5	7.25	7.45	8.25	9.57

(A) Special First Class only. (B) On Oct. 22 only. (C) On Oct. 26 only. (D) On Oct. 26 only. (E) Restaurant Cars on these trains Oct. 23, 24, and 25. *† On Oct. 26 start One Hour and One Hour and Twenty Minutes respectively after the advertised time of the last Race. On Oct. 24 a Special Excursion train will leave Liverpool-st. and St. Pancras at 8.13 a.m. for Newmarket, returning the same day at 6.50 p.m. Fares, First Class 13/-; Third Class, 6/6.

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Oct. 22, "CHARLEY'S AUNT."
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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1906.

THE IRVING ANNIVERSARY.

Saturday last was the anniversary of the death of Henry Irving. All our readers will remember the extraordinary demonstration of public feeling which was given last year at his funeral in Westminster Abbey. It startled and surprised even those to whom his popularity was most manifest. For it was an expression of the instinctive affection for an individual felt by the public—that great, unknown, incalculable body which is always startling clever prophets with surprises, and baffling the expectations of the most experienced. We should then have thought that it was impossible to add anything to the affectionate estimate formed of the actor by the profession and the public. But Mr. Bram Stoker, in the second volume of his "Reminiscences of Henry Irving," which has just been published by Mr. Heinemann, has put the last touch to the loving memory of Irving which is cherished by so many both in and out of the profession.

There is a tinge of envy felt, in spite of ourselves, as we contemplate the career of an entirely successful and fortunate man. It seems to lift him out of fellowship with those whose lives are more or less imperfect, who are conscious of tasting the bitters as well as the sweets of human existence. To outsiders, Henry Irving's career seemed rounded off by the sudden death which removed him at the height of his popularity. Mr. Stoker has lifted the veil, and has shown us instead of a triumphant idol, a brave and uncomplaining martyr. For the last seven or eight years of his life Irving suffered. The turn of the tide came on the night of December 19, 1896, when he appeared as *Richard III.* The performance was an immense success, and at its conclusion there was held on the stage of the Lyceum Theatre one of those gatherings, numbering between three and six hundred of the representatives of art and letters, of statesmanship, and the various forms of public life; of Society, of the professions, of commerce—of the whole great world of personal endeavour. That evening came the first of a series of misfortunes. On returning home to Grafton Street, as he was passing up the staircase, he fell and struck his knee against an old oak chest, rupturing the ligatures under the knee-cap. "The disaster of that evening was the beginning of many which struck, and struck, and struck again, as though to even up his long prosperity to the normal measure allotted to mankind." That foot-slip cost Irving two months and a half of illness and an out-of-pocket expense of over six thousand pounds. In the February of 1898 came the burning of the Lyceum scenery at the storage in Bear Lane, Southwark, the property thus destroyed being worth over thirty thousand pounds sterling. This utterly demolished the repertoire side of Irving's management. Before the loss of the scenery he was in a position to put on the stage, at small cost, revivals of his successes; and many of these revivals were, for a moderate period, very profitable. Eight months after came the great calamity of Irving's life—the loss of his health.

To the weak and those who have been always a little ailing real illness is a trial; to the man who has been free from pain and weakness during his life it is a crushing blow. In 1898, after a successful performance of *Madame Sans-Gêne* in Glasgow, Irving broke down from pneumonia and pleurisy, caused by a chill taken in travelling. For seven weeks he lay ill at Glasgow, and, when he returned to London, he made the arrangement with the Lyceum Theatre Company, by which he became only a sharer in the profits of the house. It was an acknowledgment of increasing weakness, which made him long to shift some of the burden of responsibility to other shoulders. Irving no longer enjoyed life; he endured it. He had perforce to deny himself many little harmless pleasures which from habit had been precious to him. For seven years before his death he was subject to a wearing and irritating throat complaint, which weakened and wore him down by degrees. Finally, it was found that, since his attack of pleurisy and pneumonia, one of his lungs had been seriously affected. But after this he continued to struggle on heroically. Whatever bitterness he may have felt was confined to his own breast; his temper remained to the last gentle, calm, and considerate. Then he grew weaker and weaker; and another chill which he took while travelling to Wolverhampton added to his illness. He could act with all his old fire, but off the stage he was, literally, tired of his life. If he was to repair his losses and secure an income for his old age, he must, he felt, toil on until his farewell tours were finished. What the end was is well known.

The pathos of the last seven years of Irving's life must appeal to all actors and actresses. With all the protections which care and money could supply, he suffered, as so many of the profession suffer, from the inevitable exposures of travel. His losses only differed in magnitude from those of his poorer brethren; they were equally distressing and equally undeserved. If he had been less open-handed and generous he might have retained a little more of the wealth that he earned so well; but his lavish enterprise was a policy which up to a certain period repaid itself, and his personal expenditure was so modest that he had a right to his only luxury—benevolence. The publication of the details of his endurance adds another wreath to those which were placed last Saturday on Henry Irving's grave.

Lofthouse Amusements Park is a new enterprise which is about to be inaugurated under the auspices of the Wakefield and District Light Railway Co. and the Yorkshire (West Riding) Electric Tramways Co., Ltd., who have purchased the property, and are about to equip it as an up-to-date, first-class amusement resort. The park is situate almost midway between Leeds and Wakefield, and is 60 acres in extent, with a frontage to the main road of over 600yds. The company will make roads, erect band stands, refreshment rooms, and assembly hall, install a miniature steam or electric railway, lay out athletic grounds, bowling greens, and dancing platforms. Everything will be done to make the park attractive, and during the season first-class bands will be engaged. The population of the district, already served by the tramways, is very large, and sixteen other towns, besides innumerable smaller places, are being brought into touch with the park. In addition to the foregoing, arrangements are being made for the construction of lines to Dewsbury, and, within the next few months, the whole of the population of the heavy woollen district will be able to journey to the park by car. The towns of Dewsbury, Batley, Heckmondwike, Liversedge, Cleckheaton, and other important places will be linked up, and as cars with special fares will be run, there is every prospect of a large business. The advertisement department will be a strong feature of the management, illuminated advertisement cars being utilised in addition to the ordinary means of publicity.

Mr. Robert Colburn Buchanan, on behalf of the Edinburgh Construction Company, Ltd., applied at a special session of the Edinburgh Justices on the 12th inst., for a licence for the new King's Theatre in that city. The report of the Chief Constable, the Fire Master, and the Burgh Engineer were read, the last mentioned stating that the plan of the theatre, which had accommodation for 2100, had been well thought out, and ample provision made for the convenience and comfort of the public. Discussion took place on the right of the Justices, in granting the licence, to put an obligation on the proprietor not to apply for a liquor licence, and it was explained that the applicant would have to apply in the ordinary course to the magistrates for his licence to sell liquor. The theatre licence was unanimously granted.

The funeral of the late Mr. Frank Bateman took place at the Rycroft Cemetery, Walsall, on the 11th inst. Mr. Harry Battersby, of the Bilston Theatre, and Mr. Walton, the business-manager of the theatre, attended, and Mr. Collingwood (Alexander Theatre, Birmingham) was also represented. Several members of Mr. Bateman's company were also present, and contributed a handsome wreath, and similar tokens of respect came from the staff of Cardiff Theatre, Wednesbury Theatre, and four brothers of Mrs. Bateman. Telegrams and letters of sympathy, to the number of about one hundred, were received, including messages from Mr. Jno. Douglas, of the Coliseum Theatre, London, and Mr. Fredericks, of the Theatre Royal, Stratford.

At the Covent Garden Ball, given on the night of the 12th inst., some of the most striking and charming dresses included "Vanity," an exquisite concession to feminine weakness in the matter of mirrors and toilet requisites; "American Dollars," with its various panels bearing lifelike portraits of Miss Edna May, Mr. Pierpont Morgan, Mr. Rockefeller, and Sir Thomas Lipton; a sparkling "Fairy Fountain," and a typical "Garden of Eden." Mr. W. Clarkson sent a number of tasteful costumes, winning a fourth prize for "Vanity" and a sixth prize for "Fairy Fountain," already mentioned. He gained other prizes for "Garden of Eden," "Tipping," "La Duchesse," "Approach of Winter," "Sultan of Seringpatan," &c.

Mr. J. Page Moore, who is retiring from the management of the West Bromwich Theatre Royal, entertained a few friends to a dinner at a local inn by way of farewell. After thanking his many friends for the generous support they had always accorded him, Mr. Moore offered a hearty welcome to Mr. Vere, the new manager for Mr. Thomas, and expressed the hope that he, too, would find friends as good and generous in West Bromwich as he had. He explained that he had been led to give up the theatre because, living away from the town, and having other interests, he could not give the time necessary. Mr. W. S. Watts, as one of Mr. Moore's oldest friends, on behalf of a few subscribers, asked Mr. Moore's acceptance of a handsome gold cigarette case, suitably engraved.

Miss Frances Ferina and Mr. John Hitchins are meeting with gratifying success on tour in Mr. Harry Pleon's pathetic scena, *Pity the Blind*, which was produced by them at the Public Hall, Barnsley, a few weeks ago.

Presentation.—The orchestra of the Ardwick Empire and his Manchester friends have presented the musical director, Mr. Dick Hardwick, with a beautiful gold watch and diamond pin, as a token of esteem, on his thirty-second birthday.

COPYRIGHT CONVICTIONS.

A Harlesden music-seller, James McGuire, was given in charge on Saturday by a man named James K. Brown for selling pirated copies of Stephen Adams's "Holy City," Marzial's "River of Years," Trotère's "The Deathless Army," and Liddle's "Abide with me."

Asked by Mr. J. M. Grant, the Willesden magistrate, what authority he had for his action, Mr. Brown quoted the 1906 Act, which gave any citizen the right to act as he did. He was corroborated by Mr. Herbert Cooper, assistant secretary to the Music Copyright Association.

The Magistrate: How about the purchasers?

The Agent: We have no power to proceed against them under the Act.

The Magistrate: This case is not so simple as it appears to you. I do not think you can arrest a man for selling what is practically stolen property and ignore the receiver, who is really the worst offender. I don't see the justice of it, and I shall confer with my brother magistrates on the matter.

Prisoner was remanded on his own recognisances.

John McCallum, Geo. Lawson, Michael Coyne, Bernard McCallum, Joseph Benson, and Geo. Smith appeared before the Newcastle city justices on Monday, charged with having pirated music for sale in their possession. The first four men were apprehended on Saturday, and the evidence showed that John McCallum had 100 copies, Lawson 105, Coyne 125, and Bernard McCallum 70. Coyne stated that he was holding the music whilst the owner went to get his tea, and the other men pleaded ignorance of the Act. The two McCallums, Lawson, and Coyne were fined 10s. and costs.

In the case of Benson, the police stated that he was on the Quayside on Sunday, and had 222 copies of pirated music in his possession. "The Holy City," "Daddy," "In the shade of the old apple tree," and "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you" were amongst the pieces found in Benson's possession, Inspector Potts stated. Benson was fined 20s. and costs, and Smith, who was apprehended yesterday with 153 copies, was ordered to pay 10s. and costs. The Bench made an order for the destruction of the music.

William Fisher, twenty-eight, a pedlar, and George Brown, seventeen, a labourer, both giving an address at Hammersmith-road, were charged at Chiswick with being concerned together in possessing and soliciting orders for the sale of pirated copyright music at Silver-crescent, Gunnersbury.

An agent of the Music Publishers' Association, Regent-street, deposed that on Wednesday morning he saw the prisoners together at High-road, Chiswick, with bundles under their arms, and knowing Fisher to have been formerly engaged in selling copies of music he kept them under observation. They went to Hartington-gardens, and each called at different houses. The agent went for a constable, and subsequently found the prisoners at Silver-crescent. Brown was standing outside a house, while Fisher was engaged in conversation with the lady of the house. Fisher had a book, in which were entered orders for copies of pirated music, the prices ranging from 2d. to 6d. Prisoners were arrested, and Fisher had in his possession ninety-six copies of copyright music, while Brown has 100 copies of pirated music and six copies of copyright music. At the station it was alleged that Brown claimed the book referred to as his own. Fisher pleaded not guilty, but Brown admitted having the pirated music with him.

The Bench did not think the evidence was strong enough against Fisher, and he was discharged. Brown was fined £2 and costs. An order was made for the destruction of the pirated music.

THE GRANVILLE.

This week, at the Granville, Hetty King, the celebrated male impersonator; Harry Ford, the whimsical comedian; and the Brothers Horne, in their pugilistic comedy *The Biter Bit*, loom largely on the posters and figure prominently in the programme. Hetty King has made her name well known, and gained a great success in London and the provinces by reason of her distinction of manner and refinement in the portrayal of various types of mankind, and her dancing has largely helped in establishing her success and popularity. As a thoroughly "well-groomed masher," as a jolly Jack Tar (as neat as the man-of-war whose deck he lately strode), or as a dashing *militaire*, Miss King is always essentially smart and well-set-up. Her songs suit the impersonations, being, "When a fellow is twenty-four," "When Jack's ashore," and "Dandy Dick of the Devil-may-care Brigade." Harry Ford sings plaintively of the joys (*sic*) of married life, of the many little duties he has to perform, "and after that my time is all my own"; but as he is up at 3 a.m to work, and his household duties last till 2.45 a.m. it does not require much calculation to guess what leisure time is left him! His other song, of his lady love, is exquisitely droll in delivery and composition, and the manner in which he warbles "When she talks, *when* she talks" keeps the house in a roar. Assuredly he is, as the programme puts it, "a Granville favourite" second to none. The Brothers Horne in their little pugilistic sketch with a moral lesson for all bullies, entitled *The Biter Bit*, give a capital show on humorous lines. Another artist who deserves special mention is Nellie Wallace, the popular burlesque artist, and screamingly funny is her facial play and her grotesque make-up, as well as her quaint calisthenic exercise in "You may bet it's never been my luck to find a man yet" and "I can't go to sleep." Rose Archer is a first-rate musical mimic on the lines laid down by Miss Ray Wallace, and specially good is her imitation of Miss Marie Lloyd. Marriott Edgar, "the man in red," has a wonderfully clear enunciation, and shows great promise in his songs "I thought I'd light a match" and "On the sands." Newham and Latimer, in their burlesque ditties "We'll show you round the Tower" and "The Earl and the Girl," are highly diverting and original. Gertrude Bradshaw gains deserved applause by an excellent rendition of "The children's home." A. G. Spry is an eccentric comedian who is a certain starter for the mirth-making stakes, and in his songs "I'll have my two bob back" and "I think I'll apply for that" he is genuinely funny without being vulgar. The Sherrys are clever and daring comedy acrobatic specialists; Harrigan and Holt sing "Only a stew" and give characteristic "patter," their dancing being especially graceful and dexterous; Brown and Kelly and company appear in their bustling sketch *The Butler Knows*, played to an accompaniment of hearty laughter, especially when the baby cries! Vernon's Bioscope has admirable new pictures in "Her morning dip," "The ? Motorists," and "How a British bulldog saved the Union Jack." Lawrence Barclay, as a "member of the force" who keeps everything "For evidence" and in "Oh, 'Ria, what have you done for me," is a prime favourite at Walham Green. Gladys Mavius, the Canadian coon singer, and a very neat dancer; Lambert and Glover in their farcical duologue *My Birthday*; Therese and May in their singing protean act; Will English, nigger comedian; and Arthur Melrose, a capital comedian, complete the programme. Mr. W. S. Bassett conducts the capital orchestra with verve and ability.

Morris and Morris, grotesques, who have been touring for sixteen weeks in the States, are being rebooked everywhere on the other side, and American managers will claim their services for some time to come.

"CYMBELINE" AT GLASGOW.

A hearty reception was accorded the second Shakespearean revival at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, on Thursday, the 11th inst., and the interest and enthusiasm evoked by last year's production of *Romeo and Juliet* seem likely to be repeated in the present instance. *Cymbeline* has been chosen as the subject for this revival, and as the play has not been seen in Glasgow for seventeen years, it possesses the charm of novelty for most of the present generation of playgoers. It deals with a picturesque period of British history, the story is powerful, and the unravelling of the plot makes a strong call on the resources of the principal characters, necessitating as it does the sounding of the whole gamut of the emotions, love, despair, grief, pity, hate, and revenge being in turn called for. The scenic possibilities of the play have been made much of, and Messrs. Hugh Freemantle and William Palmer have provided a number of beautiful settings, in particular those representing Imogen's Bed-chamber, the Hall of Cymbeline's Palace, Before the Cave of Belarius, Imogen's Ante-chamber, and the Garden of Cymbeline's Palace, which are one and all notable examples of scenic art at its best. The company engaged for the production is in every respect well chosen. Miss Mona K. Oram as Imogen gives a most enjoyable performance, and her acting throughout is on a very high level. From the love-making scenes of the first act to the pathetic incidents of the later scenes she holds the interest of the audience, and the powerful scene with Iachimo is given with a tragic force that is in striking contrast with the comedy aspect of her rejection of the suit of the foolish prince, Cloten. Miss Oram's acting throughout undoubtedly enhances the high opinion already held here of her abilities. Mr. Vincent Clive as Leonatus Posthumus imbues the part with the necessary romantic attributes, and his fine delivery of the many stirring speeches incidental to the part is a most commendable feature of his performance. In the strong scene with Iachimo, where the latter's artful insinuations make Leonatus believe that Imogen has proved unfaithful, Mr. Clive is especially successful, and the audience were quick to acknowledge their appreciation of the fact. In the part of the scheming Iachimo Mr. F. Joynsen-Powell made a decided hit, and the artful villainy of this Iago-like character is brought out in many quiet but artistic touches. Mr. E. Story-Gofton is a dignified and kingly Cymbeline, and his powerful and resonant voice is heard to advantage in the denunciation of Leonatus in the first act, and in several other notable passages. Another excellent actor with a ripe elocutionary method is Mr. Henry Marston Clifford, who plays with telling effect the part of Belarius. His two wards, Guiderius and Arviragus, are cleverly acted by Messrs. Eric Maxon and Alfred Hilliard, and their scene with the disguised Imogen at the cave is played with commendable judgment and appreciation. Mr. Ernest Griffin, who has numerous admirers here since his fine performance in *Romeo and Juliet*, is well suited in the character of the Roman general, Caius Lucius. Mr. Eric Mayne as the faithful Pisanio acts well, and Mr. A. C. Hardie ably plays the part of Philario. Miss Barbara Fenn acts with notable success as the intriguing Queen, and the only other female part, that of Helen, is ably filled by Miss Ella Thornton. The chorus and augmented orchestra, under Mr. H. Henderson, looked after the musical interests, and the rendering of the glee, "Hark, hark, the lark," by the chorus was accorded a hearty encore. The production has been arranged by Mr. Richard Dalton, who stage-manages the present revival under the personal superintendence of the managing-director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan, and both gentlemen were heartily applauded for their share in the arduous labours of the production, and had to respond with a few words of thanks.

FREEMASONRY.

The Ranelagh Lodge No. 834 had a very successful evening in the Masonic Temple of the Criterion last week, Mr. Malcolm F. Wilkins presiding, supported by Messrs. H. W. Dyne, I.P.M., G. F. Butt (treasurer), W. South (secretary), G. B. Stehr, S.W., A. G. Gee, J.W., P. W. Smethurst, S.D., W. G. Lee, J.D., and W. G. Brooks, I.G. The W.M. initiated Mr. E. F. Appleby into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, and raised Messrs. McDonoch, Ibbetson, and Eastgate. The next business on the agenda was to present Mr. John Worth, a founder, and for some years treasurer, of the Earl's Court Lodge, with his Grand Lodge clothing, and to congratulate him upon being appointed A.G.P. of England by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, the Grand Master.

This was performed in a most impressive manner by the W.M. Mr. Worth, who was visibly affected, replied, thanking the Ranelagh and the Earl's Court Lodges for the highly valued testimonial of their regard. The brethren then adjourned to the Victoria Hall, where they were joined by their lady friends, and attended a reception held by Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins. Subsequently they dined together in the Grand Hall. At the conclusion of the banquet a highly successful concert, under the direction of Mr. Charles Moore, was held. The Misses Julia Cowan and Muriel Hey, assisted by Messrs. Frank Esmond, Arthur French, Charles Rose, Tom Leo, and Maurice Garland, took part, the last-named gentleman causing much amusement and amazement by his conjuring tricks.

The latest quotations for music hall shares is as follows:—Alhambra, 1¼; Canterbury, ½; Empire (15s. paid), 1½; Empire (10s. paid), 1; London Pavilion Ordinary, 4½; ditto Pref., 5½; London Coliseum, ½; Metropolitan, ½; Moss' Empire, 7½; Moss' Empire, 5 per cent. Pref., 3½; Oxford, 7; Palace, 11; Tivoli, 6½; and Vars. Cons. Theatres 14s.

Mr. George C. Doughty, who has recently concluded a successful tour of the Moss-Stoll circuit, has been rebooked by Mr. Oswald Stoll, to commence the tour again June 10, 1907, at the Empire, Hackney, with his comedy scene, *Captain Cupid*, by Wm. P. Sheen, author of *The Temptress, The Way of the World, Why Woman Sins*, &c.

Huline and Le May, the novelty clowns, return to town on Monday, opening at Mr. Gibbon's new Hippodrome in Brixton. They have just returned from the provinces after successfully appearing at Mr. Gilbert's hippodromes.

Master Clifford did a trial turn at Shepherd's Bush recently, and was immediately engaged for Monday at the Empire, New Cross, with the Stratford and Shepherd's Bush houses to follow. Master Clifford is the son of Mr. Cliff Ryland, and is the only boy of the family who is following in his father's footsteps.

Mr. Fred Larola, the comedy juggler, who has recently returned from Australia via India, &c., has presented Mr. Harry Lester, his brother Terrier, with a perfect miniature ebony and ivory model of an elephant, of which the recipient is very proud.

"The Lady of the Roses," the dainty miniature comedy written by Hubert Bartlett for Mr. and Mrs. Hugh de Beera, and which is down for production at the Camberwell Empire on Nov. 5, will be lavishly dressed and mounted. Nothing will be required from the management but a clear stage, and the whole production will, we are assured, be worthy of a West-End theatre.

Gipsy Woolf is meeting with great success on the Continent, her engagements there taking her up to March, 1907. She is now at Bremen.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The tenth annual general meeting of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association will be held on Tuesday next at the Camberwell Empire. Mr. Fred Neiman will take the chair at 12 noon. All members must present their green cards to obtain admission.

Mr. W. T. Stead has been to the London Hippodrome, and chronicled his enjoyment of the show. The Indian fakirs pleased him immensely, and he thought the clowns delightfully amusing. The Royal box was placed at the disposal of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Stead, who, during the progress of the performance, had a chat with Sir Edward Moss.

When a humorist becomes serious he launches on a risky experiment, but Mr. Owen Hall, who as a satirical journalist had a nice taste in lampoons, has determined, now that the exuberance of youth has given place to the philosophic calm of middle-age, to write sentiment, and will be represented at the Soldene matinée, on Nov. 13 at the Palace Theatre, by a one-act piece which will be minus the audacious wit that Londoners so much admired in *The Gaiety Girl*, *The Little Cherub*, *The Girl from Kay's*, and other pieces from the same versatile pen.

In the early days of the Mohawk Minstrels Mr. Harry Hunter, whose death is recorded in another column, was assisted in writing the songs by Mr. Charles Townley (Mr. Geoffrey Thorn), the author of the earlier pantomimes at the Grand Theatre, Islington; but later the deceased gentleman employed his astonishing facility in turning out verses with most successful results in songs that obtained a remarkable vogue through their rendering by the famous minstrels that were for nearly thirty years an institution in Islington.

A personal friend of Mr. Hunter writes in the *Islington Gazette:* "Few will readily forget the periodical entertainment he and other members of his troupe gave to the inmates of Islington Workhouse, and the humorous speeches with which he always pleased the old folks at the conclusion of the entertainment." Harry Hunter's final appearance on the stage was on the night of Saturday, April 9, at the last performance of the Mohawk-Moore and Burgess at St. James's Hall.

Mr. Hunter was the head and front of the Mohawks, and was undoubtedly for many years the most popular entertainment manager in London, and it must have caused him no little regret to note the growing indifference of the masses to the attractions presented by burnt-cork melodists and mirth-makers, whose fame he did so much to establish. The enormous development in variety entertainments and the rapidly-increasing popularity of the modern music hall, drew the public patronage from minstrelsy, and the removal of the Mohawks from Islington and their amalgamation with the Moore and Burgess combination revived only a transitory interest in an innocent form of recreation that had entirely lost ground with the amusement-seeking public.

Among the well-known people at the funeral on Wednesday at Abney Park we noted Mr. Thomas, the first manager of the Mohawks; Mr. R. Berridge; Messrs. Fred J. Barnes and R. P. Weston, the well-known song writers; Mr. Miles (formerly Little Henry, the harpist, of the Mohawks); that veteran comedian, Victor Liston, whose famous song, "Encore, Encore, Encore," still recalls pleasant recollections; the Two Johnnies (Schofield and Danvers); Mr. "Little Thomas," the renowned corner man; Mr. Tom Birchmore, Mr. E. R. Franks, Mr. Dawes, Mr. Stainton, the well-known job master, and possibly the oldest ratepayer in Islington; Mrs. Herbert Campbell, and Mr. Harry Randall.

Miss Millie Payne resumes her acquaintance with her admirers at the Metropolitan on Monday next, and will then play at all the Stoll suburban houses. New songs will be submitted, and her success can be relied on.

Mr. E. C. Matthews, the well-known Irish comedian (late with Mr. Cyril Maude at the Waldorf Theatre), and Mr. Vernon Cowper (late of the Coliseum), have joined forces to produce Mr. Matthews's latest sketch, entitled *When the Clock Went Wrong* (a tale of a new-laid egg). As author of *The Lady and the Parson*, *A Bit of Bacon*, *The Romany King*, and upwards of 50 other successes, Mr. Matthews's name is a household word, while Mr. Cowper as an actor and vocalist is also well-known. The new sketch will be produced on Monday at the Royal Standard, Pimlico, and should arouse much interest.

A new musical sketch was put on at the Empire, Hackney, on Friday evening, during the second house, when Vaughan, Williams, and Carlton entertained the patrons of the house with a musical mélange, which has already secured the approval of many prominent managers in London. The piece was produced by Lionel Vaughan, whose sketch *Who's the Culprit?*—the name of which, by the way, has now been changed to *In Trouble*—will come to the Middlesex on November 5. Bookings for this clever sextet of artists are coming in thick and fast.

An interesting ceremony was witnessed at Christ Church, Albany-street, Regent's Park, on Saturday afternoon, when Mr. Reginald Weber Allan, the well-known musical composer and orchestral arranger, was wedded to Miss Kathleen Marguerite Riley, in the presence of a large congregation. The bride, who entered the church upon the arm of her brother Robert, was charmingly attired in white spotted muslin trimmed with white lace and embroidered silk, with a massive satin sash embroidered with silk marguerites. On her head was a wreath of orange blossoms and an embroidered silk veil, and she carried a shower boquet. The bridesmaids were the Misses Dora and Madeline Hulbert (cousins), prettily dressed in white muslin with lace, and wearing wreaths of marguerites out of compliment to the bride's name. Chêne sashes and boquets completed their costumes.

The officiating minister was the Rev. Arthur Webb, M.A., and Mr. J. Airlie Dix was at the organ. Mr. Wilhelm Piercey was best man. Miss Riley was given away by her mother, who wore a white dress covered with lace and chiffon and a white picture hat with large ostrich feather. After the ceremony a reception, largely attended, was held at the house of the bride's mother. The happy couple, who were the recipients of a large number of valuable and handsome presents, are spending their honeymoon at Westcliff-on-Sea. The bridegroom, a son of William Joseph Allan, of Southport, is a brother of the late Ernest Allan, musical composer, and was at one time connected with Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

The Follies, whose turn is one of the chief attractions in the particularly strong programme at the Tivoli, were all present at St. Simon's, Shepherd's Bush, on Wednesday, when Miss Marjorie Napier was married to Mr. Frank Elmore. Miss Napier was a member of the popular little company for over six years, having made her last appearance on the stage only three weeks ago. She was an exceedingly pretty bride, and wore a simple dress of finest white Indian silk, the white hat being trimmed with ostrich plumes and a handful of pink roses under the brim, and her only ornament a jewelled pendant, the gift of the bridegroom. Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Frank Elmore left for Devonshire, where they will spend two weeks, to be followed by a six months' trip to the other side of the world.

Our congratulations are tendered to Miss Helen Charles and Mr. Harry Burns, the well-known variety agent, and popular manager of the Empress, Hartlepool, upon their engagement.

The police entered the Queen's Theatre of Varieties, Glasgow, on Wednesday night when the performance was proceeding, and the deputy chief constable announced from the stage that he held a warrant to close the theatre and arrest any person in the audience who refused to leave. On Tuesday the magistrates withdrew the theatre's licence owing to boxing competitions having been carried on, but the management opened the theatre in defiance of the magistrates' order.

Mr. John Ormerod, a director of the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, died at Park-road, Blackpool, on Friday, Oct. 12, and was buried on Tuesday afternoon at the Blackpool Cemetery. The chief mourners were his three daughters, Mrs. Lempriere Pringle, of London, Mrs. J. Lightbody, of London, Mrs. W. H. Foxwell, of Manchester, Mr. W. H. Foxwell, Mr. W. H. Browne (nephew), from Bristol, and Dr. Molloy. The Winter Gardens Company was represented by the Chairman (Mr. Pearson), the manager (Mr. Huddlestone), and the secretary (Mr. Peace). Unfortunately Mr. L. Pringle, son-in-law, was unable to be present owing to an engagement in the South of England. There were a number of beautiful floral tributes covering the polished oak coffin.

Mr. Edwin W. Smith, proprietor of the popular Parthenon, Liverpool, took his sixteenth annual benefit on Thursday evening. There was a crowded audience, and artists from all the variety houses of the city and Birkenhead came forward to offer their services. This yearly event is one of the most appreciated in Liverpool, for Mr. Smith is a general favourite in the theatrical world; while his little and old-established place of amusement always does good business, capital programmes being presented. On Thursday there were fifty star turns, the stage-managers being Messrs. D. J. Clarke (Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead), Neils Christensen, Syd Bird, and Charles Nixon.

Antonio Pierri, the "Terrible Greek," of wrestling fame, obtained judgment on Wednesday in the Edinburgh Court of Session against Mr. Barney Armstrong, of the Queen's Theatre, Glasgow, for £120, being Pierri's salary for a week's engagement. During the proceedings allegations were made as to the bona-fides of the wrestling, but Mr. Armstrong was unrepresented, and judgment was awarded Pierri.

The death is announced of Mr. J. H. Wood, who succumbed to cancer on Saturday, the 13th inst., at the residence of his sister in Manchester, at the age of 64. In the provinces he ran many years since the Mechanics' Hall and the People's Palace, Oldham, where he initiated clog-dancing competitions. A few years since he was associated for a short time with the Bow Palace, where he initiated dancing and other competitions. He originated the famous dancing contest in which Dan Leno, Tom Ward, and other famous experts in the clogs competed. In his earlier career at the London halls the lamented Dan rattled the wooden shoon at all his engagements, and wore a silver belt, which he won in a famous competition organised by Mr. Wood.

Mrs. Burke, whose husband's death was announced in our last issue, has received the sad news from America of the decease of her mother, Mrs. Cecilia Catherine Beatty, who, at the age of eighty-eight, expired on the 11th inst., after ailing for a long period. The deceased, who had resided over fifty years at Washington, was a well-known authoress and poetess, and was the first lady writer to protest against slavery in the States, over half a century ago. At one time she was the only female correspondent of the *New York Tribune* (Horace Greeley's paper.)

Mr. Will Murray, the acting-manager of Sadler's Wells, discredits the rumours of his marriage which have recently been circulated. Mr. Murray, it seems, is so seldom absent from his post that when he was out of town a couple of weeks ago on business it was insinuated that he had taken the fateful step. Mr. Murray, however, has not yet surrendered his latchkey, and the congratulatory postcards and letters, some of which have already come to hand, are therefore superfluous.

On Tuesday the Water Rats gave their fourth flying matinée performance at the Brighton Hippodrome, and attracted an overflowing audience. The entertainers were numerous, and the programme, therefore, a very lengthy one.. Among those who submitted turns were Little Tich, Joe Cheevers, Dean Tribune, W. J. Churchill, Dave O'Toole, Carlton, the McConnell Trio, the Poluski Brothers, the Brothers Egbert, Brilliant and Brilliant, Eadie and Ramsden, Jordan and Harvey, Lil Hawthorne, Jessie Preston, Annie Purcell, Eily Adair, and Brown and company. The matinée was a splendid success. The duties of conductor were shared by Mr. Bond Sayers (London Pavilion), Mr. Louis De Reeder (Tivoli, London), and Mr. Charles Johns (Brighton Hippodrome), and Mr. Harry Clark was stage manager. Special thanks are due to the proprietors of the Hippodrome for the use of their magnificent theatre of varieties, and to their courteous manager, Mr. Arthur R. Holland.

Miss Annette Kellerman's most exciting experience happened, oddly enough, when she was not "in the swim," but quietly paddling round a tank after her performance was over and the audience had left the theatre. She had quite forgotten that it was customary to empty the tank by means of a pipe at the bottom, and her surprise and fear can be well imagined when she suddenly felt a mysterious suction under the water, dragging her down. For once the fair champion felt a shudder of dismay, and wildly seized the handle of a broom that was lying across one corner of the tank. Her cry of distress brought half a dozen men to the brink of the water, and by their united efforts she was helped into safety. Whenever Miss Kellerman uses the phrase about a drowning man clinging to a straw, she substitutes the word "broomstick."

Visitors to Chelsea Palace next week may look for somewhat of a novelty in *Beauty and the Bounders*, which is described as a musical protean pleasantry, written by Wilton Heriot, with music specially composed and arranged by Carlile Vernon. Special scenery has been painted for the production by Walter Drury, representing the lounge bar of the "Hotel de Luxe." Miss Frances Manners will appear as Beauty, a barmaid, and the Bounders, four in number, will all be impersonated by the author.

Caicedo has been doing splendid business this week at the Palace, Carlisle. His act has been filling the houses to their utmost capacity.

Miss Frances Letty, the latest American comedienne and dancer, to appear in London, has scored a big hit at the Granville, Walham Green. This dainty artist introduces in one of her songscenas quite a unique novelty, namely, clog dancing on a board so fitted and connected with an electric supply as to produce a wonderfully startling effect with every beat of her clogs. The theatre is in darkness, and the resultant scene is weird and picturesque in the extreme. Miss Letty's success was so pronounced at her début that she was immediately booked for a lengthy Moss and Stoll tour, and has also received enticing offers for South Africa and the Continent. Will Oliver is representing this latest arrival.

Mr. J. L. Graydon's annual anniversary takes place on Thursday next, when all the available talent in London will appear.

A special opening performance of the Brixton Hippodrome will be given on Saturday evening, when the élite of the profession will appear. An excellent orchestra has been engaged.

The Canterbury anniversary will be celebrated on Thursday evening, Nov. 15, when the programme of this historic house will be augmented by special features.

Mr. J. W. Edgar, by permission of his directors, will take his complimentary benefit at the Metropolitan on Thursday evening, Nov. 15. Among the attractions already promised are Little Tich, Hackenschmidt, and Marie Lloyd.

The Putney Hippodrome will be opened to the public on Monday, Nov. 5. The managing-director, Mr. W. J. Grimes, will run the house on the old plan of one performance nightly. At the première, Mr. Herbert Sims Reeves, the son of the celebrated tenor, will sing the solo of the National Anthem. The manager is Mr. Clifford King.

Mr. J. W. Winton, the celebrated ventriloquist, is an enormous favourite in Australia, where he has given something like 3,000 performances in Sydney and Melbourne while under engagement to Mr. Harry Rickards. He is now with us for a season, and has been renewing his Colonial triumphs at the Paragon and Walthamstow Palace. He will introduce his original act at the Holborn Empire on Monday next.

The Four Sherrys, while travelling on Thursday night from the Granville, Walham Green, to the Bedford, had a very narrow escape of their lives. When about half-way on their journey their brougham was run into by a motor 'bus, and so completely smashed that they had to make their exit by the window. Marvellous to relate, however, none of the occupants sustained any injury beyond a severe shaking, and all were in time for their turn in Camden Town.

During the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company's next vacation Mr. Ernest Chas. Gittins, the acting-manager, has decided to tour the halls again with his répertoire of grand opera sketches. Mlle. Adèle Prescott, who made such a success last season, has been re-engaged for the principal rôles, and Miss Therese Gilbert, the well-known contralto, for the chief contralto parts.

Mr. Alfred Butt has taken great pains in submitting the Blackpool Motoring Pictures, and his preparations have been rewarded by a series of films the clearness and steadiness of which speak very highly for the operators. Mr. Lee Guiness seems to have been taken from all points of the compass, and Miss Dorothy Levett making the ladies' record is an interesting picture.

Miss Maidie Scott, a dainty Irish comedienne, who is making her first appearance at the Palace, is the daughter of an Army officer. Next week the McNaughtons, no longer bound by Syndicate contracts, join the already crowded programme, and Miss Margaret Cooper, one of the most artistic vocalists of modern time, will submit some new songs at the piano.

Mr. Alfred Butt, during last winter's season at the Palace Theatre, tried the experiment of giving at the Saturday matinées high-class orchestral selections, and the success then attained has determined him to make a feature of the best music. He will naturally leave the choice to that excellent musician and highly-capable *chef d'orchestre*, Mr. Herman Finck, who will, this afternoon, conduct Tschaikowsky's "1812" overture, a tone-poem of the deepest dramatic significance. Miss Margaret Cooper, who makes her début at the Palace on Monday, comes from the concert platform with the highest reputation.

Mr. Frederick Stanley—the senior partner of the well-known firm, Messrs. Stanley, Woodhouse, and Hedderwick, solicitors to the Theatrical Managers' Association—died on Friday morning, the 12th inst., in his eightieth year. He never recovered from a serious operation that he underwent last August. For many years the deceased gentleman was well-known in theatrical and music hall circles, and was associated with the late Charles Morton, his brother-in-law, in the erection of the first music hall on the site of the Canterbury Arms, and also helped him to start the old Philharmonic in Upper-street, Islington, Oct. 17, 1870, as a theatre. The funeral took place at Norwood on Monday, the burial being preceded by a memorial service at St. Matthew's, Denmark Hill.

Miss Emily Soldene is much touched by the kindness of prominent artists volunteering their services at her farewell matinée at the Palace on Nov. 13. Among the attractions will be the appearance of Sir Charles Wyndham for the only time this season. Miss Marie Tempest will sing two of Mr. Frank Lambert's delightful compositions, and there will be selections from *The Dairymaids* and other current theatrical attractions. Mme. Melba, the president of the Ladies' Committee, is working hard to ensure success. Lord Rothschild has bought a box, and the first cheque received was from Ellen Terry, who has sent two guineas for a couple of stalls. Mme. Ada Crossley has also expressed her intention of being present. Miss Soldene proposes to return after Christmas to Australia.

Mr. Alfred Moul will introduce a novel turn at the Alhambra, which at present is indefinitely termed "a study in the occult." So sure is he of its appeal to the trained mind that, before including it in the evening programme, he has decided to invite all the leading authorities in the scientific world and experts in the study of psychic force to a private performance to judge of its quality.

Mr. Sydney M. Hyman, who has been combining business with pleasure during his trip over the other side, has secured several big turns for the Hyman Company's halls in South Africa, and has been visiting two halls every day, Sundays included. He has visited Chicago, and is now in San Francisco. He expects to be back by the first week in November. Mr. Hyman has arranged to open a permanent branch office in New York City, which will be under the management of Mr. Robert D. Girard, who in the past has been associated with Mr. Richard Pitrot in agency.

Miss Cissie Curlette, the well-known mimetic vocalist, who has been appearing in the provinces with such success, was forced to give up on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at Grimsby, owing to throat trouble. On her return home to Liverpool she consulted a throat specialist, who informed her that she had a growth on her vocal chords, and advised her to undergo an operation for its removal, to which she immediately consented. We are pleased to say that the operation was so successful that Miss Curlette was able to appear at the Hippodrome, Stockton, on Monday.

Cruickshank, the lightning caricaturist, recently entertained a few private friends at an afternoon at the London Pavilion with an experiment in rapid production. In the short space of two hours and ten minutes he executed the phenomenal number of 240 caricatures of the world's celebrities. These sketches were produced without any halt, except for a couple of seconds every five sketches, to permit of the change of blank material. Since opening at the Pavilion Cruickshank has drawn over 240 celebrities, repeating them 2,000 times.

Another slight change occurs at the Ealing Hippodrome. Mr. E. W. James loses his but lately appointed assistant, Mr. W. R. Draper, who takes up an appointment as chief at the Brixton Hippodrome.

Miss Rachel Lowe made her re-appearance at the Tivoli and Canterbury on Monday night, after spending a week in Paris. She introduced to London audiences her latest song, "The Progressive Woman." This is not a woman's rights song, but a dissertation on "Man in the Abstract." Attired in the very latest Parisian dress, Miss Lowe gives an object lesson to the ladies in the audience who insist on wearing large hats in public places to the annoyance of the members of the sterner sex. The idea is novel and original, and is much appreciated, especially by the Tivoli patrons.

Miss Kitty Loftus is winning artistic triumphs in Johannesburg, where her turn at the Empire has been lengthened by demands for encores that must have severely taxed the endurance of the popular soubrette. Miss Loftus expects to return to London early in December..

"The Mystery of the Cliff," by Tom Craven and Will Evans, produced at the Bedford this week, proved an instantaneous success, and was immediately booked up by managers. The sketch will be seen at Hammersmith next week.

Mr. Horace Marriott writes to us as follows:—"I beg to acknowledge per Mr. Rayne your cheque for £4, as a donation to the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, being part proceeds of the sale of Messrs. Rayne's useful little book of dates and distances. Permit me, on behalf of our president and committee, to thank you for your good and substantial efforts on our behalf. We are very much in want of funds to carry on the good work, and when I tell you that the committee has investigated over 1,500 cases during the past year, you will realise how necessary it is to obtain money enough to enable the Fund to continue to aid and relieve the poor professional."

On Saturday last, at the Drill Hall, Rotherham, the fourth annual comic song contest took place for the Yorkshire Challenge Shield and gold medal. The entrants numbered forty-five, and more than thirty appeared. Mr. Arthur Bearle, of Levenshulme, officiated as judge, and announced his decision as follows: Challenge shield, gold medal, and £4, Mr. Sam Jesson, Blackpool; second prize, £2 10s., Mr. Donald Cameron, Burnley; third prize, £1 10s., Mr. Alfred B. Millard, Manchester. The contest, which was highly successful, was promoted by Mr. Goulder Hamilton, the Yorkshire humorist.

Mr. Frank Parker is hard at work on his forthcoming Christmas production, and the necessity suddenly arose for the finding of a particular artist to do a certain piece of business. Mr. Parker accordingly resolved to pay a flying visit to the suburban Moss Empires in the hope of securing what he wanted. Time at his disposal, however, is very limited, and he could only spare one night for his search. A very fast 14 h.p. Star motor-car was obtained on Tuesday evening, and, accompanied by Messrs. H. Garrick and W. Bennett, of the Press Department, the popular equestrian director left the Hippodrome in it at 6.40 p.m. Holloway Empire was reached at 6.55, and from the stage-box the turns of Maudie Ford and the Granadas were seen. Between 7.15 and 7.28 the car was speeding between the Holloway and Hackney Empires. Vesta Tilley was on the Mare-street theatre stage, and even after singing four songs the mighty audience clamoured for more.

Mr. Parker and his companions re-entered the car at 7.46, and the mazy, dimly-lighted streets, bristling with soap factories, on the Essex marshes were traversed at the car's top speed. The church clock in Broadway struck eight as the motor pulled up outside the Stratford Empire. In the next thirty-five minutes Victor Travers, Frank Danby's *Chauffeur* and some bioscope pictures had been seen. Then commenced the longest run of the evening—to New Cross Empire. Clemart has the 9.10 turn there, and is followed by Will Mitcham and Paulinetti and Piquo. Mr. Parker followed these acts with keen interest. But the vigilant timekeeper notified the flying trio that two more halls were yet to be visited. Accordingly, 9.35 found the car once more swiftly gliding through the traffic to the Camberwell Palace. This hall was reached exactly ten minutes later. Frank Darwin was singing when the visitors arrived. One can almost throw a biscuit from the Palace to the Empire, so the last-mentioned establishment was visited at 10.5. The Richards Trio and Ada Gratley were the turns seen here. At 10.25 Camberwell was left behind, and at 10.40 Mr. Parker arrived back at the Hippodrome in time to witness the final scenes of devastation in *The Earthquake*.

At the 485th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. were present Messrs. Fred Neiman, John Alexander, Fred Griffiths, Douglas White (hon. treasurer), Harry Blake, A. Borelli, Frank Gerald, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). Mr. Fred Neiman was voted to the chair. A letter was read from Mr. G. H. Chirgwin, resigning from the post of vice-president, and his resignation was accepted with regret, as was also the resignation from the committee of Mr. James Finney. A petition was received from a number of members re the agency at Hanley, and it was decided to transfer it to Mr. Tom McHugh, of the Antelope Hotel. The procedure to be employed at the general meeting was adopted, and arrangements were settled as to the method of dealing with the voting papers at the forthcoming election of the committee. It was decided to hold a special committee meeting on Tuesday next, at 11.30, at the Empire, Camberwell, prior to the general meeting on that day.

There was a very well-attended and enthusiastic meeting of the International Artists' Lodge at the Royal Sovereign, Upper St. Martin's-lane, last Sunday. A letter was received from Mrs. Burke, widow of Brother Burke, thanking the Lodge for the wreath sent. At the same time a letter from the headquarters of the Lodge in Berlin was also received, asking for further information as to the funeral of the deceased and informing the meeting that the death-money was at the disposal of Mrs. Burke upon production of death certificate.

A brother asked advice with reference to the arrangement of his times by Mr. G. A. Payne. The artist was booked to play two halls in one evening, and, though the time-table was arranged in one office, the artist had been set down in the programmes at times which made it impossible to play both halls, as it would take him probably three-quarters of an hour to get from one house to the other, and the interval allowed was only twenty minutes. Brothers 1226 and 1365 advised the brother to play one hall, and send word to Mr. Payne that he would play the other as soon as was possible.

The meeting of the White Rats held on September 7th in America for the purpose of discussing affiliation between the V.A.F., I.A.L., W.R., and Vaudeville Comedy Club, and mentioned in a recent report of the American Lodge meeting, was then discussed. Those present at this meeting (I.A.L., London) were not well informed as to the nature of the Vaudeville Comedy Club, but all agreed that the matter was in very good hands, as the president and his brother were on the other side.

PARIS ECHOES.

(From our own correspondent.)

The Casino de Paris, which was to have reopened under a new management on Saturday, the 13th inst., has postponed the function until Monday next. We shall therefore be noticing the programme in next week's edition.

Gadbin's career at the Folies-Bergères has been cut short, fortunately not by accident, but his performance has been forbidden by the Prefect of Police, who found it too dangerous and too cruel an exhibition. This was brought about mainly by the Cirque d'Hiver putting on a similar show, at the dress rehearsal of which the unfortunate athlete was really nearly killed.

The manager of the "Tourbillon de la Mort," in which a young lady met with her death at the Casino de Paris, also asked for an authorisation to make a début, but was most energetically refused by the police authorities.

Another very dangerous performance is at present taking place at the Velodrome Buffalo, where a plucky American, Dare-Devil Schreyer, takes a dive of about 100ft. on a bicycle into a small tank below. It is very evident that, should the wind be strong, he would doubtless deviate from his course and would probably meet with a bad accident. It is said that the management of the Vélodrome incur a heavy penalty each time he gives his performance.

Two new débuts at Barrasford's Alhambra—Rebla, a comic juggler, who met with an instantaneous success; also Haydee, with his marionette theatre, in which appear in diminutive all the celebrities of the music hall. The imitation of Little Tich is very clever.

I forgot to mention in my last Paris notes that the bill is still topped by De Gracia with his wonderful Assam elephants. He has created quite a sensation, and in the opinion of the public generally and also the principal experts in animal training this is the best act of its kind on the variety stage at present.

The Nouveau Cirque, under the management of Mr. Houcke, the nephew of Mr. Houcke in partnership with Mr. Bostock, is presenting a troupe of thirty Polar bears doing a remarkable performance, which winds up with "Shooting the Chutes,"—a sensational finish indeed!

Mlle. Alexia and her dancer Orfeo, who made such a hit at your Empire, are at present appearing at the Folies-Bergères, where their success is very great. We may add that Mlle. Alexia is engaged to appear in January next at your Alhambra, where a ballet, in which she is to play the leading part, is being specially composed for her.

It is reported that Loie Fuller is at present negotiating with Messrs. Houcke and Bostock, of the Hippodrome here, to give a great and novel production in which a hundred dancers will take part. This novelty will be introduced into the great spectacular production *India*, which will be produced at the Hippodrome early in November.

Parisiana has just produced with great success its new revue, *Viens-tu, Cheri?* by Messrs. Moreau and Quinel. The costumes, by Landolff, are works of art, and are said to have cost over £4,000. Mlle. Lina Ruby, a new star, has made quite a sensational début.

Taking it all round, the music halls are not doing extraordinary business this month, the weather continuing to be fine and warm. The Entente Cordiale is slightly responsible for this also, as the crowds remain on the Boulevards late in the evening, shouting "Vive le Lor-Maire," whilst the managers are standing at their gates watching them pass. I would not vouchsafe that *they* are particularly enthusiastic.

A. C. M. E.

Mr. Wilkie Bard, who is in the Hackney Empire bill next week, once toured through America with *Who Owns the Baby?* company. All the towns visited were placarded with a great twenty-four-sheet poster of a very lovely child that any woman would have been delighted to call her own. Result, enormous business all the time. Every woman in every town had to pay a visit to the theatre to see the baby. One morning a lawyer's letter was received intimating that a lady sued the theatre magnate for using the nude picture of her little child for an advertisement of the play, £10,000 damages being claimed. The plaintiff alleged that the picture was used without her consent, and said, further, that "because of the unauthorised publication of the picture she was taken ill, and was still ill, and that the publication of the picture and the words, 'Who owns the baby?' were such as to bring her into contempt and ridicule." The lady's baby and the poster duly figured in court; but a hard-hearted judge decided that the baby was not half as good-looking as the picture, and non-suited the plaintiff.

Mr. Edwin Croueste, the well-known jester and late circus proprietor of Scarborough, on the recommendation of his life-long friend Mr. Harry Rickards, of Sydney and Melbourne, has been engaged to manage Fitzgerald's Great Australian Circus and Menagerie, and will shortly start for the Antipodes. Previous to his departure, however, he will tour Europe in search of novelties. A number of Mr. Croueste's friends have formed themselves into a committee to give a smoking concert in his honour, together with a substantial testimonial of their good wishes. Mr. Harry Rickards, before his departure for Sydney, headed the subscription list with five guineas. The hon. treasurer to the fund is Mr. Thos. Fox, Fish and Quart Hotel, Leicester, who will be happy to receive subscriptions from any of Mr. Croueste's numerous friends. He has been exactly fifty years in the profession, having started his circus career as a lad with Mr. William Cooke's circus at Astley's Amphitheatre in 1856.

Mr. Tom J. Morton and Miss Maggie Bowman have met with such success in a year's trial of work in the halls, that their rattling sketch, *She Loved a Policeman*, is booked well into 1908. At Christmas they go into pantomime at Paisley, playing principal girl and principal comedian respectively. During the summer months Mr. Morton and his clever little wife tour with their own costume party, originally known as The Yokels, but recently given a new name—The Tatlers. Miss Bowman, like her three equally well-known sisters—Nellie, Isa, and Empsie—has been on the stage since her childhood. Her very first part was Peek-a-boo in *My Sweetheart*, but, having only three lines, she coolly introduced a dance of her own invention on the first night; but unfortunately it was during one of Tony's most important songs, and he did not appreciate—although the audience did—such a surprising innovation. That she had just reached the reckless age of five is perhaps a sufficient excuse for her conduct.

Quite a number of people well-known in the musical and orchestral world were present at the wedding on Saturday afternoon, at Christ Church, Albany-street, Regent's Park, of Mr. Reginald W. Allan and Miss Kathleen Riley.

Tony Iverson, "the ragman at the piano," will produce on his birthday, Oct. 26, at the Palace, Aberdeen, a new act, entitled *The Pedlar and the Piano; or, Fun in the Vaults*, in which he will have the assistance of five or six voices in addition to his own imitations and selections.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

It has long been a moot point whether in the course of time "Kelly's London Directory" or Francis, Day, and Hunter's pantomime books will be the bigger or heavier tomes of future years. The great Charing Cross-road house has just belched into St. Martin's-le-Grand such a gigantic volume of printed matter in the shape of panto-mime books, five in number—viz., Principal Boy, Principal Girl, Fairy Queen, Low Comedian, and Dame, and the Book of Free Songs (the latter alone containing 175 ditties)—that the astonished postal authorities asked whether Christmas card-time and the period of drapers' spring clearance catalogues had happened simultaneously in October! Bona-fide artists engaged in pantomime are being sup-plied with the volume suitable to their line of business on application, the only charge made being, as in former years, the cost of postage—sixpence each volume. As soon as the printers can get the "letter-plate" engraved, a copy of Tom Leno's new song of the "Short Stories" class, entitled "Pom te O! Pom te A!" is likely to be "insetted" in the Low Comedian book.

Messrs. Francis and Day have in the press a new song, by Jerome and Schwartz, entitled "Henny Klein." This is a Dutch character-song for sou-brette or principal girl in the style made so popular by that clever lady, Miss Fanny Fields. Panto pro-ducers are securing the number whilst there is yet time.

Miss Florrie Forde opened in town on Monday at Collins's, and introduced her latest chorus craze, "Float me, Charlie." The popular lady must be congratulated on having acquired a number which will rank in quality with the numerous successes she has been identified with. Messrs. Francis and Day are being inundated with applications for the number from the best-known folk interested in Christmas annuals.

Mr. George Arthurs, who has written the words of the new songs in *The Belle of Mayfair*—"I'll wait for you, little girl!" and "She always does the right thing"—is, like the composer, Mr. Leslie Stuart, a Manchester man. Mr. Arthurs seems to possess the knack of hitting the popular taste, for another of his recent efforts, "If the world were ruled by girls," has been the success of Miss Ada Reeve's engagement at the Tivoli. Miss Lloyd is about to sing one of his songs, "The adventures of Lady Jane," Miss Lottie Collins has another, called "A Marriage of Convenience," and Mr. Whit Cunliffe is scoring heavily with "It's a dif-ferent girl again," the music being composed by Mr. Bennett Scott.

During the past year, when musical piracy was most prevalent, M. Witmark and Sons, the popu-lar American music publishers, have refrained frem presenting what they considered their most popular numbers, as a song "hit" meant immediate appropriation by the pirates. Now that Mr. T. P. O'Connor has given protection to the property of publishers, the Witmarks are enabled to open their store of song novelties for the coming pantomime season. With their vast catalogue of vocal and orchestral music they are in a position to furnish all the music of a pantomime from the rise to the fall of the curtain.

Those old-established favourites, the McConnell Trio, are winning the plaudits of their admirers by their excellent rendition of "Star of my Life" and "Good-night, Beloved," both published by M. Witmark and Sons.

Among the recent American song successes now popular in New York, may be mentioned "Moon, Dear," "Will you love me in December as you do in May?" and "I could learn to love a soldier." All of these can be had from the house of Wit-mark.

T. E. Dunville has a clever new song, which is likely to become a by-word, viz., "A most ridicu-lous sort of a thing to do," from the pen of Will Hyde. The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co. have secured it for publication.

We are glad to hear that Mr. J. P. Harrington, the well-known author, is progressing favourably after his recent operation, and is now convalescent.

Among recent acquisitions of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter may be mentioned "Expres-sions," by Fred Frampton, sung by Mr. Arthur Melrose; "Can't you see I'm thinking?" by Leigh and Pether, and "Because it's the fashion to do so," by E. A. Searson, both sung by Mr. Will Bentley; "My first time on earth," by Barnes and Weston, sung by Mr. Tom Wootwell; "Kaloolah," by Glover-Kind, sung by Mr. Tom Finglass; and charming Miss Alice Lloyd's "The tourist and the maid," by George Arthurs and Orlando Powell.

The interest in Miss Vesta Victoria's song, "Waiting at the church," in the United States, remains unabated. The American publishers them-selves admit ungrudgingly that it is the biggest thing in the song line that ever happened in a country of big things.

Miss Lilian Doreen is making a big success with Messrs. J. F. Lambe and H. E. Pether's charming song, "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush." It is published by Francis and Day, and is dedicated by permission to Ian Maclaren.

Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have in the press a Venetian love song, with the title "Won't you float with me in my gondola?" It is written and composed by J. F. Lambe and T. W. Thurban.

Miss Victoria Monks' latest coon song, "I'm leaving home," which was produced at the Hol-born Empire, was an instantaneous success. This song bids fair to eclipse in popularity the same artist's "If you want to have a row." The author and composer, Messrs. Percy Ford and J. Chas. Moore, have placed the song for publication with the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd.

The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., have just secured the publishing rights of Mr. Geo. A. Stevens's new song, entitled "Open your eyes to the good that they do," which Miss Florrie Galli-more will feature exclusively.

Miss Vesta Tilley has just produced with great success, Harry Von Tilzer's American hit, "In a hammock built for two," an Eng ish version having been specially written by Mr. J. P. Harrington. The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., are the publishers. All pantomime permissions, however, must be obtained from Miss Tilley direct.

Mrs. John Lawson will produce at the Palace, Tottenham, next week, a new sketch, entitled *The Devil's Sunday*. The title suggests that a scathing dramatic satire has been written round the in-dictment of Father Bernard Vaughan concerning "the smart set" in sermons that have excited much comment in the Press.

Mr. George Edwardes hopes to produce the new ballet at the Empire in a few weeks' time. It has been invented and devised by Wilhelm, who has written the libretto, and is in two tableaux, the music for the first being composed by Mr. Cuthbert Clarke, and that for the second by Mr. C. Glaser. No name has yet been given the new production, and it will not, as suggested, be entitled *The De-butante*, but something more eastern to suit the Oriental theme that runs through the second part. Mlle. Genee will, of course, play the title-rôle, whatever it may be, and Mr. Fred Farren and Mr. Sundberg will appear in leading parts.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

LONDON PAVILION.

"A loveliness that speaks straight to the heart, and shows us Nature fairer than Art," according to the London Pavilion poet, Mr. R. N. Lucas, is the possession of La Milo, who has been witch-ing audiences with her undraped beauty at the Piccadilly-circus house for some months past. The fair Australian has played the rôle of the modern Galatea with a success that has been much en-hanced by an article from the pen of Mr. Stead, and since that clever and eccentric person was pleased to recognise the artistic merit of the statues of goddesses sculptured by the sons of an-cient Greece and Rome, Mr. Frank Glenister has had to make the pleasant announcement nightly, "Standing room only." The lightning caricatures of Cruikshank fill out most agreeably the waits between the "statuary" of the lady whose theatrical costumier is Nature.

The house is visited nightly by "Boadicea from the Embankment," who comes with her chariot from Westminster Bridge, and in the person of Mr. Malcolm Scott harangues her listeners on men, women, and other matters. The "Queen of the Iceni" has many humorous things to say when quoting from "Scott's own edition of Who's Who." Mr. Scott has just returned from South Africa, and the experience has been a "refresher," that enables him to sustain his high reputation as a laughter-maker." Mr. George Mozart is another favourite at the "Pav.," and requires nothing better than his travesty of melodrama. Mr. Jock Whiteford, one of the "discoveries" of Mr. Glenis-ter, is now fulfilling a return engagement, and makes the auditorium echo with laughter when singing of "Inverary Mary," who, needless to say, is no "nigger lassie," though the lilt of the music largely partakes of coon melody.

Laughter holding both its sides best describes the attitude of the house towards Mr. Arthur Roberts while playing the rôle of Fitzawful Smith, in Mr. Harry Pleon's sketch, *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*. Another diverting sketch is *Hooked by Crook*, an American comedy, in one act, from the pen of Gelett Burgess, which has had previous successful runs at this house and elsewhere in the immediate neighbourhood. Mr. Homer B. Mason impersonates the burglar Bill, with a dark lantern, and a nice sense of the ludicrous in his imitations at the piano. Miss Marguerite Keeler is a fascinating Millicent Ray-bridge, being quite pretty in her petulance. Mr. Henry Travers also does well as Oliver Herkomer.

Miss Marie Dainton is a newcomer to the Lon-don Pavilion, thus returning to the environment in which she first found fame as a mimic. Though imitations are certainly overdone on the variety stage, still there is a charm and refinement in some of Miss Dainton's realisations of theatrical cele-brities which vastly please the house. Early in the evening the humour of Miss Alice Maydue entirely justifies the title of "comedienne" that is attached to her name on the list. Mr. Marriott Edgar, also an early-comer, presents, as "the man in red," a style of song that may claim to be re-garded as both original and funny. Mr. Edgar has had excellent training and experience on the regular stage, and we note his neat and finished style, his admirable delivery, and his quiet sense of fun, all of which graces and qualities speed him in the favour of Pavilion audiences. One listens in admiration to the concertina solos of Mr. Percy Honri, who invests that instrument with artistic merit. Mr. Fred Hasings is a new acquisition to the Pavilion cohort of fun-makers, and has the audience laughing all the time that he is sing-ing his "song without a name." Celest is a won-der on the slack wire; Mr. James Finney and his daughter are *facile princeps* in the art of nata-tion; Mr. John E. Coyle is a favourite firmly established; the Howards rejoice in a much-ap-preciated alliance of music and fun; the Pavilion Girls are bright, alert, and skilful in their statue dancing; and other turns include the Raies dancers; Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew patterers; Mr. Arthur Aldridge, tenor; and the Three Pres-tons, in their absurdity, *The Liftman's Rise*.

THE METROPOLITAN.

The admirers of Chirgwin—and their name is Legion in the neighbourhood of Paddington and the regions beyond—have been sorely disappointed on reading the notice put upon the outer doors of the Metropolitan by the popular manager, Mr. Jack Edgar, to the effect that the world-famous White-eyed Kaffir was unable to appear in con-sequence of throat trouble. His place in the current programme was filled on the night of our visit by Mr. Fred Hastings, who sang with con-siderable success his popular number "The song without a name." Among the older brigade of entertainers, whose humour is quite as much to the tastes of the music-hall lovers of the present day as it was to their elders, Mr. Horace Wheatley occupies an honourable place as an Irish come-dian. Quite a broth of a boy is he—racy and of the soil, with "illigance" in every step of his jig and fun in the twinkle of his eye. Mr. Wheatley has many amusing anecdotes concern-ing "Macintyre," whose portrait is shown on the stage. Macintyre, it appears, was the author of a very original "opera," in which the orchestra played a decidedly leading part in musically de-scribing the actions of the characters. We can confidently recommend the fun of this little inter-lude as a safe cure for the "blues," and one of its best qualities is that it lends itself to elaboration, but is excellent as it stands. Mr. Wheat-ley winds up his turn with a dance of remark-able neatness, and does not stoop to acrobatic contortions as many of our dancers do nowadays.

The new farcelet—*The Midnight*, as it is called by its author, Mr. Forbes Dawson—is presented by that gentleman with undoubted success. In a first-class compartment of a midnight express sit a lady and gentleman. By an extraordinary series of coincidences the fair traveller comes to the conclusion that her travelling companion is none other than a criminal lunatic escaped from Broadmoor. Equivoque succeeds equivoque, and the free-and-easy manners of the man alarm the lady, who, of course, is soothed when she learns that the supposed lunatic is an assistant medical officer travelling to Bethlehem Hospital. The piece is capitally acted by Mr. Forbes Dawson and company, whose names do not appear on the bill.

Another amusing sketch is *Mrs. Skinner's Lodgers*, presented by the McConnell Trio. The landlady is troubled with lodgers, who try to win sufficient money on the racecourse to pay their rent and fail lamentably. They make light of their impecuniosity, each suggesting that the other should court the irate widow and thus get rid of the rent difficulty. Popular melody ap-parently softens her heart, and solos, duets, and trios follow in quick succession, much to the delight of the audience, who give rein to their enthusiasm by loud applause. We have had no such diverting interlude on the variety stage for a long time as Mr. Gus Elen's sketch of the out-o'-work who dreams of no greater catastrophe than the prospect of being engaged to carry a hod. The particular member of the worshipful company of "sons of rest" is a-bed when we make his acquaintance, and before he philosophises he gazes with pride on the testimonial given as a mark of esteem to him by his brother loafers. He has an "argyment both sensible and sound" when he tells us that "if you can't get work you can't get the sack," and his behaviour gene-rally is as funny as anything can be.

Mr. Charles Pastor is droll in his drunken im-personation; Mr. James Stewart is heartily ap-plauded for his interesting and whimsical busi-ness as the "tramp at the piano"; Mr. Russell Wallett rouses laughter by his patter as "the lady in black"; the Sisters Silcott look three smart middies; Miss Rale Walters makes a suc-cessful appearance as a fisher maid, who is anxious to tempt a bachelor into the matrimonial net, with which she angles among the stalls and orchestra; and Miss Alexandra Dagmar is very welcome both in song and story. Irma Lorraine, with a beautiful figure, poses in allegorical realisa-tions of the Seasons; and others who appear are Miss Elly Adair, Mr. Arthur Holland, Sibb and Sibb, and Barnard's Marionettes.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

The siege of the South London is a familiar sight in the busy thoroughfare in which the popu lar hall is situated, but the difficulties of coping with the crowds of people who nightly fill the immense house are overcome by Mr. William Payne, the manager, whose stalwart presence alone goes far towards the maintenance of good order. The current entertainment is admirably adapted to the wants of the patrons of the hall, the chief item of the bill being the sketch, *The Curse of Drink*, taken from Zola's celebrated work, "L'Assommoir." The sketch is presented at the hands of Mr. Brien McCullough's company, and all the most exciting scenes of the story are por-trayed in rapid succession, Coupeau's terrible fall from the scaffold, the fight between the two women in the wash-house, Coupeau's temptation to drink, and his last sad end, being all realistically de-picted. Mr. McCullough has in Coupeau a part admirably suited to his dramatic gifts, and the scene in which he falls a victim to the temptations of his besotted companions who urge him to drink is made one of deep pathos. The delirium tremens episode is also very impressive, the force and energy which Mr. McCullough has at com-mand serving him well in the portrayal of one of the most difficult assumptions in the range of the drama. Miss Bernice Fielding acts with her cus-tomary intensity as Virginie, vividly depicting the relentless hate of the despised woman, and in-dicating with commendable restraint the sup-pressed passion which animates her. The other parts are ably filled, and the little piece is mounted with remarkable attention to detail.

The science of juggling is invested with comic attributes by Larola, who tosses a number of plates into the air with a reckless regard as to their destination, but invariably catches them be-fore they reach the floor. The force of contrast is brought out effectively when the performer, after balancing a lighted lamp and several glasses on his forehead, passing a hoop to and fro over his body meanwhile, seizes the massive table on which he has been reclining, and sustains it for several moments on his chin. Larola's feat of somersaulting over a row of chairs wins a loud en-core, to which he responds with a dozen backward and forward somersaults with feet bound. Miss Mabel Thorne gets a hearty welcome on her re-turn to South London, where she is a favourite of long standing. She has a song about a young lady who goes "walking in the park," the seats of which have been newly painted, with disastrous results to her attire. The effect of the lyric about "Mr. Green" is still very pronounced, and the audience is put into the highest spirits by the fair artist's endeavours to locate a faithless swain, running him to earth first in the stalls, and then in a private box.

A popular personage of the bill is found in One Billy Farrell, a coloured vocalist who imports much drollery into his singing and patter. Mr. Farrell excels in many varied forms of amuse-ment, his eccentric dancing and his vocal imita-tion of a xylophone being very clever, and heartily cheered. Mr. Percy Dalton is a youth who agree-ably combines singing and dancing, his song about "Dixie, dear," being accompanied by some neat steps, supplemented by a long and trying dance, which is watched admiringly by the audience. The poetry of motion is also illustrated by the Twin Sisters Anderson, who adapt the art to the skip-ping-rope, both ladies dancing with wonderful precision in one encircling cord. The young ladies who also join in a coon duet, are lavishly re-warded.

A sketch, entitled *The Shoeblack's Dream*, pre-sented by Fred Fuller and company involves the appearance of a number of urchins, who sing and dance and join in chorus. The captain of the bootblack brigade is about to leave the neighbour-hood, and bids farewell with a song, and after-wards a number of coons join in revels associated with the cake-walk. Chirgwin's "Blind Boy" is also sung as a duet, and the entertainment, which is well diversified, proves thoroughly agreeable to the taste of the audience. Nash and Noel supply a good deal of funny "cross-talk," in which a watch figures prominently, and their dancing is a very pleasing feature of their contribution. Miss Rose Cabani is a talented comedienne; Mr. Her-bert Cyril has the distinction of being a "seven-foot comedian"; and the programme is compieted by the ever-welcome pictures on Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

SADLER'S WELLS.

First and last performances are alike crowded at Sadler's Wells, and the vast auditorium on the night of a recent visit presented one immense family circle all deep in the enjoyment of the strong entertainment with which Mr. F. Macnagh-ten's patrons are everywhere regaled. Stirring scenes are witnessed in the sketch *Under the Union Jack*, which is being played by Mr. Fred Southern's company. The piece is laid in America during the war, but the Union Jack does not make its appearance till the last scene, when the hero, who is falsely accused of treachery, is enveloped in its folds just as he is about to be shot. The Federal colonel dare not fire upon the British flag, so he simply orders its removal; but just as the firing party are again about to shoot, the villain, who has been struck blind, rushes in and makes a full confession. Mr. Southern, who has acquired a high reputation as a comedian at Sadler's Wells, has the part of a jovial servant to a mine-owner, and undergoes much trouble, in the course of which he is robbed of his clothes and invested with those of a "red skin," causing merriment thereby. Miss May Emery acts with power and sympathetic expres-sion as the heroine; and Miss Gipsy Alexander makes a prepossessing appearance in a light comedy part. Mr. Edgar L. Hocking reveals ex cellent dramatic aptitude as the villain; Mr. Chas. Ashwell is impressive as the heroic young mine-owner; and Mr. Percy Emery gives dignity to the rôle of a colonel of the Federal Forces.

Of quite an opposite complexion is the burlesque skit entitled *The Land-Grabbers*, which travesties in absurd fashion the recent seizure of land by a band of unemployed. A motley group of unkempt men appear on a scene, representing a piece of waste land upon which cabbages are seen grow-ing luxuriantly. A meeting is held by the "Sons of Ease," and the state of the diminishing sub-scription list discussed. One of the gang is seized with a fit upon being offered employment, and subsequently the leader delivers a speech denounc-ing work and all its advocates. A warrant officer, who arrives with a writ of expulsion, is attacked, and, the police coming to the rescue, a free fight ensues, leaving the field covered with the wounded. The skit includes many most ludicrous incidents, and is played by Messrs. Ward and Andrews company to a continuous accompaniment of laughter.

A scena which goes straight to the hearts of the audience is presented in *A Children's Christmas Eve*, in which songs and sentiment are associated with fun and frivolity. A trio of children receive a visit from "Santa Claus," and are so happy at the receipt of his presents that they indulge in a dance. The sounds of a Christmas carol come through the window, at which appear a number of ragged figures, who solicit alms. The children invite their visitors in, and a song and skipping-rope dance are indulged in, after which a girl sings a pathetic ballad very prettily. The scena ends with the sudden entry of the parents, papa joining merrily in the cake-walk which concludes. Fyne and Hurley make a great hit with their representation of "The coster and the dude," in the course of which a typical scene "on the road" is depicted, and a lesson in boxing adds to the fun of the turn, which is keenly relished.

Charming effects are created by Maurin's Illu-minated Fountains, the waters of which assume myriad shapes under the rays of changing lights. Pictorial representations of flags of all nations are also thrown on to the figure of a lady who stands at the back. Brilliant effects are obtained, and the approbation of the audience is shown in hearty cheers. Miss Nora Beverley has a voice of exceed-ing sweetness, and is loudly cheered for her render-ing of the favourite Nigger melody, "My Old Kentucky Home." Miss Beverley sings with ex-cellent expression, but she would be well advised to prolong the higher notes, which appear to be well within her range. One of our oldest veterans appears, in the dusky person of Mr. Sam Redfern, who philosophises on the ever present theme of courtship. He also deals in politics in his topical song, "If you'll tax that you'll tax anything," of which the audience would fain hear more. Wild, Willie, and West arouse laughter and applause for their trampoline acrobatics, and the programme also includes Miss Daisy Silcott, burlesque artist, and Mr. Jack Heath, comedian. Mr. Frederic Baugh, the general manager, has an able acting manager in Mr. Pete Murray, who looks the picture of robust health.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

The novelty in this week's programme at the Holborn Empire is a new automaton, the invention of Mr. Samson, who has won distinction as a strong man. According to the gentleman who makes a few preliminary remarks the invention has taken no less than six years to perfect. The figure, which is called "Sergeant Bruce," is of Brob-dingnagian proportions, and is composed of six parts, which, on the curtain rising, are found to be separated. The inventor, having first shown the hollow interior of the body to the audience, pro-ceeds to put the different parts together. The figure is in military uniform, with a silver decora-tion gleaming on its expansive chest. The auto-maton is supposed to be worked by means of a small electric battery, which is manipulated by Mr. Samson. The "Sergeant" advances a few paces, and obeys the word of command by winking, bow-ing, and shaking the ponderous head and dancing. It also smokes a cigar, after rejecting several which are evidently not considered good enough. After going through this performance the huge figure retires to its original position, the sections are taken apart by Mr. Samson, and displayed to prove that they are quite hollow. Those who are fond of mystery should make the acquaintance of "Sergeant Bruce" without delay.

A great attraction at the Holborn Empire this week is Miss Victoria Monks, a bright and artistic comedienne, who deserves special commendation for the frequency with which she introduces new songs. In one of the most tuneful and successful of her numbers she addresses the audience in playful and seductive style, and it has a charming refrain. In her second contribution there is a touch of pathos. The song has reference to a nigger who has been induced to join a travelling company, but as an actor he has proved a hopeless failure, and now he wants to go home to Jacksonsville. Clever Miss Monks contrives to get quite a dra-matic effect out of the simple theme. A Scotch comedian with a telling style is Mr. Jock White-ford, who scores with a comic version of "The Banks of Allan Water," the restless energy he throws into his work being highly effective. Miss Gertie Gitana wins the favour of the audience by her bright and expressive rendering of "Nelly Dean" and "Songbird." Mr. Herbert Clifton is a clever mimic, including amongst his latest subjects Miss Phyllis Dare. Mr. Sam Mayo, disguised as a native of China, sings a ditty that is received with much enthusiasm. The Dandies, consisting of two gentlemen and an equal number of ladies, meet with deserved success, for their entertain-ment of song and dance under the direction of Mr. Henry J. Corner is distinctly above the average in point of merit. Mr. Charles Whittle is an original comedian who has rapidly made his way to the front; Roxborough and Wright, in the farcical episode, entitled *Cockie*, excite consider-able laughter by an amusing performance; and other excellent turns include Fred Lincoln, come-dian; Stelling and his wonderful dog; and Jessie Hartley, comedienne.

Laughter continuous and hearty accompanies the performance of the bustling sketch *Moses and Sons*, by Mr. Fred Karno's company. There is genuine humour in Mr. Fred Kitchen's embodi-ment of Perkins, the caretaker; and admir-able support comes from the Misses Leah Morris, Janet Reeve, Madge Rockingham, and Messrs. Landeck and Anthony Gordon. The pictures shown on the Imperial Bioscope illustrating "The Wonders of Canada" are specially interesting. Mr. Claude Marner is the manager at this hall, and the selections played by the orchestra, under the leadership of Mr. James Sale, are well chosen and greatly appreciated.

THE FORESTERS'.

An attractive programme this week at the Foresters' includes Miss Josephine Colonna and her company, under the management of Mr. Arthur St. John, in the spectacular historical episode, entitled *Jane Shore*. Some years ago we recollect going through a number of papers and documents concerning the stage of the early part of last century. These testimonials included a monthly critical journal—published more than eighty years ago—which contained a criticism of a play on the subject of *Jane Shore*. We recollect that the criticism was an adverse one, the writer stating that the idea of a dishonoured and faithless wife being pardoned and received back by her husband was too gross from a moral point of view. But the critique proceeded to say that *Jane Shore* would keep the stage for centuries, as its very name was a tower of strength. The writer of those lines has no doubt long since passed beyond mortal ken, but everybody must admit at this day that his prophecy was a true one. *Jane Shore* has kept the stage, and is likely to do so for probably genera-tions to come. As to the production under review—that of Miss Colonna—it is altogether an admir-able one, well staged, well dressed, and well acted. Miss Colonna plays the part of Jane Shore, and plays it with a full appreciation of the intense soul-tragedy and pathos associated with the character. Mr. Arthur St. John doubles the rôles of Shore and the Duke of Glo'ster, and acts with fine dramatic feeling and impulse. Miss Ida St. John and Miss Madge Morley are seen to ad-vantage as Alison Grist and the Queen respectively; and the other parts are in safe keeping. Coming to the rest of the programme, Miss Ada Martine proves herself an accomplished and dainty comedi-enne; and Miss Flo Chevalier is a vocalist who excels in the singing of refined songs. Mr. Jimmy de Voye and his educated horse Billy furnish food for reflection. Billy, be it understood, can play a game of nap, and can do subtraction, division, and multiplication sums in an amazingly precise and speedy manner. He can also tell you the number of your watch and the time by it. In short, Billy is an equine prodigy.

Miss Sable Fern, the charming English singer of English songs, enchants her hearers with her ren-dering of "There's only one queen bee in the hive" and "Always take and give a little bit." Miss Fern's performances are always commendable. Mr. W. J. Churchill is as comical as ever, and his ditties, "Are you downhearted?" and "Girl not wanted," are provocative of great merriment. Mr. Harry Morris demonstrates his abilities—and they are not to be questioned—as a mimic. We get imitations of people, animals, and things, and each impersonation is thoroughly characteristic of what it is supposed to represent. Mr. Harry Village is an exceedingly amusing eccentric character come-dian; and Gicardo, a youthful artist, juggles in an astonishingly smart fashion with a variety of articles. From Raymond's Bio-Tableaux there is a fine series of animated pictures, the subject being "The Child of Nature." Messrs. Warren and Vereker's sketch company are appearing in the dramatic playlet, *Mysteries of the Thames*. The story of how Richard Brandon gives way to gambling and gets into debt and into the power of rogue named Captain Denbigh; how he is tempted to rob his employer's safe, but declines to betray the trust reposed in him; how the captain him-self cracks the crib and contrives to get the blame fixed upon Brandon; how Brandon is transported in a convict ship; how the villain is at last de-nounced and killed, and the hero is once more united to the heroine, is all told in most interest-ing style by Messrs. Warren and Vereker and the artists by whom they are supported in the sketch. Mr. Andrew Money is seen in a pleasing repre-sentation of the hero; Mr. Brooke Warren brings virility and brutality to his aid in his portrayal of the villain; Mr. Sydney Vereker treats us to some admirable character comedy in the rôle of Bill Bosco; and Mr. Dan Hardie, Miss Effie Craw-ford, and Miss Stephanie Baring capably fulfil the requirements of the other rôles.

BRITANNIA, HOXTON.

The old "Brit." once more reigns supreme as the premier North-east London house of entertain-ment. As a top-liner we have Professor Alex, de-scribed as the Anglo-American hypnotist and magnetic healer, who presents a remarkable per-formance. He selects several men for hypnotic subjects, and they, while under the influence, are made to go through a series of side-splitting antics. The professor terminates his exhibition with an astounding feat. One of the attendants is placed under mesmeric influence and suspended across two trestles. While in that position a real horse and rider are allowed to stand on the attendant's chest, a feat which causes intense ex-citement, and is the signal for great enthusiasm. Professor Alex also claims to cure, without the aid of any other force, all cases of nervous disease and paralysis, consultations being held daily.

A novel turn is that presented by Gold and Sterling, entitled *The Welsh Girl and the Artist*. The male partner, in the short space of six minutes, executes a clever oil-painting. The picture chosen on the night of our visit was a view on the Lakes of Killarney. The lady excels as a vocalist, her rendering of "Asthore" winning hearty applause. A great ovation is accorded to Mr. W. J. Churchill, a comedian whose funniosities create yells. His song "Should you be downhearted" catches on. Voyles and Bryan, who, by the way, are making their début before a London audience, are a smart comedy duo, and soon become favourites, their rendering of "Farewell" being loudly applauded. Bert Harrow is a comedian with an original style, his song describing his adventures as a cricketer meeting with approval. A welcome return visit is being made by the Delormes, who present their successful dancing speciality. They also show to advantage in a pretty duet and dance. Honours are accorded to Miss Millie Howell, whose vocal efforts are much appreciated; the Papillons are a dainty quartette of singers and terpsichorean ex-perts; and Dick Cruikshanks and company appear in an amusing comedy playlet entitled *Colonel Pepper*, in which Messrs. Dick Cruikshanks, Allan Hope, Geo. Wybrow, and Miss Kitty Kirwan all work hard, and win the approval of an appreciative audience. Miss Lucy Coventry is a pleasing come-dienne and sprightly dancer; and *The Battle of the Belles* appears after but a short absence. In this condensed drama Mr. Fred Moule is as success-ful as ever as Kendal Groat, the laughing pub-lican; Brenda Groat is capitally portrayed by Miss Catherine Cavanagh; Miss Ada Lucelle makes the most of the somewhat small part of the down-trodden dressmaker; and Courtney Robinson proves himself a capable actor as the gallant soldier Hector Rodney. The comedy element is supplied by Mr. E. D. Nicholls and Miss Ada Frank. The scenery is deserving of special mention. Effective pictures are shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux; and the selections of the Britannia orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Carl Hamlin, are be-coming a special feature of the programme.

HOUNSLOW HIPPODROME.

This week Mr. John Lawson, the entertainment manager of this popular place of amusement, has such an excellent menu that there is small wonder crowded houses have been the rule. The ball is set rolling by the drolleries of Mr. Alf. Brookes, who sings and dances with a vivacity and energy that is remarkable. Percival and Morgan find ample scope for their talents in the sketch *What's in the Box?* The mysterious contents of the box are, of course, a cat, which provides a theme for no end of amusing prevarication. Mr. Fred Keeton, billed as "the Funny Mantograph," displays considerable humour, especially in his bacchanalian ditty, in which a brewery, police, and magistrates all figure prominently. Bacchus would appear to treat this Mantograph somewhat scurvily. This fact, however, does not deter the audience from applauding his really funny efforts to the echo; his second contribution—"Silly Dick"—proves highly amusing.

We have before referred to the clever couple, "The Lurins," in their sketch, *The Abode of Love*. It proves as amusing as ever, the dialogue and situations being alike funny in the extreme. Success should surely attend such celver artists. Here they are evidently huge favourites, and their efforts are keenly appreciated in a pot-pourri of the popular airs of the day. A novel turn is that of Billy Taylor, who appears as the Electric Man, and contrives in an ingenious way to manipulate innumerable electric jets, and explains that he has fallen a prey to the fascinations of electricity generally. Very prettily Miss May Pritchard sings a tuneful ditty anent "Sea-gulls." The audience pick up the strains of the chorus quite quickly, and artist and audience con-tribute to the success of "the turn." Mr. Arthur Boyne, "the funny little fat comedian," elicits a lot of applause for his ditty, "Don't all shout at once"; his second song, "I'm in trouble," proves irresistibly funny, and his woes appear to amuse everyone present.

Cissie Louie Lawson and company appear in an episode, entitled *A Bride for a Living*. This strange Zolaesque story has to do with insanity, murder, suicide, drink, and idiocy; indeed, the author would appear to have dipped his pen in Eugène Sue's ink-pot. But despite its terrors, *A Bride for a Living* is enjoyed amazingly by those who pre-fer their drama strong and vigorous. The piece owes much of its success to the impersonation of Miss Cissie Lawson as Loie. It is altogether a wonderful portrayal of a repulsive character. Loie is a bad lot, and to her crime is an amusement. Excellent was the David Faber of Mr. B. Gates—quiet, unobtrusive, and earnest; Mr. Horton Tree's Lucus was also an excellent impersonation; Mr. B. Cohen as the shuffling idler did very well, and Mr. J. S. Boom made the most of the small rôle of the Rev. Theophilus Warley. The episode was well mounted, and was cheered to the echo. Mr. Lennox Barry is in front of the house—a guarantee that "all's well."

In consequence of the unexpected termination of Miss Marie de Campi's tour with *The King's Signet* Mr. Charles Collette resumes his music-hall engagements, and will appear on Monday and during the week at the Empire Palace, Greenock, N.B., in his sketches *Hard Luck* and *Tea for Two*, supported by Miss Joan Derry.

"IN HER BOUDOIR."

Mr. Edward Lauri and Miss May Beatty have an amusing, if irresponsible, trifle, in their sketch, written by the first-named artist, and entitled *In Her Boudoir*. The boudoir referred to is that of a principal boy in a pantomime, a character in which Miss Beatty's fine physical endowments are seen to advantage. A newspaper interviewer is announced, whom the lady refuses to see, in consequence of the pressure of production night. A manservant of hers, however, decides to play a trick upon the interviewer. He dresses himself up as a woman, and the unsuspecting interviewer makes love to him. This is responsible for some laughable situations, in which Mr. Edward Lauri, as the pretended artist, is exceedingly diverting. There is a duet between the two—Miss Beatty as the interviewer and Mr. Lauri as the star lady—which is sung with a full appreciation of its absurd attempt at love-making. It is called "Mingle your eyebrows with mine," and, along with accompanying movements and gestures of the artists, is creative of much merriment. Miss Beatty gives evidence of considerable vocal ability in her song, "Whene'er in the thick of the fight," sung in the earlier part of the sketch, and "I love you," when she later appears as the interviewer. She is sprightly and charming, both in the gorgeous dress of a principal boy and as the smart and debonair young interviewing gentleman. Mr. Lauri enters with his usual zest and liveliness into the absurdities of his double rôle of a male attendant and a show actress, and he succeeds in being intensely entertaining. Mr. Lauri has been absent from this country practically for five years, a period that has been mainly spent by him in Australia, New Zealand, and India. His reappearance on the London stage has been heartily welcomed. As to Miss May Beatty, she is not so well known in England. She is a native of New Zealand, and comes here with excellent credentials. *In Her Boudoir* provides Miss Beatty with her first part in the Old Country, and there are indications that she will become an immense favourite. Both Miss Beatty and Mr. Lauri will be seen in pantomime at Dublin during the forthcoming season in Mrs. Michael Gunn's production of *Sinbad the Sailor*. It is worth mentioning in connection with this production that on Monday evening at the Richmond Theatre a young artist who gave promise of considerable talent made her *début* on the stage. This was Miss Ouida Macdermott, who played the part of a French maid in a most engaging manner, and who possesses a delightfully clear and tuneful voice. Miss Macdermott, who is as yet in her teens, should certainly be heard of in the future.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Once more we have to record splendid business at this house, the programme submitted for the week by Mr. Arthur J. Barclay proving magnetic in its power to attract the public, and Mr. Geo. F. Slatter, the acting-manager, has his hands full at every performance to find room for the crowd. This result should be all the more gratifying to the managerial heart as a tribute to the ever-increasing and solid interest taken in the Palace by the public, inasmuch as the bill includes neither any star of the first magnitude nor yet one of those dramatic sketches so dear to the hearts of the local public. The hit of the evening is undoubtedly made by Mr. Mike Whallen, the American story-teller. This gentleman begins by singing excellently, and then contributes a series of stories relating chiefly to the doings of one Malony which keep the audience in one perpetual roar of laughter. Many of his sayings are quaint and original, and a particularly happy inspiration results in his singing an improvised ditty in which he cleverly picks out individuals among the audience and addresses them in neatly-turned lines, much to the amusement of the persons themselves and of their neighbours. Miss Connie Milton is a bright and attractive comedienne of handsome appearance, good voice, and pleasing manner. Mr. Max Duffick introduces a musical set of quite an original character. The performer plays his various instruments in every attitude except that usually adopted by musicians. To form his body into a hoop and play the cornet upside down is a mere trifle to this singular gentleman, who evidently disdains the orthodox habit of standing on his feet. The turn is received with loud applause. Mr. Charles Norton infuses novel variety into his imitations of well-known music-hall stars by impersonating Mr. Joe Elvin as a bookmaker on a racecourse, betting with such favourites as Gus Elen, Wilkie Bard, R. G. Knowles, and others, the characteristics of each one being cleverly reproduced. The Four Aces are acrobats whose feats of dexterity are watched with breathless interest and rewarded with a storm of applause. A farcical absurdity, *The Bigamist*, played by Austin Lenton and company, is certainly absurd enough, and, acted with an amazing amount of vigour by the three ladies and the gentleman making up the cast, is productive of considerable merriment. Messrs. Parker and Parr, described as "Welsh novelty duettists," sing Irish songs sweetly. The gentleman who sings the ever-popular "Killarney" employs a falsetto voice of rare clearness, while the two voices blend well in "Eileen Allanah." Their musical numbers are set in a framework of patter. Mr. Harry Russon creates a good impression on his first appearance here. Dressed in a fantastic but effective costume compounded of black and white, Mr. Russon sings a good song about "Love" in excellent style, and then proves his versatility by reciting one of Rudyard Kipling's Indian poems. The reciter, whose enunciation is pleasantly clear, proves himself possessed of a rare vein of pathos and dramatic effect combined, which lend themselves admirably to the lurid lines of the poet.

Lieut. Albini introduces his latest mechanical toy, the speaking head, to which is given the name of "the Queen of Sheba." This is an exceedingly skilful piece of mechanism, and goes, literally, like clockwork. The waxen head of King Solomon's famous visitor answers questions as to dates propounded by the audience; but as the gallant Lieutenant, too polite, perhaps, to question a lady's veracity, does not condescend to ask whether the answers are correct or not, the result may be regarded as nebulous. "Sheba" also sings snatches of popular songs, including "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you." The show is very clever indeed, and is received with distinct marks of popular favour. The programme finishes up with some excellent pictures by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, those showing the great Isle of Man motor race being watched with interest, and the amusing chase of an escaped convict causing great laughter. The overture for the week is entitled "The Lawn Polka," written by Mr. H. Petersen, and well played by the orchestra under the direction of the composer.

The benefit given to Mr. T. W. Rawson at the Central Pier, Morecambe (kindly lent by the directors), turned out a gratifying success on the evening of the 10th inst. Morecambe and Lancaster amateurs provided the items in the programme, assisted by Miss Lily Bertram (Mrs. Rawson) and Mr. T. W. Rawson. Mr. Rawson thanked his supporters, emphasising the fact that he should never forget the many kindnesses he had received in Morecambe since June 13 last, on which date he had the misfortune to break his ankle. Mr. Rawson's many friends will be glad to hear that he is now getting about nicely.

Mr. Charles Reynolds, the esteemed proprietor of Reynolds' old-established waxworks in Lime-street, Liverpool, celebrated his silver wedding on Thursday.

DR. BODIE'S LECTURE.

At the Canterbury on Sunday evening Dr. Walford Bodie, before a large and interested gathering, gave a lecture, the title of which was "What is a Miracle?" The proceeds from the evening's attendances, which were to benefit the Waterloo Hospital for Women and Children, realised, we understand, the sum of £40. Dr. Bodie, who received quite an ovation when he stepped forward to address the audience, said:—

At the very start I would say that, in my opinion, there is no such thing as a miracle, taking the word to mean something supernatural, something which flies in the face of nature's laws. Those laws are not like the laws which our Parliaments and rulers make, and which can be altered or broken. What nature decrees is fixed and unalterable. No power of man can alter or break it. For instance, the regular ebb and flow of the tides, the growth of trees and flowers, and all other similar manifestations of nature are unalterable. A miracle there is impossible. And so, too, with us human beings. If a soldier is shot through the heart, he dies. For nature has decreed that his life is dependent on the exercise of certain functions which are now destroyed. . . . The laying on of hands and praying, followed by the healing of the sick person, brings me to the question of the Christian Scientists and the Peculiar People. You have all heard a great deal on this question. Every now and then there is some case reported in the newspapers of the death of some follower of these doctrines—faith-healing doctrines, I mean—and of a charge made against the family that if they had called in a doctor the

Photo. by Freeman and Co.

LECTURER BODIE.

life might have been saved. Often this is so. I should be the last man in the world to advise people to attempt to do without doctors. There are many cases of illness where drugs and skilled advice as to the particular treatment required are absolutely necessary. And in cases of broken bones and wounds nature requires to be assisted. But at the same time I am of opinion that these Christian Scientists and Peculiar People have a good deal to say on their side. In many illnesses—indeed, in all those which spring from disarrangement of the nervous system—faith, which is but another name for hypnotic suggestion, must enter largely into a cure. If a man is told that he is going to get well, and if he believes implicitly what is told him, he will get well. . . . Now I should like to say a few words on scientific medicine. The fault of same is, that it ignores the mystic and takes no account of occult or hidden forces, and I shall go on to preach my views on this subject, in spite of opposition. . . . The doctors of the British school are becoming less slaves of the drug. We have the open-air cure now, sun baths, mud baths, electric baths, and so on. Drugs are of course useful and necessary. There are certain cases in which they act directly at the seat of the trouble. It is the indiscriminate use of drugs of which I complain—the mixing up of something for every ailment. There are some ailments which drugs do not benefit. In this connection I will read an extract from the orthodox *British Medical Journal*. In its issue of June 9 last it calls attention to the Pope's recent attack of gout, and says:—"His Holiness arranged a great variety of drugs on a shelf in front of him, and remarked, 'The idea of taking all these drugs produces such an effect that I feel as if I had been cured.' Commenting on this, the *British Medical Journal* says:—"At any rate, the Pope has grasped the secret of a therapeutic factor, of whose potency the medical profession as yet has scarcely shown an adequate appreciation. Suggestion supplies the key to the successful treatment of many diseases due to the disorders of the nervous system, and brings much that might otherwise appear miraculous within the range of the natural." . . . Now, having said so much, I must end with suggestion. I should like to perpetuate my memory and leave successors. The only way to do this would be to found a school of occult medicine and surgical treatment of diseases, and to revive much forgotten knowledge. Doubtless some of you may have read what is going on in Paris owing to the action of the occultists in France. A school of massage and magnetism has been founded in the capital, with M. Durville at its head. This school has received the sanction of the French Government. The orthodox school of scientific medicine has taken alarm, and held a congress for the discussion of quackery in all forms. . . . Although I favour bloodless surgery, my methods are quite as applicable to medicine, or more so. It is in medical treatment, indeed, that one sees the power of suggestion more than in surgery, for though I believe in the administration of drugs, I believe still more in personal equation, which really means personal magnetism.

At the conclusion of the lecture, Dr. Bodie introduced several of his old patients whom he had treated for paralysis, and who stated that they had come forward to bear testimony to his good work. Two fresh patients were then brought on to the stage, one a girl aged seven, who had suffered from infantile paralysis for five years, and another a boy of six, whose trouble was spinal disease and paralysis. Bloodless surgery, electricity, and Dr. Bodie enabled both the children to run off the stage.

The "Fred Locke" Fund is creeping up gradually, and the treasurer, Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow, acknowledges with thanks the following additional subscriptions:—Graham Moffat, 10s.; E. H. Bostock, 10s. 6d.; Harry Elliston, 5s.; Harry Taft, 2s. 6d.; and Mark Lorne, 2s. 6d.

PAISLEY'S NEW HIPRODROME.

On Monday a new place of entertainment for Paisley people had an auspicious opening. Mr. E. H. Bostock, so well known in connection with the Glasgow Zoo-Hippodrome, has erected a first-class music-hall in the centre of the town, and styled it the Paisley Hippodrome. The external appearance gives an idea of a commodious interior, the beauty of which it is difficult to imagine without seeing. The entrance hall is beautifully embellished in warm colours, prettily designed, and in its comfort and convenience affords every desirable facility for patrons. A partition divides the entrance-way into two, one side being for pit and stall patrons, and the other for the "gods." Inside the main hall itself a chaste scheme of ornamentation has been carried out. An arched ceiling on the latest lines, with pretty floral decoration, gives a span of fifty feet. The gallery is roomy and well planned, and in the pit cushioned seats are provided, with linoleum under foot. Handsome tip-up chairs and a rich carpet add to the comfort of the stalls. Two boxes, one on each side of the proscenium, have been handsomely ornamented and finished. The proscenium itself is a beautiful example of plastic and decorative art. The opening is 26ft., and on the stage itself everything has been done to ensure safety. Asbestos lining and a water curtain have been provided, and two hydrants are also available. Fireproof paint has been employed for the scenery and in the dressing-rooms, which are placed at the rear of the stage. Every precautionary measure has been taken, therefore, for the safety of performers and patrons alike Mr. George Watson is stage manager, and the acting manager is Mr. Wilson. The music is under the direction of Mr. Tadma Parker, who has a life experience of the work. The building is lit electrically and by gas, and the footlights and battens are also electric. Emergency exits are numerous, and all are fitted with the patent push-bolt, which only requires a touch to open.

Messrs. Devonport and Co., Birmingham, are the architects and builders, and the celebrated A. R. Dean and Co., Birmingham, have the credit of the proscenium, besides supplying all the upholstery required for boxes, stalls, and stage. The stage curtains are of the tableaux design, lifting from the sides. Heating is by means of radiators, and altogether the hall presents a most elegant appearance. It is quite unnecessary to remark that the circus element does not enter into the Hippodrome. There is no ring, and the performances are of the variety order, on the lines of the Zoo-Hippodrome in Glasgow, there being two shows a night. Although Mr. Bostock has the full theatrical licence, he declines to have anything to do with the Inland Revenue licence, which confers the right to sell intoxicants.

There was a distinguished company present at the opening on Monday night, and the proceeds of the first house performance was, with Mr. Bostock's well-known generosity, distributed among local charities. The bill was a first-class one, including The Craggs, in their clever and amusing comedy sketch, *Billy; or, The New Steward of the Channel Queen*, which was brimful of genuine humour, merriment, and skill; the Brothers Dean, in their refined and graceful dancing act; Nina Gordon, Scottish mimic and society entertainer; The Meymotis (Harry and Ada), in a screaming musical interlude, *Semi-Detached*; Drew and Alders, eccentric comedians, and still more eccentric dancers; Jack Lane, the original Yorkshire rustic; the Alberto Troupe, head, hand, and wire equilibrists; and Lily Morris, star comedienne. A series of animated pictures by the Hippodrome Bioscope was also shown.

EALING HIPPODROME.

Once more the Hippodrome justifies its title as a home for equestrian spectacle, and in Mr. J. F. Preston's *Rogues of the Turf* a most acceptable successor is found to Mr. G. Ginnett's *Turpin's Ride to York*, staged here in February last. In the five scenes is presented a series of charming stage pictures, which offer a fine realisation of "racing life," and Mr. E. W. James is to be congratulated upon having secured an entertainment so thoroughly to the taste of his sport-loving patrons. The varying incidents of the "plot," the "forgery," and the "race," are followed with intense interest, and "honest" John Flaxman and his clever associates have to bow to repeated recalls. Dickens' excerpts are always well received, and Miss Arabella Allen, in her sketches, is most successful, only, somehow, one could wish to see so charming a personality engaged in the representation of a less obnoxious personage than Uriah Heep. The amount of fun a clever ventriloquist can manage to extract from his mechanical companions is apparently illimitable, and Mr. Horace White is very expert in his art; he is, besides, a capable pianist. One of the vocal successes of the evening must be credited to Mr. Frank Harwood, an actor-vocalist of considerable merit, who uses his fine baritone to excellent effect. Of his two numbers, the first, "December and May," is given with the utmost pathos; while the episodes of "Other lives," as told in the "mirror," are equally well delivered. Such an artistic combination of actor and singer is very welcome. The fame of those exceedingly "harmonious cats," the Borellis, is world-wide. Caterwauling is a universal Volapuk with which all and sundry are familiar, and the unanimous applause that greets the efforts of "Master Tom" and his "best girl" show how thoroughly everyone endorses their appreciation of the "musical cats." The comedy acrobats, Zaro and Arno, show many of the movements with which we are all more or less acquainted, but the comic man of the duo is responsible for something which is new, and his horizontal gripping of the upright bars of his apparatus proves the possession of most remarkable wrist strength. Miss Fatmah Daird, in her songs, "Scenes that are brightest" and "Entreat me not to leave thee," is pleasing.

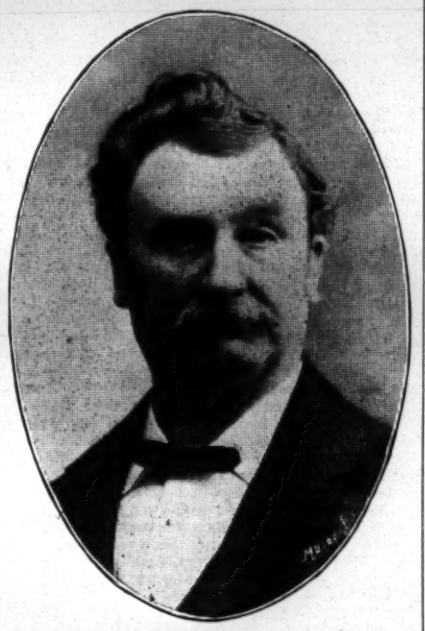
Wizards appear to become more mystifying every day, and to this Germaine, in his medley of magical marvels, is no exception. Rags and flags are produced from nowhere, and vanish to an equally shadowy locality. However, the beautiful roses that the professor showered upon the ladies of the audience were substantial realities, and formed a most acceptable "curtain" to Germaine's refined and unique performance. The magnificent setting to Miss Mars' vocal scena adds greatly to the success of her two songs. Her first number, "I want Molly and she wants me" is given in a most enticing "Paul Jones" costume, which exhibits her fine figure to perfection. In her second number, "In the shadow of the Pyramid," she has an equally charming dress, and this dainty burlesque actress scores an instant and complete success. Mr. Fred Dunstone, in his parody of "The old apple tree" strikes a note familiar enough to all, and the gallery is soon keeping time with the popular vocalist. Equally welcome is his second number, "The hedgehogs in the hedge are sweetly singing." As usual, Mr. W. Neal's capable band contributes largely to the enjoyment of a delightful evening, and the overture, "Merrie England," left nothing to be desired.

Mr. and Mrs. John Nathan's silver wedding will be celebrated at the King's Hall Rooms, Holborn Restaurant, on Monday.

Mr. Editor.—Sir,—In your favourable report for Empire, Stockport, last week. I was described as comedian and contortionist. It should have been comedian and cartoonist.—Yours faithfully, Chas. Beanland.

DEATH OF HARRY HUNTER.

Last week we had to record the death of Mr. Lechmere Livermore, and now another well-known figure in the realms of negro minstrelsy—a world of shadows—has passed away in the person of Mr. Harry Hunter, one of the founders of the Mohawk Minstrels at Islington, a genial personality, and a most popular figure in the variety world. Mr. Hunter died at his residence in the Holloway-road on Friday, the 12th inst. He had been before the public at the time of his retirement in 1904 since 1867, when he started his career as a comic singer at "smokers" and sing-songs, accepting engagements wherever he could get them. Finding many of the songs such unsingable stuff, Mr. Hunter took to putting his own words to the popular ditties of the day. One of his earliest successes was, "I saw Esau kissing Kate," which became quite the rage when set to new music by Vincent Davies. Mr. John Alvey Turner it was who first encouraged the young singer to persevere, both in the rendering and writing of songs, and he afterwards married Mr. Turner's sister. Minstrelsy was then in the zenith of its popularity, and young Hunter, with a few others, started a burnt-cork troupe round the suburbs, and called it the Manhattan Minstrels. They were engaged at Weston's, now the Holborn Empire, and it was there that Mr. John Francis, who headed a similar combination, first met Mr. Hunter, and the happy suggestion for a joining of forces materialised in the establishment of the Mohawk Minstrels at the Agricultural Hall, a troupe that migrated to the St. James's Hall, and joined forces with the Moore and Burgess crowd in September, 1900.



THE LATE MR. HARRY HUNTER.

The history of the Mohawk Minstrels' uprising is most interesting. They began in a small way, and for a long time only about paid the expenses; but by pegging away and working hard, success came, and then, after a while, John Francis and David Day founded the well-known publishing firm of Francis, Day, and Hunter, and so issued not only their own songs, but those of many other composers and writers, and prosperity has crowned their efforts. Amongst the successes Mr. Hunter made as a writer of song words should be mentioned "His name is Joshu-a," "Will you be my hollyhock?" "Oh, Mr. Johnson," "The baby is the angel in the house," "The old songs are the best," "High, my Ringtum! Ho, my Riley!" "I've got the ooperzootic," "It has never happened yet," "Look at the price of coals," "Down in the valley where the daisies grow," and scores of others. On the Hunter benefit nights at the Agricultural Hall, "Harry" used to supply a programme made up entirely of his own compositions—on what might have been termed the "minstrel" portion of the show. The other portion of it was contributed by the leading music hall artists of the day.

THE FUNERAL.

That considerable local interest was taken in the funeral of the late Mr. William Henry Jennings, professionally known as Harry Hunter, was apparent by the crowds of people who lined both sides of the pavement in Holloway-road for some distance outside the residence of the deceased gentleman. It was noticeable, too, that all the blinds were lowered in the immediate neighbourhood, many of the shopkeepers having their shutters down for a few hours before the last that remained of Harry Hunter was taken from the house. An avenue was kept by the police from the gateway to the gutter, so that the mourners had a clear passage to the coaches.

The order of the carriages and the names of the principal mourners were as follows:—1st carriage, Mrs. Hunter (widow), Mrs. Pizzey (sister), Mr. Payne Jennings (brother), and Mrs. Turner; 2nd carriage, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Butler (nephew and niece), Mr. H. Jennings (nephew), and Miss Wall (niece); 3rd carriage, Miss Turner, Mr. J. D. Hunter, and Mr. and Mrs. Couldrey; 4th carriage, Mr. Oswald Couldrey, Miss Couldrey, Mrs. Coley, and Mr. Wm. Jennings; 5th carriage, Mr. and Mrs. W. Francis, Mr. David Day, and Mr. Philip Rutland; 6th carriage, the Rev. Mr. Asker and Mr. and Mrs. Holland; 7th carriage, Mr. and Mrs. Sherlock and Mr. and Mrs. Pickard; 8th carriage, Mr. S. Dee and Mr. H. Mason; 9th carriage, Miss Cowper, Mr. W. Coley, Nurse Hardy, and Nurse Rigby, 10th carriage, Mr. F. Mathews and Mr. A. J. Whittard; 11th carriage, Mr. R. W. Reynolds and Mr. Matheson; 12th carriage, Staff of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

The funeral service (Church of England) was held in St. George's Church, Tufnell Park, at 2.30, the Rev. Geo. Edward Asker, M.A., the vicar, officiating. From the church the funeral procession proceeded to Abney Park Cemetery, where the interment took place in a newly-opened family vault. Here again the beautiful burial service was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Asker. In addition to the mourners, there was quite a concourse of professional and other people, who, having known and admired the deceased in his lifetime, had now come to pay a final mark of respect at his obsequies. The coffin, which was polished elm with brass fittings, bore the inscription:—

William Henry Jennings,
Departed this life
12th October, 1906.
Aged 65 years.

Among the wreaths were many beautiful specimens of the florist's art. The widow's tribute consisted of white, red, and yellow roses, with the words, "To my lion of a husband—a remark of a great friend." Mrs. S. Jennings and Mr. W. Jennings (aunt and cousin) sent a wreath "In affectionate remembrance"; Mr. H. Jennings (nephew) forwarded a pretty cluster of lilies, and Miss B. Wall (niece) a wreath of arum lilies and white chrysanthemums. From Mr. John Jennings (brother) came a wreath of arum lilies, chrysanthemums, and maidenhair fern, "In loving memory, from Brother John." Others represented by the wreaths and floral combinations were Mr. J. D. Hunter, Annie and Willie Coley (niece and nephew), Mr. and Mrs. David Day ("In affectionate remembrance"), Mr. and Mrs. Harry Randall, Mr. and Mrs. Warwick Williams, Mr. Philip J. Rutland (solicitor), Mrs. Maddox and family, the nurses who attended him, Mr. J. H. Sandwell, Mr. John Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. (Pony) Moore ("In sorrow at the loss of a dear friend"), Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Stratton ("Deepest sympathy"), Mr. Herbert Ponton, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Rose, Mr. and Mrs. Couldrey, Dr. Matheson, Mr. and Mrs. Sherlock and family, and Mr. and Mrs. W. Francis and family.

Among the senders of telegrams and letters expressing sympathy were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Randall and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. David Day, Mr. Bertram Chevalier, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Stuart, Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Fred Day and Mr. Will Francis (New York), Mr. H. Jennings, Mr. J. D. Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. J. Schofield, Mr. and Mrs. Holland, Mr. and Mrs. S. Turner, Mr. and Mrs. Couldrey, Mr. and Mrs. Donkill, Mr. S. R. Dee, Mr. George Clair, Major Williams, Mr. Charles Montague, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Freeman, Miss Chevalier, Mr. W. Henderson, Dr. Rygate, Mr. Arthur Payne, Mr. W. Wooding, Mr. H. Mason, Mr. and Mrs. Pickard, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Coborn, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Reynolds, Mr. S. R. Bunt, Mr. G. A. Worley, Mr. and Mrs. Plucknett, Mr. J. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Mordan, and Mrs. Herbert Campbell.

Many old members of the Mohawks, with which the deceased gentleman was for so long connected, were to be seen around the graveside during and after the burial service. These included Little Thomas, the seventy-five-year-old corner man; Mr. Celian Kottaun, the musical-director of the Mohawks; Mr. "Chappie" Lawson, Mr. Tom Birchmore, Mr. J. Schofield, Mr. J. Danvers, Mr. G. Miles ("Little Henry"), the harpist; Mr. R. Thomas, the first manager of the Mohawks; and Mr. Wally Scott. Others present at the sad ceremony were Mr. John Smith (manager for Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter), Mrs. Herbert Campbell, Mr. Will Freeman, Mr. John Guest, Mr. Will Bagley, Mr. Edgar Bateman, Mr. Harry Platt, Mr. R. Berridge, Captain G. W. James, and Mr. and Mrs. E. Bryett, Mr. Charles Wilmott, Mr. William Eyke, Mr. Arthur Francis (son of Mr. William Francis), Mr. Tom Stainton (a very old friend of the deceased, and, we understand, the oldest ratepayer in Islington), Mr. H. Randall, Mr. Victor Liston, Mr. F. J. Barnes and Mr. R. P. Weston, the last two being song-writers. Mr. Warwick Williams was prevented from attending owing to his being kept at home through illness.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

An excellent bill, with not a dull "turn" from beginning to end of the programme. Such is the menu provided by Mr. Kay Draco for his patrons this week at Richmond. Miss Clara Victor opens the programme with a coon ditty, "My starlight Sue," and very prettily she renders the eccentricities of the coon ditty, so much so that "Starlight Sue" soon wins many friends. Miss Victor is equally happy in her second contribution, "I wonder where you are to-night." For the third time under the present régime the Four Watsons appear. Their turn is altogether excellent, and, as both vocalists and instrumentalists, their performance is refined and interesting. A medley duet on popular ballads of the day is heartily applauded. Mr. Tom Parker gets a lot of fun out of the song "Stop as you are," and relates sundry stories of cycle mishaps with the lady of his choice and himself. His burlesque coon also proves to be a very comical effort. Mr. Parker dances, too, as well as he sings. Juvenile comedy is represented by Boden and Bell, a couple of Lilliputian artists who sing and dance quite prettily. *The End of the Honeymoon*, as presented by Beresford Maude and company, is highly diverting, and resulted in continuous hilarity on the part of the audience. A convict has escaped, and enters the room of a lady whose husband has gone to his club after a matrimonial disagreement. The convict insists on changing clothes with the lady, much to her disgust. Anon, Benedict returns from his club, having imbibed not wisely, but well. His wife, in convict garb, and with the aid of a formidable pistol, brings him to his senses, and he apologises for his conduct. The sketch is admirably played. The Villions troupe of clever acrobatic cyclists provided many marvellous novelties, including obstacle jumping, steeplechasing, and other wonderful feats—in short, what the Villions cannot do with a bicycle is not worth doing. Miss Millie Luid possesses a voice of extraordinary capacity and range; she scores a complete success in the ever-popular "Alice, where art thou?" and is applauded to the echo for her tasteful contribution. Matters musical are enhanced by the performance of a protean mélange, entitled *In Her Boudoir*. The success of this may be traced to the wonderful vocalisation of Miss May Beatty. Mr. Laurie's "quick changes" from musical professor to page boy, &c., are wonderful. *In Her Boudoir* is quite a pleasing trifle. Neat-handed and dexterous juggling is got through by the Cromwells, who successfully mystify the audience and leave them asking "How is it done?" The secret is the Cromwells'. The Bioscope concludes a genuinely interesting bill. Mr. Norfolk Megone is back again as musical director, and very admirably does the orchestra do its work. Both selections, "Off to Coventry" and "Pick o' the basket," are tuneful and capably rendered by Mr. Megone's musicians. Mr. Kay Draco enhances the popularity of house and programme by his unfailing courtesy and ability.

BARNARD'S PALACE.

Mr. Bert Dent, the energetic and popular acting-manager of this favourite hall, must be well satisfied with the result of his exertions when he hears the deafening applause with which the turns were greeted last week. After the overture had been brilliantly executed by Mr. William Skerry and his clever band, the first to appear was Mr. Ted Wells, who sang in capital style, "Don't be rudey dudey" and "Ask my mother"; next came the candy-store scene from *The Belle of New York*, in which McOlive appeared with great success as the whistler, a part made famous by Mr. Frank Lawton. He was ably assisted by Miss Daisy Baldry. McOlive also gave a capital rendering of "Killarney."

Rozel came next, and exhibited much grace and agility in several new gymnastic feats. Lillian Claire appeared with considerable success in the farcical sketch, entitled *Married all of a Sudden*, in which she was well supported by her company. Little Trixie Lee was warmly applauded in her pretty coon song and dance, and in "Marry the girl you love." She is a clever little artist, and well deserved her reception. Spry and Monti proved as popular as ever, their clever contributions including comedy, dialogue, coon duet, pianoforte solo, and sand dance. Dora Davis and company appeared in a costume comedy, entitled *Kitty*, which afforded much satisfaction. Violet Durham contributed a gracefully-executed dance, and sang in excellent style, "Wait till I grow older." Addie Dorina made a great hit in her protean entertainment, entitled *How it was Done*, appearing in five distinct characters. The programme also included Elmore and Davis, in the amusing turn, entitled *The Stage-struck Page*; Rene Ring, the charming and popular soubrette; and clever Miss Eileen Raymond, who is billed as the dramatic vocalist. A pleasant evening's entertainment was brought to a successful finish by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, which exhibited a new and interesting series of animated pictures.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

MARLBOROUGH FAIR was well attended by the best of the shows and riding machines on the circuit: Wm. Taylor's superb electric cinematograph theatre; Ridley's variety theatre; R. Dooner and Son's coliseum of living pictures and empire varieties; Wilson's fine art show; Wm. Symonds (of Gloucester), with switchback, gondolas, and gallopers; Jennings' steam circus and juvenile and gem sets of motor-cars and ponies; Messrs. Wilson and Matthews Bros.' shooting galleries; and jungles by Messrs. Edwards, Gillham, and Jennings; the boxing saloons of Prof. Gillham and W. Taylor. The olla podrida of the fair was provided by local caterers and the following itinerant traders: Messrs. Jones, Bunce, Matthews, Wilson, and Jennings.

AYLESBURY kept its October Hiring Fair on the 13th inst., and a right good fair it was. The shows were Sedgwick's menagerie; Wm. Taylor's cinematograph and variety theatre; and Ball's bioscope. The machines were Thurston and Sons' gondolas and motors, bicycle track, and switchback; and Wilson's gallopers. The rifle saloons were by Messrs. Attwell and Pickard; cokers by A. Smith; and the usual attendant throng of novelty and variety stalls and many local stallholders.

AT Warwick Fair were Charles Farrell, Chipperfield, and Wright, with their well-known exhibitions, great and small; Wm. Davies and C. Farrell, with riding machines; and the following fair-ground caterers, with rifle galleries, bottle batteries, Emma sheets, cokers, and varieties: Marsden, Wilson, Farrell, Wright, Connor, Carloman, and some local stall-holders, &c.

THE fair at Thame (Oxford) was well maintained by Alf Ball's Premier Bioscope; Knighton's peep show; Wilson's galloping horses; Wall's steam circus; Allwell's rifle saloon; bottle and egg batteries by Messrs. Wall, Knighton, and Ayers; and throwing games by Smith, Wall, Knighton, Allwell, and others.

AT Tewkesbury Fair were Purchase's menagerie; R. Dooner and Son's cinematograph; Chipperfield's show; John Studt's switchback and motor-cars; R. Chipperfield's peep-show; Hanks and Dobson's swings; Fossett's shooter, photo booth, and other attractions; Powell's rifle gallery and slipping the slope tower; and other varieties by S. White; and throwing games by Stanley, Buckland, Chipperfield, and others.

A LOCAL correspondent sends us the following interesting account of a visit to Sedgwick's menagerie: "Swindon was favoured with a visit of Sedgwick's gigantic American Zoo, one of the oldest and best-established concerns now travelling, on Oct. 6 and 8. On paying a visit to this mammoth collection of beasts, birds, and reptiles, I was surprised to note the condition of the exhibits. The herds of elephants, camels, and dromedaries at once arrest your attention. The caged animals comprise various species, and include twenty-four of the finest specimens of lions and lionesses I have ever had the pleasure of seeing in any zoological collection, either stationary or travelling. The chief attractions are the baby lions, baby leopards, baby wolves, and baby monkeys, all born in the menagerie whilst touring South Wales. It was a pleasing and interesting sight to see the renowned lioness Victoria with her five baby cubs, which were born at Pontydawe on Aug. 20. In the adjoining compartment were a splendid pair of baby leopards with their mother. They were born on Aug. 22 at Brynamman, on passing Mountain Ash. In the last compartment of the same carriage was the celebrated lioness Spitfire—who savagely attacked Alphonzo at Marple on March 28, 1906—majestically walking her carriage, nursing in succession her litter of cubs, two in number, and savagely guarding them from prying eyes. These cubs were born on Sept. 13, at Nelson. On carefully counting these figures I find that Mr. Sedgwick has been fortunate enough to breed and rear sixteen baby cubs in the short space of twenty-four days. On being introduced to the head conductor, who kindly passed round the enclosure with me, I was surprised to hear from him that Mr. Sedgwick had bred no less than forty-two baby lions, lionesses, and leopards in the incredibly short space of the last fourteen months, thus establishing a record never before known in any zoological collection travelling. On asking my friend to show me the father of the handsome family of lion cubs, I was immediately conducted to a large carriage containing—from my own point of view—one of the largest and most handsome African black-maned lions I think possible to maintain in a travelling collection. Whilst viewing the other various exhibits I was aroused by a stentorian voice announcing the various performances, Lorenzo stepping into the arena and introducing to your notice his Royal musical elephant, which goes through a very clever and pleasing performance. Mlle. Rosina commences the performances with the caged animals by performing the serpentine dance in the lions' den, after which Capt. Marko introduces a mixed group of performing animals, comprising singing, talking, and dancing bears, laughing hyenas, and leaping wolves. Lorenzo next introduces to your notice his mixed group of animals, which are without doubt the premier group of trained animals ever placed before the public, comprising lions, lionesses, and boarhound dogs, taking forty minutes to go through their tableaux performances. Again Mlle. Rosina brings to your notice her educated and performing pack of ravenous wolves, and Alphonzo brings these performances to a close by giving a true illustration of a lion hunt, lion fight, and subjection of the same. Mr. Sedgwick next brings before the public the great tug-of-war, which has been the rage of America for the past five years, viz., the elephant v. forty local men, thus ending one of the most pleasant evenings ever spent whilst following my occupation."

WITH regard to the proposed taking over of the Fleece Field by the Corporation of Evesham, the Showmen's Guild has taken energetic action. The whole of the members of the Corporation have been written to, and a marked copy of *The Era* sent to each councillor and alderman, containing our observations on the injustice of closing the field unless permission to pitch upon Merstow Green is freely accorded to exhibitions taking Evesham for private business. Our local correspondent, Mr. W. C. Sorrel, of Redditch, who also acts as honorary local agent of the Showmen's Guild, in his capacity as a travelling stall-holder, has also written to the Evesham authorities in the interests of his fellow-travellers on this round, pointing out to the Corporation the injustice of closing up a ground without providing another site. In an interesting letter to us, Mr. Sorrel points out the foolishness of the "dog in the manger" policy of some of the local showmen, who resent the opening up of this country to outside show-people. Mr. Sorrel concludes his trenchant letter (which we cannot give *in extenso*) with the pertinent remark, "I do not like such people as these; I believe in 'live and let live.' I do not like grabbers. When I send anything up to the "Showman World" it is meant for the information of, and for the good and welfare of all show-people."

THE showmen who take the small fairs in the county of Essex have a very good friend in Mr. Castledine, veterinary surgeon, of Writtle, near Chelmsford. For some time past Mr. Castledine has been in correspondence with the Guild Secretary, regarding the proposed abolition of Writtle Fair. The Guild executive, through our columns, warned the local showmen of the intending danger, and asked that these people so immediately concerned, should send in their permanent addresses, and hold themselves in readiness to defend their trade right and interests. But, we regret to say, that once more the Guild executive is left to fight the battle of trade defence without the active assistance of the local travellers. A petition will be sent to the Home Secretary in the interests of the whole body of travelling show-people, objecting to the abolition of the fair, and again we ask the local show-people to arouse themselves, and defend their threatened business. We give below the notice from the *London Gazette*, and issued by the Home Office:—

THE FAIRS ACT, 1871.

The Local Government Act, 1894.

WRITTLE FAIR.

The Secretary of State for the Home Department HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that a Representation has been duly made to him by the Rural District Council of Chelmsford, to the effect that a Fair has been annually held on Whit Monday at Writtle, in the County of Essex, and that it would be for the convenience and advantage of the public that the said Fair should be Abolished:

On the 1ST DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1906, the Secretary of State will take such representation into consideration, and any Person who may desire to Object to the Abolition of the Fair should intimate his Objections to the Secretary of State before that Day.

Home Office, Whitehall,
Oct. 1, 1906.

As illustrating the increasing interest in the educational and spiritual work of the Showmen's Guild, we give with great pleasure the following account of a meeting held at Sherborne on Sunday last, Oct. 14. The improvised church was Messrs. Anderton and Rowland's superb electrograph and variety theatre. The service, conducted throughout by the Rev. E. W. Legg, Sarum Diocesan Missioner to the Itinerants, was a mission service, consisting of prayers, hymns, and an address on the Stations of the Cross, fully illustrated, and at the close of the service Messrs. Anderton and Rowland exhibited their splendid animated picture of the Sherborne Pageant. A great many of the van-dwellers were present, as well as a large number of townspeople. The silver collection, after deducting a sum for expenses, was given to the Salisbury Diocesan Itinerant Mission Fund.

THE Bishop of Sheffield says that "In the midst of the great educational influences of the present day, the gospel of relaxation is all important."

AT the Markets Committee of the Aberavon Town Council, on Tuesday, a special meeting reported upon the question of the two fairs held annually by Mr. Henry Studt, and it recommended that in future the fairs be carried on by the Corporation.

Mr. J. M. Smith: I totally disagree with the recommendation.

In reply to a question regarding the right of Mr. Studt, the Town Clerk stated that in 1896 counsel's opinion had been taken upon the matter, and that coincided with his own opinion, which was that they could not stop Mr. Studt carrying on a pleasure fair, as a pleasure fair did not come within the scope of the Markets Act.

Alderman Owen: There would, therefore, be nothing to stop Mr. Studt holding a fair in his field at the same time?

The Town Clerk: No.

Mr. J. M. Smith: In face of that it would be usless trying to run a fair, and it would be much better to approach Mr. Studt and to come to some arrangement with him.

Mr. Percy Jacob: Has Mr. Studt been approached as to what amount he would be prepared to give.

Mr. Moses Thomas: Not officially, but he probably knows all about it.

Mr. Moses Thomas proposed the adoption of the recommendation of the sub-committee. He pointed out that the Neath Corporation made £300 a year by running the fair themselves. He suggested that the right of running the fair be advertised, so that everyone would have a fair chance, and that the privilege be given to the best offer.

There was no seconder.

Mr. J. M. Smith said that Mr. Thomas's arguments regarding Neath were entirely wrong. He proposed that Mr. Studt be allowed to run two fairs a year on payment of a sum of £100 per annum.

Dr. J. H. Williams seconded.

Alderman T. Owen said that the conditions were entirely different at Neath, as there the Corporation had full control, whereas at Aberavon Mr. Studt had a field of his own adjoining the fair ground.

The proposition was carried by ten votes to one.

THE October Pleasure Fair at Leicester has been the scene of much revelry and enjoyment, being patronised by many thousands of people, who have enjoyed to the full the varied amusements provided for their delectation. On Saturday the fair was packed to suffocation, and business all round was particularly brisk, no doubt owing to the enterprise displayed by Mr. P. Collins. The chief shows on the ground included Buffalo Bill's wild beast, Mrs. F. Collins's cinematograph and variety entertainment, Messrs. P. Collins and Sons' excellent bioscope show, Harry Cullis's boxing booth, and White's variety show. All the machines were of an elaborate character, and included P. Collins's helter-skelter and other machines, John Collins's motor-cars, &c., and many other attractions in the same direction provided by well-known showmen. The fair terminated on Tuesday night, having lasted from the previous Thursday.

AT Sherborne Fair, Dorset, there were shows by Anderton and Rowland and John Jones; boxing booth by Alf. Wright; giant lady by Prof. Barber; Kaffir performers by Reader; freak exhibitions by Reader and John Gratton; swing boats by John Smith, Russett, and Petersen; galloping horses by Brewer; motor track by Marshall Hill; strikers by Wynn and Jack Bratton; rifle saloons by G. Russett, John Jones, John Gratton, W. Conelly, and J. Herbert; cokers by John Granton, John Smith, and R. Buckland; and various small booths of the usual kind, sheets, &c.

SHERBORNE Fair was largely attended, and gave great pleasure to the crowds daily thronging the fair field. Anderton and Rowland's grand show easily taking premier place amongst the many attractions provided. Mr. John Jones, with his talented family, gave their well-known and excellent variety show, which was largely and deservedly patronised.

AT Wadbrook's Electrograph, Merstow Green, Evesham, a benefit was given for the Cottage Hospital, and the handsome sum of £16 8s. 6d. was taken. The benefits during the last three years have amounted to the generous sum of £61 18s. 6d., contributed by Mr. Henry Scard, proprietor of Wadbrook's Electrograph.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD subscription for 1906:—Mr. W. Shuttleworth, £1 1s.

STYLO, juggler, while packing his basket last Saturday at the Empire, Stockport, discovered a diamond ring inside. He is inclined to think that the trinket has been stolen and dropped into his basket for some reason, as no one in last week's company lost a ring.

HULL FAIR.

By the Rev. T. HORNE.

There are three great fairs in mid-England, following one another in close sequence of time, that illustrate fully the remarkable advance of the show business that marks the opening of the twentieth century. We refer to Birmingham, Nottingham, and Hull Fairs.

Nottingham gives us the best existing example of the adaptation of the mediæval fair to modern conditions in a town rich with historic memories—a fair that has never lost its continuity with old-time privileges, and is still held in the old Market-square, and still surrounded by the admirable setting of grand old buildings, hoary with venerable age, and still streams from its great source and centre the fair-ground, and runs along in vivid streams of life the Long-row, Angel-row, and other thoroughfares of the city. That is the ideal of a fair at which the town and country-side make merry.

Frankly, and without any utilitarian pretence of enjoying the fair in the interval of business hours. No, Nottingham gives itself utterly (and with a bold and open abandonment) to the enjoyment of the fun and the frolic of Goose Fair. It is a sight you can see nowhere else. It remains to-day unique and without a compeer—the ancient and the modern combined, and the result is the best fair under the best conditions in the world.

Nottingham Goose Fair is preceded by the new-old Birmingham Great Onion Fair. Here again we have a huge modern fair under conditions that fully attest the up-to-date business ability of the enterprising modern showman, and also proves beyond all doubt and cavil that the love of the fair is so deeply rooted in the public heart and mind that no corporation, however strong and however determined in its policy to abolish the people's holidays and open-air amusements, can succeed in their short-sighted and mistaken schemes to rob the people of their fairs. Birmingham Corporation, in direct contradistinction to the Corporation of Nottingham, strained its local governing powers to abolish the fair by refusing to let ground in the old central site of the fair. The authorities vainly imagined that, if they used their power to prevent the fair being held on its accustomed ground, therefore the fair would cease.

But the authorities forgot, or, in the arrogancy of their power, neglected to consider the other side of the question; in fact, they ignored the most important elements in the matter. They ignored the will and mind of the people of Birmingham, and they forgot the business loss that their ill-judged and arbitrary action inflicted on the showmen and itinerant traders, whose daily bread depended on the continuance of the people's pleasure fairs. These two important factors were not going to submit without a struggle, and the struggle resulted in the continuance of the fair by the supreme will of the people and the business enterprise of the travelling showmen.

Mr. P. Collins, the principal roundabout proprietor on the Midland circuit, soon secured an admirable fair-ground—"The Old Pleck"—and there the Great Onion Fair, with its old name to link it with the glorious past, flourishes, and is to-day, from all points of view, the standard of all private-venture fairs. Mr. Collins knew the people of Birmingham better than the Corporation did, and when the fair was set in array on the Old Pleck Ground, out to the fair trooped the people in their multitude, without so much as "An' by your leave, messieurs," to the city fathers, and the city fathers were wise enough to recognise the majesty of the sovereign people's will.

Notice here the net result. The tolls which would have gone to the casement of the rates of Birmingham were lost, because the Corporation did not provide a new site, did not wisely remove the fair, but tried to abolish it, by the force of a resolution of the Borough Council refusing to let ground to either shows or stalls at the fair. This, they thought (because they knew not the enterprise of the showman, and had not realised the mind of the show-loving public) would effectively abolish the fair They reckoned without knowing that Patrick Collins and the multitude of the people would regard their resolution as not worth the paper upon which it was written.

Now, at Hull, we have a distinct type of a fair, under the most progressive and popular conditions. Like unto Nottingham and Birmingham, the fair was held in the heart of the town, around the church, and in the streets and byways of central Hull. This the authorities wisely recognised in time, and, in order to avoid the congestion of traffic, resulting from the rapid development of the port and docks, determined to provide a spacious new fair-ground. within easy access of the town by car, and also well served by the various railway companies, with local platforms to deal with the enormous influx of visitors by excursion trains from all parts of the country, Hull Fair, like Nottingham and Birmingham, being a time for far-away friends and relations to return once again to see the dear "old places and faces at home."

The huge fair-ground is approached from Walton-street, and the whole stretch of this thoroughfare is lined with stalls and small bazaars, a kaleidoscope of ever-changing life and colour. One of the main entrances to the fair—there are three separate and ample entrance avenues—is by the way of the toy and fairings bazaars—a thousand feet of toyland, a thousand feet of "Santa Claus and his treasure stores," made up of the travelling bazaars (a distinctive feature of Yorkshire fairs and feasts) of Messrs. John Seed, Howarth, Gledstone, Alfred Seed, and Johnson, and the local bazaar-keeper, Mr. Selle, with a two hundred foot long bazaar.

The central entrance, leading up to the great show-line, was occupied on the right by the photographic concerns of Messrs. Walton, Cunthorpe, Day, and others. Following these were the high-class shooting ranges, bottle and egg smashers, and rifle jungles and galleries, of Messrs. Cornwell, Richards, Watson, Goodall, Kelly, Payne, Ratcliffe, Lever, Lieske, and, at the extreme end of the row, Merrill's, the local caterers, with refreshment tent. On the left-hand side of the avenue were the steam yachts, flying motors, motor-car track, and other roundabout sets, of Messrs. Waddington, Marshall, Shipley, Ben Howden and Son, P. Collins, and others. The huge fair-ground is set out as a quadrangle, the show-line occupying one entire side of the square, and flowing over on to another side. Here we found Wombwell's, Bostock's menagerie, Sir R. Fossett and Son's circus (the "Bailey circus" of this fair), Chipperfield's menagerie, the Randall Williams premier show, Monte Bros., Capt. Tom Payne (a great local favourite in the city of Hull), with bioscope, Geo. Kemp's electric temple of protean delight, "Dreamland," Relph and Pedley's superb show ("a vision of beauty and a joy for ever"), Enoch Farrar's electric Coliseum of living pictures and Empire varieties, H. Testo's cinématograph, "the world in 'live' pictures day by day," Sidney Braham's unique and pretty ground booth, the lady conjurer and the trained birds, W. Le Neve and Norah Sullivan, in expert wrestling and Sandow feats of strength and physical culture; Westray's natural museum, and second show, the freak marvels; Hastings' two ground booths, the midget marvels and the giant lady; Professor Gibson and "Syko," the mystic experts in psychometry and occult wonders; S. Tower's new show, Japanese marvels and illusions; the up-to-date peepshow of Enoch Farrar; and Ling's Royal academy of art pictures; and that capital ground booth circus, Ingram's dogs and monkeys.

This is an aggregation of shows difficult to find at any other fair in the world.

Facing the show-line (and on the third side) continuing the line of marvels, were motor-car sets, gondolas, ostriches, cockerels, wheeling the wheel, ships in the air, gem horses, swings, and motor-cars switchback, and a new machine of weird build, exhibited by Messrs. John Collins, P. Collins, Wm. Murphy, Aspland and Howden, Lieske, R. Payne, Relph and Pedley, Marshall, Geo. Green, Morley, Houldsworth, J. W. Waddington, and local caterers.

Here, again, a group of concerns without a peer on any other fair-ground in the United Kingdom.

Who can set out in detail the three hundred other fair-ground novelties—avenues and long rows of throwing games, variety stalls, doll frames, football games, pannum stalls, refreshment tents, strikers, shooters, cokers, emma sheets—all the conglomerate marvels of a well-ordered and most modern fair. To our showmen readers it is enough to say that these side shows and fair-ground amusements were in the capable hands of such experts as T. Burgin, Rhodes, Thompson, Johnson, Payne, Doubtfire, Watson, Fisher, Middlebrook, Wright, Dearden, Jameson, Edwards, Turner, Jones, Veto, Holdsworth, and other caterers on the Yorkshire round.

A noticeable feature here, too, is the enterprise of local caterers and stallholders. Hundreds of smart local traders pitch their stalls on the line of march to and from the fair ground, and reap the well-won reward of their endeavour. To the Corporation, for its enlightened and progressive policy in making provision for the amusement of the people, every praise is due, and the city treasury will reap a rich reward, to the easement of public burdens, not only in tollage for shows and stalls, but also in the revenue of their splendid electric trams, loaded on the fair days to their utmost carrying capacity, taking visitors to and from the open fair and carnival in Walton-street.

A special word of praise is due to the expert official of the Corporation, Mr. Robert Grace, the superintendent of markets and fairs. Mr. Grace, in interpreting the policy of the City Council into actual fact, has brought to bear a remarkable ability for organisation and control, and Mr. Grace has his reward in the well-equipped fair, second to none in the United Kingdom. Every detail of management is thoroughly carried through under his immediate control. Every provision for the safety and comfort of the multitude, and for the use and benefit of showpeople, is provided by the City Council, and controlled by their courteous and indefatigable chief officer for the fair, Mr. Robert Grace. There were over six hundred separate standings let by the Corporation for the fair.

PROVERBS AND ANECDOTES.

"A still tongue makes a wise head." This is eminently untrue of the Doorsman.

"Punctuality is the soul of business." This is eminently true of the staff of that show that is always ready to begin when the "red hot coppers" are burning the pockets of the early visitors to the fair.

There have been three Andrews in the famous family of Purchase, of menagerie and waxwork renown. Two of the famous trio are with us, and there may be, for aught we know to the contrary, a fourth Andrew; but as his possible exploits lie in the future we can well afford to leave the fourth Andrew to the future historian. Our story is concerned with the founder of the family, Andrew Purchase, of waxwork celebrity. It concerns the far-away days when Wales was almost a terra incognita, and few and daring were the English showmen who successfully invaded the Principality. Purchase found himself in a one-eyed place, where shows were like the visits of angels, few and far between, and when they did visit this particular spot very rough and violent was the reception they obtained. The roughs of the district systematically demanded blackmail, and this the sturdy Andrew Purchase boldly refused to give them. They vowed terrible reprisals, and attempted to be as good as their word, for late the following evening some dozen of them returned and again demanded money. The bold Andrew went inside of his van, after he had failed to persuade them to depart, and, taking the blunderbuss used in a conjuring item in the programme, he came again to the front, and told the crowd, "If you don't go away within the next half-dozen minutes I'll give you a taste of this." They still clamoured for money, and Andrew found that he was in a serious dilemma, for, although he had powder, he had no shot.

The quick-witted showman was not resourceless, for when he had charged the weapon he deftly emptied a packet of half-inch tacks in the wide mouth of the blunderbuss, and, coming to the front, he said, "Now, you Welsh rapscallions, are you going once, are you going twice"—there was an angry growl, but part of the crowd began to waver—"are you going the third and last time of asking?" There was an instant turning of the crowd, and immediately, like a modern machine-gun, the blunderbuss speeded their farewell with the wide-spreading discharge of 500 tin-tacks.

Now comes the moral of the story. For miles and miles around the country surgeons did a thriving trade in extracting tacks from the scored bodies of the blackmailers, and it would have been very interesting to have collected and compared the various stories told by the blackmailers to account for the presence of the tacks in their anatomy. But the greatest of all results, and one that endures to this day, is that the roughs no longer attempt to blackmail the Sassenach showman within their borders.

"Where there's a will there's a way." The willing showman is on the highway to success, and the employee who is willing and ready when wanted makes his own way from the parade to a palace on wheels.

One of the characters of the past, known by name and reputation throughout the length and breadth of the land, was Patrick Feency, professionally known as "Malabar," who died at Glasgow in the year 1890. Our story is concerned with how he became a showman. His father was a small farmer in County Sligo. He "didn't learn much at school," he tells us, and adds, "I was a lazy boy. But by-and-by the wandering fit came over me, and I thought I should like to see a bit of the world. All that the dear old man could give me was thirty shillings, and with this in my fist I started out for Dublin." In the metropolis of his country thirty shillings did not last him long, so, still adventuring, he worked his passage to Liverpool. He had only been about an hour landed when he came upon a crowd in the street; a Chinese juggler was giving what was to the Irishman an amazing performance. There and then, like unto many a youth before him, he determined to enter the ranks of the wandering showmen. Like all beginners, he had to start at the bottom, and work his way up by hard labour and persistence. He started by carrying the carpet and the other traps of Tusang, the first Chinese juggler to busk on the streets of Merrie England. It was Tusang who christened Feeney "Malabar."

Thus it was, to quote his own words, "that I entered the purfession, gentlemen." After serving Tusang for more than twelve months he began on his own account.

MESSRS. HASTINGS AND WHAYMEN and their attendant throng have been doing excellent private business at Aldershot, and, with their usual generosity, have given a benefit performance for the funds of the Aldershot Hospital.

SHOWMEN MEETING AT HULL FAIR.

The Rev. T. Horne, honorary organising chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, continuing his public propaganda work, addressed a crowded meeting of showmen and townspeople at Hull Fair on Sunday last. The gathering was, in fact, the great event of the fair, and the public interest taken in the proceedings was of the most enthusiastic and appreciative character. It was held in Captain Payne's cinématograph theatre. The Mayor (Alderman Larard) presided, and amongst those present were Alderman Cohen, Councillors Pybus, Robins, Askew, J.P., T. G. Hall, Dean, J. W. Gould, Smurthwaite, Parker, ex-Councillor G. Sipling, Robert Grace (fairground superintendent), and other local gentlemen. The principal showmen present were P. Collins, V.P., G. Green, V.P., T. Payne, V.P., G. H. Kemp, V.P., J. W. Waddington, V.P., and the following members of the Executive Council:—J. Hastings, T. Burgin, T. Hartshorn, R. Monte, J. Monte, W. Gibson, and W. Pedley. Messrs. Westray and Son, S. Tower, M. Wilson, Goodall, Braham, J. Relph, J. Wentworth, W. Fisher, H. Testo, A. Barker, Chipperfield, J. Houldsworth, W. Le Neve, W. Ratcliffe, S. Brown, Scott, Gledstone, Parker, Murch, Williams, Hughes, Wright, Grey, and others.

In opening the proceedings, the Mayor welcomed the showmen to Hull, and in doing so expressed the desire of the Corporation to co-operate with the enterprise of the fairground, in order that the provision of entertainment for the people of Hull might be above either suspicion or reproach. Let there be nothing to appeal or to pander to the lower tastes of the people; let them maintain the high standard of amusement as provided by such exhibitions as Captain Payne's bioscope theatre, in which their meeting was being held, and he could assure them that the showmen would win and hold public support and be always welcome at Hull Fair. (Applause). He did not intend to emulate the bad example of a certain chairman who occupied fully two hours in introducing the invited speaker. When the speaker of the evening at last had his opportunity he turned the tables on the loquacious chairman by moving "that the best thanks of the meeting be given to their excellent chairman for the oration that he had delivered to them. He personally would not attempt the needless task of attempting to follow so excellent and exhaustive a speaker." He was fully aware that the meeting was gathered together to hear the Rev. T. Horne deliver an address on "British Shows and Showmen." He would therefore ask the honorary chaplain of the Showmen's Guild to deliver his promised address.

The hon. organising chaplain, on rising to begin his address, was received very warmly, and at the outset thanked his Worship the Mayor for having so admirably struck the keynote of the meeting, and he assured the Mayor and members of the Corporation and the wider constituency of the citizens of Hull, that the primary object of the Guild was the betterment, improvement, and uplifting of the character of the entertainments they took from town to town. They had, of course, other objects, but without that essential condition of their life and work they dare not appeal to the British public, they dare not ask for the support and presence of great corporate bodies at their meetings, nor could they hope to maintain their hold upon public sympathy. (Applause). He then proceeded to tell the story so familiar to our showmen readers of the rise and progress of the Showmen's Guild as an organisation to defend the trade interests, rights, and privileges of showmen, as a class in the community, against the oppression of individuals or public bodies.

They came to Hull Fair and held a public meeting in order that they might not only justify themselves in the sight of their own people—the showmen—but also because they desired to acknowledge publicly the cordial relationship that existed between the organised showmen and the progressive Corporation of Hull, that so wisely and so well co-operated with them in providing one of the best fairs of its class in the whole of the United Kingdom.

On Saturday night he was standing on the front of a show when a showman who had been on the road many, many years directed his attention to the "entrancing beauty and magnificent glare and glitter under the electric light, and to the whirl and excitement of the fair."

We gazed upon the sea of upturned faces, and looked upon the vast stream of life as it passed the show. My friend the showman told me that never had he seen such a sight, and never had he been at a better-managed fair, or where the crowd was more orderly. And I endorsed his opinion, and I say so after visiting the Nottinghim Goose Fair and the great fairs in Lancashire. I have never seen a better arranged fair or a better display on a show ground than I saw from that show front last night. (Applause.) Speaking of the growth of shows, he said it was calculated that 70,000 persons were directly and almost intimately connected in their trade and livelihood with enterprises on fair grounds. Showmen, he said, were as respectable as any other class in the community. There were, of course, black sheep in the flock—the proprietors of catch-penny shows which were a disgrace to the profession. Whilst those shows were admittedly among them, they were not of them, because the Guild would not recognise them as respectable showmen, and they would not have the profession maligned and traduced by those people who ran those shows. (Applause). He repudiated the statement that the days of shows were over, and instanced Bostock and Wombwell's—one of the finest shows in the country, he said—to show how a business enterprise could flourish on the show ground. George Wombwell started with one reptile; now there were four shows belonging to the Bostock and Wombwell family "on the road" in this and other countries. But the enterprise of the Bostock family was but an example—an illustrious one, he added—of the tremendous business enterprise of fairground traders.

Of the far-reaching influence of that business in the industrial world, an indication was afforded by one important branch of it—the steam and electrically-driven roundabout machines. It had been admitted in evidence before the House of Commons that over a quarter of a million of money was invested in travelling roundabouts alone. And he wished to emphasise the fact, so often misapprehended, that instead of fairs and popular holidays decreasing, they were increasing—that for every fair that had become obsolete, because of the migration of the population to the great centres of industrial life, there had sprung into existence half a dozen new fairs; but, of course, these fairs followed the people. He instanced great towns like Manchester, Liverpool, and Leeds, where the old charter fairs had been abolished, and he showed that in these great centres of life the abolition of the great central fair had called into existence half a dozen big suburban fairs within easy reach of the town workers, to supply the demand of the people for open-air entertainment and recreation.

The domestic life of the showman was pure, and his commercial life was honest. He carried on an extraordinary business, but he was an ordinary man. He had the same human feeling and convictions that others had, the same love of family, the same love of home, although it was on wheels, and he liked to feel that when he brought his amusement to relieve the brain pressure of the toil-worn workers, he liked to think that he was doing something that tended to the betterment and uplifting and well-being of the community of which, as an Englishman, he was proud to belong. (Loud applause).

Mr. Gibson, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Mayor for presiding, said he was voicing the feelings of his fellow-showmen when he said that they counted upon Hull Fair for months, and they always looked upon it as going to a place that was like home. There was always a feeling at Hull that made them think of it as their own home. (Applause). He paid a tribute to Mr. Grace for his management of the fair, and said there was never the bustle and excitement at Hull that there were at other fairs.

The Rev. T. Horne seconded the vote, which was carried with acclamation.

The Mayor, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, expressed for himself and the Aldermen and City Councillors the satisfaction they felt that their efforts to extend and improve the fair had been so successful, and he again assured them that everything they could do would be gladly done.

The after meeting was of a purely business character, and was restricted to show-people.

Mr. Horne explained the nature of the restrictions sought to be imposed upon showmen by the children's Education Bill, and also detailed the successful opposition the Guild had carried through with regard to that measure, and to invidious and injurious clauses in various Bills promoted by local authorities during the past Sessions of Parliament. An exceedingly useful and informing discussion took place with regard to the position and work of the Guild. In this conference the principal speakers were Messrs. G. Green, W. Pedley, J. Monte, T. Burgin, P. Collins, W. Gibson, T. Hartshorn, and Burns. The Rev. T. Horne was warmly thanked for his able address, and also for the continued and unfailing interest he manifests in the well-being of travelling show-people.

A number of new members were enrolled, and a subscription list carried round the booth by Mr. J. Monte met with a generous response.

The members enrolled were:—J. W. Waddington, £5 5s.; S. Towers, 10s.; G. Wright, 7s. 6d.; M. Westray, 5s.; Mr. March, 5s.; Mr. Williams, 5s.; Mr. Goodall, 5s.; S. Hughes, 5s.; J. Gray, 5s.; Wm. Gibson, 5s.; Mr. Wilson, 5s.; Mr. Parker, 5s. Additional subscriptions:—P. Collins, second subscription, £1 1s.; Geo. Green, third subscription, 10s.; Monte Bros., second subscription, 10s.; Relph and Pedley, second subscription, 10s.; J. Relph, second subscription, 10s. 6d.; Geo. Kemp, second subscription, 10s.; T. Payne, second subscription, 5s.; Chipperfield, second subscription, 5s.; J. Holdsworth, second subscription, 5s.; Mr. Wentworth (of Mari and Co.), third subscription, 5s.; Mr. Gledstone, second subscription, 5s.; T. Burgin, second subscription, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Fisher, second subscription, 2s. 6d.; Wm. Le Neve, second subscription, 2s. 6d.; J. Hastings, second subscription, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Wright, second subscription, 2s. 6d.; W. Radcliffe, second subscription, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Burns, 2s. 6d.; M. Brown, 2s.; S. Braham, 1s.; Barker, 1s.; H. Testo, second subscription, 1s.; Mr. Scott, 1s. 6d.; Mr. Ingram, 1s.

ANSWERS TO SHOWMEN.

W. B. (Hatfield).—*Fire Insurance. We are writing you privately on the matter concerning which you require information. In the event of our letter not reaching you as soon as the paper, our advice is, do not renew.*

Veritas.—*The Showmen's Guild was the first organisation to defend the character and the business interests of all open-air amusement caterers. From the very first it has rigorously abstained from entering into the trade rivalries and jealousies that divide showmen, and has only attended to those matters that concern the whole and undivided body of amusement caterers. There have been various trade societies, and there still exist several such organisations, that champion the sectional interests of stall-holders and lessees. These sectional interests may be, and we have every reason to believe are, perfectly just and right, but the executive of the Showmen's Guild would limit its usefulness if it attempted to deal with these sectional interests.*

BIOSCOPE SERIES.

A NEW DEPARTURE.

The Charles Urban Trading Company, of 45, Rupert-street, London, have inaugurated a new departure in the bioscope profession—the serial publication of films. This week are published the first two numbers of "Bonnie Scotland," a pictorial representation of all that is lovely and wild and weird in that land of historic associations. The production of this series of animated pictures, which reach the highest standard of photographic art—of which it is the purpose of the company to publish films from time to time—occupied a large staff of experienced operators during the whole of last season. It will form, when complete, the most comprehensive animated representation of Scotland and its beauties ever published. Many of the scenes will be revelations even to those supposed to be familiar with every phase of Scottish life, character, and natural advantages. Each point of beauty, from the border to the far north of the Outer Hebrides, has practically been covered, with the co-operation of the North-Western Caledonian, and Highland Railways, and David MacBraynes's steamers.

At Winchcomb Mop, the principal attractions were Hill's steam galloping horses, park swings, shooting saloons, and numerous side shows and variety attractions.

Tavistock Fair, one of the best fixtures on the Western round, was, as usual, held under the experienced management of Messrs. Hancock, who exhibited their cinematograph theatre and steam horses, and with these enterprising showmen was associated Dr. Lawrence with marionettes, Messrs. Lock and Ware with steam roundabouts, Messrs. Cribb and Dobson with photographic concerns, and Messrs. Ball, Horrell, Chapman Lock, Frampton, Whitelegge, Oldridge, and a number of other fair-ground caterers, with swing boats, big wheel, shooting concerns, throwing games, and stalls.

Following Cheltenham is the fair at Cirencester, well maintained this year by the shows and riding machines of Messrs. Jacob Studt and Son, R. Dooner and Son, and Cole Brothers, and with them, of course, many of the enterprising providers of minor novelties taking this round.

Abingdon Statute Fair, a very old "hirings," draws its patrons from an extensive agricultural district, and even under modern conditions supplies both the purpose of a statute hiring and a pleasure fair. The courteous and experienced clerk of the market, Mr. T. Falkner, jun., always sets out the fair to the best advantage, and gives the tenants of the fair-ground every attention and assistance. The principal shows this year were the well-known cinematograph concerns of Wm. Taylor and Alf. Ball; the stereoscopic and fine art galleries of Messrs. Bailey, Knighton, Wilson, and Warwick. Amongst the machines were Bailey's switchback, and the galloping horse sets of Messrs. Wilson, Bird, and Hill. The minor novelties, such as swings, shooting saloons, bottle-and egg-smashers, Emma sheets, cokers, varieties, and stalls were by Messrs. Matthews, Wilson, Bailey, Attwell, Brown, Bond, Pickard, Spurritt, Knighton, Rowe, Tyler, Roberts, and others.

At Worksop Hiring Fair the principal exhibits, as usual, were Tuby and Sons (the local showmen), with galloping horses, swings, and shooting gallery; Prince Samouda, with temple of magic; MacKie's natural museum; T. Harniess, with steam horses; Brannan and Reaney, with rifle saloons; and Illingworth, Hunt, and Rutter, with throwing games.

THE EDEN THEATRE,
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION OF LICENSE. STRONG OPPOSITION.

By far the most important matter before the Hemel Hempstead magistrates at the Petty Sessions on Wednesday was an application for a licence in respect of the Eden Theatre for a further period of six months, upon the expiration of the present licence, which allows Mr. Alfred Whitmee to perform stage plays at a temporary structure in Bury-road until Nov. 12. The magistrates on the Bench were Dr. G. B. Turner, Mr. Percy Christopherson, and Mr. A. Marnham. The Mayor (Alderman W. J. Orchard) and the Deputy-Mayor (Alderman Maitland Thompson) were also present, but did not adjudicate owing to the fact that the Town Council was concerned in the opposition.

Mr. S. J. Ellis again appeared on behalf of the applicant, and Mr. T. Penny, of Berkhamsted, represented the opposition party.

The clerk, Mr. Smeathman, asked if there was any objection to his sitting as magistrates' clerk, seeing that he was also town clerk, but Mr. Ellis replied, "Certainly not."

At the outset Mr. Penny handed in a letter of objection to the application from the Hemel Hempstead Free Church Council, and said he also had a document signed by 721 persons against the application, as well as a letter from the Town Council.

Mr. Ellis then made formal application for the licence. He said that, with regard to the opposition, it must be, he supposed, upon several grounds, either that the character of the building was unsuitable, that the entertainment was not such as should be given, or that Mr. Whitmee was not a fit person to conduct a theatre. He did not know what his friend had to say about the point that the public did not require that particular form of entertainment, or that the character of the building was unsuitable, because it was not the first time that such an application had been made. It had never been seriously suggested that the building was unsuitable, and the Borough Council had never complained to them about it. He had present the medical officer of health for the Watford district, who had examined the building, and he would say that, so far as he could see, it was in every way suitable. The Borough Surveyor had never made any complaint about it. If it was held that the structure did not comply with the local by-laws, he was in a position to quote cases in support of his argument that the building did not concern the Town Council by-laws. As to the character of the theatre, he could assure Mr. Penny that there was nothing about the entertainment which was likely to prejudice the morals of the people of the district. He would remind the Bench that they had gone into the matter on previous occasions and had granted the licence. He, therefore, hardly imagined that they would now say that they were not satisfied with what they had done on previous occasions. He would call witnesses to speak as to the character of the place. The opposition seemed to have been the outcome of a lengthy epistle in the local paper from Mr. Ernest Robinson, and considerable correspondence followed. Mr. Robinson's point seemed to be that because a man went to the theatre he could not afford to buy a new pair of socks. (Laughter.) He (Mr. Ellis) suggested that such an argument was utterly foolish. Perhaps Mr. Robinson was a fair sample of the rest of the objectors. The great question the Bench had to decide was as to whether or not the public required the theatre. Mr. Penny represented 721 persons. He begged to say that he represented 2024, and had therefore three times the number in favour of the licence being granted. Some of those who had signed Mr. Whitmee's petition were gentlemen in responsible positions. They included the Revs. W. K. Weston and S. F. O. Huddy, the Catholic priest (the Rev. H. J. Hardy), the Hon. W. B. Wrottesley, Dr. Russell Steele, Dr. Kirkness, Dr. Dudley Buxton, Mr. Horace Johnstone, Mr. A. J. Parsons, Mr. H. G. Taylor-Jones, Mr. H. Ludd, and Mrs. Wishart Robinson. The petition comprised the names of people of all shades of opinion, and also included the local station-master and the manager of the gas works. (Laughter.) Mr. Penny's friends had been busy with their petition for two months, but the 2024 names on behalf of Mr. Whitmee had been obtained within the last fifteen days. The signatories had been classified, and he could say that mill-hands only numbered 360, and labourers 205. He submitted that 2024 persons represented a substantial majority of the population of the district in favour of the theatre. Of course, the 721 persons no doubt had reasons of their own why they wished not to have a theatre, but he could not understand what right they had to over-ride the wishes of such a large number who did not think as they did. There was a course open to them at all times, and that was to stop away from the theatre. The Bench had previously granted the licence, and he did not think it could be said that the place was badly managed, ill-conducted, or that the nature of the entertainment was bad. Having regard to the nature of the petition in favour, he did not think that the Bench could disregard the wishes of such a large number of people of all classes. The Borough Council had already taken the early action by increasing the assessment of the land upon which the theatre stood, and Mr. Whitmee had paid the rates upon it. He submitted that there was no reasonable ground why the application should be refused.

Alfred Whitmee said he was proprietor of the theatre. He was an inhabitant and ratepayer of Hemel Hempstead. Two previous licences had been granted him, and he had never had a complaint. He produced posters showing the class of plays performed—plays that had been performed all over England. He had never heard of any serious immorality as the result of any performances. As far as he could ascertain, all the persons who signed the petition were over 18 years of age.

Dr. King, Medical Officer of Health for Watford, said he had inspected the theatre, and considered the arrangements quite sanitary and suitable. The fire exits he considered ample. Cross-examined: It is a temporary building. I did not expect to find it a substantial building. I cannot say how long I should expect such a building to stand.

Mr. Penny: How long would you recommend Watford or any other place to allow this building to stand?

Witness: I don't think that is the point.

Mr. Penny: Would you be prepared to recommend at Watford this building as a permanent theatre?

Witness: I don't think I should be asked my opinion.

Mr. Penny: Is the place connected with the drainage?

Witness: I don't think it is.

Mr. Penny: Are there cloak-rooms, retiring-rooms, and other conveniences provided for the audience?

Witness: No.

Mr. Penny: Is the scenery made of inflammable materials?

Witness: I call the building a sanitary one.

Mr. Penny: Thank you. I won't trouble to ask you anything else.

Mrs. Johnstone, of Felden Heath, said she had been to the theatre on four occasions, and it was "most nice" in every way. There was nothing anybody need take objection to. She went just to find out for herself what sort of a place it was, and she was so pleased that she went again, and took the children. The acting was very nice and the words were said distinctly. The company seemed to do their best to make it a success. She said that it was extremely hard to try to take the licence away. The plays she saw acted were delightful.

Mr. Ellis: That concludes my application.

Mr. Penny then handed in a letter from the Town Council stating that at a meeting held on Oct. 10, the Council resolved to point out to the magistrates that the Eden Theatre was a building not in conformity with the Borough by-laws, and was considered to be a most unsuitable structure, and dangerous in case of fire. The Council hoped that the magistrates would not grant the licence.

Mr. Ellis: I object to the letter being put in unless it can be proved.

Mr. Penny: I will prove it. Continuing, Mr. Penny said that, in addition to the Town Council's letter, he would hand in a petition signed by 721 persons. It was not necessary for him to go over the only grounds upon which Mr. Ellis had said objection could be taken, excepting that he would like to say that there was no suggestion of anything against Mr. Whitmee personally. But the class of entertainment was a different matter, and would be for the Bench to judge. He produced a bill, which stated that the plays on certain evenings would be *The Slave of Babylon* and *The Moat Farm Mystery*. He ventured to suggest that these titles did not tend——

Mr. Ellis: But you have not mentioned the top one on the same bill. That is *Jo*, by Dickens.

Mr. Penny: No doubt the titles I have mentioned are there to attract the youth of the neighbourhood, and they appeal to the mill-hands, for the plays are given upon the nights when they are paid their wages. Continuing, Mr. Penny said that on the last occasion, the application was for six months, but doubtless the magistrates desired to have closer control over the matter, and only granted the licence for three months. He felt that the present application was somewhat in the form of an appeal against the previous decision of the Bench. If his friend were to talk of the theatre as a permanent building, he hardly thought that Dr. King would have been called to give evidence. He desired to lay special stress on the point that the material used in connection with the scenery was of a very inflammable character, and if a fire broke out there would likely be a most serious calamity. When the application was first made everyone thought that the idea was a temporary matter for a few months, but they now get application after application, until it became practically a permanent theatre for Hemel Hempstead. He contended that a permanent theatre should be built of brick and stone, and not simply a wooden erection, originally intended for travelling purposes. In regard to the correspondence, he could only say that the Town Council had nothing to do with it. A further point was that a monopoly in this particular form of entertainment was being given to Mr. Whitmee by the succession of licences being granted him. The 721 signatures included one alderman, four town councillors, eight leaders of religious bodies, fourteen foremen at mills, and twelve school teachers.

Mr. A. E. Usher, assistant town clerk, then proved the resolution passed by the Town Council.

Cross-examined by Mr. Ellis: The resolution was passed at an ordinary monthly meeting, but the matter was discussed *in camera*. The majority of the councillors were present.

Mr. Ellis contended that the 721 persons had no right to dictate to the wishes of the 2024.

Mr. Penny said that he had nothing further to say on the matter.

Mr. Ellis commented strongly on the fact that not a single person had dared to come forward and say a word against the theatre. If the Bench thought six months too long, his client would be satisfied with three months. He could only say that some of the very best plays were produced at the theatre, and that they were much appreciated by influential people who went there.

The Bench then retired for a quarter of an hour, and, on returning, the chairman said: I have to state that the Bench have given careful consideration to this application, and that they have found no objection to the manner in which the theatre is conducted; but, having regard to the letter before us from the Town Council as to the unsuitability of the building, which appears to be completely of a temporary character, the Bench feel that they cannot ignore to observe the points raised by the Town Council, who are the responsible authority for such buildings. Therefore, in order to judge fairly of the matter, the Bench propose to inspect the premises, and hope to give their decision on this day week.

In connection with the above application, and in answer to the attacks upon the theatre in the local Press, the Rev. T. Horne has sent the following letter to the *Hemel Hempstead Gazette*:—

IN DEFENCE OF THE STROLLING PLAYER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—A member of my Guild, and one held in much esteem in his profession, is at the present moment beset by a somewhat strong form of opposition to his theatre. I have read all the controversy on the question in your paper, and as I understand the opposition to the renewal of Mr. Whitmee's dramatic licence is assuming a serious form, I venture to say a few words (based upon many years of actual experience and knowledge) in defence of the art and enterprise under modern conditions of strolling players.

In the first place let me plead for, as being of importance and educational value to the community the necessary provision of amusements for all classes of the community.

Shows and showmen have flourished in all parts of the world. Shrewd observers have expressed the opinion that the popular shows and amusements of the people form an excellent index to their character and illustrate the growth of national life. The sweet singer of the ancient civilisation, Homer, the poet, was an itinerant bard or minstrel, singing his songs of the people to the people. The greatest poet of all the ages, William Shakespeare, was a strolling player. He caught the passion of the drama from the strolling players who acted their plays to grammar school boys at Stratford-on-Avon in the school-room, upon whose very walls quite recently scenery painted in Shakespeare's time has been found covered with the Puritan whitewash of a later period.

The modern showman has no need to be ashamed either of his work or his position in the national economy. To cater for a people's natural relaxation involves no slight share of responsibility in the nation's well being. The strenuous toil of a highly-developed industrial system demands frequent opportunities of recreation and change.

We are beginning to find out that men and women, like horses, are all the better for a little time of rest. We can all rejoice that the close of the nineteenth century witnessed the return of the better mind of the employers of labour with regard to these things. Midway in the century the economists taught us that all abstention from work was an economic loss.

The new political economy, recognising more human and humane conditions, has produced a salutary reaction. Sir James Crichton-Browne, one of our ablest scientists, only the other day, at a meeting of Sanitary Inspectors, pointed out the value of recreation as being mental hygiene, the clearing out of the clogged-up or the over-worked brain cells of mental rubbish, that if not cleared makes for dementia. The eminent scientist demonstrated that relaxation from toil was not sufficient, but that there must be amusement as well, and therefore he preached a gospel of recreation and boldly asserted that it was the duty in these days of high pressure and specialisation for every doctor and for every social reformer to be preachers and teachers of the joy of life as expressed in recreation and amusement.

There is yet another and even more important argument in favour of the provision of popular amusements, and it was stated by no less a personage than the present Bishop of Ripon, speaking to a large gathering of actors. "If you take," he said, "what many people will describe as the Queen of Arts, the art of music, you meet a representative interest; you must cheer your entertainment with music, and so every art, whether it be the painter's art, or the sculptor's art, or the poet's art, is obliged in its turn to ask for musical assistance. And therefore music holds a unique position in the circle of the arts. But it must be admitted that you might take every phase of music and you would be obliged to ask at the end, 'Has it been able to teach directly any moral truth?' and you would be bound to answer that it had not. There is nothing in the music that could convey moral teaching.

"The simplest homily, if it only be sincere in spirit and lofty in tone, had more moral efficacy than all the works of the most pious painters and sculptors, from Giotto and Michael Angelo, or from the passion music of Bach, because it was reserved for art which finds its expression in words to give direct moral teaching. I am not quite sure that everyone of us who employs words for the inspiration and instruction of others must recognise that by the utterances of words we have the power at our command of directly appealing to the moral nature of man, and in that regard the dramatic art stands high. It has potency in it. It remains infallibly true that moral power resides in the hands of the man who has the capacity and the opportunity of using words. If I understand rightly, the most indirect and the best method of stimulating and helping the moral forces of mankind is through the suggestions that arise out of delineated characters. Life is an education and it is a test of character. The man who delineates character is always dealing with the moral forces if he deals with them truly, because he cannot touch them without touching those aspects and conditions which are continually bringing out the moral aspects which constitute the moral force of character.

So much for the Bishop as the guide of morals speaking on the ethical value of the actor's art.

I have another reason for putting the Bishop in the witness box in defence of the actor, and that is that I have before me in writing this letter the play bills of the Eden Theatre, issued during the past fortnight, and as there is not a single play on the programme that I have not myself witnessed, I am able to testify with some authority to their moral and educational force. Such plays as *Fallen Among Thieves*, *Blow for Blow*, *The Maid of the Mill*, *Dred*, *Jane Shore*, *The Middleman*, *The Shaughraun*, and *The Robbery of the Mail*, cannot, in my judgment, fail to teach (with all that vivid impressiveness that the Bishop's plea for the stage emphasises) lessons of domestic purity, honesty, moral worth, and, above all, the just vengeance of God upon all evil-doers, and as regards the lighter elements of the programme, such as *The Private Secretary*, there can be no doubt that its mirth-provoking power must be of value to those whom the hard grind of work drives to the theatre for amusement and relaxation.

We, preachers and teachers of the Christian ministry, cannot afford (if we are true to our mission) to ignore either the need for recreation and innocent amusement, nor can we neglect the possibilities of the mimic stage as a means for impressing upon the minds of our people great moral truths. He is a poor preacher and a dull teacher who never dramatises in the course of his sermon, and I think it will be universally conceded that the most successful preachers of the age are men who have in a singular degree dramatic ability. I venture, therefore to appeal to all Christian and liberal minded men and women in Hemel Hempstead to give the Eden Theatre encouragement, and if possible such patronage as shall convince Mr. Whitmee and his excellent company of actors, that in their art they are teachers as well as performers.

Lest it should seem to my brother ministers in Hemel Hempstead a strange thing that a clergyman of the Established Church should specialise as I have done with regard to shows and showmen let me say that this is no new work or enterprise. That with the sanction and blessing of the Bishops of the Church, and with the hearty co-operation of the local clergy, I have carried on in all times of freedom from parish work a mission for God and for good amongst them. For more than thirty years past I have been closely identified with all sorts and conditions of strolling players and itinerant performers, and it may be news to some to know that they form a very large industrious and highly respectable class in the community.

And it is gratifying to me that my ministry amongst them is not only much blessed and appreciated, but that in a recent interview with my Diocesan, the Bishop of London, he instructed me to submit a definite scheme of work (to take the whole of my time) amongst them. This I am hoping to accomplish in the coming year.

Although my work will touch the travelling showpeople, more than the theatrical, or the variety stage, yet at the same time there are large enterprises of a portable character staying for a long season in certain towns (like Mr. Whitmee's Eden Theatre), that will come under my direct ministrations, but, of course, with the hearty approval and co-operation of the local clergy.—Yours, ever for God and for good,

Rev. T. Horne,
Hon. Chaplain to the Showman's Guild.
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

At Hartlepool were Bailey's cinematograph and Carroll's similar concern, Crow's steam horses, Newsome's swings, Kitson's bottle battery, and Watkins and Dear's throwing games.

At Morriston, Wales, for private business, were Crecraft's electric bioscope and Scarrott's athletes and boxers.

Messrs. Forrest Bros. and the excellent crowd of south-country showmen following their rounds, have been doing excellent business at Canterbury. The big outside and free sight show was Hermann, the prince of the high rope, Saunder's fine art show, Swales Forrest's wheeling the whirl and juvenile roundabouts, H. Forrest's big wheel, and the well-known fair-ground novelties and games of the Bros. Bolesworth, Pettigrove, Macklin, Saunders, Simons, and Body.

Twenty horses in a field near Northampton had their manes and tails cut on Sunday night, and their owner, the proprietor of Thurston's travelling roundabouts, estimates that their value has been depreciated by £50. One animal was rather badly cut about the neck. The police are trying to trace the perpetrators of the outrage.

The fine Palace orchestra, under the direction of that artistic musician and clever conductor Mr. Herman Finck, has been playing during the week, for the first time in any variety house Berlioz's "Le Carnaval Romain." Mr. Finck finds that audiences at the Palace appreciate very highly the best music, and he takes all possible care to secure worthy renderings.

Archdeacon Colley has promptly repudiated Mr. Maskelyne's claim to have won the £1,000 cheque offered by the Archdeacon should the conjurer produce from the region of the heart a vapour which materialised into a human being. The Archdeacon contends that Mr. Maskelyne did not fulfil the conditions contained in the letter making the challenge that at the time of the manifestation there should be present a committee of six gentlemen, three selected by Mr. Maskelyne and three by Archdeacon Colley, with a seventh gentleman to act as umpire. It is understood that the dispute will be settled in the Law Courts.

In our correspondent's account of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gibbons's recent at-home, it was stated that the orchestra was conducted by Mr. Peterson, "the musical director at the Holborn Empire." That position is held by Mr. James Sale, who has filled it since the opening in the early part of the year.

The popular vaudeville company, "The Vagabonds," under the direction of Mr. Harold Montague, concludes to-day a most successful four weeks' visit to the Pier Pavilion, Clacton-on-Sea. The entertainments have consisted of original songs, sketches, dances, &c., and a comedietta at each performance.

Mr. Albert Spalding, the violinist, has determined upon producing a new orchestral work by British composers at every concert given by him in England, on the Continent, and in America. The first of his series of symphony concerts will therefore include a symphonic interlude by Herbert Bedford, entitled "Over the hills and far away."

"CAPTAIN KIDD;"
or, THE PIRATES OF WAPPING."

An Operatic Extravaganza, in Three Acts, the Libretto and Lyrics by W. J. Mackay, Music by Gilbert Wells, Produced at the Camberwell Empire on Monday, October 15.

Characters:

Captain Kidd ..... Mr. Dick Tubb
Bill, the Bosun ..... Mr. Syd H. Morton
Timothy ..... Mr. W. J. Mackay
Mrs. Salt ..... Mrs. Herbert Woodin
Polly Primrose ..... Miss Connie Dyke
Jack Salt ..... Miss Nellie Valentine

It really would not matter what title was given this merry little hotch-potch which the authors have named *Captain Kidd; or The Pirates of Wapping*. Every scene is reminiscent of certain popular musical comedies, comic operas, and pantomimes.

In the opening scene at Wapping we find Mrs. Salt, a poor lone widow, whose motto is "'Tis never too late to wed." She is the landlady of the waterside hostelry, "The Pig and Whistle," and her pretty barmaid, Polly Primrose, loves and is beloved by Jack Salt, a true British sailor. But the course of true love never did run smooth, so it is not surprising to find that Captain Kidd, the pirate King, has set his covetous eyes on such a trim little craft, and with the aid of Bosun Bill, his apprentice Timothy, and his gang of pirates, he successfully carries off to his ship Mrs. Salt, her barmaid Polly, and her lover Jack. Owing to a storm at sea the pirates' ship is wrecked, and we find all the principal characters escape from the wreck, and meet one another on Crusoe's Island, whereon Captain Kidd is seized with remorse, and claims the lone widow for his wife, and allows Jack to wed pretty Polly.

This simple story is interpreted in a bright and merry fashion by an excellent company. Mr. Dick Tubb in the title-rôle is all a burlesqued pirate King should be, his many topical and popular allusions winning him frequent and hearty applause. As the widow Mrs. Salt, Mr. Herbert Woodin is excellent. His many quaint feminine touches, added to a droll yet grim sense of humour, makes him the life and soul of many amusing incidents. He also proves himself a highly capable dancer. As Jack Salt Miss Nellie Valentine imbues her part with a naivete and charm that win all hearts, and her delightful rendering of her one-verse song, "The old, old story of love," secured the enthusiastic favour of the audience. Miss Connie Dyke as the pretty and winsome Polly Primrose invests the character with a bright girlishness that makes her a warm favourite from her opening song, "Jack the handy man," with its smart hornpipe to the finale, and chorus, "His home, his King, and girl." Mr. Syd H. Morton as Bill the Bosun, and Mr. W. G. Mackay as the elongated apprentice, Timothy, are inseparable. Their duet "We're just as bad as they make 'em," and their merry cross talk enlivens many scenes, and adds not a little to the general success. The strong chorus of sailors, Amazons, fisher girls, &c., are deserving of warm praise. Favourable mention should also be made of the scenery by Mr. Francis H. Bull, the elegant costumes by Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, the music arranged by Mr. W. W. Bright, the orchestration by Mr. Frank Hurst and his efficient orchestra, and the completeness of the production, for which Mr. Jesse Sparrow is responsible.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

There can be no difference of opinion as to the exceptionally attractive qualities of the programme submitted this week to the patrons of this old-established, but quite up-to-date, place of amusement; and crowded houses have been the result of Mr. J. C. Coe's generous catering. The engagement of Miss Marie Lloyd is in itself sufficient to attract a big crowd, for there is no comedienne of the present day who has attained a greater height on the ladder of popularity. And well does she maintain her enviable position. The piquancy and humour which have always distinguished her as a comedienne are still as conspicuous and as effective as ever. Miss Lloyd has had a flattering reception at Hammersmith. Amongst the comedians engaged here, Mr. Sam Mayo is well to the front. He has a style of his own which has been more or less successfully imitated by those performers who, failing to be original themselves, make it their business to follow closely in the footsteps of others; but none of his competitors in the line of business, the distinguishing feature of which is the immobility of the singer, have ever succeeded in getting quite the same quaint effect from an expressionless countenance as does Mr. Mayo. In the character of a Chinaman with a long name he offers an excellent specimen of his peculiar humour; but he contributes two or three other ditties, which excite the hearty merriment of the audience, and their enthusiastic applause as well.

The Two Bees (Mr. and Mrs. Blake) have introduced here their latest success, entitled *The Man in the Moon*. In the character of that mysterious individual, of whom we have all heard from the days of childhood, Mr. Blake, strikingly made up, pays a visit to the earth, and holds converse with a maiden. Together they render a duet all about "the man in the moon," and in this rôle Mr. Blake takes the opportunity of reciting rhymed lines, in which reference is made to topics of the day, both imperial and local. Most of these allusions are much to the point, and as a result they seldom miss fire. Judging by the cordiality of his reception at Hammersmith and elsewhere, the visit of the "Man in the Moon" is likely to be indefinitely prolonged. It should be added that Mrs. Blake gives excellent support as the young lady who welcomes the stranger to Mother Earth. The Misses Ella and D'Arcy Hope appear in a little musical sketch, one representing a servant-maid and the other a music hall star. The last mentioned sings a popular ballad in good style, and the "slavey" not only indulges in some amusing comic business, but also gives a clever imitation of a phonograph. They conclude a popular turn with a lively duet. Mr. J. P. Ling is successful in a mimetic monologue, in which he imitates a village quartette singing "Hail, smiling morn," a ludicrous effect being obtained through one of the vocalists singing flat. Other imitations include an amateur band, and the laughable attempt of a young gentleman, after imbibing two or three glasses of beer, to recite "The Wreck of the Hesperus." Zaro and Arno, in their comedy bar act, combine comedy and smart gymnastic work. Miss Edie Gray and her two coons are admirable vocalists, one of their most successful contributions being a hunting song, with a rattling "Tally-ho" chorus. The Dandies, under the direction of Mr. Henry J. Corner, score in their very acceptable musical melange, called *Song, Mirth, and Dance*; and Mr. Jack Lorimer, in Highland costume, proves himself to be a versatile entertainer, particularly distinguishing himself with an eccentric dance that sends the audience into fits of laughter. Bishop and Hanlon, comedians, work very hard, and employ various devices, both new and old, to amuse. Mrs. Sims Reeves gives a pleasing selection of her late husband's most famous ballads, and is well received; Dean and Dawson, in the comedy sketch, *Stage Aspirants*, and another couple, Bowman and Morton, in the amusing duo, "She loved a policeman," deserve favourable mention; as do also Mr. Harry Walker, comedian and raconteur; Miss Cissie Lupino, transformation dancer; Mr. Chas. Woodward, actor vocalist; and the Edisonograph, with pictures of the latest events. Mr. Lewis Vincent is the courteous acting-manager at this establishment, and Mr. J. H. Cleve is the able musical conductor.

THE MUSIC HALL LADIES' GUILD.

The above title has been chosen for a charitable organisation which is now in the course of development. The establishment of such a society had been discussed at intervals for some time past, and a few months ago the idea was taken up by Miss Lily Burnand and Miss Lil Hawthorne. Later on Mrs. Smythson spoke of it publicly in the provinces. The scheme was supported in London by Miss Burnand, Mrs. Fred Ginnett, Mrs. Fred Karno, Mrs. Kate Butler, and others, who held meetings, laid down a few rules, and passed some amendments. Miss Fanny Brough, of the Theatrical Ladies' Guild, was consulted, and Mrs. Carson was also communicated with. Both ladies endeavoured in every way in their power to assist the formation of the Guild. It has only been in existence for four weeks, and in that short space of time it has made wonderful progress. Mrs. Fred Karno has permitted the Guild the use of a flat, Miss Lily Burnand furnishing it. Mrs. F. Ginnett has supplied printing, and Mrs. Butler, Miss Constance Moxon, Miss Lily Burnand, Miss Lil Hawthorne, and Miss Marie Lloyd—who has been elected president—are all working very hard to make the Guild a success. The members in the provinces are trying to get up a bazaar; and the Canterbury Music Hall has been generously placed by Mr. Adney Payne at the disposal of the Guild entirely free of charge for a matinée in four weeks' time; the actual date is not yet fixed. The performance will be given entirely by ladies, and the matinée will be under female control. Mrs. Adney Payne has kindly promised to give her valuable assistance.

Amongst the objects of the Guild are to assist the wives of artists who through lack of employment, illness, or confinement are in want of help by supplying proper medical aid, food, coal, or other necessaries as may be required; also in cases of maturiay to lend a supply of suitable baby clothes for the first month, to be returned at the expiration of that time; to assist widows of artists to find suitable employment; to find employment for children of poor artists and orphans as programme sellers and call boys, or to obtain for them office work or other suitable employment; in cases where possible to assist them in obtaining parts in sketches where children's rôles are included; to supply necessitous artists with free clothing; to sell stage and other clothing to artists who may require them at a very nominal cost; to visit the sick; and to give toys, books, and games to the sick children of artists.

The above are only a few of the objects for which the Guild has been formed. As time goes on no doubt others will be suggested and carried out. The founders of the Guild earnestly request that all lady artists, no matter in what position, will join this Guild, and so help to assist a very noble cause. As already stated, Miss Marie Lloyd is the president of the Guild. The vice-presidents are Miss Lily Burnand and Mrs. Fred Ginnett; and the treasurer is Mrs. Fred Karno. The founders are Miss Lily Burnand, Mrs. Egerton (Liverpool), Miss Constance Moxon, Mrs. Louie Smythson, Mrs. Fred Ginnett, Mrs. Kate Butler, Miss Rosie Lloyd, Miss Belle Braham, and Miss Lil Hawthorne. All communications should be addressed to Miss Anna de Grey, 69, Primrose-mansions, Prince of Wales's-road, Battersea Park, S.W. Funds are urgently needed, and all contributions will be most thankfully received.

Collected by

Carter Livesey	3	18	0
R. M.'s	1	17	6
Fred Sinclair	1	6	4
Miss Constance Moxon	1	2	6
Miss Lily Burnand	1	1	0
Mrs. W. Riley	1	1	0
Mrs. Fred Ginnett	1	1	0
Mrs. K. Butler	1	1	0
Mrs. Jackson	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Ebden	1	1	0
Miss Hetty King	1	1	0
Miss Lil Hawthorne	1	1	0
Mrs. Egerton (Liverpool)	1	1	0
Mrs. L. Smythson	1	1	0
Collected by Mrs. Eroll	0	13	0
"Griff"	0	13	0
Mrs. Sam Poluski	0	10	6
Mrs. Chirgwin	0	10	0
Anon	0	10	0
Little Ganty	0	10	0
Nat Clifford	0	10	0
Mrs. Russell Wallett	0	5	0
Fred Land	0	5	0
La Milo	0	5	0
Miss D'Orville	0	3	0
Miss G. Hasto	0	2	6
La Monte	0	2	6
Miss Agnes Hazel	0	2	6
Mrs. Eroll	0	2	6
Mrs. Burns	0	2	6

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

At the Royal Academy of Music, on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Stewart Macpherson, F.R.A.M., continued his lecture on "The Evolution of the Symphony," referring this time to the symphonies of the great Beethoven. The lecturer said in his early days Beethoven began under the influence of Mozart. Mr. Macpherson here played on the piano a short example that might almost have been composed by Mozart. Beethoven was republican in his tastes, and was considered quite revolutionary in his musical ideas. He was thirty years old before his great work the "Eroica" saw the light, when it met with much hostile criticism. The lecturer here played a passage that the critics said would, they thought, make the audience laugh, and they compared his fresh and charming Second Symphony, composed in 1802, to "an immense wounded snake dragging on to its death." About the time this work was written Beethoven's mastery over the piano was greater than his command of the orchestra. In 1804 Beethoven greatly admired Napoleon, and wrote on the title-page of one of his compositions "Napoleon and Beethoven," but when he heard of his after career he said he had become a tyrant, and tore up the title-page. After the death of Napoleon, in 1821, Beethoven wrote the Funeral March. The lecturer played the first movement of the "Eroica" symphony, showing how the theme consisted of only four notes; the consummate mastery of the way in which this theme is worked out all the world knows. Beethoven wrote it for the Philharmonic Society of London, and it was performed by the Royal Academy in April, 1806. It was thought by many, the lecturer said, that all great works were composed red hot, but a reference to the careful studies in Beethoven's note-book showed this was not the case. In regard to the absurd methods of introduction adopted in the past, the lecturer gave some amusing examples. He said also that in the last hundred years music had made a wonderful advance, and we must either advance or go back. In the present lecture, he said, it was impossible to deal with the nine symphonies of Beethoven, therefore he only took the "Eroica."

MISS ELSIE EARLE, "the holly girl," will produce for the first time in town, at the Palace, Camberwell, on Thursday next, her successful scena, *Holly and Mistletoe*, written by Will Letters, author of *The Lilac Girl, Sunshine and Shadow, The Synagogue*, &c.

MR. HERBERT SIMS REEVES, son of the late Sims Reeves, the celebrated tenor, made his first appearance on the variety stage on Monday night, when he sang several songs with great success at the Camberwell Empire. He used to play his father's old parts in *The Waterman* and other works of a similar kind that have now been relegated to the lumber shelf.

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Manager, Mr. J. B. HELM; Musical Director, Mr. F. H. J. MORAN.

AMERICA, U.S.
COLUMBUS, O. "Mumming Birds."
Messrs. Harry Royston, James Russell, Sidney Chaplin, W. Fern, Ernest Stone, Fred Bendo, Bert Clark, Arnold McFarlane. Misses Amy Minister, Beatrice Barnes, Agnes Clark.
Manager, Mr. A. FORREST.

NEW YORK, U.S.A.
ORPHEUM. "The Smoking Concert."
Messrs. Billie Reeves, George Welsh, Arthur Dando, Will Stanley, Charles Emerald, Jack Osborne, Chas. Sivado, Reed Almonti, Will Crackles, G. Seamans, J. Aubrey. Misses Rosie Fenton, Mabelle Welsh, Minna Dixon.
Manager, Mr. A. REEVES.

SOUTHAMPTON.
HIPPODROME. "The Dandy Thieves."
Messrs. George Hestor, Frank Morton, Harry Howe, R. H. Kitchen, Tom Manardo, Alec Munro, Johnny Clegg, Sydney Bolton, Charles Usher, B. Moore, S. Gossling, M. Lambert. Misses Leonora Castelle, Kitty Brunton, Chicoy Johnson, Margaret Ruby, Berenice Maxwell, Daisy Hestor, Amy Hermance, Marjorie Gossling.
Manager, Mr. L. GREENWOOD; Musical Director, Mr. DUDLEY POWELL.

NEWPORT, MON.
EMPIRE. "Mumming Birds"
Messrs. James Le Fre, Bob Lewis, Fred Whittaker, Bert Williams, Will Moran, Frank Melroyd, Will Lorenzi, George Craig, Albert Layton, B. Dean. Misses Ada Minister, Sara Dudley, Marjorie Williams, Rosie Mayville.
Manager, Mr. C. SEEWELL.

READING.
COUNTY. "Saturday to Monday."
Messrs. Rolando Martin, James Fletch, Fred Palmer, J. W. Bradbury, Dick Harcourt, Victor H. Crawford, T. McDonough, George Cooper, C. Herbert Summers, Sydney Lansdown, Bertie Crew, W. Lawrence, E. Pablo. Misses Amy Rogerson, Ada Maskell, Daisy Stone, Lucy Walden, Lulu Lillian, Kathleen Dennis, Mabel Clarke, Valetta Rushton, Muriel Palmer.
Manager, Mr. H. A. DOOLEY; Musical Director, Mr. A. D'ALBERT.

GLASGOW.
GRAND. Pantomime Season, 1906-7.

MANCHESTER.
PALACE. "The Football Match," Christmas, 1906.

AMERICA.
"Moses and Sons" Shortly.

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SOUTH AFRICA.
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Nov. 5, Liverpool.
,, 12, Shepherd's Bush.
,, 19, Edinburgh.
,, 26, Newcastle.
Dec. 3, Manchester.
,, 10, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
,, 17, ,, ,, ,,
,, 24, ,, ,, ,,
,, 31, ,, ,, ,,
1907.
Jan. 7, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
,, 14, ,, ,, ,,
,, 21, ,, ,, ,,
,, 28, ,, ,, ,,
Feb. 4, Opera House, Cork.
,, 11, ,, ,, ,,
,, 18,
,, 25,
Mar. 4, Dublin.
,, 11, Birmingham.
,, 18, Walsall.

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"THE LILLIPUTIAN WONDER."

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Packed Houses at every Performance.

Proclaimed by the Proprietor, Mr. Baskerville, to be the best top for many a day. Mr. B. said:—Graham, this has been **THE RECORD WEEK,** the receipts being far in advance of any previous week since the opening.

Special Bills out on Tuesday speaking of my INSTANTANEOUS SUCCESS.

1,800 Children and Adults witnessed my Act at the Saturday Matinée.

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During that time I have signed Contracts (through him) for the following:—
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"More to follow," says Mr. B.

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who also was a Great Success
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IN case of the non-delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17,
Feb. 25, March 4, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Feb. 4, 18, 25, March 4, 18, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Dec. 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, 11, 25, April 1, 29, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Dec. 10, Feb. 4, 25, March 4, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Nov. 19, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, 18 March 4, 11, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Nov. 26, Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 4, 25, April 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
March 25, April 1, 8, 15, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Oct. 22, Nov. 12 (three nights each), Nov. 26, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, Feb. 18, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Dalston, Dec. 10, 17; Huddersfield, Nov. 19; Northampton, Nov. 26; Wolverhampton, Nov. 19, 26, and Dec. 3, 10; Leamington, Oct. 22, Nov. 1 and 12 (three nights each).
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
March 18, May 6, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
Nov. 26, Dec. 24.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
Dec. 10, 17, 31.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Oct. 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, 17, 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Nov. 1, 22, 29, Dec. 6, 13, and Xmas.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County T., Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
Jan. 14, March 18;
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON,
Jan. 21, March 25.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

WANTED, First-Class Attraction only, Dec. 10,
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, Good Pantomime, Dec. 24 and 31.
Now Booking Season 1907.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Nov. 19 (3 nights), Dec. 17.
Required, Sound Attraction for Christmas, Dec. 24.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Dec. 10.
Address, HARRY YORKE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through disappointment, First-Class Musical Attractions, First-Class Musical Attractions, for weeks of Nov. 19 and Dec. 10.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, three nights, one matinée, Nov. 1, only vacant date until Jan. 7.
Wire or write, SEEBOLD, Worthing.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, first-class companies, for Nov. 26, Dec. 17, and good pantomimes for dates in Jan. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Musical Plays and Attractions (no dramas), for Grand T., West Hartlepool. Vacant Nov. 19, 26, Jan. 14. F. GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

CROWN THEATRE, PECKHAM, S.E.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Nov. 5, through obliging George Dance, musical preferred.
Write, CECIL PAGET.

THEATRE ROYAL, EXETER.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Nov. 19, 26, and Dec. 3 and 10. Wire,
MANAGING-DIRECTOR, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED Good Pantomime for Christmas week, for two or three weeks. Good Show can do well. Good terms. Send full particulars to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Opera House, Buxton, Xmas, Easter, and Whit. Week, musical preferred. Apply, ARTHUR WILLOUGHBY.

WANTED, for Boro' Theatre, Heywood, good Companies, Oct. 29 and Nov. 5. ALBERT JONES, Oxford-chambers, Manchester.

WANTED, Best Attractions, for Coliseum, Aberystwyth, Nov. 5 and 12, also Christmas week and for 1907 season. Wire, PHILLIPS.

THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE.
WANTED, Nov. 19, Dec. 31, First-class Attractions only. FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Theatres Royal, Aston and Smethwick, Extra Strong Dramatic Attraction, Dec. 17, 24; Theatre Royal, Chatham, vacant Nov. 19, Dec. 17. Number 1 Companies only entertained. BARNARD, Chisleti-road, West Hampstead.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Queen's Theatre, Leeds, Nov. 12 and Dec. 17. Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Good Attractions, for Various Spring Dates, also Autumn, 1907, musical preferred. SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant Dec. 3, March 4, onward.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant April 22, onward.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBORO',
Vacant Nov. 5, 22, 29, onward.
(Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY,
Vacant Dec. 3, onward.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Nov. 12, 19, onward.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant Nov. 12, onward.

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Nov. 5, Dec. 24, 31, onward.

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
Vacant Oct. 22, Nov. 12, onward, with exceptions.

All Communications,
Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.

The leading Theatre of the Town.

This week, Miss Mabel Love, in
"Freedom of Suzanne."
Next week, "Walls of Jericho" (return).

WANTED, good Attractions, Jan. 7 and 21, Feb. 4, 25, onwards, with exceptions.

Calvert Routledge.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE,
PONTYPRIDD.
Owners and Proprietors,
Messrs. Trenchard and Jones.
Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.
WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 3, 17, and 31, Musical Comedies, Musical Comedies, and First-class Companies required.
Now booking Season 1907.
For dates, apply,
Manager, Charles Trenchard.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.

WANTED, First-class Attractions Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 7.
James Bell.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Company, three nights, Nov. 22, 23, and 24.
Address, Gerald Harding.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, Attractions, Nov. 1, 2, 3, also 5 and 19 (3 or 6 nights), and on, with exceptions.
W. Payne.

THEATRE ROYAL, SHREWSBURY.
WANTED, Nov. 5 and Dec. 3, First-class Musical Comedies preferred.
Communicate, W. C. Dornton, Business-Manager.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Nov. 26 (?), Dec. 13 (three nights), Jan. 3 (three nights), Feb. 4 (?), March 4, April 22 (Fair Week), on.
Address, Frank King.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Dec. 17, Feb. 25, March 4, 25, April 15, 29, and onwards.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

NORTHERN THEATRES CO., LTD.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
Bury, Nov. 19;
Halifax, Nov. 26.
Vacant through a Tour being Cancelled.
Address (no wires), Otto C. Culling, Bury.

THE PIER,
EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, and various dates in the Spring.
Address, G. Hayes.

ILFRACOMBE.
RUNNACLEAVE T. AND OPERA HOUSE.
The Most Comfortable Playhouse in the District, used exclusively for Amusement Purposes. Everything well done. Open all the year round.
WANTED, First-class Attractions between now and Christmas, with exceptions, also a Good Panto. Write, Julius Phillips, Opera H., Ilfracombe.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Jan. 28, Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, 1907.
All dates filled 1906.
Apply, James Kiernan, Owner and Manager.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for three nights,
Oct. 29, Nov. 1, 12, 15, and onwards.
Mr. F. W. Purcell has taken a long lease of the above Theatre, which is now undergoing renovation, thorough cleaning throughout, and a number of improvements. Will be pleased to hear from good companies. Permanent stage staff, electric light, &c. Address, F. W. Purcell,
Lingwood, Yerbury-road, Tufnell Park, London, N.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Inverness, Attractions, for Xmas and New Year Weeks. Few vacant dates Nov., Dec., and Feb. Cameron Burgess.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Co's., Musical preferred, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. Potts.

WANTED, Oct. 27, onwards, complete Companies (Operas, Bands, Concert Parties, &c.) for Saturday afternoons, near Glasgow; also First-Class Minstrel Troupe or any other strong Combination for New Year's week. Dec. 31. Particulars, Calverto, Giffnock, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Companies, Nov. 5 (3 nights), Dec. 3, 10, and New Year. The theatre bars are now open. Frank Payne, Avenue Theatre, Kettering.

WANTED, for important South Coast Theatre (as an experiment), good Company, Nov. 5 or 12, capable of playing two distinct Dramas nightly. Box 3,884, "The Era."

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
QUEEN'S PALACE, RHYL.
PUBLIC HALL, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Good Attractions, Nov. 5 on, with exceptions, two or three nights each town. Xmas week vacant. Apply, Chas. Chaplin, Sea View, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Magnificent New Town Hall, moderate rental, permanent stage, excellent accommodation. F. W. Western, Sandy, Beds.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Peckham Public Hall, Rye-lane, S.E. Licensed for Music and Dancing by L.C.C. For vacant dates, apply Proprietor.

COMPANIES WANTED.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-Class Companies,

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE,
Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, and onwards, with exceptions.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
March 4, 11, and various, onwards.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE.
Nov. 19, and onwards, with exceptions.

William Martin,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

VICTORIA ROOMS, CHELTENHAM.
WANTED, Company, Oct. 29, through Transferring. Address, Edward B. Shenton.

WANTED, strong Society Play, short cast: Star part for lady; one special week. Miss Maud May, Clervaux Castle, Croft, Darlington.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatre, Nov. 26:
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 24, 31
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

Grand Autumn Production.
"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 11, 18, March 11.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

Grand Autumn Production.
"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 4, 11.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 10, 24, and 31.
Fredk. Melville,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 10, 31, Jan. 21, on.
Fredk. Melville,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 7, 14, and onward.
Fredk. Melville,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22, Dec. 3, 10, 24, 31.
Fredk. Melville,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 31
Tom H. Taylor,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 3, Dec. 31.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Jan. 21 and March 11.
Douglas Bruce,
Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of Dec. 3 and 17.
Wire or write, W. W. Kelly,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 19, 26, Christmas, on.
Charles Harrington,
Lyceum Theatre, Glasgow.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 19, 26, on Christmas.
Charles Harrington,
Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.,
in the Romantic Irish Musical Play,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Autumn, 1907, Grand Production, "Rollicking Rory."
Chalmers Mackey, Oct. 22, P. T., Glasgow (6 nights).

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Dec. 10.
Address, J. W. Cordiner,
Oct. 22, Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

ALLAN WILKIE,
supported by
Mr. G. Alexander Marsh, Miss Iné Cameron, Miss Gertrude Gilbert, Miss Carrie Baillie.
The Strongest Combination of any Shakespearean Company Touring the British Isles.
WANTED, Nov. 26, between Folkestone and Birmingham, only vacant date this year.
Also Wanted, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, March 11, April 29, May 13, 20, 27, Aug. 5, onwards.
Address, Knightstone Pav., Weston-super-Mare.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, for Witty Watty Walton and Company in above, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Nov. 19.
Wire to-day, Leonard Dalrymple,
Queen's T., Keighley; next, Grand, Luton.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
By Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for this never-failing Attraction. Nov. 5 (?), 12, also Xmas Week. H. Hollister, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction, S.W.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Enormous Success.
Miss V. St. Lawrence as Fiend.
WANTED, Nov. 19 (?), Xmas, New Year, Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 18, 25, March 18, April 15, 22, 29, June 3, 10, 17 (?), July 1, 22, 29, Aug. 5, 12, Oct. 28, Nov. 11, on.
Montague Beaudyn, next, Casino, Bexhill.

MESSRS. SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOUR.

"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."

WANTED, for this First-Class Attraction, Nov. 19, Xmas., Dec. 31, and on, with exceptions. Magnificent new scenery and effects.
Refer Messrs. Lester Collingwood, J. H. Curry, and Sidney Bacon.
Address, John B. Shinton, T. R., Jarrow.

WANTED, for "An Actor's Romance," Nov. 5, also 12 and 19, through misunderstanding. Wire, C. Durie, this, T. R., Blyth; next, A. T., Lancaster.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, "Mr. Hopkinson," Nov. 5, 19; "Mr. Popple," Nov. 19, 26. Two Musical Comedies vacant Christmas, 4 nights. Communicate, Chas. Macdona, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

GRANVILLE and THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-Class Attraction, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 21, and Feb. 4, on, with exceptions.
Fred Granville, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, Theatres, for "Rich and Poor of London," Nov. 19, 26, and Xmas.
Sidney Dench, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, "At Cripple Creek," Vacant Dec. 24, 31, Feb. 25, March 25. Mark Blow, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Xmas and Easter weeks. Fred Bulmer, T. R., Sunderland.

THEATRES WANTED.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.

WANTED, Managers to kindly note that all the following Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."

WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, Nov. 12, 19, 26. I can guarantee good business at any theatre. Add., L. Carson, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."

A Production which will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully Selected Artists.
WANTED, Feb. 11 and 18. Can only entertain First-class Theatres for this Undoubted Success. Address, L. Carson, Keighley.

"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."

Managers wishing to make money should book this excellent Production.
WANTED, Dates, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, 31, and various Spring Dates.

L. Carson, Keighley.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.

"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
By Hall Caine and Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, Best Theatres, for this Strong Attraction, Vacant Nov. 12,
Dec. 3, 24, 31, Jan. 28, and Feb. 11.
Muncaster Theatre, Bootle, Oct. 22.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Colossal Gorgeous Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Jan. 21, Feb. 4, and onwards.
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
Vacant Feb. 18, Lancs. or Yorks.
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
Vacant Feb. 18, Midlands.
Address,
James Kiddie, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

"WOMAN AND WINE."
WANTED, Theatre, with large holding capacity, Dec. 24, 31 (North), Feb. 25 (South).
Bookings include:—
Alexandra, Hull; Alexandra, Sheffield;

Borough Theatre, Stratford;
Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Prince's, Bradford; Prince's, Portsmouth;
Shakespeare, Clapham Junction;
Prince's, Poplar; West London;
Osborne, Manchester; Grand, Brighton;
Metropole, Birmingham;
King's, Hammersmith.

Wire to-day,
Metropole, Birmingham:
next, Queen's, Liverpool.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Nov. 12, Dec. 24.
Success greater than ever.
Wire,
James Bell, Theatre, Darlington.

MR. CYRIL KEIGHTLEY and Co., including Miss Haidee Gunn, in "The School for Scandal," "The Rivals," "She Stoops to Conquer," and "Miles Carew, Highwayman."
WANTED, First-Class Theatre (South), Nov. 5. Add., Graham Morrison, R. C. T., Bedford.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Nov. 12, 19, Xmas, Dec. 31.
Wire, to-day.
Frances Delaval, Grand, Walsall;
Oct. 22, Metropole, Glasgow.

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, Xmas week, Jan. 28, Feb. 4,
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER,"
Vacant Feb. 5 and 19.

E. Bertram, T. R., Birkenhead.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, Xmas, Wanted, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 4.
E. Carter Livesey,
Gaiety, Dundee (return in nine months).

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY.
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, Jan. 7, 21, on, for "A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
All Scenery Carried. Clear Stage Wanted.
Stuart Cleveland, c/o G.P.O., Colwyn Bay.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.,
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 19, Xmas and New Year's Weeks.
George Denham,
Grand, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Jan. 14, 28.
Mr. Samuel James's Company,
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
A perfect production. A brilliant company.
Address,
F. S. Jennings, Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Nov. 5, Nov. 5, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 17.
Mr. Samuel James's Company,
"WHY WOMAN SINS."
Entirely new scenery.
Entirely new uniforms.
First-Class Company.
Five Suburban Theatres booked for this Autumn.
Address,
F. S. Jennings, Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, for Witty Watty Walton and Company, in above, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Nov. 19.
Wire to-day, Leonard Dalrymple,
Queen's T., Keighley; next, Grand, Luton.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 12, various, till Xmas, Feb. 26, various through Spring.
W. J. Miller, St. James's Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Nov. 5, Nov. 12 (3 nights), Nov. 26, and Xmas.
for "Mother's Love" and Other Plays.
Fred L. Connynghame,
New Theatre, Consett, Co. Durham.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
WANTED, Theatres, for Nov. 12, 19, "For Better or Worse," beautifully mounted, splendidly played. Dates, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"SINS OF SOCIETY."
"SINS OF SOCIETY,"
by Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Xmas, Dec. 31, Xmas. Dec. 31.
Feb. 4, 18, 25, March 11, 18 (South).
Bessie Elma, 10, King-street, W.C.

"ASSASSIN."
WANTED, Theatres, April 29 (South), May 20 (through obliging Sidney Cooper, Esq.), Aug. 5, 19.
Augustine Knight, Colosseum, Oldham.

"KITTY GREY."
WANTED, Jan. 14 and 28, only vacant dates until Whit. George Stephenson, Alexandra Theatre, Greenock.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Sixtieth week of present tour.
Booked and re-booked into Oct., 1907.
Cast, printing, and scenery A1.
WANTED, Oct. 29. Wire for Oct. 29.
Wire, terms, printing required. Oct. 29.
Oct. 29, only date this year.
Frank Ayrton, T. R., Darwen (return).

"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Jan. 21, between Leeds and Nottingham, for this First-Class Production.
Harry Fischer, G. T., Edinburgh, to be forwarded.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, immediate Dates, as follows:—
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
including Miss EDITH BLANDE.

Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19 (?), 26, on.

"WORLD'S VERDICT,"
Nov. 5, Dec. 10 (?), on.

DR. WALFORD BODIE,
The Pay-box Magnet.
Now booking 1907-8.
Jan. 7, various, on.
Theatres or Halls. Share, certainty, or salary.

Address, 2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park Glasgow.
Telegrams, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

HARDIE AND VON LEER'S COMPANY.
"FOR LIFE—AND AFTER,"
Geo. R. Sims' Latest Success.
WANTED, Big Melodramatic Theatre, Nov. 5,
Unexpectedly Vacant.
Wire to-day, "Vagancy, London."

HARDIE and VON LEER'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
"FOR LIFE—AND AFTER."
Nov. 5, Dec. 24, 31, Feb. 4, 18.
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
Nov. 5, 12, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 28 (?).
E. P. Clift, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Wires, "Vagancy, London." Tel. No., 7504 Gerrard.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
the Great Domestic Drama,
by Frank Lindo.

WANTED, Good Theatres for above, Nov. 26 and Dec. 10,
Nov. 26 and Dec. 10,
between Alexandra, Birmingham, and Empire, Oldham.
Only vacant dates this year.
Fast filling 1907.
Managers, please note.
Nearly thirty return dates this year alone.
Mr. FRANK LINDO,
Miss MARION WAKEFORD,
and Full Company.

Address,
Frank Lindo,
Queen's Theatre, Longton (return).

EDWARD BRADFORD AND COMPANY
Submit
the World-famed Domestic Drama,

"THE LOVE OF WOMAN."
"THE LOVE OF WOMAN."
"THE LOVE OF WOMAN."
"THE LOVE OF WOMAN."
Under the Direction of
Messrs. Gore Ouseley and Langley Wyatt.

Advertised, Mounted, Produced, and Played better than any Drama on the road.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Easter Week,
to Precede T. R., Sheffield.

Langley Wyatt,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
Tele., 6,579 Central. Tel. add., "Locostel, London."

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Oct. 29,
between P., Blackburn (return), and T. R., Middlesbrough; and Nov. 12,
between Middlesbrough and Junction, Manchester (return),
only open dates this year.
Managers with Good Spring and Autumn Vacancies 1907 are invited to forward
Dates to Charles A. Leicester,
this, P., Blackburn; next, P., Llandudno.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "JUDY."
WANTED, Oct. 22,
Nov. 5, 12
(London or Midlands).
Charles A. Leicester,
this, P., Blackburn; next, P., Llandudno.

LINGFORD CARSON'S MASCOT,
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Nov. 5. Nov. 5, to follow Leeds. Once more a Gigantic Hit. Refer Mr. Robertson. Wire, Geo. A. De Gray. To-day, T. R., Jarrow; next, Rotherham.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Nov. 5 and 19, for this Great Attraction (only vacant dates this year). Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles, for Parade. Wire, F. G. Kimberley, Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."

WANTED, First-class Theatres only.
Only Vacant Date this Year,
Nov. 19.
Spring Entirely Filled, except March 4 (between Avenue, Sunderland, and Royalty, Glasgow) and April 1 (to follow Tyne, Newcastle).
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.

E. Graham-Falcon,
County Theatre, Bedford.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Cardiff Pantomime; all new scenery, painted especially for this production.
Samuel James,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Croydon Pantomime. All new scenery, painted especially for this production.
Samuel James,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

MADGE McINTOSH AND LUMSDEN HARE'S CO., "MOLLENTRAVE ON WOMEN,"
By Alfred Sutro, from St. James's Theatre, London.
WANTED, Nov. 5 (3 nights), Nov. 12 (week, Midlands preferred), Nov. 19 (3 nights), and Nov. 26 (?). Cast includes Miss May Pardoe, Miss Eva Hamblin, Mr. Athole Stewart, Mr. Herbert Grimwood. Attractive printing, charming scenery. Wire, G. F. Reynolds, 10, King-st., Covent Garden.

"A HEART'S DESIRE,"
by Frank Adair (author of "The Favourite," &c.)
WANTED, Oct. 29, Oct. 29. Wire, wire, wire, for this Great Play. Please note cast: Miss Dora Eastlake, Miss Lily Borley Clarke, Miss K. Russell, Miss Frankie Newcombe, Mr. Cecil Gray, Mr. A. W. Beresford-Carl, Mr. Booth Conway, Mr. Aubrey Denham, Mr. J. R. Tyrrell, Mr. R. Stonehouse, &c., &c. Thanks P. Wilson, Esq., Theatre Royal, Houghton-le-Spring, for many kindnesses. Thanks for contracts, good wishes, &c. H. Elliman, 5, Vernon-street, Dublin.

WANTED, for "Gipsy Jack," Nov. 5, to follow Preston, for Henry Bedford's Company. A sure draw. Apply, 99, Halton-road, London, N.

"UNDER TWO FLAGS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Vacant Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11.
Mark Blow, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Dec. 3 and 17, Jan. 7, 14, Feb. 4, Lancs. or Yorks.
Dickie Clare, Eden T., Bishop Auckland.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Nov. 5, Nov. 5, Nov. 5,
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Xmas week, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, for Witty Watty Walton and Company, in above, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Nov. 19.
Wire to-day, Leonard Dalrymple,
Queen's T., Keighley; next, Grand, Luton.

"THE TRAITOR," E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 17, 24.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, Royal, Peterborough.

WANTED, Theatres or Town Hall, for Xmas. Dec. 24 and New Year week, Dec. 31, for the Best Variety Shows of Nine Turns. Apply, E. G. Cumberland, Oct. 22, Empire, Stockport; Oct. 29, Tivoli, Leeds.

THEATRES WANTED.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres,

"FLORODORA,"
Feb. 4, 11, April 8, 15, 22, and various, onwards.

"OLIVER TWIST,"
Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14, 28, April 1.

"THE SILVER KING,"
(by arrangement with Messrs. Polini and Melford),
Nov. 12, 19 (3 nights each).

William Martin,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

J. BANNISTER'S HOWARD'S
"BLUEBEARD" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 14, 21, Feb. 11, and various, onwards, with exceptions. William Martin, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S TOURS.

WANTED, Oct. 29, Oct. 29, Oct. 29, also Dec. 3,
In the spring,
Feb. 11 (North), April 1, 15 (North), 29 (Midlands).

See Companies Columns.

W. Howard Ashley,
Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Jan. 7, Feb. 4, 11, 18. H. A. Jordison, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

COMPTON COMEDY COMPANY.
WANTED, Second Lady, for Miss Neville, Lady Sneerwell, &c., tall, dark, and with experience; Gentleman for Young Marlow, Joseph Surface, Capt. Absolute, &c., one who can look and has played the parts preferred; and Good Character Comedian, for Sir Oliver, David, Rumbelow, &c., short and stout build, and with weight in method; also one or two Responsible and Small Character Gentlemen. Tour from Xmas to Whit Week. Photos. and full particulars. Silence a negative.
Apply, Edward Compton,
1, Nevern-square, S.W.
Letters only.

"MAN AND WIFE" SPRING (1907) TOUR.
WANTED, First-class Artists only. Rehearse Dec. 17, for following:—Powerful Actress, capable of deep, pathetic power, for Jean, cripple boy; Singing and Dancing Soubrette; Short, Stout Comedian; Tall, Robust Actor, for Sergeant; also Powerful Actress, for tragic old woman. Full particulars, photos., &c., to T. E. Ward, T. R., Castleford, Yorks.

WANTED, Entire Company for No. 1 Tour of Drama. All Artists paid on sharing terms in proportionate ratio to importance of Parts. Management of Company under direction of Committee elected by Artists. Box 3,887, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Artists, for Tour,
"Mother's Love," and other Plays.
Must be First-class, and capable of playing Répertoire. Terms, references, photos.,
Fred L. Connynghame,
New Theatre, Consett, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Known, Applications can be Entertained for Vacancies in the Cast of Strong, New Drama, for trial week's run in town. Preference given to young but proficient artists requiring a chance. Capable Stage-manager also required. Apply by letter, stating qualifications, to Vert and Sinkins, 41-43, Maddox-st., W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists, in all Lines. Apply, with photos. and full particulars, to William A. Armour, King's Theatre, Cardiff.

WANTED, for New Musical Production next month, ladies and gentlemen, with good voices, principal parts and chorus. Apply immediately to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, to Play Small Parts, and to walk on. Norman V. Norman, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

WANTED, Emotional Leading Actress of Experience (very good figure), to Create Magnificent Part in Sketch (London production), willing to invest small capital, which will be refunded. Apply (letters only), photographs particulars, references, &c., to Manager, 38, Kingsley-house, Beaufort-street, Chelsea.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, First-class Leading Lady, important vacancy; must be young and attractive; to open Oct. 29. Douglas Bruce, T. R., Sunderland.

WANTED, Juvenile Lady, pretty, fair, sing if possible; refinement essential. State height, lowest terms for long tour, refs., and photos., to Hilliard Vox, Grand Theatre, Walsall.

WANTED, Rehearse, Xmas, First-class Powerful Actress, short, slight, refined, for Jean, the cripple boy, in "Man and Wife"; must possess power of pathos. Apply, T. E. Ward, T. R., Castleford, Yorks.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Young Juvenile Lady, for Mary Stannard, in above, rehearse at once. Height, photo., refs., to Leonard Dalrymple, Grand, Luton.

LEONARD MORTIMER'S LONDON COS.
WANTED, First-class Leading Lady, Heavy Man, Juvenile Lead, Really Funny Character Comedian, Long Season, London. Age, height, photos., refs., lowest terms. Leonard Mortimer, 162, Clapham-rd., S.W. No callers. Letters only.

WANTED, Child Actress, for Vera in "The Price of Her Soul"; must be over 14, but look younger. Photo., with full particulars and actual lowest terms, to John B. Shinton, T. R., Jarrow.

HENRY SWINERD'S COMPANY.
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

WANTED, for above, First-Class Principal Comedian, for Silas Crump, sing and dance. Rehearse on or before Nov. 26; twelve months' engagement to suitable man.
Full particulars in first letter to
J. W. Cordiner, Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE POWER OF THE CROSS" CO.
WANTED, First-class Heavy Man, for Curzola. Photos., terms, &c.
Geo. A. De Gray, Theatre Royal, Rotherham.

WANTED, Powerful, Heavy Man (aristocratic). Strong Character Actor (blind part), open 29th, sketch, London. Fred Brooke, 55, Ridley-rd., Dalston.

WANTED, Heavy Gent., to rehearse Tuesday, Oct. 23. Silence polite negative.
Address, J. F. Elliston, Theatre, Bolton.
Those in neighbourhood preferred.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, Robust Character Actor, to Double Comic Policeman and A.S.M. References, photos., height, and actual lowest terms, Miss Maud Hildyard, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, Tall Gentleman, for Small Part, and good understudy.
State height, give full particulars, and enclose photo.,
E. Bertram, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Short Comedian, smart Baggage Man. Lowest terms, &c.,
M. Laing, Grand Theatre, Bolton.

WANTED, Juvenile Soprano, age 14-16.
Apply, Box 3,859, "The Era."

WANTED, Boy Singers, age 14 to 16, good salary, long engagement, with stage experience. The Elm Farm, Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex.

WANTED, Hypnotism, Clairvoyance, Thought-reading Subjects, experienced or inexperienced, for evening entertainments. State age, full particulars, H. S., Box 3,865, "The Era."

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

WANTED, by experienced young Actress, Engagement with good Clubs, Sketches, &c., London. Terms moderate. X., 2, Agate-rd., Hammersmith.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, DANCERS,
Good-looking and Smart,
for Troupes and Pantomimes.
Apply by letter,
stating full particulars,
and enclosing photograph,
to JOHN TILLER AND CO.,
15, LIME-GROVE, OXFORD-RD., MANCHESTER.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, good Ballet Dancers, for a Provincial Pantomime, to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Good Friday in "Robinson Crusoe," Abanazar in "Aladdin." Terms, &c., to E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, very tall Gentleman (Giant), for small part in Xmas Production.
Full particulars, photo., height, references.
FRED KARNO, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, Dame and Speciality, also Chorus Ladies. Apply to E. CRANSTON, Rule's, Maiden-lane, Tuesday next, 2-3.

WANTED, Troupe of Acrobats, capable of Performing as Monkeys, for a London Pantomime. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Four Good Acrobatic Dancers, for Panto. Apply, MAUD PERCY, 73, Corrance-road, Acre-lane, Brixton, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday next, between 2 and 4 p.m. Bring practice dress.

WANTED, Good Baritone Singer, for King Rat, in "Dick Whittington."
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Engagement, Principal Dancer. Quartette, or arrange, Ballet Mistress; thoroughly experienced. First-class Dancer. RITA FREDERIKA, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

WANTED, Known, Miss Daisy Morell, the Popular Principal Boy, at Liberty for Panto. Monday, Palace, Lincoln.

WANTED, Known, Louie Hurman, at Liberty, Principal Boy. Last year, West London T. Coms., 7, Canonbury-avenue, Highbury, London, forwarded.

WANTED, Known, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, having gone into liquidation, Ernie Mayne, the Great Comedian, at Liberty for First-class Panto., prin. comedy. Last year, Tyne, Newcastle, the late Herbert Campbell's part. Fred Wyndham, Esq., says:—The comedy hit of the show. Just concluded Stoll Tour, Bottom of Bills. This week, Hippodrome, Coventry, Top of Bill; next week, Gaiety, Chatham.

WANTED, Pantomime, "Dick Whittington" or "Puss-in-Boots," by Kyoto, the Great Cat (own magnificent hair skin). Write, Palace, Boston.

WANTED, Pantomime Engagements, for Première Danseuse (Second Girl), Quartettes, Char. Comedian, Stage-Management or Production. ROYSTON, Victoria Hall, Rhyl.

WANTED, Engagement, Acrobatic Pantomimist, Animal Impersonator, cat, monkey, &c., height 5ft. 4in., age 22, Liberty for pantomime. MOREL, Post Office, Sheerness.

WANTED, Known, Fred and Lillie Monckton, the popular principal boy and comedian, Lib. for panto 5, Kerfield-cres., Camberwell, London.

WANTED, Known, The Melroses, Speciality Artists and Sand Dancers, Vacant for Panto., Dame and Second Girl. This week, Euston; next, Canterbury.

WANTED, Known, Cranson Bros., Duettists and Burlesque Artists, at Liberty for Panto. 22nd week with F. W. Groves' Entertainers. This and next week, Market Hall, Durham.

WANTED, Panto., by Fields and Lewis, Principal Girl, Principal Comedian, Dancer. Charming Speciality; sure hit. Oct. 22, Sadler's Wells Theatre, London.

WANTED, by Pantomime,
Maxford and O'Neill,
Popular Pantomime People.
Principal Comedy only.
Direct or through any Agency.
All we ask of you,
Come and see us at the
Empire, Portsmouth.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, Pantomime (last six seasons with Messrs. Milton Bode, Fredk. Mouillot, Ernest Stevens, and R. C. Buchanan.
Address, C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Frank Keegan and Co., Funniest Knockabout Act on the Road, at Liberty for Panto., Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21. Com., 8, Somerleyton-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Known, The Four Scoreys, Free for Pantomime, Musical Comedy Extraordinary, including the Two Harrys, with their Scotch and German Cornet Duet; also Miss Nellie, the Smartest Acrobatic Dancer in the Business. 33, Wilton-street, Southampton.

WANTED, Known, Florrie Transfield's Excelsior Troupe of Poodles and Terriers, splendid performers, and finest troupe of ladies' dogs in the business, at Liberty for good panto.; also Brown and Spink, eccentric patterers and vocal comedians, play comic ruffians, &c., panto., with good comic specialities, &c. For terms, address, 23, Mile-end, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Harry Barford, Producer, last season, Fulham Theatre, Disengaged. 34, Hillcrest-road, Acton, W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Practical Stage-Manager, with own tools, to Bill, and make himself useful. Lowest terms and references, T. A. EDWARDES, Palace of Varieties, Derby.

WANTED, Young, Educated Gentleman, to learn management of first-class company, now touring. H. ELLIMAN, 5, Vernon-st., Dublin.

WANTED.—Exceptional opportunity occurs for Young Gentleman to learn Stage-Management with recognised touring company. Small premium. Salary to commence £100 per annum. Address Messrs. Yates, 37 King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy, a thoroughly Good Manager; must be expert advertiser, and well up in variety business.
Address, D. TAYLOR,
Pandy Hotel, Ton-y-Pandy, S. Wales.

WANTED, Junior Clerk (shorthand); must have been in Music Hall Agent's Office. Salary 20s. State age, length of experience, &c, Box 3,877, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, for Tour, smart Young Man, to Assist Manager; must be steady and obliging. Security required. EMERY, 1, North Hall-row, Leeds.

WANTED, Advance Agent, able to Book Halls, Institutes, &c., and boom show. Terms, &c., to ELLIOTT, P.O., Rathkeale, Co. Limerick, Ireland.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, First-class Acting-Manager, for the King's Theatre, Edinburgh.
References, terms, photograph.
State height
to
Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, a good Stage-Manager, used to two shows a night. Apply, stating age, salary required, and with copies of three recent testimonials.
Box 3,862, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Young Man, one thoroughly competent to take full responsibility, of films industry, photographing, copying, reproducing, &c., for Continent. State age, salary, last situation, and when disengaged, Box 3,888, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Practical Carpenter.
Apply, with latest references,
Mrs. CISSIE LAWSON,
49, Benfield-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Tall, Slim Baggage Man (one who works), to understudy a comedy part; must be about 6ft.; commence at once. Lowest terms and references. Wire or write, till Sunday, SANTE, Grand, West Hartlepool; after, T. R., Scarborough.

WANTED, Engagement, Acting or Assistant Manager, Varieties; well up in twice-nightly system; age 28; good appearance; excellent references. Box 3,868, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a well-known Touring Manager is open to take over any successful Drama, now or recently on tour. Particulars received in strictest confidence. Box 3,866, "The Era."

WANTED, by Manager, Re-engagement, theatre or music hall, all-round experience in both, touring or resident. Excellent refs. Box 3,882, "The Era."

WANTED, by young experienced Gentleman, Engagement as Acting or Business Manager; thoroughly acquainted with Bar Management and Box Office, also take Small Parts. Now Disengaged. M., 17, May-road, Twickenham, London.

WANTED, Engagement as Master Carpenter, Tour or Residence; can join at once.
Box 3,852, "The Era."

WANTED, in London, Engagement, Ladies' Cloak-room Attendant, or similar post. Good references. First Aid Certificate. Write, Box 3,853, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, an Author requires £50 to complete production, five new works, two Musical Comedies, one Farcical Comedy, two High-Class Dramas, substantial security or liberal interests in all works given. Star Artist, Manager, or talented Amateur entertained. Particulars, Box 3,883, "The Era."

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE AND CO., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Good Scenic Artist. Send lowest terms, age, last two references,
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram open to accept Contract or Salary; can arrange painting of Pantomime Production. Address, C/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

LITTLE AND DARCY'S PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, First-Class Conductor (Pianist). Photo., references, and full particulars to FRED J. LITTLE,
Theatre Royal, Blyth.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Leader, combine Piano, for a West-End Music Hall; must be smart, and thoroughly experienced. Letters, with references and lowest salary, to Box 3,874, "The Era."

WANTED, Musical Director, for Pantomime. Apply, EDWARD CRANSTON, 8a, Oxford and Cambridge-mansions, Edgware-road, W.

WANTED, First Violin, Open To-night; also Star Turns, 29th, onwards. J. ROLMAZ, Empire, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Good Violinist, at once, well up in Ball Business, a little Pitching; young and steady; shares or salary. ALBERT WATERS, Harpist, Church-st, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, First Violin and Trombone, must be good.
References, terms, &c., to McMILLAN, Hip., Oldham.

WANTED, Good Cornet Player, Soloist, for First-class Crack Cavalry Corps.
Extra Pay and Good Bonus to Fine Player.
Write at once to
H. N., c/o Hawkes and Son,
Denman-street, Piccadilly-circus, W.

WANTED, First Cornet, Second ditto, Horn, Euphonium, Trombone, Bombardon, Drums, used to Circus business, Tenting, six weeks' engagement; good Leader (supply band) write. Box 3,867, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Cornet and Violin, for two hours' Picture Show; long tour.
Letters only.
Box 3,861, "The Era."

WANTED, at Once, Good First Cornet and Bombardon; steady and reliable; comfortable engagement. Wire, THOMPSON, 66, Gerard-street, Derby.

WANTED, Good Reliable 'Cellist, and First Cornet. Apply immediately,
SHERWOOD and Co., Theatre, Wakefield.

WANTED, Bandsman. Piccolo Player is Required for Good Police Band in the Midlands. Performer will have to undertake Constable's Duties. All applicants should state their age and height, and other details.
Apply,
F. E., c/o Hawkes and Son,
Denman-street, Piccadilly-circus, W.

WANTED, Good Flute and Piccolo Player, to open Oct. 22. State experience and age, and send references. Good and permanent shop for competent man. Open all the year round. Sobriety indispensable. J. R. BINGLEY, Musical-Director, P. O. W. Theatre, Grimsby.

WANTED, Good All-round Pianist, that can do Turn. Open Saturday. Al-fresco. Share or salary. Wire or write, BROS. BROWNE, 45, Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, First-class Musicians.
Two Solo Violinists, Bandmaster, Pianist, Four 'Cellists, Four Double Basses, Flautist, Solo Cornettists. Musical duties only. Second-class accommodation. State age, experience, references regarding ability and character.
Rehearsal before engagement.
C. BLACK,
19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

O. W. POOLE'S IMPERIAL MYRIORAMA.

WANTED, Musicians, First and Second Violins, Clarionets, Flute, and Piccolo, Bass, Cornet, Trombone, Drums, and Effects, to open Dec. 3; must assist with fittings when travelling; also M.-D., First Violin. Apply, stating age, terms, and references, to CECIL F. COUPER, Town Hall, Skipton.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

THE KING'S THEATRE,
EDINBURGH.

WANTED, Full Orchestra. Applicants must be thoroughly capable and experienced Instrumentalists.
Address,
stating age, salary required,
enclosing two latest references, to
HENRY HENDERSON, Mus. B.,
General Office,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

COUNTY ASYLUM,
WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.

WANTED, Musician Attendants, First Violin and Viola, not over 30 years of age; must be single; none but competent players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalments up to £45, and according to promotion to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Apply to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WANTED, Musicians, Stewards (Pianists and Violinists), for West African Service. CROPPER, 20/19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Small or Family Band, for Theatre permanency. Lowest terms, full particulars, LEWIS, 33, Frankhill-street, Oldham.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

WANTED, Full Band for above, to commence Monday, Nov. 5; must be used to Variety. State terms and references to AUGUSTE DENTON, Mus. Dir., 86, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known Michael Connelly, Musical-Director, now Disengaged, Panto. or Tour. Composer of music "Silver King," &c., &c. Until 27th, Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Known, Jules Guitton, Musical Director, Composer, and Arranger, Disengaged, Pantos. arranged. 51, Fairland-road, West Ham, E.

WANTED, Known, T. C. Poyser, late Musical-Director, Grand Theatre, Leeds, Disengaged. Address, 98, Gordon-hill, Enfield, Middlesex.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Leader or First Violin. At Liberty through disappointment. First-class refs.; any Business; can open Monday. HART, 78, Grasmere-street, Bolton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Musical Director (Pianist, Soloist, First Prize Brussels Conservatoire); th. experienced; refs.; able to provide Orchestra. Also by experienced Viola, French Horn. 3, Middleton-buildings, Ridinghouse-st., W.

WANTED, Known, Lady Violin (Leader), at Liberty Monday next, on; also Accompanist. Terms, &c., E. HENDERSON, 139, Park-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Lady Violinist, an Orchestral Engagement (experienced); or teach Violin in School. NESBITT, Day, Newsagent, Effra-parade, Brixton.

WANTED, by Violin and Viola, Engagement or Deputising; experienced; late Theatre Leader, Disengaged. VIOLINIST, 39, Marian-square, N.E.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged, Oct. 27, for Violin or Viola, end of Season.
KIRKMAN, Orchestra, Tower, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced Violinist and capable Conductor. Best references. Box 3,863, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Lady Violinist, Engagement; previous experience as First Violin in Ladies' Bands; now at Liberty. VIOLINIST, 60, Kimberley-gardens, Harringay, N.

WANTED, Engagement by Violinist, any bus.; good refs. Wire or write,
WM. G. COLE, 12, Portland-st., Swansea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Violinist, experienced in variety business. Address, VIOLINIST, 266, Liverpool-street, Salford.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, Good, Young, Repetiteur, will shortly be disengaged, and open to accept engagement in London or suburbs. Address, Box 3,881. "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Cornet, any Business; 4 years Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. JIM MARGINSON, address as above.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet, any business.
WM. FLETCHER, 95, Hornby-st., Bury, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Solo Cornet, experienced all lines, now at Lib. Highest refs. BONNER, 37, Winstanley-crescent, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Solo Cornet (comb. Viola), theatre or music hall; good references. Add., E. FRITZ, 80, Rosslyn-crescent, Wealdstone, Harrow.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet; no make-shift. Address, FAIRPLAY, c/o Mrs. D. Mushet, 23, Clark-street, Kilmarnock.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, by Solo Clarionet; any business; excellent refs.
Add., CLARINETTE, 95, Clarendon-rd., Morecambe, W.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Clarionet, five years Solo Clarionet Empire, Dublin, competent and reliable; excellent refs. Address, CHARLES MANTLE, 12, Windermere-st., Everton, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Clarionetist, Engagement, any business, bona fide refs., total abstainer, season finished, West Pier. MCCORMICK, 8, Cleveland-rd., Brighton.

WANTED, by experienced Double Bass Player. Theatre or Variety, near London preferred; good references. Box 3,873, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement in London, by competent Double Bass Player; any business; long experience. Address, BASS, 3, Rutland-street, Hampstead-road, N.W.

WANTED, by experienced Euphonium, Engagement, any Business. At Lib. Nov. 5. CHARLES GRICE, Sanger's Circus, Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, Situation as Trombone, Theatre or Music Hall; London or Suburbs preferred; good references. HURST, 105, Culford-rd., Dalston, N.

WANTED, Engagement, for Good Trombone, any business, steady and reliable, good refs., music hall preferred. TROMBONIST, 14, Cliff-terrace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Engagement, by Miss Nellie Kent, Trombone or Piano, any Business. 35 Claybrooke-road, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, Engagement as French Horn, can combine Second Violin; good refs. LEACH, 14, Landseer-street, Rochdale.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by experienced Lady 'Cellist, Evening Engagement in London, Sundays excepted. References on application. 'CELLIST, 118, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Engagement as Viola, in London or Suburbs; good references.
FREEMAN, 624, King's-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by Oboe, Engagement, Orchestra or Military.
J. P., 303, Albany-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Oboe, thoroughly experienced and reliable; can open immediately; good refs. Address, OBOIST, 28, St. Paul's-road, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, by Experienced Oboe, Engagement, sober, reliable, good references, late R.A. Band, Woolwich. FIELD, 28, Cardozo-rd., Holloway, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, Harpist, age 19.
All letters, c/o 7, Provost-rd., Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Known, Æneas Gibson, Harpist, Pianist, Disengaged, abroad preferred; long experience, sight reader, reliable; references. Age 31, single. Musical Instrument Dealer, Ilkley.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Flautist, late Riviere's Orchestra, Colwyn Bay; any business. Address, FLAUTIST, 41, Cambridge-street, Edgware-road.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flautist, First-class, experience, permanency, reliable, any business, combine viola, disengaged. WATSON, 45, St. Mungo-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, any business. Good reference. MILTON KNIGHT, 28, Aberdeen-terrace,, Lidget Green, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Flautist, experienced flute and piccolo. Address, FLAUTISTE, 78, Taybridge-rd., Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, by Flautist, Re-engagement, in First-class Orchestra, thoroughly competent and steady. R. S. BALLANTINE, 40, Kelvindale-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by N. Robinson, Pianist, exper. in Var., Dram. Bus., good reader, steady, reliable; good refs. 227, Bowling Back-lane, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist, Vocalist, Sketches, young, smart.
WALKER, 33, Lorn-road, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, by First-class Pianist, Immediate Re-engagement, any business, sight reader, transposer, young. Wire, CAMPBELL, 45, Edward-st., Bury.

WANTED, Immediately, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, who is also a first-rate clarionettist, thoroughly experienced, opera, musical comedy, &c. 21, St. Sidwell's-avenue, Exeter.

WANTED, by Accompanist (Lady), Engagement, experienced, and good sight-reader.
39, Chelsham-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First class Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced, Variety preferred; excellent references; steady, reliable. A. LILLE, 93, Queen's-road, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Shop, as Double Drums, at Liberty Nov. 5, any Bus. Add., A. EASOM, 16, Stonebridge rd., South Tottenham, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums, Tympani, 12 years' London experience, good refs., reliable. 54, Wendell-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Tympanist (drums, &c.), for twelve seasons, Llandudno Pier and Colwyn Bay Concerts. M., 38, Carter-ter., Greenheys, Manchester.

To Pier Managers, Corporations, &c.
WANTED, Known, a First-Class Italian Orchestra or Military Band, at Liberty for next summer season; best picked soloists; smart uniforms; répertoire includes all the latest English selections. MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Box 3,765, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands, apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to Dec. Quartet now Disengaged.

WANTED, Known, Baker's Celebrated Band opens Nov. 3, Grand Skating Rink, Brighton (second season). Will Johnson (drums) write? 10, De Montfort-rd.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Angless's Celebrated Ladies' Orchestra, now disengaged.
Address, 78, Norwood-rd., Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Known, the Orchestral Association is prepared to provide Managers and Conductors with Professional Players, from Single Performers to Complete Orchestras, for First-class London or Provincial Theatres, Concerts, or Balls, &c.; or Military Bands of any number, including Conductor if required. None but bona fide professional musicians are admitted to membership. For particulars, apply SECRETARY, 28, Gerrard-street London, W. Telephone, 4459 Central. Telegrams, "Harmonists, London."

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

WANTED, for this Successful Show, Big Star Turns, Great Sensations, and Startling Novelties, new to the above town. Money no object to the Artists with drawing powers.
NOTE.—Great success of the opening. Everybody surprised, everybody delighted. The Press and Public declare that this is the best Circus ever seen in the town. More people turned away than ever visited any other Circus at Barrow-in-Furness. Every act cheered to the echo. Address, KING OHMY, Ohmy's Grand Circus, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Circus Artists, Big Specialities, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Novelties, Nov. onwards. Terms, lithos., bookings, to the Circus Agent, EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Acrobats, Bar Performers, Wire Walkers, &c., for Carnival near Edinburgh. 3 weeks, Dec. 24, on. Best terms. SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, a Good Comedy Acrobat, smart tumbler, and able to patter. State tricks, and salary expected, to Box 3,880, "The Era."

WANTED, a Top-mounter, about 8st., for Acrobatic Comedy Sketch, all details. Box 3,876, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Tudor's Four Champion Trick Ponies, Five Acts, Liberty, with or without Riding Goat and Turpin Mare. Hippodrome, Blyth.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Dec., onwards, for winter season, the refined John Scott Family of Male and Female Equestrians, &c., including Poor Billy, the King of the Ring; all are specially invited to witness our numbers.
Address,
12, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Zampo and Clown, Novelty Speciality.
Sanger's Hippodrome, on Tour.

WANTED, Known, Bert Leonard Trio, Herculean Gymnasts, just concluded successful Tour Duffy Circus. Wire, Mon. next, P.O., Belfast.

WANTED, Oct. 29, on, Mayeno Trio (two ladies, one gentleman), Gymnasts, Acrobats, at Liberty, with a number of First-Class Acts suitable for Halls, Circuses, Carnivals, &c. Perm., 30, Gt. George's-street, Belfast.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Flora Steckel and Funny Steck, conclude Oct. 27, successful season with E. Hannaford's Canadian Circus and Hippodrome, at Liberty Nov. 5, 12, 19, also Xmas and New Year weeks. Gymnastic Speciality, nickel plated apparatus and new dresses. STEBBINGS, or 12, Seymour-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Zanoni, Expert Gymnast, Trapeze, &c., Sensational Slide Suspended by Teeth on Perpendicular Cable. Now concluding 28 weeks, Hanneford's Circus. Lib. Nov. 12. P.O., Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., Comedy Triple Bar Experts, Touring Ireland, Vac. Nov. 12, Dec. 3, 10, 17. 10, Fillwood-rd., Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, Monday next, also Oct. 29, the Maros, quaintest three-bar act.
Wire after, 126, Porter-street, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Almero, Aerial Spar and Wire Act. Big success, Ohmy's Grand Circus, Vacant Oct. 29, onwards. Address as above.

WANTED, Known, Linton, the Greatest Acrobatic Bounding Wire Performer now before the Public. Vacant Oct. 29, Nov. 5. Wire, Hippo., Margate, wire.

WANTED, by Alfonzo, Foot Equilibrist, Nov. 5, and onwards. I use Props., not Parodies, as will be seen by following advert.:—"Ashton Reporter," Sept. 11, says: Alfonzo, "the Tranka Wonder" is indeed a wonder, being the "handiest" artist with his feet we remember seeing. Taking successively a long cylinder, a large Maltese cross, and a large barrel, he twists, turns, and balances them in every conceivable manner. His novel and clever performances were repeatedly applauded.
I can follow anything in my line of business.
All comes., Empire, Merthyr, Wales.

WANTED, Oct. 22, 29, by Chas. Lestree, juggler. Huge success, Broadhead's, Wed., booked the tour. Wire, 7, Clifford-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Leonzi, Anatomical Marvel and Barrel Expert, in a Novel Act, Liberty Oct. 22, on; also for Panto; Animal part a speciality. Wire perm. add., 80, Northfield-road, Crookes, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Good Wine needs no Bush. Joe Hastings, jumper and extemporaneous lecturer, just concluding Hanneford's Circus, Lib. Nov. 12. P.O., Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement by good Tumbler, Acrobatic Balancer, &c., to join Troupe or Sketch, straight or funny. TUMBLER, 32, Stonehill-road, Gunnersbury.

WANTED, Known, for Sale or Hire, complete portable electric lighting installation, compound engine, arc, and other lamps, and suitable for cinématograph. Will Enoch Cattell write? W. REYNOLDS, Engineer, Bedford.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Nothing too big. Send full particulars, with lithos. (if any), to MORGAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Oct. 29, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Big Specialities, Comedians, Comediennes, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Animal Acts, Musical Acts, Novelties, Nov. 5, onwards. Lowest terms, bookings, lithos. EDGAR STEBBINGS, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. 'Phone, 09261. Wires, "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Refined Variety Artists. Can open Saturday, Nov. 3 next, and one or two weeks to follow. Terms must be low, as towns are small (near London). All fares and baggage paid. ELLIS, 84, Lavender-sweep, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, serios, good sisters, doubles doing singles, clever comedians, and patterers, &c. MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-Class
First-Class
Artists
Artists
in
in
all
all
Lines,
Lines,
immediate and future dates.
Give full Bookings,
and
Quote absolute Lowest Terms.
GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
The Hippodrome, Scarborough.
Telephone 288. Telegrams, "Zalva."

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

PALACE, LANCASTER.
WANTED, Artists all Lines.
JOHN FELL, Proprietor.

WANTED, Artists for Glasgow Concerts. Lowest terms and permanent address to the SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Oct. 29, Nov. 5 and 12.
CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin. Britt Pettigrove write in.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines for Extra Turns, Saturday evenings, commencing Nov. 10, and onwards. Nothing too big. Write, VICTOR W. ROWE, 28, Herbert-road, Stockwell, London, S.W.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, for Empire Palace, Dover. Lessee, The Vaudeville Syndicate.
Communications, FRED DURHAM'S Agency.

WANTED, Known, Artists wishing to be Booked for First-Class Music Hall Engagements, please communicate with BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, especially big comic acts, for immediate dates. Price no object. 31, Islington, Liverpool. All Artists written

PALACE, BOSTON.
Sole Lessee and Manager, GEO. SAPHRINI.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Nothing too Big. Call, Monday:—Stavordale Quintette, May Geraldine, Kyoto, Wirson, Harry Barker, Prince Ishmael and Valeria, Prinellas, Joe Gill, The Dunlops, Miss Lillian Sivado.

WANTED, Artists coming North, to Send Vacant Dates and Terms to JAMES ANDERSON and SON'S Agency,, 6, Gt. Clyde-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, for Palace, Oldbury, Nov. 12, onwards; also good combinations.
Write, TOM PRICHARD.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME Co., LTD.
WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contract will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager. T. M. SILVESTER, Manager. G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES, BLYTH.
WANTED, Known, Artists holding Engagements here, please note.—Owing to the death of Mr. Snoudent James, all Contracts are Cancelled. Fresh arrangements being made.

WANTED, for Palace, Kilmarnock, Oct. 29, on, Star Acts all Lines. Absolute lowest; once nightly. J. CUMMINGS, 66, Whitevale, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, any Star Acts who have odd weeks vacant should send list of vacancies to FRANK LYNNE, Empire, Sheffield (AYTOUN'S Agency.)

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.

Something New and Up-to-Date.
Something New and Up-to-Date.
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Something New and Up-to-Date.
Something New and Up-to-Date.
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Something New and Up-to-Date.
Something New and Up-to-Date.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.

For Immediate and Future Dates.

Send at once, Terms, Dates, and Lithos.
Those having a Good Act can rely on Immediate Work
I can give you nine months' solid work.
Also Wanted, Big Acts of all Kinds for the Coming Season for the Seaside.
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street,
41, Oxford-street
Manchester.
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Manchester.

Telephone 09144

Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,

DALTON'S AGENCY. Always send
DALTON'S AGENCY. House Address as well
DALTON'S AGENCY. as Theatre.
DALTON'S AGENCY. A feature in connection
DALTON'S AGENCY. with this Agency will be
DALTON'S AGENCY. Artists Vacant "Monday
DALTON'S AGENCY. next," also "Artists Vacant
DALTON'S AGENCY. Immediate Dates," and Art-
DALTON'S AGENCY. ists are requested to post
DALTON'S AGENCY. me if open Monday next,
DALTON'S AGENCY. and mention at same time
DALTON'S AGENCY. any immediate vacancies;
DALTON'S AGENCY. but "Monday next" being
DALTON'S AGENCY. a feature in the future, a
DALTON'S AGENCY. penny stamp may mean a
DALTON'S AGENCY. shop. Please note to always
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DALTON'S AGENCY. staying in the respective
DALTON'S AGENCY. towns for early delivery of
DALTON'S AGENCY. telegrams. Tele., "Gran-
DALTON'S AGENCY. beste Withington," Tele-
DALTON'S AGENCY. phone, 193 Didsbury. 29,
DALTON'S AGENCY. Mauldeth-road West, With-
DALTON'S AGENCY. ington, Manchester.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, for Oct. 29, and Nov. 5 and 12,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
Cadle's Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Variety Stars, Up-to-date Novelties, and Specialities, for Variety Season, commencing Nov. 19. Lowest terms and full particulars, specimen lithos., James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Big Stars, Oct. 29, onwards.
Full up for small numbers.
State lowest terms, bookings, &c.,
Jess Verno's Agency,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, Big and Small Turns, for Scotland and Ireland, Big Specialities, Small Specialities, Comedians, Serios, Sisters, for Oct. 22, 29, Nov., and on. Lowest terms first letter, Drew Bayley, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow. Nat. 'Phone, 234Y5 Tron.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock, for:—Westwoods, Clavers, Will Souls, Sisters Lytton, Leotards, Mlle. Zelda, Wal Owen, Vernon's Bioscope.
WANTED, Variety Talent; share or salary. Smith and Co., Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

WANTED, Variety Talent and Specialities, for six nights, Nov. 5, for Stanley, Durham. Address, R. Silvester, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

ALHAMBRA VARIETIES, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Talent, all Lines,
Oct. 29, onward.
James Fioni's Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, for the above Establishment, Nov. 5, 1906, onwards, the Biggest and Greatest Numbers now before the public.
Nothing too big for Pandy, where they have already seen some of the best. Top Price given for Acts with Drawing Powers.

Also Requirded, Artists in every Line of the Variety Profession, Nov. 5, onwards.
Preference given to those who have not appeared in Pandy for the last two years.

Address all communications to
D. Taylor, Pandy Hotel, Ton-y-Pandy, S. Wales.

WANTED, Nov. 5, onward, for S. Wales, Sunderland Specialities, Serios, Sisters, Knockabouts, Comedians, Dancers. T. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Specialities of all Kinds; immediate and future dates. Martino's Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

WANTED, the Cream of the Profession to send lithos., memos., bookings, vacant dates, and lowest terms.
Address, Billy Henderson,
30, Handforth-road, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, Good Comedians, Comedy Act and Speciality, for Monday. Wire,
Zalva, Scarborough.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

ROYAL
HIPPODROME,
BELFAST.
Now in course of erection,
and
when
finished
will
be
the
largest
and
Handsomest
Building
in
Ireland.

WANTED, February,
onward,
all
the
Finest
Acts
in
the
World.
Price no object
New
and
Novel
Turns
of
every
Variety.
The above is booked
in conjunction with
TIVOLI THEATRE,
DUBLIN.

Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

WANTED, at Once, Musical Novelty Act, boy or young man, Stanton's Picture Entertainment, working smalls. Stanton, c/o Post Office, Lacock, Chippenham, Glos.

WANTED, good Comedy Acts all Lines, for long Tour, during Christmas. Full particulars, Cadle's Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

PALACE THEATRE,
CORK.

WANTED, Nov. 5,
12, and 19,
Top
of
Bill.
Nothing
too
Big.
Call,
Monday, Oct. 22.
Seven Zerbenis,
Maddison Bros.,
Alex Lukos,
Three Orros,
Gladys Mavius,
Dome,
Rosie Bartlett,
Nellie Coleman.

WANTED, for Bert Coote's Special Production of the Great "Children's Scene" of "The Fatal Wedding" at the Holborn Empire, Nov. 26, '06, Children (girls preferred), ages from 10 to 14; must be Attractive, and have good idea of Singing and Dancing.
Also Special Children, for Solos, Dancing, and Leading various Numbers.
Apply in person, or by letter (submitting photographs), to
Bert Coote,
150, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, for Tour, Sisters, Sing, Dance, play Piano; also Lady Pianist-Vocalist (amateur write), Live in. Lowest terms, Box 3,870, "The Era."

WANTED, three Young Gentlemen and two Young Ladies, of smart appearance, for Dramatic Sketch. Box 3,872, "The Era."

WANTED, for Music Hall Sketch, in London, ladies, with good voices. Apply immediately, with song and photograph, to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

VICTORIA HALL, RHYL.
WANTED, Good Animated Picture Show, Oct. 28, Sunday, onward. Shares. Good picture town. Manager.

WANTED, First-class Picture Show, Oct. 29, week. Address,
Manager, Theatre, Bordon Camp, Hants.

WANTED, Operator, Warwick Bioscope, also Pianist; both do turns, and generally useful. Lowest terms, last two refs., Davies, Coliseum, Aberystwith.

WANTED, an Operator, for the New Imperial Pictures, used to lime and electric. Send full particulars to Town Hall, Chorley.

WANTED, an Operator, used to Lime and Electric, of all currents, practical man only. R. Silvester, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Mollie Maverne, Soubrette, Speciality, Dancer, and Sketch Artist, at Lib. Oct. 29, Worcester this season, re-engaged 2, Guildford-place, Camberwell Green, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Truro, Harmonising Duettists and Dancers, are at Liberty Dec. 3, also Panto. Managers, wire or write to 31, Old Hall-st., Middleton, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, Oct. 22 and 29, by Sisters Ely, the Pretty Talented Duettists. Wire, Hippodrome, Wakefield. Distance no object; wire early.

WANTED, by Sisters Beatrice, Duettists and Dancers, Monday and on. Wire or write, E., Lecture Hall, Faversham, Kent; after Sat., 35, Florence-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, by the Two Singing Mill Hands, Nov. 5 and 12, to follow Darlington. Always a sure draw. Refer John Lawson, Esq. Next week, Hippo., Hounslow.

WANTED, Nov. 5, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey, also Ventriloquist; two Novel Acts, on tour with W. F. Frame. Address, 59, Urquhart-road, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Six Nights, Monday next, by Harry Vernon, the man with a voice, descriptive and baritone, winner of the Wilson Challenge Vase, 1905. Wire, City Varieties, Leeds.

WANTED, by Cento, the Man in the Monkey's Skin, for his Speciality, The Cycling Monkey, Oct. 29, to follow Hippodrome, Dartford. All coms. to Hippodrome, Dartford.

WANTED, Known, I, Edgar Budden, Comedian, Bone Soloist, and Roller Skate Dancer, will dance anybody in the world on roller skates for £100 a side.—Edgar Budden. This, Empire, Dublin; next, Empire, Belfast. Let 'em all come.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian and Dancer, Liberty Monday next. Wire, 44, Mawson-street, Ardwick Green, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Dan Ashton, Original Collier's Song Scena, vacant Monday, onwards; song and story founded on fact; thrilling story of the Durham Colliery Explosion (Oct. 15, 1906). Vide Stage.—Dan Ashton appeared successfully at the Palace, Manchester, in original collier's song scena. Offers, 2, Marshall-street, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by Jimmy James, tambourine, banjo, bone juggling expert, &c. Wire, 53, Grove-lane, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, Known, Kavades, First-class Juggling Act, at Liberty Oct. 22, 29.
Wire, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Mozzetio, and Assistant, a juggler of extraordinary ability, and comedy assistant, Vac. Monday and the 29th, through obliging. Add., Hippo., Salford; after Sunday, 86, Derby-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 19, Palette, the Lightning Artist, and clever dog Max. Big success, Palace, Dundee. Monday, Hippo., Manafield.

WANTED, Monday next, by Chas. Banks and his Famous Dog Woof. Wire, Hippodrome, Southampton.

WANTED, Oct. 22, onwards, by Li-Chang, Comedy Chinese Conjurer. Wire, Hippo., Cambridge; after Sunday, 70, Wiltshire-rd., Brixton, S.W. Vacant for Panto.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, Undisputed World's Champion Boy Wrestler, Pose Artist, &c. Sure draw. Vacant Nov. 12, 19, 26. Representative, the Original Godfrey A. Yates, 29, Newington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, by the Great Original Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Wonderful Contortionist, Juggler, Conjurer, &c.; also May Geraldine, Dancing Comedienne. Two distinct acts. Palace, Boston.

WANTED, Monday next, Oct. 22, 29, Charley Dixon, Eccentric Comedian, Dancer; Kate Lynd, Comedienne; 2 distinct turns. Wire, Hippodrome, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Oct. 29, by Burton and Trent (Maudie and Willie), World's Greatest Legmania and Comedy Musical Act. 145, Farnworth-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Agnese and Arthur Lynch, in American Picture Songs, vacant Oct. 29, between Yarmouth and Porth. Hippo., Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Monday next, and Dec. 31, the Monckton's (Fred and Lillie), excruciatingly funny. 5, Kenfield-crescent, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, Monday next, Arthur Richards, comedian; Renee Walon, comedienne, dancer. 5, Wharncliffe-st., Rotherham. Thanks Selwyn, Esq., for returns.

WANTED, Known, Bert and Dolly, Comedy Duologue Artists, in their latest screaming success, "The Interview"; singles if required. Wire or write, Leaman, Post Office, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 19, 26, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystic Lady; also Marie Riviers, Popular Songstress. Monday, Britannia, Glasgow. Wire.

WANTED, 22nd, on, by Bob Leslie, Descriptive Vocalist, Coon Delineator, and Dancer, accompanied by Clarise Porters. Wire, 4, Hall-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, 22nd and on, by Jack Sheppard, World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker; also Miss Ruby Vesta, in Greatest Trunk Mystery. Sure draw; big challenges. Wire, Central Hall, Hoylake, Chester. After Saturday, 249, Bond-street, Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Le Brun and Irene, novel equilibrists and double jugglers, Vacant Monday, also 29th. Wire, Hippo., Dewsbury.

WANTED, Monday, by Chant and Chant, Refined Vocal Comedy Act; also Oct. 29, on. Wire, 87, Wollaton-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Ryde and Beeman, Eccentrics, Vacant Oct. 22 and 29. Wire, Empire, Rochdale. After Sat., 3, Barton-street, Pendleton.

WANTED, by Gravetta and Parr, Clay Modellers, Impersonators, Conjurers, &c., Vacant 22, 29, through hall closing. Big success, Palace, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Hector and Sultan, Eccentric Comedy Grotesques, Monday, Oct. 22 or 29. Wire, Alhambra, Edinburgh. After Sat., 12, Larkhill-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Sterling and Cashen, Comedy Duo and World's Champion Dancers, are at Liberty Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, through obliging a Manager. This, Palace, Blackburn; 22nd, Palace, Bradford. Wire.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, Comedy Act, Oct. 22 and 29.
Wire, Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, next Week, through Hall Closing, by the McKays, comedy sketch and lightning oil-painters. Wire, Tivoli, Barrow.

WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Phinas and Aida, Revolving Equilibrists; Noel, Versatile Artist; two distinct acts. Add., E., Hull.

WANTED, Known, Vilero and Vine, Instrumentalists, just finishing Irish tour, vacant Nov. 26, Dec. 15. Wire, 5, Fenney-st., Higher Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Three Cheers, Original Speciality, superb scenery, real chimes, introducing wonderful performing Cats, vacant Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 12. Thanking Jury's and Gannon for Contracts. Cheers, Empire, Merthyr.

WANTED, Known, the Lashmars are vacant Oct. 29, Nov. 5, smart Comedy Act, Funny Patter, Hand and Head Balancing and Expert Dancers. Address, Post Office, Salisbury.

WANTED, Monday next, by Gulliver, Ventriloquist, also Nov. 19 and Dec. 3, First-class Act. Wire, Sat., Hippo., Dewsbury; Sunday morning and after, c/o Stebbings, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by Gilroy, Ventriloquist, and Boston Bioscope, everything up-to-date, an amalgamation of originality and refinement, that's all. Wire, Palace, Boston.

WANTED, Panto., by Charles Valvo, the Military Ventriloquist, part and speciality.
Address, Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Known, Ventriloquist and Conjurer, or separate, open for Picture Show next week; worker. No fancy price entertained. Sullings, Pyrotechnist, Waterloo-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, by King Leo, Great Singing Ventriloquist, with Jerry, the Papier-Mache Comedian, Oct. 29 and Nov. 5. This brilliant success, E., Rochdale; Mon., return, Hippo., Hull.

WANTED, Known, Karl Birvell, F.O.S., ventriloquist and mimic, figures and fit-up, refined and original, Lib. Mon. P. G., Stapenhill, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, for Miss Dot Robins' weird, sensational Sketch. "The Necklace of Death." Gigantic Success Everywhere. Pictorials by Staffords. 3, Wincott-st., Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Geo. C. Doughty and Co., in "Captain Cupid," comedy scene. Rebooked Palace, Southampton; next, Palace, Lincoln.

WANTED, Alice Fontainbleau, Famous Dogs, Top or Bottom Bill. London, Xmas. Few vacant dates. Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
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THE DAYTON FAMILY,
THE DAYTON FAMILY,
Old Firm, Fifteenth Year of Existence.
The only really Clever and Comical Pedestal Risley Performers,
with their Clever Little Chinese.

Many New and Clever Items.

Playing at Present,
with Great Success,
Continental Re-engagements Tour,
including,
Rotterdam, Paris, Bruxelles,
Den Hague, Amsterdam,
and many other well-known Continental Towns.
Booked, and again and again
Re-booked for a great many of the Best Places in Old England and on the Continent.

Vacant a Few Dates Season 1907-1908.
At Present, Sixth Time Re-engaged,
Flora Théâter Variété,
Amsterdam, Holland.

Coms., O. Maus Dayton,
Manager of the Dayton Family.

WANTED, Engagements, public or private. Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Dates for the Lingwood Bioscope, change of Films weekly; electric or Limelight. Lingwood, 31, Watcombe-road, S. Norwood.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bioscope Operator, gas or electric; good refs; combine Stage-manager. No reasonable offer refused. Edwards, 34, Sherdley-st, Liverpool.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.
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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Electrical, Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture four and six pole Showmen's Dynamos (improved pattern), also new Flame Arc Lamps, geared motors, for driving organs and roundabouts, large stocks, cable, carbons, globes, incandescents, all classes of repairs; new line, direct coupled portable electric plants, driven by paraffin.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is going ahead
with up-to-date Lines in
Field Glasses, Fancy Goods,
Clocks, Jewellery, &c.

WANTED, Known, Bunn and Co., 18, Dagnall-place, Brady-street, London, E.,

Butter Scotch Packets, marked 3d. Per Packet every Packet, 5s. 6d. a gross.
The Small Butter Scotch, 2s. 6d. a gross.
Best Quality only.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

WANTED, Known, to Market Men, Pitchers, Exhibition Stall Holders, and others, the Balmoral Confectionery Company, 20s, Diana-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne, are now making Bank's Royal Edinburgh White Milk Butterscotch, four large tablets in each packet, edged with all the latest tartan colours. The quickest selling packet on the market, marked 3d. per packet; also same size packet in Swiss Milk Chocolate. We are now sending sample packets out to the trade. Big packets. Big packets. Quick and prompt delivery. White Milk Butterscotch, 6s. per gross; Milk Chocolate, 7s. per gross.
Carriage forward. Cases free.

WANTED, Known.—A Word to the Wise is Sufficient. A Client writing June 25, 1906, says:—Bag puncher took £300 in a little over three months. For price, write Sole Agents to the Makers, viz., the Mills Novelty Co. Minerva Automatic Co., 120, York-rd., King's Cross, London, N. Largest Variety of Automatic Machines in the trade. No Junk. Don't buy worn-out machines of old pattern; get a genuine Mills 1906 pattern.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., the largest Tent Manufacturers in the World, have removed their Tent Loft from Wisbech to Lowestoft. Sole Manufacturers of the Rotproof and Waterproof Tent Canvas, "Birkmyres Cloth," in colours, green, brown, black, khaki, and white. Most durable and waterproof for Showmen's Tents, Tilts, &c. Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., Lancaster-place, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Circus, and Roundabout Proprietors, that De Salis and Co., of Leighton Buzzard, are manufacturers of Showmen's Colours, Paints, and Varnishes, suitable for Switchbacks, Galloping Horses, Rounding Boards, Swings, &c., &c. Specially recommended by Mr. A. Higgins, Artist, of Totterdown, Bristol, and others.
All Showmen should send for price list and samples.
Specialities.
"New Royal Red."
"Salisello," a perfect white enamel.
Extra Pale Durable Body, and White Copal Varnishes.

WANTED, Known, The Phœnix Motor Works, No. 5, Aston-road North, Birmingham, have one Switchback and two sets of Three Abreast Jumpers for Sale.

WANTED, Known.—We are the original Motor Car Builders for Switchbacks, Horses, or any kind of Roundabout. All our work is done by competent men, and superintended by Mr. Johnson only. Workmanship, style, and price unequalled. We are proprietors of several Patents. All applications must be made to Mr. Johnson, late Manager of the Old Phœnix Carriage Works, and Sole Proprietor of the Patent Spring Switchback Wheel.

WANTED, Known, that A. Brandon, late representative of the Old Phœnix Carriage Works, has no connection whatever with the above firm, and we shall not hold ourselves responsible for any orders taken by him.

WANTED, Known, Showmen's Letter Cloths, made and attractively painted, in fancy colours. Roche, Artist, 22, Lansdown-rd., Lee, S.E.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, Open at Once, sale of books and post-cards allowed, in addition to salary. Terms, Charles A. James, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, two good Living Freaks or Novelties, to open Dec. 24, eight or ten weeks. Fredk. Stewart, 124, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties, for Monday next and onwards, with Paintings or Posters, for two of the Best Shops in London. Novelties must clearly understand that I, Madam Vallus, have no connection with any other Showman in London. Those friends who have served me before can do so again. Terms, shares or salary. Apply,
Manager, Madam Vallus' Permanent Exhibition,
129, Whitechapel-road, London.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks, Cinématograph, &c., best shop, Leith, Tom Browne, Lucy Moore, Elba, Ashmores, &c. Wire, Proprietor, 1, Promenade, Portobello.

WANTED, to Open Monday, Oct. 22, onwards, Good Living Novelties, with paintings, two weeks certain, one week Lowestoft, and Yarmouth to follow (10 miles). Terms, shares; fare advanced. Wire, Barron, Exhibition, Arcade, Lowestoft.

XMAS CARNIVAL AND EXHIBITION, PUBLIC HALL, IPSWICH, Dec. 17 to 30.
WANTED, for the Above, a Good Side Show. Birch's Midgets please write (mislaid address). Also three more stall spaces to let, rent or share. Barron's Exhibition, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Swing Boats, Motors, and Hobby Horses (small size), Carnival, near Edinburgh, 3 weeks, Dec. 24, on. Best offers. Scottish Musical Agency, 107, George-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Phrenologist and Character Novelties, and good Secondhand Films. Manager, 73, Wallgate, Wigan.

WANTED, Known, Lady Character Reader, well-known, reliable; disengaged, Glasgow, Edinburgh, London; half shares preferred. Write, c/o 165, Friargate, Preston.

WANTED, Lady Parader, one that can sing to the Illustrated Song Slides; also Young Man, to play Piano and make himself generally useful; can join at once. Address, Cottrell's American Enterprise, Market-place, Durham.

WANTED, Smart Comedian and Funny Man, single, to travel with Marshall's Auction Tent. Johnny Wood write in. Market Ground, Heywood, Lancs.

WANTED, at Once, Tattooist and Glass-blower; no opposition; shares or salary; 6 weeks certain. Sherman, Exhibition, Assembly Rooms, Market, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Showman requiring a big, refined Novelty, Veno, Rubber-faced Man. Big Success, Humber's Waxworks, Aberdeen. Vacant Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12. Refer to Mr. Humber.

WANTED, Known, First-class Watchmaker and Hand-seller, at Liberty; does a bit of Comic Singing; used to organising Concerts. Address, Box 3,871, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Respectable Young Girl (19), traveller's daughter, would like to go as servant with a show. Write, Miss Violet, c/o P.O., Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Man, generally useful about show; sober, and good worker; late with Relph and Pedley's 3 years.—Apply and state all terms, W. Doughty, G.P.O., Castleford

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

OLYMPIA, OLYMPIA,
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LONDON.
Great Fair and Carnival.
Great Fair and Carnival.
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Commencing Christmas Eve,
Commencing Christmas Eve,
Commencing Christmas Eve,
For Eight Weeks.
For Eight Weeks.
For Eight Weeks.
A Mammoth Fun City.
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With
Free Circus.
Free Menagerie.
Free Vaudeville.
Free Ball Room.
Twelve Hours' Fun for Sixpence.
Twelve Hours' Fun for Sixpence.
Twelve Hours' Fun for Sixpence.
Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
The extra Attractions include:—
The great American Electrical Sceneograph, entitled,
"DOOMSDAY."
Hale's Tours of the World.
The Californian Ostrich Farm.
Inshaw's Laughing Cyclone from Coney Island.
The Wrestling Alligator.
Letta's Athletic Girls.
The South Before the War.
W. Biddall's Living Pictures.
W. Le Neve's Athletic Saloon.
Pat Collins' Motors.
Pat Collins' Twin Yachts.
Relph and Pedley's Razzle Dazzle.
The New Whirling Switch Car.
The Earl's Court Lighthouse Helter-Skelter.
The Big Wheel Swings.
The Steeplechase Staircase.
Cokernuts, Games,
&c., &c., &c.
SACCO will attempt to beat the World's Record by fasting fifty-six days.
HACKENSCHMIDT
will wrestle twice daily.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Space can still be secured for Novel Side Shows and High-Class Stalls.
Apply for plans and particulars to The Secretary,
The Mammoth Fun City,
10, Leicester-place, Leicester-square, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Grand Industrial Trades Exhibition will be held on Nov. 19 to 23 at the Town Hall, Stratford, London. To be opened by the present Mayor of West Ham. Spaces to Let for Working Exhibits, Novelties, &c. Apply, Secretary, Trades Exhibition, 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford. The Exhibition will be extensively advertised. 5,000 to 10,000 visitors daily anticipated.

WANTED, to Let, Grounds in London, for the Winter Season, for Switchbacks, Galloping Horses, Pictures, Shows, Side Shows, &c. Apply to E. A. Gilbey, The Pear Tree, Lewisham.

SECOND ANNUAL TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING, Nov. 12 to Dec. 8.
WANTED, to Let, a few more Spaces for Fancy Stalls and Working Exhibits. All Sideshows filled excepting Distorting Mirrors. Would share, rent, or buy reasonable. Seebold, Worthing.

WANTED, Known, a few Spaces to Let in the original Scenic Touring Exhibition, Drill Hall, Barrow, Oct. 24 to Nov. 3; the sixty-eighth Exhibition of unbroken tour. Special advantages to attractive exhibits. Also one or two Good Sideshows and Distorting Mirrors, upon sharing terms.
Address,
Manager, Drill Hall, Barrow.

WANTED, to Let, Shop, six rooms, Bishopsgate, £4 week, or offer, from now to Dec. 25. Manager, 104, Bishopsgate Without.

WANTED, Known, Room to Let; good opening for Massage Business. Visited by the Elite. Charles A. James, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, and 102A, Houndsditch, has a Special Dept.
for Secondhand Watches
and Unredeemed Pledges.
There is no Cheaper House.

WANTED, to Sell, Carved and Gilded Double Wagon Front, in splendid condition (road), opens out to 44ft., light and handy, complete, cash price £150; also Film, Life and Career of Charles Peace, by Haggar and Sons, about 700ft., price £6, or will exchange for other film of same length and condition. Address, Anderton's Modern Show, Saturday, Shaftesbury; Mon., Tues., Salisbury.

WANTED, to Sell, a good Pullman Car, cheap, made for Road or Rail, fitted up well. Apply for photos. and particulars, Tann's Living Carriage, High Mill-road, Southtown, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Fortune Machines, Money-takers, one to six drawers, cheap. Catalogue; samples free. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every description, Best and Cheapest. Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, a Cinematograph Booth, 50 by 30, new Tilt, black, Birkmire, never been on, cost £31; 2 New Waggons to carry Booth Shutters, 8 by 10. A bargain. Cash only. R. Silvester, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, to Sell, Eight Switchback Gondola Cars, the best ever made, only been used six months, made by Spooner and Orton, Burton-on-Trent; will sell very cheap to a cash buyer. These gondolas are as good as new, beautifully designed fronts and backs, with splendid carved wheelboard; they are one mass of carving and gold. For price and where can be seen
apply, T. Clarke,
29, New-road, Kidderminster.

WANTED, to Sell, at a Great Sacrifice, the Finest Lioness in the Business, either bounce or quiet show, male or female trainer; also Beast Waggon, 12ft. long, one horse load, as good as new. The lot £45. Cexcraft, Brynaman, Glam.

WANTED, to Sell, Set of Seven Distorting Mirrors, all shapes, good condition; must sell, no reasonable offer refused. Write or wire, D., 8, Alwyne-square, Canonbury, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Electric Fish Pond, 30s.; hundreds of feet of best Gas Piping, 1½in., downwards, no reasonable offer refused. Write or wire, D., 8, Alwyne-square, Canonbury, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Handsome State Coaches (the property of the late Duke of Cambridge), excellent advertising medium, together with four-in-hand harness, cheap. K., 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Toboggan Slide and Aerial Flight, complete, cheap, good money-makers; must be sold, ground wanted. Proprietor, Rathbone Gardens, Portobello.

To Exhibition Managers and Bazaar Contractors.
WANTED, to Sell, over 200ft. Scenery, "Old London," by George Collier, 20ft. lengths, by 7ft. wide, on rollers, best canvas, fireproof, nearly new. Cost £2 a length; sacrifice for £5 the lot. Wire or write, D., 8, Alwyne-square, Canonbury, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Working Model of a Coal Mine, suit first-class exhibition, great novelty. Pickard, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Buy for Cash, Travelling Auction Mart, for rail, two or three loads, good condition. Box 3,878, "The Era."

WANTED, Set Four-abreast Gallopers and Conveyances, to go by rail; essentially good and cheap. Box 3,887, "The Era."

WANTED, to Buy, a Shuttered Booth, about 50 by 30, cheap for cash. No rubbish. Particulars, Lloyd, Theatre, Littleport, Cambs.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, First-class Showmen's Painter, permanent job. Applicant who wrote from Plymouth, write again; mislaid.
Address, P. COLLINS, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, Man used to Making and Working Pepper's Ghost Effects. Apply, with full particulars, to Box 3,858, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed, according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

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WANTED, to Sell, as a going concern, to dissolve a partnership, a Successful Music Hall, in good Provincial town; playing to big business; no opposition; part might remain on mortgage. Apply, with bankers' references, Box 3,738, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Undetectable Leg Paddings, Tights, Animal Skins, Biondin Donkeys, Elephants, Cows, &c. MAYERS, 22, Shepperton-road, Islington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Genuine Midget Shetland Ponies, matched pairs, from 26in. to 29in., from £6 each, carriage paid; fully warranted. JOHN SINCLAIR, Viewbank Cottage, Cults, near Aberdeen.

WANTED, to Sell, Genuine Midget Full-grown Shetland Ponies, also large variety in larger sizes. Reasonable prices. GRAHAM CLARK, Ashbank, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, on Hire or Sale, over 200 Pantomime Ponies, all colours and sizes, also double and four-in-hand sets of harness, and Cinderella Coach for Hire. Apply, FRASER HAY and Co., Jackson's-row, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Toy Pomeranian Puppies, Blacks, Browns, and Chocolates, make splendid pets for ladies. Prices from 30s. upwards. Approval. Mrs. ORMEROD, 16, Clerkhill-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, to Sell, a handsome High-leaping Greyhound; willing worker, can do 12ft. A bargain JIMSON, Empire, Stockport.

WANTED, to Sell, Film, Coloured,
"Satan's Sons Slip through the World, and Return to Hades."
5d. per ft. (1,225ft.); or can let on sharing terms.
Several Illusions,
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Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Carl Hertz, Two Tees, Walter King, Pictures, Minnie Cunningham, Mezzettis, Queenie May, Bros. Obo, G. H. Elliott.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
"Rogues of the Turf," Kathleen Radford, Farr and Farland, Bioscope, The Primrose Girls, Pueblo and Cropp, Jess Thorne, Three Panamas.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Techernoff's Dogs, Letine, Xley and Hamilton, Bioscope, Howard and St. Clair, Tom Percy, Clarice Netta, Nat Clifford.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
The McNaughtons, J. C. Morris, J. A. Wilson, Three Royal Temples, Florence Yayman, Alice Lloyd, Knick Knacks, Ralston Frances, Bioscope, Rale Walters, Fred S. Peake and Co., Ella and Dacie Hope, Findens, Mme. Du Roche, Fred Earle, Pat Rafferty.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
First performance: "A Trip to Coon Town," Bioscope, Florence Yayman, Alice Lloyd, Jack Lorimer, Five Sisters Warwick, Arthur Lennard, Harry Grey, Newham and Latimer, Elsie Earle, Three Royal Temples, J. A. Wilson.
Second performance: "A Trip to Coon Town," Bioscope, Florence Yayman, Alice Lloyd, Jack Lorimer, Five Sisters Warwick, Arthur Lennard, Onllaw Trio, Lawrence Barclay, Therese and May, The Calcotts, Marba and Verity.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE NEW EMPIRE THEATRE, COVENTRY (the Booking of which will be done in conjunction with the above) opens soon. Agents and Artists please note that applications should at once be made with a view to arranging Dates.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for those engaged at the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagement cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.

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By the writers of "Navaho."

"THERE'S A MAN IN MANITOBA,"
By the writers of "Put a little bit away for a rainy day."

"ALL THAT GLITTERS ISN'T GOLD,"
By the writer of "I've made up my mind to sail away."

"SWEET ANASTASIA BRADY,"
By the writers of "My Irish Molly."

"IN MY PAGODA,"
By the writer of "If the world were ruled by girls."

"PERU,"
By the writers of "Don't cry, little girl."

"I WANT MOLLY, AND SHE WANTS ME,"
By the writer of "Molly I love you.'

"GOOD NIGHT, MR. BROWN, I'M OUT,"
By the writer of "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you."

"CAN'T YOU FIND A SWEET-HEART OF YOUR OWN?"
By the writer of "Oh! Charlie, come to me."

"WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO LEARN TO LOVE ME?"
By the writer of "On the dear old shore."

"COME BACK TO BORNEO,"
By the writers of "Nobody knows, nobody cares."

"COME DOWN LOVERS' LANE,"
By the writers of "There's a girl wanted there."

"BOY BLUE,"
By the writer of "Just like the ivy."

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All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not re-booked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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LONDON DISTRICT,
MR. WILLIAM COLLINS,
The Empire, Shepherd's Bush, W.

N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

Co-operative Offices:
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THOMAS BARRASFORD TOUR.

CALLS for MONDAY, OCT. 22, 1906.

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HIPPODROME, LEEDS.
Bob Hutt, Will Lytton, Mac and Hill, Carina Sisters, Frank Cass, Downes and Langford, Harry Edson, Elton and Elma, Jack Hylton, Pictures, Charles Prelle.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Hal Godfrey, Mabel Kessler, Flo Cecil, Martinetti and Grossi, Frank and Free, Hodgson and Lowther, Five Whiteleys, Harris and Worth, Gracie Taylor, Pictures, Arthur Reece, George Gilbey.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Fred Wright, jun., Tom Yorke, Satsuma, James De Voye, A. G. Spry, Woodward and Walton, M. Kokin, Hallam and Stanton, Pictures, Galetti, Sisters Tree.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
Hetty King, Babs Lloyd, The Valdos, Tatten Hall, Harry Rogerson, The Lavails, Johnny Holland and Co., Gus Garrick, Richardson Taylor, Pictures, Alice Raymond, and Kurkamp.

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
De Gracia, Pauline Zaro, Anthony, Delmarre, Celina Bobe, Five Oracs, Simms and Simms, Lily Iris, and the Kohinoor Girls, B. Troba, Luce Bailly, Polyne, Bertha Pertina, Pictures, Belle Davis, Haydee, Rebla.

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"SWEET EILEEN." "ANY OLD PLACE WHERE THE SUN SHINES."

"WHEN THE BAND PLAYED THE 'MEN OF HARLECH'."
"MY TINY FIREFLY." "SEND ALONG A WIRE."

"SOMEBODY CARES FOR YOU." (MILLS & SCOTT.)
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Telegrams: "Twopence, London." 'Phone, 7623 Gerrard.
N.B.—Interviewed by appointment only.

GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, Oct. 22, 1906.
7. Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal, at 11 o'clock, for
Daunton Shaw, Ted Cowan, Emil Amiel, Tray and Rich, Whit Cunliffe, Athas and Collins, Beatie Kent, Ten Dixie Girls, Tom Collins, Frank and Violet Payte, Miss Alice Hollander.
GREENOCK PAVILION.
Rehearsal, at 2 o'clock, for
Zeta Gray and Co., Clive Watts, Agnes Asher, Calile and Walker, Bert Brantford, Pavoscope, Three San Remo Girls, Arthur Croxon.
All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow 14 days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their contract cancelled. By order, SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager

THE PALACE, GLASGOW
Sole Proprietor and Manager, RICH. WALDON.
All Bookings are now made direct from above Hall.
All Contracts made on behalf of the Palace, Glasgow, on or before April 7, 1906, and not yet completed, will be carried out.
Bill matter must be sent two weeks in advance.

CALL, Monday, Oct. 22, 1906, at 12 o'clock. The Six Æolians, F. Leslie, Bros. Wilford, Lean Arden, Bros. Curran, Constance Moxon, Karr and Kooney, Charlie Dean, J. W. Rickaby.
Address, HARRY MCKELVIE, Business-Manager.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, NEW HIPPODROME.
CALL for Monday, Oct. 22, 1906.
Rehearsal 1 o'clock for
Blanche and Diacoff, Stidder and Dunbar, Marie Weston, Sisters Poole, The Athlones, George Raper, Bros. Onda, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.
For Dates apply to Sole Representative, H. PERCIVAL YOUNG, Shakespeare Theatre Offices, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

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FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, OCT. 22, 1906.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.
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Three Coopers, Gracie Bard, Ideal Trio, Five Bon Bons, Pallister's Bioscope, Miss Patey Trounsell, Gus Harris, Edna Knollys.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Dronza, Capt. Slingsby, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Olive Trio, Rowland Hill, Daisy Morell, Helen Martin, "Capt. Cupid," Harry Thurston.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
R. Cochrane and Co., Lovelaces, Percy Galino, Evalos, Mr. E., Pallister's Bioscope, Sisters Melba.

PALACE, BATH.
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PALACE, BRADFORD.
Davenports, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Herbert Shelley, Sisters Gilbert, Stirling and Cashen, Carrabbet's Dogs, Almos, Prince Colibri and Cot.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Marconis, Silvo, Angelo, Bijou Russel, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Sid Cotterell and Co., Bishop and Vale, Harry Freeman, Les Rallis, Bros. Durant.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Gladenbecks, Valazzi, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Harley and Hardon, J. C. Scatter, Maurin's Fountains, Ruth Lytton, Dutch Daly, Violet Morgan.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Bernar's Marionettes, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Andie Caine, Dora Martini, Sisters Redfern, Fred Land, W. B. Rraby, Rastus and Banks, Geo. M. Schilling.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
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FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Bright and Bright, Fred Villers, Simosa San, Edith Silvesto, C. Majilton's Sketch Co., the Bensons, Lola Patey, Lucy Coventry, Raymond, Pyck Tholl and Taylor, Dan Robans, Du Gros Trio.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Steve McCarthy, Marie Kendal, Fred Maxwell and Co., Bernard and Weston, Marie Reeve, Four Papillons, Fields and Lewis, Raymond, Silvertown Quartette, Bert Harrow, Vincent.

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All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
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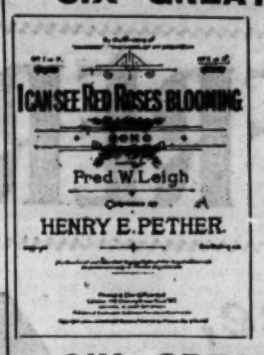

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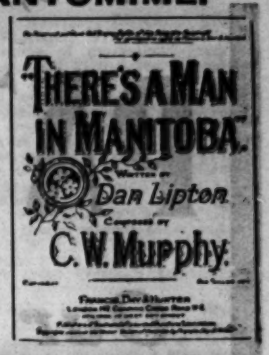
"BOY BLUE."
"THERE'S A MAN IN MANITOBA."
"CHEYENNE."
"GOOD-NIGHT MR. BROWN, I'M OUT."
"SNOWFLAKES."



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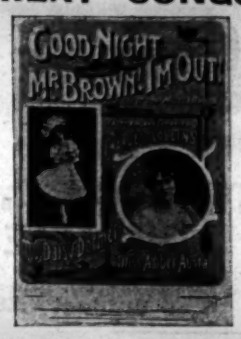

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews.—Messrs. Granville and Thorne's company is here this week in *Napoleon the Great*. Mr. Hugh Montgomery gives a masterful portrayal of Napoleon; Mr. Phil Harper is a manly hero as Colonel Meuron; Mr. Henry Earlesmere as the villain, Colonel Laverenne is decidedly good; Mr. B. Garth as Lacsinka, a Pole, is very successful; Mr. F. M. Thorne as Pierre causes roars of laughter, and is ably assisted by Mr. Albert Sinclair as Sergeant Choupin and Miss Marie Harcourt as Marcelle; Miss Maud Russell, as the heroine, Mlle. Marboeuf, is quite a favourite with the house; Miss Leslie Warner scores as Marie Walewska; Miss F. Thorne, as Mère Dumont, and Miss A. Cromer, as Lisette, are worthy of special note.

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—Mr. Harding Thomas and company are appearing this week in *Saints and Sinners* and *The Middleman*. The first of these pieces was presented on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Miss Elaine Verner played with marked power in the part of the betrayed minister's daughter, and Mr. Thomas acted with great skill and restraint as Jacob Fletcher, the Nonconformist pastor; Messrs. Percy Brown and Mr. Edgar Kent were also thoroughly successful in their portraitures of George Kingsmill and Captain Fanshaw.

PALACE THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Miss Cissie Curlette is even more successful than on the occasion of her former visits. Her resource and vivacity are unfailing. The Juggling Geraldos contribute a singularly dexterous act; and Mr. Tony Iveson, who is here for a second week, is enthusiastically received; the interesting and elaborate spectacle, "Around Paris," still proves a great attraction; and among the other artists who may be mentioned are Mr. Fred Dunstone, a clever patter comedian; Ward and Davis, in a diverting duologue, *Wanted, a Typist*; Miss Minnie Fenton, an exceptionally graceful dancer; and Billie Burns and Miss Mabel La Blanche, both of whose turns are appreciated. One of the most pleasing items of the performance is the series of pictures, "A Journey Round a Star," by Vernon's Bioscope.

ABERTILLERY. — THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom.—This week we have here Messrs. Ediscope and Barnum's Electric Animated Pictures and company of star artists. Sands and Vincent (Will and May), in their grotesque comedy act, are well received; Mr. Loder Lyons is good in his Irish humourist and ventriloquial act; Mlle. Pardoe, dancer, and Martin Hope, eccentric comedian, are clever in their respective turns. The company also includes Otto Otthordoe, juggler; Miss May, ballad vocalist; and Miss Florence, illustrated songstress.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E Barnes.—On Monday Miss Annie Bell's company opened here with *Sapho*. Jean Gaussin was an artistic performance by Mr. F. Meinster; Caoudal was well played by Mr. Cringle Roberts; Father Legrand was in the safe hands of Mr. C. G. Beresford; and Mr. H. Langford must be complimented on his performance of Eugene Flamant. Mr. L. Kingsley was good as Paul Decheletti, little Doris Graham clever as Joseph, and Mr. G. Antley smart as Cesaire. Miss A. Bell gave a scholarly reading of Sapho.

HIPPODROME — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Carsons.—A really good bill is provided at the above hall this week. The Gragga keep the house in a roar by their clever sketch, U. C. Ugo is really a man of mystery, Robinson and Banks are smart speciality artists, Billy English is always a favourite here, Joe Conway is very good, Lily Black must be complimented on her singing, Walter Monro is an Irish comedian of the first water, and Bioscope pictures conclude the entertainment.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—Mr. Norman V. Norman's company is appearing with decided success in a repertory of plays. Mr. Norman is supported by a charming and talented actress in Miss Beatrice Wilson. On Monday *The Adventure of Lady Ursula* was presented, with Mr. Norman as Sir Geo. Sylvester and Miss Wilson as Lady Ursula. On Tuesday *The Chevalier de St. George* was played; on Wednesday *David Garrick* delighted an enthusiastic audience; whilst on Thursday the romantic story of *Nell Gwyn* was told. The plays are finely staged, and the costumes are in excellent taste.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is here for the week with the successful American drama, entitled *At Cripple Creek*. Special engagements to play lead have been made with Mr. Stanley Bedwell and Miss Agnes Verity. The former gives a very fine delineation of a bluff, courageous, and honest specimen of the successful gold-digger. The latter gains favour by a clever bit of character-acting as "Dynamite" Ann. Mr. Chas. H. Lester as Martin Mason realises vividly the title given him as the terror of Cripple Creek; Mr. J. G. Maine as Manuel Alvarez sustains with much show of ferociousness and bluster, the character of the bully of the Creek; a word of commendation must also be given to Mr. Arthur D. Layland as the faithful Indian; to Sydney Benson as an amusing nigger; to Mr. Will Hook as Reggie Harwood; and to Mr. Tom Sharp as the Rev. Mr. Wilson. Little Rose Hopkins merits the applause which is liberally bestowed for her clever assumption of Little Tatto, the baby of Cripple Creek; Miss Daisy Carlton, Miss Lily Beagle, and Miss Norah Dillon each gives prominence and marked individuality to varied types of female character. The sensation scene of the attempted death of Little Tatto, where the Indian swings in mid-air out of a wild grape vine and catches the child in its fall, causes a furore of applause.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech. — The leading name on the week's bill at the Empire is the popular Dawson Dewick, a comedian who elicits loud applause in his latest comic ditties; Ford and Hanson, who style themselves the American musical millionaires, are a really good "turn"; the Esdales, novelty comedians, provide plenty of food for laughter; the O.H.M.S. animals, consisting of performing ponies, dogs, bears, and monkeys, provides a fund of entertainment; Selby and Myers are refined comedians and clever dancers; Mr. J. T. Macmillan, Scotch comedian, attracts attention with his native ditties and humour; the Sisters Volbecque are charming comedy duettists; and the Three Bordellas introduce some expert business. The Katos, the comical kidgets, are also good. On the bioscope is an additonal attraction.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—Mr. Harry Starr, the versatile actor-author, supported by a good all-round company, is this week the attraction here with two of his own popular musical dramas, his latest one, *The Unseen Power*, being presented on the first three nights of the week and *Carl the Clockmaker* the latter three nights. Though this is Mr. Starr's ninth visit here, large audiences have testified their appreciation at both houses nightly. The principal characters in both plays are well undertaken by Messrs. Edwin Firth, William Miller, Will Hee, Fred W. Graham, Charles Cabe; Misses Ella Crossley, Madge Blundell, Lizzie Jacobs, Alsace Mathey, and Miss Kate Norris.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—The programme this week is headed by Mr. Sidney Bacon's production, entitled *The Maniac*, in which Mr. Melville Bickford sustains the part of Nathan Black, the maniac, with intense dramatic power and feeling; an excellent turn is provided by the Jalvans, Oriental entertainers and top spinners; Mr. Leon Rolfe is an entertaining ventriloquist; Lambert and Hands do well as character and vocal duettists. Other items are furnished by Mr. Clayton with a good selection of Attergraph pictures; Miss Madge Daly, Mr. Johnny Worman, comedian, and Wake and Dean, comedians.

AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—On Monday night the Scottish musical play, under the direction of Mr. J. D. Newton, *A Trip to the Highlands*, was staged for a three-nights' run. Mr. Wal Croft and Mr. Joseph B. Montague as the MacMutchkin and Timmins respectively, are a lively pair, clever with their "wut" and patter. The Right Hon. Viscount Lockington is typically played by Mr. Walter Southern; Fred is in the able hands of Mr. Frank Barclay; Sir Septimus Brown-Windsor is made breezy and gay by Mr. Gus Wheatman; while as Araminta, Miss Maisie Bilinger scores a great success; Miss Clara Moore is attractive as Miss Winnie, and Miss Kitty Clinton acts the part of her maid admirably. Little Miss Nan Dowling does well as Charley Chatterton; the Dexter of Mr. Arthur Poole is good. The bevy of Gibson girls are deserving of praise.

BACUP. — NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Dudley Harcourt.—Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company is appearing here this week with *An Unwedded Wife*. Mr. J. Edward Whitty gives a capital interpretation of the part of Frank Armstrong; Mr. R. St. Clair Forbes may be commended for a striking performance of Philip Blackstone; Mr. Logan Darra is good in his delineation of John Hawthorne; and Mr. Henry Nisbett does useful work as David Drummond; Mr. Richard Pardon is decidedly funny as Napoleon D. Bloomer; and is ably assisted by Mr. Harry Townley as Parkinson Pimple; Miss Violet Wilson submits a sympathetic rendering of Elsie Langham; Miss Jessie Gillette appears to advantage as Caraway Crumpet; and Marion is cleverly represented by Miss Ethel Van Praagh; and Little Ella as Reggie adds considerably to the success of the production.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Miss Maud Hildyard's company is here this week in *The Great Awakening*. Miss Hildyard, in the principal part of Lola Selby, displays fine dramatic power, and is ably supported by Mr. Chas. E. Linney. Other parts are in capable hands.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr. G. E. Hoey.—Mr. Jasper Redfern has a strong variety company here this week. The Elliotts and Savonas head the bill. Other artists are Lottie De Abbey, a pleasing vocalist and mimic; Senorita Eloina, a clever gymnast; Roose, in a wonderful acrobatic act; Joe Conway, miniature comedian; Miss Florence, a talented singer; Chas. Dixon, comedian and dancer; Kate Lynd, comedienne; Dolly Wright, comedienne; and some pleasing animated pictures conclude.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. F. Monillot's company is paying a return visit in *A Message from Mars*. Mr. Herbert J. Bentley is a convincing Horace Parker, and Mr. William H. Brougham plays the Messenger from Mars with admirable effect; Mr. Bruce Lindley's tramp is a clever piece of emotional acting; Miss Flora Hastinges is good as Miss Parker; and Miss Joan Ellis plays the unselfish Minnie Templer with marked success.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. V. Leveaux's company in *The Walls of Jericho* is paying a return call here. Mr. A. E. Anson is a finely effective Jack Frobisher, and Mr. Alfred S. Barber makes a characteristic Hankey Banister; Lord Marchmont has a good exponent in Mr. Wilfred S. Lane, and Miss Marguerite Cellier plays Lady Westerby with convincing force; Miss Nona Wynne is a capable Lady Lucy Darenham; and Miss May Taverner makes an interesting Lady Alethea Frobisher.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi.—Duncan's Royal Scotch Collies give a good turn, and the Sisters Belmore prove agreable singers and dancers. Ike Scott and Son give an amusing item, and the Bros. Lillian are clever gymnasts. Arthur Stacey, eccentric comedian and dancer, and Herbert Madden also contribute successfully.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A Long.—This week Mr. Charles Macdona introduces *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)*, who is cleverly played by Mr. Morris Harvey. Miss Maisie Brickwell, who is rapidly coming to the front, is the La Bolero, her singing and dancing being warmly received. Louise finds a dainty representative in Miss Lulu Louden; Miss Louie Rene and Miss Stella St. Andrie have small chances of showing their acknowledged talents in the rôles of Mrs. Doring and Mrs. Hennay, but both work hard to create an interest in those characters; Mr. Fred Maguire displays a good baritone voice as Jacques Kenyon; Mr. Tom May sustains Plat with humour; and Miss Claire Pridelle as Violet gains numerous encores for her effectively arranged songs.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—The majority of those appearing in the current bill are on return visits, and include such well-known performers as G. W. Hunter, comedian and raconteur; Frances Haskell, in her popular illustrated songs; Stewart and Morgan, successful vocalists; Ted Saunders, impersonator; Horace Monto, musical speciality artist; Annie Laurie, comedienne; Cissy Dryden, male impersonator; and the Brothers Ethairen in their entertaining interlude. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are the concluding item.

BATLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Whitty.—*A Queen of Villany* (Mr. P. H. Sturgess's company) is the attraction here this week. Miss Edith Blande, in the title-rôle is cool, callous, and calculating; Miss Amy Ross Clyde is eminently successful in a character part; and Misses Jessie Crammonde and Cecilia Desmond are responsible for intelligent studies of their parts. Mr. Edward Heanley gives a sound rendering of the villain.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards here are occupied by Mr. Cyril Keightley's company in *The School for Scandal*. Mr. Henry Crocker admirably impersonates Sir Peter; Mr. Edward Harrison makes an excellent Sir Oliver; Mr. Iden Payne as Sir Benjamin Backbite leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Baliol Holloway as Joseph Surface meets with success; Mr. Cyril Keightley quite capably depicts the character of Charles Surface; and Mr. B. A. Pittar well sustains the humour of Moses. Miss Haidee Gunn acts with charm as Lady Teazle; and Miss Ethel Dane prettily interprets the rôle of Maria.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company opened here on Monday with Hall Caine's play *The Eternal City*. A fine cast includes Mr. D. Lewin Mannering, who as Baron Bonelli was most successful in every scene, his clever acting gaining him quite a triumph. Miss Sara De Groot, a charming and talented actress, furnished a fine impersonation of Donna Roma Volona. Mr. Henry Deas presented a sympathetic impersonation of David Rossi; and much praise is due to Mr. Jack Fortescue for his dignified and able impersonation of the difficult part of Pope Pius XI. Mr. Herbert Legerton played the rôle of the detestable Charles Minghelli excellently; and Mr. W. O'Flynn acquitted himself creditably as the generous-hearted Italian, Bruno Rocco. Miss Eva Stuart was all that could be desired as Princess Bellini; and other rôles were admirably sustained by Miss May Fortescue, Miss Violet Campbell, Miss C. Stokes, and Messrs. J. Poole Kirkwood, H. Ainsworth, B. Comberbach, &c. Songs were beautifully sung by Miss Ethel Percival, assisted by Miss Violet Campbell and a well-trained choir of voices. Miss Ethel Percival deserves praise for her rendering of the Serenade in the last act. It should be added that the play was produced by Mr. D. Lewin Mannering.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The star here this week is Yukio Tani, the clever Japanese wrestler, who furnishes a marvellous exhibition of Ju-jitsu, being nightly accorded a great reception. Mr. Tom Leamore's comic character songs have been hugely enjoyed; and the Eskimo Troupe appear in a most attractive scene, entitled *Lapland*. Wallan, the boy juggler, exhibits some interesting feats; and Miss Belle Braham, the pictorial songstress, exhibits some beautiful pictures; Miss Amy Elcock is a charming comedienne; and others appearing are Saxo, instrumentalist; and Miss Flo St. Roy, vocalist and acrobatic dancer.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Mr. Herbert Darnley's company provides the leading attraction here with the exceedingly humorous sketch, *Muscles, or Muscular Development Personified*. A great welcome has been extended to Mr. W. J. Ashcroft, who in song and dance is inimitable; Hillman and Russell, in their original vocal comedy duologue, *The Somnambulist*, have been accorded a capital reception; and the Wedburns are exceedingly droll comedians; Miss Ella Retford is a delightful comedienne, with good songs and fascinating style; Mr. J. H. Milton renews acquaintance with his host of admirers in Belfast; Mr. Edgar Budden, bone soloist and skate dancer, pleases immensely; as does Mr. Leo Tell, whose mimicry of animals is marvellous.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—This week the Alhambra Dramatic Company presents the fine drama, *The Lottery of Life*. Miss Nina Blake-Adams, a charming actress, scores a great success by her sympathetic impersonation of Mabel, and Mr. Horace Denton is successful as the hero, Arnold Brierley; Mr. Percy M. Stevenson ably portrays the villainies of Captain Martin Dalton; a special word of praise is due to Mr. Cyril Grier for his clever acting as Mark Lattiker; and Mr. Tom H. Solly is admirable as Leary Jim. The humour of the piece is in the hands of Miss Effie Macintosh as Miss Features and Mr. H. Arnold Allen as Rev. Adolphus Babs. Miss Norah Caronne fills the rôle of Jess with much credit to herself, and Miss Alice Clarke as Nana upholds her reputation as an actress of much merit. Mr. Elmore Frith scores as Sir Geo. Brierley.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Battersby. — Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's company is presenting *Her One Great Sin* for the first time in Bilston. As the hero of the piece, Reuben Warhurst, Mr. John Cecil plays naturally; Miss S. Albans has a fine part as Grace Warhurst, which brings out well her histrionic talent; Little Gracie has an intelligent and interesting exponent in Miss Maudie Lambert; Mr. J. Leicester ably fills the rôle of the heartless Squire Arnold Thornhill, and plays with much acceptance; Charlie, the flower-seller, finds a good representative in Miss Phyllis Damian. The humorous side is well cared for, having Mr. Fred Hodson in the part of Jerry Jumble; and Miss Nellie Lambert in the rôle of Nancy Winpenny.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company opened here on Monday in *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr. H Tripp Edgar secures a veritable triumph as Lieut. Rereeby, and the merits of a powerful and really meritorious performance were heartily recognised; Mr. Oswald Lingford skilfuly acts Viscount Dorrington; Colonel Hungerford is well represented by Mr. R. A. Green; and the Hon. Francis Tresham is capably undertaken by Mr. Cecil Klein. Mr. Florence Tressilian is a gentle and lovable Hon. Margaret Hungerford; Miss Celestine Bertram is interesting as Batty; and Miss Madge Saguy as Mrs. Bagshaw and Miss Miriam Holt as Helena Pierrepont are also most efficient.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—A capital programme, without a single weak turn, introduces the Dean Tribune company in the amusing sketch *Applicants*. Miss Carrie Laurie's clever juveniles; the Sutcliffe Troupe of Scotch pipers and drummers, in a veritable entertainment; Miss Marguerite Broadfote, a charming comedienne, and a great favourite; Binns and Binns, the musical vagabonds; Mlle. Alcide Capitaine, a graceful gymnast; Johnny Johnston, the musical dandy; Yorkshire Tom, mimic; Miss Vera Mayne, comedienne; Mr. Harry Clifford, vocalist; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree has recompensed Birmingham for his five years absence with *Colonel Newcome, Business is Business, Trilby, The Man Who Was*, and *The Ballad Monger*. Mr. Tree, as Colonel Newcome, seems to have stepped from the pages of Thackeray. He realises the high-souled chivalrous gentleman to perfection. Miss Constance Collier imparts delightful charm to the character of Ethel Newcome, and Mr. Charles Quartermaine, Mr. G. W. Anson, Mr. Sydney Brough, Mr. Edmund Maurice, Mr. A. E. Benedict, Miss Mary Sumner, Miss Annie Schletter, Miss Muriel Alexander, Mrs. Percival, and Mr. Erik Warwick are well imbued with the spirit of the work. On Tuesday Mr. Tree proved his extraordinary versatility and vitality by appearing as Isidore Izard in *Business is Business*.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnstone.—*The Little Michus* re-visits Birmingham this week with Mr. Eric Thorne as General Des Ifs, an impersonation that is again greeted with continual roars of laughter. The titular parts are charmingly rendered by the Misses Iris Hoey and Thelma Raye, who are both delightful. Messrs. W. Talleur Andrews and Leonard Mackay sing and act with the utmost success as the lovers, Gaston Rigaud and Aristide Vert respectively. Mr. Jack Cannot excels with his quaint singing and dancing as Bagnolet; Mr. George Miller contributes fun as Pierre Michu; Miss Florence Parfrey is clever and popular as Madame Michu; Miss Alice Oppitz lends her distinguished presence and clever vocalisation to the rôle of Madame Herpin; and Mr. Willie Warde, jun., as the market man, Miss Nora Brocklebank as Madame Du Terte, and Miss Vivien Talleur in her smart exposition of the dancing Mlle. St. Cyr are fully appreciated.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—*Dare-Devil Dorothy* is winning plenty of cheers and appreciation for Mr. Henry Swinerd's company in its present environment. Miss Dorothy Desmonde acts and sings with appropriate fire and abandon in the title-rôle; Miss Marie Vere scores in excellent style as Ruth Montrose; Mr. Henry Ward acts in a strenuous and clever manner as Edward Dudley; Mr. William Ashley embellishes the rôle of George Fielding with some clever vocalism; Mr. Will Brereton provides a constant flow of humour as Silas Crump; Mr. Dean Cliffe adds to the mirth as Featherston Haugh; and Miss Nellie Harcourt proves a spirited and entertaining comedienne as Judith.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chris. Felton.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company has evoked much praise here with its powerful portrayal of *The Temptress*. Miss Lydia Donovan realises the possibilities of the titular part in a thorough-going and withal fascinating manner; Mr. Wallace Campbell, as the primary object of her wiles, Philip Welford, is many and resolute; Miss Violet Sims is charming and sympathetic as Marion Fordyce; Mr. Weldon Atherstone, powerful and subtle as the iniquitous Lucas Denbigh; Mr. Fred H. Constable wins distinction as Pedro Gonzales; Miss Effie Bartlett acts with much skill as the maniacal wife, Madge Denbigh; and Mr. William P. Sheen (the author of the play, and under whose direction it is produced), Miss Ivy Chandos, Miss Dorothy Greaves, Miss Dora Mason, Mr. Allen Carruthers, Mr. Forbes Harrison, Mr. Chas. Rayne, and Mr. Richard Talbot also take part.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. Walter Melville's company is drawing crowded houses here with *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Miss Beaumont Collins is intensely realistic as Barbara Wade; Miss Nannie Meade displays verve as Nellie Meadows; Miss Jessica Black acts with pleasing effect as Constance Cornell; Mr. Wilson Gunning depicts the trials and temptations of Jack Livingstone in a highly dramatic manner; Mr. Charles Tranmore shows energy and skill as the old farmer, John Meadows; Mr. Gerald Jordan and Mr. Fred Withers act admirably in concert as Cuthbert Lumbley and Luke Ramsden respectively; Mr. Fred Ingram is a favourite as Toby Turvy; Miss Lena Delphine scores as the maid, Tilly Vane; and Mr. Fred Brunell is noticeable for his tact as Dr. Weston.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY. — General-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company appears here in the favourite drama, *Driven from Home*. Mr. McIntosh gives a sound performance of Anthony Raybrook; Mr. Reginald Payne acts capably as Walter Hatherleigh; Mr. Charles Raybould portrays the villain admirably; Mr. Andrew Emm (Melville) makes a telling part of the outcast, Willie; Messrs. Chas. Cameron, A. R. Windhurst, and Henry Heller play with ability and discretion; Miss Rose Ralph engrosses the audience with her pathetic acting of Laura; Miss Jessie Yatman displays spirit as Walter Hatherleigh the younger; Mr. Edward Finley is good as Sanders; and Miss G. Baines is successful as Barbara Ashdown.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. R. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—Mr. R. Hill-Mitchelson's company is being well received here in *Death or Glory Boys*. Mr. Hill-Mitchelson sustains the rôle of Captain Glyn Ferrers in a strongly dramatic manner; Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson wins much popularity as Jack Malden; Mr. Jerrold Ord is keen and alert as Colonel Fergeson; Miss Violet Carlyle invests the rôle of Nena Fergeson with pathos; Miss Amy Ellam appears to advantage as Edith; Miss Marian Armitage makes a well-formed character of Jane; Mr. Lancelot Usher gives an entertaining portrayal of Lieut. Duff; Mr. J. Russell Bogue keeps the fun flowing as Nat Wilks; Miss Hettie Senior helps in the same direction as the maid; and Mr. Harold Wagner and Mr. Edward Jeffs do sound service. Mr. Francis Serle plays a useful part as Carn.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Chung Ling Soo, magician, is mystifying crowded houses here; an excellent turn is MacDonald's Melody Makers, and the singing and dancing of the Stella Troupe are applauded. The Arthur Lloyd Trio have a good comedy sketch, *The Twin Sisters*; Hanvarr and Lee appear as *The Golfer and the Maid*. The Penillion Welsh Wanderers sing with their usual success; Ray Mascall is applauded for her songs; Stelling and Revell are a smart comedy pair; and some pleasing dances are executed by Nettie Starr.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Busbell.—Joe Elvin is at the head of the programme here. The popular Cockney comedian introduces about 100 auxiliaries in his sketch, *Over the Sticks*, which causes roars of laughter; Burg, Hand, and Wise and Martine and Son also come in for a good share of applause; the Three De Veres provide an excellent turn; Claude Fieldman's Beau Ideals Troupe of Juveniles are smart; Forest and King have a clever and artistic acrobatic act; Maude Vera is applauded for her songs, as also is Kitty Rayburn and Fred Lincoln.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The programme submitted this week includes Fred Wright, jun., who is encored for his singing of popular songs from *The Geisha* and *Cingalee*. Austin Rudd keeps his audience in a merry humour, his songs being well applauded; Hallam and Stanton present a musical comedy sketch, *A Broken Journey*, which is appreciated. The Sisters Tree and Minonette Kokin are pleasing comediennes; Galetti's monkey comedians are highly amusing. Other popular turns are Tom Yorke, Satsuma, A. G. Spray, and James De Voy, with his entertaining horse "Billy."

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—The principal item this week is a dramatic sketch, *A Bolt from the Blue*, presented by Harry Trevanion and company, who are all good in their respective rôles. The Clarkes are expert banjoists, their selections being well received; Josh Dixon and the New Macs add to the merriment of the programme; Cull-Pitt has a clever and humorous conjuring display; the Sisters Dorrell are pleasing in song and dance. The performance of Lora, the thought-reading parrot, is most amusing.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — EDEN THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. Dickie Clare's comedians are being well received here in *Lucky 'Liza*. As Lucky 'Liza, Miss Madge Brownie is a favourite; Paul Pettitoe is admirably played by Mr. Leonard Maitland; Mr. Dickie Clare's Silas Slim is also productive of much merriment; the diverting character of William Biffins is capably handled by Mr. H. A. Griffiths; and Peter Pettitoe and Barnaby Blatherwick, the rival lawyers, have able exponents in Mr. T. W. Benson and Mr. A. W. Thompson respectively. Virginia is capably undertaken by Miss Vesta Brownie.

BLACKBURN. — THEATRE ROYAL.— Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—Miss Claudia Lasell is visiting here with her bright musical play, *The Sweet Girl*. Her part of Lola suits her admirably. In both song and dialogue she is heard to advantage, and she was warmly applauded on Monday evening. She is ably seconded by Miss Alice Lethbridge, whose part of Fritzi Weyringe gives her opportunities for some charming dancing. Mr. Fred Eastman is one of the funniest of comedians and is thoroughly at home as Count Leibenberg. Miss Grace Hunter acts gracefully as Countess Lizzi, and Mr. Edward Russell sings well in the part of Florian; and Mr. George de Lara is good as Prosper Plewney. Mr. Lister Morrah is excellent as Dick Kenyon, while Mr. Algernon Newark, as Anthony Stroves, has been encored several times for his song, in which he impersonates well-known actors.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. Walter Melville's company in *Her Second Time on Earth* is drawing big houses.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—A capital variety show is given by the musical Silvo; Angelo, the lightning painter; Bijou Russell, American coon artist; the Marconis, electrical experts; Sid Cotterell and company in *The Substitute*; Harry Freeman, comedian; Bishop and Vale, comedians and dancers; the Brothers Durant, comedy acrobats; and Les Rallis, in a sketch, *The Artist and the Monkey*.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone. — Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is paying another visit here with *The Country Mouse*, which is again proving very successful. Miss Hilda Honiss is very attractive as Angela Muir, and Miss Lilias Earle sustains the part of Lady Sylvia Bowlby in the most becoming manner. The Hon. Archibald Vyse is ably played by Mr. Templer Powell, and Mr. Charles Bedells contributes a natural interpretation of John Bowlby, M.P. A capital character sketch of Jephcot, the butler, is supplied by Mr. Frank Hill, and Messrs. Thomas Sydney and Ernest H. G. Cox as the Duke of St. Kitts and Lord Wykeham respectively also give satisfaction. *Why Women Weep* is played as a curtain raiser.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*The Lion and the Mouse*, played by Mr. Walter Maxwell's very capable company, is the fare provided here. The rôle of John Burkett Ryder, "the lion," is played with great power by Mr. Leslie Carter, and Mr. Stephen Wentworth has a part that suits him well in Jefferson Ryder. Painstaking performances are also given by Mr. George Lyttleton as James Rossmore, Mr. J. W. Mackie as the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley, Mr. Richard Norton as Alfred Stott, and Mr. John Wheatman as J. Whitmore Roberts, M.P. The very important part of Shirley Rossmore, the Mouse, is played by Miss Christine Silver, a young actress possessed of undoubted histrionic ability, whilst Miss Elspeth Dudgeon assumes the rôle of Mrs. Ryder with cleverness and distinction.

PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Tom Foy and company top the bill here this week, and their sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, proves very divertin. Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas, of operatic fame, appear in a musical duologue entitled *Her Birthday*, which is warmly applauded. Lauri Wylie gives a clever turn in mimicry; Minnie Mace is a pleasing comedienne; Daisy Ray gives pleasure as a coon impersonator; Carney and Armstrong cause endless fun in the rehearsal of *Nero*; and L. B. Athol proves himself to be an exceedingly clever character comedian; Clown Barker and Miss Rozsika exhibit some well trained dogs, Rosa Rossetti is a skilful musician, and Fahmah Diard is a most pleasing vocalist. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope continues to show the latest pictures.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Messrs. D'Arcy and Little's company was here on Monday with the popular play entitled *On the Stroke of Twelve* Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle, in the rôle of Jack Rutledge, gave a vigorous and artistic performance; Mr. Fred Quinness as George Bainbridge was a decided success; Mr. H. Creagh Hunt as the schemer, James Horton, made a typical exponent of villainy; Henry Rutledge was well represented by Mr. Fred Ferne; in Mr. Syd T. Russell was found a capital Moses Levi; Mr. Fred J. Little was a prominent figure as Jasper; Mr. Will Bass gave a good portrayal of Pat; Miss Nellie Moore won favour as Jess, and Miss Beatrice Moore as Doris Rutledge gave a pleasing performance.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. William Tudor.—The Royal Standard Animated Picture and Variety Company, under the management of Mr. Wilfred F. Holt, commenced a short season at the above place of amusement on Monday, and drew a large audience. In addition to the pictures, Mr. Holt gave a clever display of ventriloquism; the Mysterious Magician was responsible for a good performance; Mr. Hyam Long, with his musical entertainment, had a hearty reception, and the incidental music was well rendered by Mme. Carlyle.

THE GAIETY.—Proprietor, Councillor John Grantham; Manager, Mr. Arthur James.—Ciniselli, described as the silent jester, heads the bill here, and is rewarded with much applause; the Boultons, in acrobatic dancing, have a good reception; Gracie Logan has good songs, which win applause; Mlle. Bartenelli as a lady bender is responsible for an interesting performance; the Gaiety Bioscope displays interesting pictures.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—*Claudian* is again here, and being presented to large audiences this week by a company of all-round excellence. Mr. William Maclaren and Miss Lily C. Bandmann respectively appear as Claudian and Almida, their fine acting many times rousing the enthusiasm of the audience. In Act II. Miss Amy Hardcastle gives a clever cymbal dance.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—The Borghetti Troupe of marvellous head acrobats top the bill here and give a sensational performance; other turns are Fraser and Haley, contralto duettists and dancers; Yetta, in her graceful and clever speciality wire act, introducing the sensational novelty cake walk on the wire; the Sisters Russell, refined exponents of low comedy; the Paolias, in a drawing-room gymnastic act; Oliver Conroy, comedian;

very funny; Herbert Le Martine, vocalist, eccentric dancer, and baton manipulator, achieves distinct success; Grant and Grant, American Octoroons, are cordially received; Edwin Boyde is a capital comedian; the Three Pirmans are skilful and diverting in their comedy bar act; the Sisters Tinsley are pleasing duettists and dancers; the Mackinnons are clever Scotch entertainers; Mabel Hind, character comedienne, and Frank Couch, patter comedian, are effective; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

West Pier.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Howard Cochran's company is here this week with *The Marriage of Kitty*. Miss Aida Jenoure submits a delightful portrayal of Kitty Silverton; Mr. Howard Cochran gives an excellent impersonation of Sir Reginald Belsize; Miss Betty Castle is admirably suited as Madame de Semiano; Mr. Cecil Wilford's John Travers is well played; and the minor characters are satisfactorily sustained by Miss Helene Kay Robertson, Mr. Langford Reed, and Mr. Colet Dave.

New Palace Pier.—Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer and company opened here on Monday with *Mary, Queen of Scots*. Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer gave a fine portrayal of the ill-fated Mary; Miss Katharine Herbert was highly successful as Queen Elizabeth; Mr. Sydney Bland did well as Sir Edward Mortimer; and Mr. F. Skein's Earl of Leicester, Mr. A. Wilson Wynne's Earl of Shrewsbury, and Mr. Leonard Cheetham's Lord Burleigh also merit praise. The programmes for the week also included *From Washerwoman to Duchess; The School for Scandal*, and *East Lynne*.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—There was a large attendance in all parts of the house on Monday evening, the attraction being Mr. Tree's company in *Oliver Twist*. The play is costumed and staged in a very effective manner, the London Bridge scene being especially realistic. Mr. William Mackintosh presents an exceptionally clever and powerful exposition of Fagin; Mr. Cecil A. Collins does excellently as Bill Sykes; Miss Marie Polini acts cleverly and with considerable power as Nancy; the parts of Rose Maylie and Harry Maylie are expressively embodied by Miss Jane Savile and Mr. Harvey Braban; Miss Elsie Carew is pleasing as Mrs. Maylie; Mr. Brownlow and Mr. Grimwig have full justice done to them by Mr. E. C. Buffan and Mr. T. P. Haynes; Monks has a clever and effective exponent in Mr. C. H. Croker-King; Miss Maudie Ray acts in a pretty and interesting manner as Oliver Twist; and the Artful Dodger, Charlie Bates, Tom Chitling, Barney, and Betsy are satisfactorily embodied by Messrs. Tom Macfarlane, Christmas Grose, Frederick Clive, Max Montesole, and Miss Edith King.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—Mr. F. Brooke Warren's company is here with the sensational drama, *Mysteries of the Thames*, the play being well staged. Mr. Andrew Money acts in convincing style as Richard Brandon; Mr. F. Brooke Warren is effective and consistent as Captain James Denbigh; Miss Stephanie Baring acts well in the dual rôle of Helen Price and Grace Rochdale; Miss Marie Ramuz is pleasing as Kate Brandon; Miss Violet Leal plays prettily as Little Doris Brandon; Mr. Gilbert Hall makes the most of Jack Hammond; the comic parts of Bill Bosco, Peter Waggles, and Emma Seaton are embodied in good style by Mr. Sydney Vereker, Mr. Dan Hardie, and Miss Maisie Grey; and the interesting part of Bertie Fitzgerald is pleasingly rendered by Miss Effie Crawford.

Palace Theatre.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—Arthur Conquest and company head the programme with their interesting sketch, *The Sioux*, which is well-staged with elaborate scenery and accessories, and meets with due appreciation. The Three Guitanos do an excellent turn as eccentric acrobats; Billie Bint, comedian, obtains applause; the Wyffs amuse with their speciality, *The Parson's Mishaps in a London Flat*; Howard and Collinson have a smart absurdity, *The Porter and Parcel*; Bert Dawson, comedian, amuses with song and patter; Fanny Robina, comedienne, has some good songs; and Florrie Cooper is a pleasing and successful vocalist. The performance concludes with *A Night Out*, projected by the Imperial Bioscope.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Ada Reeve is here for the week, and packing the house at each performance. *Electra's Bower* is a pretty stage spectacle by Alma Abdullah and La Superbe, some 4000 lights being used in the act; J. W. Hall, comedian, obtains considerable applause; Ethel Dove, comedienne and dancer, does a pleasing turn; Collard's dogs give an excellent performance; Fred Haham, comedian, has some amusing songs; and Grey and Wilford score as comedians and comedy boxers. The performance concludes with excellent animated pictures.

BROMLEY.—Lyric Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. W. Purcell.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott and company are here in a répertoire of plays. On Monday *A Wife's Triumph* was represented. Bessie Dewhurst was very successfully undertaken by Miss Ada Abbott, and enlisted the sympathy of her audience; Mr. E. R. Abbott was equally good as Frank Wilton, the gambler; Mr. W. H. Garbois and Mr. Weedon Ross were sufficiently despicable as Ellis Jordan and Julius Hartman respectively. Considerable amusement was caused by Mr. Edwin Keene as Ben Bradford and Miss M. Tennant as Margery Cribb; a typical country squire was portrayed by Mr. Douglas C. Phelps as Robert Dewhurst; Alice Wilton was charmingly played by Miss Doris Dew; and a sympathetic Little Frank was presented by Miss Hetty Jones.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria, Ltd.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. J. W. Turner's English Opera Company is in a second week here. *The Bohemian Girl*, with Mr. F. J. Hargreave as Thaddeus and Miss Christine Gomez as Arline, appeared to be thoroughly enjoyed on Monday by a good house. Among other operas this week are *Satanella*, *The Puritan's Daughter*, and *Maritana*.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Mr. Charles Windermere and company are here in *Facing the Music*. Mr. C. Casson Freer is quite at home as the Rev. John Smith, and Mr. Charles Windermere as the other Mr. Smith is responsible for much laughter; Mr. W. H. G. Wynne is an excellent Colonel Duncan Smith, Mr. Gordon Phillott is clever as Dick Desmond, and Mr. Henry Nelson ably plays the rôle of Sergeant Duffell; Miss Kathleen Willoughby and Miss Clara Manifield as the two wives, Mabel and Nora, are deserving of high praise; Miss Evelyn Shelley is good as Mrs. Ponting and Miss Mary Buckstone scores as Miss Fotheringay. The play is preceded by a clever comedietta by Mr. Windermere, entitled *Clause No. 6*, in which Mr. Gordon Phillott and Miss Clara Manifield distinguish themselves.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The principal item in the current bill is the Davis and Gledhill trio of cyclists. The Four Bros. Rio give a very smart gymnastic performance, and are loudly applauded. Fred and Maud Vypond distinguish themselves in the musical duet, "A Bachelor's Birthday"; the Haverleys, song illustrators, are greatly appreciated; Oakdene is a clever ventriloquist; Lady Julia, the educated ape, is a very acceptable turn; Harry Nelson is a capital comedian; and Alice Maude, juvenile mimic, wins much favour.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—Opera House (New Hippodrome).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. G. Arkell.—A fine array of talent is engaged here for the week, including Marie Weston, in a banjo speciality; the Alhtones, with a classical and taking exhibition in the Sandow style; Geo. Raper, eccentric character comedian; the Brothers Onda, in their amusing nautical comedy triple bar act; Eddie Stidder and Gwennie Dunbar, in a pleasing turn; the Sisters Poole, dancers; Blanche and Diacoff, in their great cycle sensation, and Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

BURY (Lancs.).—Theatre Royal and Opera House, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. George Dance's company opened here on Monday with *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Miss May Glenn is delightful as the Duchess. She sings charmingly. Miss Maggie White is very clever as Renee; Miss Dulcie Garland, Miss Madge Elswick, Miss Ella Derwent are sufficiently dignified as Josephine and the two sisters of Napoleon; Mr. Gilbert Yorke is excellent as Napoleon; Mr. Ernest Torrence sings well as the Duke of Dantzic; Mr. Alex Johnstone makes a manly Vicomte de Bethume, and Mr. Steve Fitzgerald is funny as Pappillon.

Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A good programme here includes Reichen and his troupe of highly trained dogs; the Merymots, in a sketch entitled *Semi-Detached*; the Ford and Barras trio of dancers and vocalists; the Emilions, acrobats; Adams and Ward, acrobatic comedians; Edyth Goodall, vocalist; Albert Williams, comedian; and Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the factory nightingales.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead; General-Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead, jun. The Geni Family of risley acrobats head the bill, and are supported by Jay Laurier, comedian; Rose Elliott, vocalist; Jack Truman, tenor; Lack and Ford, comedians; Mephisto and Marie, drawing room entertainers; and the Kimberley Boys, comedians.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS. — Athenæum Hall. — Manager, Mr. E. Arnold Crack.—An overflowing audience greeted Mr. Bannister Howard's company on their return visit here on Monday in *Florodora*. Mr. Gus Danby, as Tweedlepunch, played in mirth-provoking style; Mr. Howard Crofton's acting as Frank Abercoed was all that could be desired; the Captain Donegal of Mr. Carnelly-Joye was frank and manly; Mr. Colin Johnstone was a satisfactory Cyrus Gilfain; and Mr. C. A. Road-Knight a capable Leandro. Miss Rosa Sullivan was vivacious as Lady Holyrood; Miss Daisy Lake displayed her fine voice to advantage as Dolores; and the singing and dancing of Miss Dorothy Dempster as Angela Gilfain drew repeated applause.

BUXTON.—Opera House.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—On Monday and Tuesday this week we had Mr. Frederick Mouillot's chief company in *The Geisha*. Miss Louie Collier sang delightfully, and each number was loudly re-demanded. Miss Violet Kenyon played with tact as O Juliette Diamante, and Miss Florrie Saunders was a sprightly Molly Seymour. Miss Aubrey Ashton acted with seemly dignity as Lady Constance Wynne, and Miss Blanche Browne was good as Tommy Stanley. Mr. Cyril Thompson sang exceedingly well and acted with judgment as Reginald Fairfax, and Mr. S. Lockridge was a capable Dick Cunningham. Mr. J. Mansell Stringer sang well his pretty solo, "Star of the Eastern Sea," and Mr. Lionel Braham was a capital Marquis Imari. Mr. Edward Carlton as Wun-hi was quite irresistible. The opera was under the stage management of Mr. James R. La Fane, and Mr. Francis Knowles had charge of the orchestra. *The Greek Slave* was played on Wednesday.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Another excellent musical play, *The Blue Moon*, was staged here on Monday. Mr. Alfred Clark was a capital Major Callabone; Mr. Alec Fraser has not a great part, but played Captain Jack Ormsby quite naturally; Mr. Reginald Switz as Private Charles Taylor succeeded at once in pleasing the audience, and was ably assisted by Miss Florence Imerson as Milly. This young lady, besides having a most attractive appearance, sang and danced very gracefully. Mr. A. Wykes Ashdown scored as Bobbie Scott; Miss Clarice Lockstone was a charming Chandra, her singing being a special feature; Mr. Alfred Beers made the most of Mooiraj; Mr. Arthur Soames presented a capital study of the Prince; Miss Kathleen Cartaret was a dignified Lady Brabasham.

CARDIFF.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—Patrons of the Royal are favoured this week with an early visit of Pinero's comedy, *His House in Order*, and a large audience assembled on Monday night to witness Mr. George Alexander's company's rendition of this successful piece. Hilary Jesson was in the hands of Mr. Frank Fenton, and a more effective impersonation could not be desired. Miss Auriol Lee's delineation of Nina was a fine piece of acting; Mr. Cyril Harcourt gave a faithful rendering of Filmer Jesson; Mr. Adam Alexander and Mr. George Silver were quite at home in the parts of Sir Daniel and Pryce Ridgeley; while as Lady and Geraldine Ridgeley, Mrs. Kemmies and Miss Audrey Campbell acquitted themselves most creditably. Mr. Charles Tyrel made the most of Major Maurewarde, and a charming impersonation of little Derek came from Miss Carmen Woods.

King's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—*A Wrecker of Men*, a drama attracting large houses here, is presented in an elaborate manner by Mr. C. Watson Mill. The company is an all-round talented one, Miss Dora Price giving a fascinating representation of Risca Mallison, and Mr. Frederick Biron a particularly successful rendering of Jim Murley.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—The programme here this week is a delightfully varied one. *Neighbours* is the title of the screamingly diverting sketch provided by the Albert and Edmunds Comedy Troupe; Alexandra and Hughes are as fresh as ever in their gag and melody; Ray Wallace, with her mimicry, is always a favourite in Cardiff; the Imperial Russian Troupe are good singers, and their dancing is something to remember; Edwin Brett and Emmeline Orford are a bright duo of humorists; and Ryder Slone, a clever character-vocalist; Boy Glen, an entertaining raconteur; George Brooks, an amusing comedian; and Lizzie Daniels, a promising comedienne, are responsible for excellent turns. The Bioscope displays an interesting series of pictures of Canadian wonders.

Stoll's Panopticon.—This spacious hall has been packed every night for the last month or so with enthusiastic audiences to see the excellent Bioscope performances presented by Mr. Stoll.

CARLISLE.—H.M. Theatre.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—It is some time since Mr. Horace Stanley last visited this theatre with his popular drama, *The 10.30 Down Express*. He has again brought a capital company, who do full justice to the many thrilling scenes, which on the opening night thoroughly interested and pleased the audience. Mr. Stanley again impersonates Sam Wagstaff with his usual success. The heavy part is played with excellent judgment and considerable power by Mr. Chas. Burdon. Mr. George Beverley shines as the hero, and Mr. Edwin Clarke as the detective contributes a convincing and clever performance. The heroine is well played by Miss Elsie Capell. Miss Evelyn M. Walton is responsible for a lot of fun as Letitia Leigh, and Miss Josephine Lee displays tact and skill in her impersonation of Olive Coombes.

The Palace, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The Schenk Brothers, who head the bill this week, contribute an equilibrist display which is truly described as "sensational"; Baker and Balfe's performance on the xylophone is popular; Miss Ada Fawn shows considerable versatility in her three contributions; Carden and Price provide a smart up-to-date musical turn; Emmie Ames scores with a well-rendered topical song; Harry Bancroft is successful in descriptive songs; and the Two Bostons create laughter with their burlesque of a wrestling match. The Pepiscope, as usual, is a much appreciated item.

CASTLEFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman.—On Monday Mr. T. Edward Ward's company opened here with *Her Fatal Past*. Miss Ward's impersonation of Honor Symes is powerful; as Ruth Fernside and afterwards Bella de Sara, Miss Adeline Raby gives a strong and realistic portrayal; Miss Gertie Reid as Kitty Sprigwell is charming, and Miss Ettie Spalding is most capable as Martha Sprigwell. A good study of Mark Desmond is contributed by Mr. Stuart Lomath; Leonard Fernside is acted in a convincing manner by the stage-manager, Mr. Victor Rowlands; Mr. Wilson Coleman stands out prominently as the villain; Mr. T. Edward Ward provides much amusement by his clever work as Jonathan Buckstone Nobbs; and as Dicky Bird, Mr. Sydney Bryant causes much laughter.

CHATHAM. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—This week's attraction takes the shape of the romantic play *Her Love Against the World*, presented by Mr. W. H. Hallatt and Mr. Walter Howard's company. The latter gentleman is the author of the piece, and acts the leading rôle of Eric Earl of Strathmere in fine style; his brother, Nello, being admirably represented by Miss Rossi St. John; while another convincing performance is Miss Ellen Snow's Iris Princess of Idalia. Mr. Mayor Cooke is sufficiently autocratic as Ulric Prince of Ravensburg. The entr-actes are enlivened by Lacey's Erascope with the latest animated pictures.

Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Much enthusiasm and excitement are being aroused here nightly by the efforts of various members of the audience to wrest from Peter Gotz his title of champion light-weight wrestler; Frederica has some cleverly trained terriers and a pony; Gertie Gitana's variety act is deservedly popular; Chas. Faning, Australian comedian, scores with his patter; while others appearing are Charles and Charles, cross patter artists; Max Duffek, musical contortionist; Mulvey and Miriam, in their comedy act, *In the Studio*; J. W. Ellison, comedian; and Mr. Lacey has fresh pictures to project by means of the Erascope.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—Verno and Voyce give an enjoyable turn here; Chas. F. Best creates plenty of fun in a unique act; Ernie Mayne's parodies go as well as ever; Roma and Romani's selections please all lovers of music; the Sisters Belmont are capital dancers; Miss Blanche Vincent looks well in principal boy costume; Billie Burford's vocal contributions are appreciated; while the Edisonograph projects up-to-date pictures.

CHELTENHAM. — Opera House. — General Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. George Dance's company is paying a visit in *Veronique*. Miss Nellie Wigley is extremely fascinating in the title-rôle, singing in a charming manner and exhibiting considerable histrionic power; Mr. J. Warren-Foster appears with complete success as Florestan de Vallancourt; comic interest centres in the lively Monsieur Coquenard, smartly impersonated by Mr. Ellis Holland; Mr. Tom Seymour does full justice to the part of the amorous Loustot; Miss Agnes Jandy presents a well-conceived picture as the Parisian bourgeoise, Madame Coquenard; Miss Edith Devonshire makes the most of the humours of the Countess de Champ d'Azur; Mr. Scott Cullen as Seraphin sings in capital style; Miss Neste Laurel is the prettiest little figure imaginable as Denise; Miss Maud Leonard humorously assumes Aunt Benoit's peculiarities; Miss Ruth Massina as Sophie is a spirited lead.

CHORLEY (Lancs.)—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hemingway.—The United English Opera Company, under the direction of Mr. F. S. Gilbert, opened here on Monday, on which evening *Maritana* was presented. In the title-rôle Miss Elsa May gave an exceptionally fine performance; Miss Doris Gilbert was successful in her rendering of Lazarillo; Mr. F. S. Gilbert was in good form as Don Cæsar; Mr. J. Kneale Campbell did well as Don José; and Mr. F. H. Farrelly was effective as the King of Spain. Miss Kate White as the Marchioness, and Mr. H. Blagrave as the Marquis, were both well placed. *The Bohemian Girl* and *The Daughter of the Regiment* are included in the week's programme.

CLYDEBANK.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Montagu.—These boards are occupied this week by the Russian drama *What Men Dare*, presented by Mr. Percy Norman's No. 1 company. Mr. Norman undertakes the part of the unscrupulous Drugin in a convincing manner; Mr. A. E. Forbes Rose does well as Richard Wilson; Mr. E. Hall acts cleverly as Nickola; and Ivan Brutoff has a good exponent in Mr. A. Balfour Mackay. Miss Maud Buchanan looks and acts charmingly as Olga Levin; Miss Ida Mackay is entertaining as Mary O'Brien; Mr. Ernest C. Edwards makes a good Stoopid; and Miss Bella Power is also worthy of mention in the small part of the dumb woman. The military drama *A Woman Worth Winning* is also billed.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mr. Chas. F. Cooke and company opened here on Monday with *The Trumpet Call*. Mr. Chas. Cooke himself played the jovial rôle of Milligan in a manner which evoked genuine applause; the character of Prof. Ginnifer was portrayed by Mr. Joe Bracewell in a style which compelled the heartiest laughter; Mr. Leonard Yorke made a fine, manly hero, being most ably seconded by Miss Elsie Evelyn Hill as Constance. Mr. John Dennys proved himself a capable Richard Featherstone; and the exacting rôle of Astræa was capably enacted by Miss Doris Gilham. Mr. Freddie Bentley as Tommy and Miss Phillis French as Lavinia were capital in the lighter parts.

Hippodrome.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—Hardeen, the handcuff king, heads the bill this week; Shrillo, siffleur, provides a musical treat; Lil O'Gorman is decidedly charming, and Flo Warner's powerful voice brings her the heartiest applause. Knoto is a clever contortionist, George Leonard a meritorious comedian; and the pictures, as usual, are good.

CONSETT.—New Theatre—Lessee, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. Fred L. Conyngham's company is appearing here this week in the domestic drama *A Mother's Love*. Mr. Conyngham is highly amusing as Mat Ruddock; whilst Mr. Arthur Mervyn is exceptionally good as Paul Wingate; Mr. Arthur E. Pringle gives a forcible representation of the part of Geoffrye Mannering. Miss Rosa Mervyn gives a faithful portrayal of Winnie Wingate; and Miss Holly Haslewood is clever as Marjorie Wingate; Miss M. Lavinia Ellis is an able Elaine Mervyn; and Miss Dorothy Monkhouse gives entire satisfaction as Mary Stuart.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. George Dance's company on Monday opened a week's engagement here in *The Girl from Kay's*. As Winnie Harborugh Miss Nancy Hervyn acts with with skill and sings with good effect; Miss Aimee Grey is a pretty Norah Chalmers; and Miss Chrissie Ralland a sprightly Ellen, her dancing being very effective. As Max Hoggenheimer Mr. Arthur Stigant evokes roars of laughter; Mr. Tom Shelford as the Hon. Percy FitzThistle is a capital dude; Mr. Buchanan Wake makes the most of the part of Theodore Quench, K.C.; and Mr. Herbert Franklyn wins applause as Harry Gordon. The Bamboo Trio, Miss Ella Linden, Miss Hilda Grundy, and Mr. Walter Bates, sing a very pretty pierrot number with good effect.

Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The programme here is a capital one, and includes the Seven Zerbinis in a spectacu'ar scena entitled *The Enchanted Glen*; Dome, comedy clay modeller; Rosie Bartlett, a refined comedienne; the Maddison Bros., burlesque boxers; the Three Orros, with a startling performance on the silver chains; Gladys Mavius, a graceful dancer; Alex. Lukos, actor vocalist; and Minnie Coleman, "the funny little woman."

COVENTRY. — The Opera House. — Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*The Private Secretary* is being presented here by a capable company, under the direction of Mr. Eugene C. Stafford. Mr. W. Hargreaves is humorous and merry as Mr Cattermole, sen.; Mr. Donald Price-Evans gives a capital rendering of the Rev. Robert Spalding; Mr. W. T. Elworthy is a good Mr. Marsland; Mr. James P E. Hussey is a capable Harry, and Mr. Vivian Gilbert is satisfactory as the Bond-street tailor. Mrs. Alfred Davis is well received as Miss Ashford; and Miss Cecily Wade (Mrs. Stead), Miss Beth Elliott (Eva Webster), Miss Dora Grey (Edith Marsland) all do well. *My American Admirer* precedes.

The Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—A crowded house on Monday witnessed a varied programme, headed by that veteran comedian, James Fawn, who was a great success. The Three Rickards present an acrobatic sketch, entitled *Giddy Golfers;* the Four Spanish Goldinis have a rather curious turn, which includes some clever juggling and manipulating of very large carpets; Eileen Douglas and Co. are well received in their scena, entitled *The Cigar Brand;* Sinclair and Parr are capable actor-vocalists; Stanley and Grenhop are expert banjo players; Charles Lilburn is a capable comedian; Blanch and Powell give a well-rendered comedy act; and Arthur Albert is a favourite descriptive vocalist. Animated pictures conclude the performance.

CRADLEY HEATH. — Empire. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—Mr F Marriott Watson's company is appearing here in *A False Wife*. The talented actress Miss Florence E. Florence, plays the part of Lady Mansfield with great taste and feeling. She is ably supported by Mr. George Langham as Sir Colin Mansfield and Mr. W. Howard Barlow as Lieut. George Mansfield, both of whom act in a very finished manner; Mr. Elton Morgan gives an amusing rendering of Ben Rattler, and Mr. Owen Edwin scores as Archibald Brown Tee; Mr. F. Marriott Watson, the author, submits a clever piece of acting as Jean Beraud, whilst Mr. Chas. Osborne is well placed as Inspector Fulton and Mr. James Chippendale justifies his selection for the part of Zorak. Mr. Fred Levine makes a capital William Marlow, and Miss Flo Morgan is in her element as Sarah Bernstein. Miss Annie Hylton deserves praise for her careful rendition of Agnes Weyland, and Miss Minnie Leslie is a first-rate Bessie Blazer.

CROMER.—Town Hall Theatre.—Proprietors, Cromer Town Hall Co., Ltd.—Messrs. F. Ramsdale and A. E. Smith's company opened on Monday with the burlesque, *The Babes in the Wood*. Miss Lilian Ramsdale is a gallant Robin Hood, and in Miss Elsie Douglas a charming representative of Maid Marion is found. The Sisters Glynne appear to advantage as the Babes; as the Dame, Mr. Fred Ramsdale has much to do, and does it well; the wicked uncle is well played by Mr. J. H. Maxwell; Little Georgie is an excellent mimic and clever paper-tearer.

CROOK.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Wallace Davidson, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wallace Davidson.—*The Master Criminal*, played by Miss Winfred Chalmer's company, is the attraction here this week. In the title-rôle, Mr. Henry L. Osmond gives a wonderfully clever rendering of Telford Lestage, and Mr. Alexander Haviland is a manly Phillip; as Cecile, Miss Chalmers does exceedingly well, and Miss Katie Blair is a charming Mabel; a good deal of comedy is provided by Mr. Harry Cooke (Tommy) and Miss Mabel Tremere (Peggie).

CROYDON.—Grand Theatre. — Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Mr. George Dance's well selected company is winning applause here in *Lady Madcap*. Mr. Alex. Chentrens gives an admirable rendering of Count de St. Hubert and sings creditably; Mr. Percival Knight hits off to a nicety the rôle of Bill Stratford and dances uncommonly well; Mr. Oliver J. Round submits a capital character sketch of Pooh Jenkins; Mr. R. S. Comber is suited as Colonel Layton; Mr. Fredk. C. Leister is Major Blatherswaite to the life; Mr. Douglas Philips is an acceptable Captain Harrington; Mr. Rupert Sheffield is first-rate as Lieut. Somerset; Mr. Martyn Roland makes the most of his opportunities as Lord Framlingham; Mr. Hugh Henson is satisfactory as Palmer; Mr. Tommy Nelldon is entertaining as Corporal Ham; Mr. D. Gibson is exact as the Old Huntsman; and Mr. H. V. Surrey is quaint and curious in the rôle of Oroya Brown. Miss Vera Vere wins all hearts with her bright and racy rendering of Lady Betty Clarridge; Miss Maisie North is an attractive and ladylike Gwenny Holden; Miss Peggy Primrose makes a lively and pretty Susan; and Miss Florence Raymaur is a handsome Mrs. Layton. The dresses and scenery are magnificent; and the chorus ladies are fascinating. Mr. Ernest Hartmann leads the augmented orchestra.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company is here this week in *The Midnight Mail*. Mr. Alfred Goddard gives a good impersonation of Harry Steyne; the difficult rôle of Billy Brewer is ably sustained by Mr. Fred G. Evison; Mr. Robert Grey makes the most of Leonard Royle; Mr. Arthur Gilroy as Hassan Padisha is a striking figure; Mr. Chas. McCann is very impressive as Donald Craig; Mr. J. Mann is good as Gerald Eustace; Mr. J. Warburton is commendable as Edward Barclay; Mr. H. Dobell Lyle deserves much praise for his excellent representation of Jasper Thornleigh; and Sergeant O'Flynn and P.-C. Duncombe find good exponents in Mr. J. Ingledew and Mr. R. S. Morley. Miss Grace Chesterfield is a capital Mrs. Mildmay; Miss Phyllis Dailley makes a good impression as Lady Phyllis Eustace; Miss Mildred Carr admirably depicts Nancy Brewer; and Miss Ada Oakley, as Mary Steyne, deserves the warmest congratulations. This house is capitally managed by the energetic Mr. Chas. Herrick.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—The ever popular George Chirgwin heads the bill here and is being cordially greeted; the Six Brothers Luck are funny in pantomimic sketch, *The Demon of the Cellar;* the Three Sisters Jonghmans, lady Meister Singers, are much liked; Nellie Adams, "the lady at the piano," is clever; Dennis Drew, vocalist, is received with approval; Martinett and Wallace, coloured comedy artists and instrumentalists, submit an interesting turn; Aline Sudbury sings her Irish songs with effect; Charles Cardow, comedian, is exhilarating; Desmonti and Mora are great in their triple bar act; and a remarkably smart turn is Hayman and Franklin in *A Matrimonial Agency*. Mr. Archie Hully distinguishes himself as director of the excellent orchestra.

DARWEN. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee, Mr. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Miss Grace Warner and company are paying a welcome return visit this week in *The Scarlet Clue* and other pieces. Miss Warner, who appeared on Monday as Scarlet Sal, gave another capital display of energetic and talented acting; Mr. George Gordon undertook the rôle of Michael Stanton in a praiseworthy manner; Mr. Reginald Brown, in the dual rôles of Jack and Harry Esmond, the twin brothers, was all that could be desired; Mr. J. L. Leigh kept the house in roars of laughter; and Miss Hilda Horne was a pleasing Elise Dane. Miss Kathleen Cranston as Mother Scrooge. Miss M. Stamco as the aunt, and Little Violet Palfrey added to the success. On Wednesday *East Lynne* was given, and *The Little Widow* is also in the répertoire.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. Frank Curzon's principal company is here this week with *The White Chrysanthemum*. Mr. Horace Mills secures first honours as Lieut. Belmont, showing himself a master of humour, while his vocal efforts are also very entertaining. As the Admiral, Mr. W. H. Rawlins is another strong feature in the cast; Mr. O. E. Lennon, as the Chinaman, is wonderfully clever; Mr. F. Pope-Stamper as Reggie is admirable, both vocally and histrionically; and deserving of hearty commendation is Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., as Private Perks. An entirely charming Sybil is found in Miss Nora Guy, and her beautiful soprano is heard to advantage in her various numbers; while Cornelia is enacted in sprightly fashion by Miss Katie Vesey, who also dances to perfection. Miss Daisy Le Hay is a pretty and vivacious Betty. An augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Leonard Hornsey.

Palace.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—The star turn here this week is F. V. St. Clair, whose topical songs secure him a flattering reception. Drum and Major, fun-makers of a hearty character, are also experts in staff-swinging; Vosper, an artist in crinkled paper, presents clever facial portraitures of public personages; Elsie Claire is a soprano with an excellent voice; the Three Zaracs are funny acrobats; Ingram and Irving, speciality artists, are favourably received; and the Ladderites contribute a turn of an unusually smart character.

DEVONPORT.—Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King.—The return visit of Mr. F. G. Kimberley's No. 1 company in the stirring military drama, *Two Little Drummer Boys*, is a great attraction. Miss Maggie English and Miss Lily Beverleigh as Jack Smith and Eric Carsdale respectively are warmly applauded for their successful renderings of their respective parts; Mr. Archie Helsby as Capt. George Darrell is excellent; Miss Margaret Rivers as the drunken Meg is lifelike in the extreme; and the humorous efforts of Messrs. Harry Lyndon and J. Magrath are greatly enjoyed.

DEWSBURY. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—*The Geisha* has been presented here this week by Mr. Mouillot's company. The humour and harmony of *The Geisha* retain a magnetic influence, and the acting and singing by principals and chorus yielded a most agreeable performance; Mr. E. Kipling appears in the whimsical character of Wun-Hi, a rôle he positively revels in; the tea-house owner is energetically played by Mr. Kipling; Mr. J. H. Booth has the advantage of imposing stature to aid his well-conceived version of the Marquis Imari, replete with dry and quaint humour; Mr. Wilfred Heath gives a natural and convincing presentment of Reginald Fairfax; no lack of vivacity is manifest in Miss Edith Adeson as Molly Seymour, and her dancing and singing have the requisite vigour, *élan*, and gaiety; an artist worthy of the highest commendation for the excellent quality of her work is Miss Doris Langdon, who embodies O Juliette Diamante with a delightful piquancy and charm; Miss Lydia Bland, who sang well although handicapped by a bad cold, gives a naïve impersonation of O. Mimosa San; Mr. E. Pollard establishes himself in the favour of his audience by his vocal work and acting in the character of Dick Cunningham; Miss Emily Lovell is a pert and self-assertive Tom Stanley; Captain Katana has an acceptable exponent in Mr. Hunter.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon. — Mr. Flockton-Foster's company (including Mr. A. Richardson) is appearing in the farcical sketch, *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, which causes great laughter. Poole and Poole (a comedy duo) exert themselves with success in songs, patter, eccentric and pedestal dancing; a Yorkshire soprano, Miss Bessie Hardman, finds much appreciation for her effective vocalism; the audience found plenty to laugh at in the eccentric legmania comedian, Stan Aubrey; a novel quick-change act is given by the Three Behans. Other artists are Leo Trainor (vocal comedian), the Bros. Hannaway (comedians and dancers), Henderson and Stanley's Quartette (harpists, acrobats, singers, and dancers). The Bioscope pictures are still part of the programme.

DONCASTER.—New Theatre and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—Henry E. Leigh's company on Monday presented *The Varsity Belle*. As Professor Septimus Stoney, Mr. James Danvers was highly successful; Mr. Edward Chester was seen to advantage as Sparkleton; and excellent service was rendered by Messrs. Maurice Holmes and Roy Barraclough as the two undergraduates. Mr. Frank Lilliput, of exceedingly diminutive proportions, was very smart as Runnyard; Miss Emma Rainbow played with care and effectiveness the rôle of Mrs. Barker; Miss Beatrice Egerton was piquant as Maud Stoney; and Miss Josephine Ellis did well in the title-rôle.

DOVER. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Mr. John Leopold's company in *The New Frivolity* is paying a first visit to Dover this week. The honours of the evening must be given to Mr. Barry Lupino as Sammy Vermiglio, an exceedingly talented comedian, whose clever business and droll delivery of his lines meet with hearty appreciation from the audience. Mr. John Leopold, jun., a smart eccentric dancer, plays Daniel Teething with great skill; a

the part; Mr. Gilbert Childs as Bagnolet created great mirth; Mr. William Everard was seen in the part of Gaston Rigaud, and his tenor voice was heard to advantage in "It's no use crying for the moon." Mr. Leon Simkin as Mons. Michu played his part in a clever manner; Mr. Robert C. Harcourt was excellent in the rôle of Aristide Vert. The orchestra and chorus is under the able direction of Mr. Otto Manns.

PALACE THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Blise; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—Miss Katie Lawrence is the attraction here this week, and she is received with great enthusiasm. The Bros. Ashley create great hilarity with their comedy boxing sketch; a capital turn is provided by Osborn and Brooks; The Crown Trio sing a number of songs with much acceptance; Harry Wright is an old favourite here; Nellie Gannon returns with new songs; and a clever display is given by Yettmah, a Japanese magician. Stanley Ross, comedian; Mlle. Dora, oboe soloist; and Vernon's Bioscope, complete a good programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company are paying a return visit with that thrilling drama *A Traitor Prince*. Mr. Geo. Montanini, who appears as the Indian Prince, is an actor of great ability and dramatic power. Miss Nesta Sandford is impressive in the part of Vashti; Mr. T. P. McBride is a dashing Lieut. Frank Derrick; and Miss Rose Routledge makes a sweet Lola Vane. Mr. Edmund O'Grady in the part of the cheery Billy Bright keeps the fun going, along with Miss Kitty Thomas in the part of Pansy Blossom, and Mr. Lex Phillip as the Hon. Bobby Vavasour.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company is here with *The Face at the Window*. Mr. Lionel D'Aragon in the character of Lucio Delgado, acts the part in a skilful manner; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe as Paul Gouffet, the detective, plays the part in a decisive style; Mr. Gilbert West is a capital Ducian Cortier, and makes a manly hero. Miss M. Leslie Cudd as Babette and Miss Eugene Magnus as Marie Brisson are seen to advantage in their respective parts.

EASTBOURNE. — PIER PAVILION — Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company is reappearing here in *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*. Miss Lilian Hallows as Miss Elizabeth gives a performance marked by exceptional ability; Miss Leonora Braham is, as usual, charming as Mistress Williams; and Miss Phyllis Back is a pretty and clever Molly. Mr. C. Cooke-Beresford is an artistic and able Harry Paton; Mr. Franklyn Graham, an effective Major Colden; Mr. Fred Dark, a richly humorous Mr. Valentine; Mr. H. Grey Dolby, a satisfactory John Edwards; and Mr. Donald Young (Carrington), Mr. F. G. Martindill (Sam), and Mr. J. Thomas (Cuff), give capital help.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—Atlas, Vulcana, and troupe top the bill, and give attractive weight-lifting, Vulcana also giving a very interesting show of muscular development. The Four Cecilians are popular in their turn, in which a versatile child is very prominent; Mr. Harry Zetler is an original and clever dancer; Miss Ethel Wilson, a charming singer; Percival and Morley appear in a smart sketch; the Brothers Ralston score in original and effective songs; Miss Nellie Chandos does well in song and dance; and new films are shown.

EDINBURGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mrs. Russ Whytal is here this week, delighting her Edinburgh friends by her excellent acting as Mrs. Grey in Mr. J. M. Barrie's pleasing play, *Alice-Sit-by-the-Fire*. The impersonation is in every respect a delightful one; and with the admirable support given by an efficient company the performance has been most enjoyable. Colonel Grey finds an ideal representative in Mr. J. J. Bartlett; and Miss Beatrice Bramah's rendering of the part of Amy deserves to be described in superlatives. The Leonora Dunbar of Miss Lucy Verrier is another exquisite piece of work; and Miss Lilian Locke is to be congratulated on a distinct success in the rôle of Richardson. Miss Ada Marius and Miss Ninon Dudley do well as the authoritative nurse and the parlour-maid; Cosmo Grey is cleverly delineated by Mr. A. W. Baskcomb, and Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu makes a most agreeable Rollo. A curtain-raiser, entitled *The Royal Flower*, gives Mrs. Russ Whytal an opportunity of appearing in the picturesque guise of a romantic young Royalist marquis. Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Baskcomb, and Miss Dudley are included in the cast of this little drama, which is very nicely played.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—Miss Julia Neilson, Mr. Fred Terry and company opened here on Monday with *Dorothy o' the Hall*. Messrs. Paul Kester and Charles Major's play affords excellent opportunities to the actress of the title-part, and Miss Neilson presents the high-spirited, impetuous girl to the life. Mr. Terry is manly, graceful, and chivalrous as Sir John Manners; Mr. J. Carter, who is still remembered in Edinburgh as an able actor of the old Theatre Royal stock company, gives an admirable piece of acting as the bluff Sir George Vernon; and Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw, in the ungrateful part of Sir Malcolm Vernon, plays with vigour and skill. Miss Miriam Lewis's impersonation of Queen Elizabeth is one of the best things in the play, and Miss Lilias Waldegrave lends charm and distinction to the character of Mary Stuart. Mr. Horace Hodges is genuinely clever as the jester, Perkin; and other parts which are excellently played are the Earl of Rutland by Mr. Frederick Groves, Lord Burleigh by Mr. D. J. Williams, an old retainer by Mr. Ernest E. Imeson, Lady Vernon (an amusing study by Miss Claire Pauncefort), and Jenny Faxton by Miss Mary Mackenzie. In response to loud calls for a speech at the close of the play Mr. Terry thanked the audience for the very cordial welcome of Miss Neilson and the company.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—The leading name this week in a good variety programme is that of Mr. Willie Edouin, who appears in a series of clever character-sketches. Deputising for the Mezettis, those old favourites the Haytors give one of their liveliest turns; and Miss Lena Brunton, taking the place of Miss Daisy James, contributes some excellent imitations of music hall celebrities. A surprisingly good performance is that of little Hanid Alexander, who shines equally as pianist, singer, and dancer; Boswell's Circus provides a diverting turn, the trained animals making a particularly good show. Mr. Eugen Joly proves himself an expert cornet player; Mr. Frank Sylvo is a clever juggler and eccentric comedian; Miss Katie Butler, burlesque artist, shows considerable talent and Mr. Ernest Ball gains favour as a meritorious actor-vocalist. Dene and Dawson are successful in an amusing sketch, entitled *Stage Aspirants*; and some smart work is done by Burley and Burley, comedy acrobats.

COOKE'S CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. John Henry Cooke.—The Humels still delight with their marvellous trick riding; the Eugenes, in their gymnastic performance, make one wonder at the perfect ease and skill with which they go through their daring feats. The alertness and brightness of the clowns add to the entertainment of young and old, and numerous turns of horsemanship and acrobatic turns by the talented company form a bill of fare in which nothing is wanting to charm the eye or touch the sense of humour. The bioscope is a capital feature in a richly diversified programme.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Fioni.—The Alberto Troupe of gymnasts, in a spirited performance; the Ringling Trio, in a clever and amusing act; Miss Helen Duncan, and the Brothers Brooke are the chief artists here in a programme which includes a form of cinématograph entitled the Fionoscope. A cake-walk contest has been a source of much attraction during the week.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. George Dance's company is paying a visit here this week with *The Cingalee*. Mr. Cyril Dane as Harry Vereker is excellent; Mr. Ethelbert Edwards as Bobby Warren is decidedly good, and the same may be said of Mr. Helier Le Maistre as Boobhamba. The success of the evening is scored by the dancing and singing of Mr. Jack Crichton as Chambuddy Ram and Miss Gladys Guy as Peggy Sabine, and they are deservedly recalled again and again. Miss Georgina Middleton as Nanoya is very pleasing, and the Lady Patricia of Miss Marjory Clark is all that can be desired. Mr. Grafton Williams ably portrays the part of Sir Jasper Loftus; Miss Essie Perrin as Angy is a charming dancer. The augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Peter Flitcroft.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Horace W. Ebbutt.—*The Sign of the Cross* is the sole attraction at the theatre this week; and Mr. Wm. Greet's No. 1 company was favoured with a cordial reception on Monday evening. Mr. Frank E. Petley gives an interpretation of the noble character of Marcus which calls for the highest praise. The Mercia of Miss Marie Leonhard is a very successful study, and her delineation of the pure-souled Christian girl could scarcely have been improved upon. Mr. C. Yorke failed not in the slightest detail to bring out the vanity and gross voluptuousness of Nero; Mr. Chas. Aldred as Tigellinus and Mr. J. Weatherall as Licinius Ædile filled their parts with success. Mr. Frank Wood as Glabrio was cleverly got up as a worshipper at the shrine of Bacchus; the part of Stephanus was intelligently undertaken by Miss Effie Dane; Miss Mary Newcombe as Poppœa, Miss Gertrude Price as Berenice, and Miss Cissie Carlton as Dacia all suited their respective parts. The minor characters were also well placed. The scenery and dressing were very appropriate.

FLEETWOOD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—This week Mr. T. Arthur Jones and company are presenting here *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Mr. T. Arthur Jones in the leading part of Capt. Marston is excellent; Mr. Oswald Douglas and Mr. Clem Horlock as the two villains are both good; humour is successfully supplied by Mr. Edgar Morgan and Mr. W. D. Beck; and Mr. Frank Thornton as Capt. Rawlins is also very good. Miss Mary Ainslie as Fay Colbrooke gives a striking impersonation; Miss Elsie Walton and Miss Hazel Dent both do well in strong parts.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—*All-of-a-Sudden Peggy* is here this week. Mr. Frank Bayly is well placed as Anthony; Mr. Lionel Glenister plays the part of the Hon. Jimmy Keppel in an admirable manner; Mr. Henderson Bland is praiseworthy as Major Archie Phipps, and Mr. Harold Weston makes the most of Jack Menzies; Miss Kate Wingfield is an excellent Lady Crackenthorpe; Miss Violet Barton-Astor is a pleasing Millicent Keppel; Miss Estelle Deepa scores a success as the talkative Mrs. Colquhoun; Miss Annie Brophy is a capable Mrs. O'Mara, and Miss Decima Moore's Peggy is a capital portrayal. The piece is preceded by *Jerry and a Sunbeam*.

GATESHEAD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. J. H. Stringer.—Occupying the top line on a very acceptable programme are Vay's Juveniles, in a comedy-scena, entitled *Life in the Slums*, which is received with applause; Henry Carlton and company provide much amusement with an absurdity named *One Night Only*; the Three Royal Dreadnoughts are skilful rifle-shots; the Sisters Terry make a hit with their vocal entertainment; Billy Hobbs, a coon comedian and dancer, provides an excellent "turn"; Gregson's Comedy Trio, in a speciality act entitled *The Dummy*, cause much merriment; Helene and Emilon, novelty gymnasts, are clever; Lade Henderson, descriptive vocalist, is appreciated; J. W. Bray, another descriptive vocalist, has numerous admirers; Jennie Lee, a child comedienne of much ability; Stylo, hoop juggler; and pictures, shown on Vernon's Imperial Bioscope, complete the "show."

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—The acommodation here has been taxed to the utmost this week, the attraction being Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company in *East Lynne*. Mr. Alfred Beaumont makes a handsome Archibald Carlyle; the villainous Frances Levison has a capable exponent in Mr. Harry Nunn; Mr. Alfred Yate as P.C. Bullock and Mr. Spencer Goodwin as Lord Mountsevern are successful in their respective parts; Mr. G. C. Grattan gives a powerful delineation of Justice Hare; much praise is due to Miss Julie Kennard, who faithfully portrays Lady Isabel; Miss Ethel Hardacre is well suited as Cornelia Carlyle, and other parts are in capable hands.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—The Gateshead Amateur Operatic Society is staging *The Gondoliers* here this week for the benefit of local charities.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—HIPPODROME.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths.—The animated pictures continue to attract large audiences here, and another varied and interesting series is presented this week. Variety turns are also given by Mr. Tom Vine, who scores his usual success with topical and extempore verses, and Vosco, in a comedy conjuring act. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Harold Price.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. Frank E. Burdett's company in *The Indian Mutiny* is here this week. Mr. Cyril Harrison as Capt. Manley gives a good delineation; and Mr. George Steel as Lieut. Manley is effective; Mr. John Davidson makes a praiseworthy Major Ingleby; Mr. G. Birch as Ensign Blake is to the fore; Mr. Villiers Stanley as Nebu Singh gives a powerful reading; and Mr. F. H. Shedden cleverly handles the part of Abul Khan; Mr. Chas. Boult as Ra Goonga submits a good portrayal; Mr. Cecil Morand as Terry O'Brien excites much mirth, and renders a good song. Miss F. Melrose Millett as Ghuz-na, Brahmin priestess, artistically depicts this arduous character; Miss Lillie Grey as Mrs. Major Ingleby and Miss Agnes Kingston as Kate Ingleby are seen to advantage.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE (late Theatre Royal). —Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manger, Mr. Rea.—Topping the bill are the Seven Wulfrunas in their acrobatic speciality, *Fun in a Café*. Miss May Lilian Levey gets probably "the" reception of the evening for her songs; the Howards give a thought transmission act that is worked smartly; Mlle. Sara's Marblesque Trio pose in a graceful manner; Ward and Wylie in a travesty are very good; the Two Etons on the horizontal bars are humorous performers; Theodore Jones and Co., in the vocal scena, *Jack Sheppard*, are warmly applauded; and Arthur Boyne, billed as "the Funny Man," fairly earns that title. The Le Vere Freres are highly successful in their equilibristic act; and Sword and Robb, comedians and dancers, are quite to the liking of the audience. The Bioscope completes the bill.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John E. Tomlinson.—Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is appearing here in *The Still Alarm*. Mr. Mathew H. Glenville gives an excellent portrayal of John Manley; Mr. George Arthur is a powerful John Bird; Mr. Fred Osmond is a highly amusing Doc Wilber; and Mr. Tom Beasley is well placed as Willie Manley. Miss Hettie Zillwood is handsome and convincing as Cassie Wilber; Miss Maud Warburton does justice to the rôle of Elinor Fordham; and Miss Mabel Veriton is an excellent Mrs. Manley. Songs are introduced with success by Miss Hettie Zillwood, and the Lyric Comedy Four are also applauded.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. David Hart.—A particularly good company is in evidence here this week. First and foremost are the Virginian Piccaninnies, whose revels in Coon Town meet with an enthusiastic reception; Lilian Trayelle, comedienne, have done admirably; Sam Dalton's comicalities evoke roars of laughter; Agnes Molteno's operatic selections and ballads are highly appreciated; Arthur Slater, "the whistling man in white," has done well; Jack Feeney is a good baritone; and lastly Henry Lawrence's No. 1 Co. in their great detective drama, *Bank Robbery*, stamps itself as being one of considerable histrionic merit and power.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale. —The production of the popular melodrama, *The Streets of London*, by Mr. Eade Montefiore's company, has attracted good houses this week. Mr. William Rokeby is very successful as Badger; Mr. Riddell Robinson depicts admirably the scheming Gideon Bloodgood; Mark Livingstone is well played by Mr. Reginald Palgrave, and Mr. Clifford Armitage and Mr. Charles Kean are effective as Capt. Fairweather and Paul. The comic element is capitally sustained by Mr. Jerrold Manville and Miss Adelaide Gracey as Mr. and Mrs. Puffy, and Miss Florence Moore as Dan; Lucy Fairweather finds an able exponent in Miss Winifred Ingham; and Miss Dorothy Casey is excellent as Alida Bloodgood.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—This favourite place of amusement reopened on Monday evening with an excellent programme. The greatest novelty is the Novellos Troupe, who give a clever performance, entitled *India in Europe*, the well-trained elephants, horses, and hounds assisting greatly in the acrobatic performance. Will Godwin, author and composer, contributes some well sung songs; other artists winning favour are Black Eagle, North American Indian chief; Ariel and Astarte, aerial gymnasts; Mr. Dainez and his wonderful performing pony and famous animals, and the Lynches, song illustrators. Doodles and Albini supply any amount of fun, and new pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

GREENOCK.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. George Stephenson and company are paying a return visit here this week with their merry musical comedy *Kitty Grey*. Miss Hilda Guivere again appears in the title-rôle, and the hearty reception by which her efforts are rewarded is fully merited; Lady Binfield is cleverly represented by Miss Marie West, and Miss Elsie Skillings appears to advantage as Sadie-de-Poulson; the character of Mrs. Bright as depicted by Miss Nellie Laurine is very amusing; Mr. George Stephenson in the rôle of Sir John Binfield is seen to much advantage, and the part of Lord Plantagenet is ably portrayed by Mr. Leslie Steward, his dancing being much appreciated, while the amorous King of Illyria in the hands of Mr. Lauri Lisle is all that could be desired.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—A good all-round programme includes Mr. C. Collette and Joan Derry who submit an admirably acted sketch, entitled *Tea for Two*, which is well received. J. H. Greener the singing pit lad, is much appreciated; Carl Lynn is an accomplished animal mimic; Gravetta and Parr are very good in a pot-pourri act; Jennie Sydney is a clever singer and dancer; Regan and Ryan are successful in a high-class comedy act, while Cyclumina gives a smart cycle performance, which is enhanced by the pretty electric effects; the Empire pictures are also interesting.

PAVILION THEATRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Saml. Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles A. White.—Zeta Grey and company head the bill here this week in a comedy scena entitled *The Lancashire Lass*, which proves a big success; Arthur Croxon is a refined comedian, and Clive Watts is much applauded for his smart dancing; Agnes Asher (comedienne and dancer) submits an excellent turn, and Callie and Walker (comedy artists) are also good; the Three San Remo Girls (comediennes and speciality dancers) deserve mention, and Brent Brantford (comedian) is much appreciated. The Paviscope pictures complete the bill.

HALIFAX.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Enormous business is being done here this week with Baron Harris's No. 1 company in *The Prince of Pilsen*, which is on its first visit. A firm favourite is found in Mr. Harry Kilburn, whose efforts as Hans are decidedly quaint; Mr. Frank Crimp looks the part of the lover well, and sings and acts with plenty of spirit; Mr. Roy Sydney strengthens the musical portion of the piece as Lieut. Tom Wagner; and Mr. Ernest Gifford is full of humour as the concierge. As the New York widow (Mrs. Madison Crocker) Miss Sophie Harris is delightfully piquant, and full of chic, her satire on the American girl being also most amusing. Miss Connie Leon shows decided ability as Sidonie; Miss Dorothy Grasdorff is a capable Nellie Wagner; and Miss Mollie Wynne makes the most of her opportunities as the Bell Boy.

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—It is exactly thirty-nine years ago since J. W. Rowley made his initial appearance in Halifax. He is with us again this week, and on Monday was accorded a most loyal reception, being persuaded to sing "Starry Night," which brought back memories of the good old days to the older patrons. A good sketch with humour in the dialogue is *Cuckoo*, admirably presented by Kitts and Windrum; Hy. Thorpe and Zoe Coe are popular in their neat and cleverly-conceived episode, *My Burglar*; Frank Harwood sings and recites admirably; and Ella Dean, ballad vocalist, does well; and Kioto, Japanese equilibrist; Picitt and Lizzette, in *The Crazy Cook*, an illusionary act; and Susie and Protti all score well.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—Dutch Daly is here again this week, playing his tuneful concertina and cracking wheezes as he only can. Valazzi is being cordially received in some really smart juggling; a picturesque statuary water fountain is staged by Maurins; and the Gladenbecks in a balancing speciality; Violet Morgan, mimic; and J. C. Scatter are favourably received.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—A welcome visit is being paid this week by Mr. William Greet's company in that powerful play, *The Shulamite*. As Deborah, Miss Evelyn d'Alroy is distinctly successful, her portrayal showing true ability; Mr. Chas. Weir, as the Boer farmer, Krillet, is capital, his reading being truly artistic; Miss Mary Griffiths, as Krillet's sister, contributes a clever portrayal; as Ian Vanderberg, Mr. Reynolds Denniston is all that can be desired; and Miss Marcella Hudson is most capable in a small part. The piece is preceded by *The Widow Woos*.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—George Lashwood, who heads the bill here this week, meets with his usual success, contributing no less than four songs on Monday; the Anartos in their sketch, *The Moving Mail*, score a distinct success; Mason and Bart are gymnasts of extraordinary ability; Spencer and Marks present a capital scena, *The Stage-struck Waifs*; Jake Friedman, the one-man opera, provides an acceptable turn; Ambrose Thorne, comedian, is refined and amusing; Esme Gordon is a capable comedienne and dancer; and Viviana adds to the excellence of the programme by her capital dancing. Urbanora shows several capital pictures.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding-Smith.—The first three nights of this week Mr. Chas. Macdona's company in *The Toreador* occupied the theatre. Mr. Harold Batt as Pettifer easily won first honours; Mr. George Austin made the most of the part of Augustus Trail; and Mr. Sidney Granville was good as Carajalo. Miss Earle was fair as Dora Selby, and Miss Leah Howard was a pretty Susan; Miss Beresford scored as Nancy Staunton; Miss Nina Cailton played Donna Teresa, and Mr. Walter Champney Sammy Gigg; Mr. Ralph Lynn appeared as Sir Archie Slackett.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The principal attraction this week is Fasola, who with ten illusions, some of which are quite new, completely mystifies his audience; Pete and Juno in their novelty dancing-to-win please immensely; Les Sados give a smart exhibition of juggling, into which is introduced some amusing comedy by-play; Spry and Monti have appeared here before, and their welcome is a flattering one; smart comedy cycling is done by the Bristons; the comicalities and legmania dancing of Charles Ashdowne is a strong item, and other attractions to be reckoned with are Frank Newbury, an expert whistling comedian, the Alex. Victor duo of harmonising juvenile vocalists, and pictures on the bioscope.

HASTINGS. — GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rawlings; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—The tour of Mr. Alfred Sutro's new play, *The Perfect Lover*, is here with Mr. Harold V. Neilson and Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson in the leading rôles, supported by an excellent company. Joseph Tremblett is admirably portrayed by Mr. Neilson, and he has admirable assistance from Miss Dorothy Milne as Martha Tremblett and Miss Margaret Fareleigh as May. The unscrupulous money-maker, William Tremblett, is a lifelike presentment of character by Mr. W. Lemmon Warde; Miss Forbes-Robertson gives a refined and artistic conception of Lilian Tremblett; and prominent mention is due to Mr. Arthur Burne as Lord Cardew and Miss Elizabeth Watson as the Hon. Susan Lesson. The blackmailing John Collis is a well-drawn character by Mr. John Detliv.

HIPPODROME.—Resident and General-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—The new management opens with a full and interesting programme. Miss Blanch Marion is an attractive comedienne, both as dancer and singer; a laughable duologue is given by Freeman and Tench; some good films are shown by Ruffell's Bioscope; the Boston Twins are amusing entertainers; a clever skate dancer is seen in Willie Gardiner; as a vocalist and graceful dancer Nora Doon is a decided success; a feature of the evening is the appearance of Johnny Danvers, comedian, whose droll style is greatly applauded; some delightful harmony is introduced by Luigo's Six Serenaders.

HEREFORD.—GARRICK THEATRE.—Manager Mr. H. P. Barnsley.—This week we have a return visit of Montagu Beaudyn and Sidney Crowe's company in *The Way of the World*. The part of Adela de la Roche is assumed by Miss Sidney Crowe, a charming actress, who presents the character in finished style; Mr. Herbert Skardow's Cecil Montague is distinguished by sound and careful work; as Matthew Malyon Mr. Clarence Temple is powerful; Captain Fred Slade is portrayed in sinister style by Mr. Victor Gordon; Miss Marie Fontaine's Kate Montague is excellent; Miss Vollette Vivienne as Polly Bell imparts much fun to that character; and a capital Horatio Bluff is seen in Mr. Augustus Hammond.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Fred. Lewis; Business-Manager, Mr. Lewis Grainger.—The theatre reopened under new management on Monday evening, with Messrs. Levy and Cardwell's *Beauty and the Beast* juvenile pantomime. Miss Dolly Dodds as Beauty plays the part admirably; Miss May Gibson is a fascinating fairy queen, Silver Star; Miss Beattie Townshend as Evilheart, the witch, is decidedly good; Miss Kitty Trewhitt as Prince Charming; Miss Daisy Fielder as Will Scarlett; Miss Isa Gibson as Maid Marion; Miss Gladys Skipp as Tommy Tucker; Miss Edie Camm as Marjorie Daw; and Misses Annie Brumby, Nellie Adamson, Olive Woodbridge, and Flo Edwards as Patience, Virtue, Innocence, and Grace do well in their respective characters. In Master Jack Harrison as Baron Hardup is seen a promising comedian; the Brothers Armstrong score as the Baron's elderly daughters, Dressalinda and Marrigolda; and Messrs. Doyle and Gibson as the broker's men, Flip and Flop, are full of genuine comedy; Mr. Will Orston makes a typical Beast; the appearance of Pip, the Baron's page, in the person of Wee George Wood, created quite a sensation. Among the specialities calling for notice are Miss Edie Camm's baton swinging, the Marguerita Quartette of dancers, and the barefoot dance of ten pretty little girls.

HOYLAND.—METROPOLE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. R. Baker.—On Monday Miss Loie Esmond's company, under the direction of Mr. E. Neville, opened with *The Anarchist Terror*. Mr. Fletcher in the title-rôle, Ravagon, is all that can be desired; Mr. Arthur Sweet is a manly Lieut. Armstrong; Mr. Bert Lando is an able Ishmael; and the humour is safely entrusted to Mr. Edward Neville as Mickey Doolan and Miss Loie Esmond as Kitty Malone. Miss Florence Esty is very good as Marita, and Miss Rosie Neville excellent as Columbia.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is appearing here in the new play entitled *The Four Just Men*. Produced only a fortnight ago, little remains to be said in addition to the full notice already given, except that the prophecy ventured upon at that time seems likely to be justified to the fullest extent. The piece grips the interest right at the start, and holds it unchecked to the very end. The cast is an admirable one, and it is no reflection on the others to say that much of the success is due to the brilliant work of Mr. H. A. Saintsbury as Brown, the chief of "the four."

HIPPODROME LTD.—Resident Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—At the top of the bill is Zertho, with his large troupe of cleverly trained dogs; also in the programme are the Sisters Marion, juvenile duettists; Barlee and Smith, in a humorous duologue; La Belle Nello, a clever and pretty lady contortionist; Chas. Stevens, comedian; Diamond and Beatrice, in a refined musical turn; Madge Osmond, comedienne; Harry Taft, a comedian of originality and a fine whistler; the Three Onettis, in a novel act on the revolving trapeze; and new pictures on the Biograph.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The clever play, *Raffles*, is the attraction here this week. That fine actor, Mr. Leonard Boyne, invests his rôle with the stamp of virility; Mr. Clifford Brooks displays all the necessary powers of intuition and inventiveness expected from so adroit an investigator of crime; the burglar of Mr. D. Heron was a well-thought-out study; the same applies to his associate, the Maid Marie, entrusted to Miss B. Fitzgerald. The Bunny of Mr. L. Edgard is a manly interpretation; Gwendoline Conran, played by Miss Hazel Thompson, is an admirable interpretation. Miss Hilda Stewart reaches a high standard in her reading of the rôle of Mrs. Vidal. A pleasing little curtain-raiser, *A Lesson in Shakespeare*, meets with much approval.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wyn Miller.—*The Earl and the Girl* is paying a welcome return visit. Mr. William Stephens as the pseudo earl is most amusing; the love interest is charmingly sustained by Miss Frances Earle as Elphin Haye and Mr. A. Harrold as Dick Wargrave. Miss Mary Morison is a pleasing Virginia Bliss. An augmented orchestra combined with a capable chorus add to the general enjoyment.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*Held in Bondage* is being played here this week. Irvan Dronski, the hero, is painted in striking tints by Mr. C. Sterling. Miss Grace Baring gives the requisite colouring to the rôle of Leonie Devigne. Miss Maude Merrick and Mr. Geo. Scully furnish the requisite comic relief.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Ivan Luna.—Ray and Calder appear in a funny comedy act; and Terry and Bentley are smart in a comedy sketch, *The Hunt*. Phil Ray, Kendrick and Laura, the Rushforths, Austin and Cowen, and King Leo, complete an excellent bill.

THE EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Appearing here are Cliff and Kean, Noel, Phinas and Ada, Sisters Lyle, Nellie McMerry, J. H. Carney, Gardens, Royal Quintette, and Daisy Pearl.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Winifred Hare's charming songs and voice gain her much popularity; Harry Ferd's songs are much appreciated; Frank and Jen Latona give a very clever performance, the lady's piano playing being a special feature. Other turns include Lady Mansel and Juveniles, Goodfellow and Gregson, Frank Maura, Fred Clements, Rose Naynon, and Jessie Burnett.

THE CIRCUS.—Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—Singing and animated pictures are a big feature here.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—This week Messrs. Stillwell and Teulon's *The Branded Woman* company is doing good business here. A vigorous impersonation of the hero, Philip Maurice, is submitted by Mr. James Stillwell, who, with Miss Katherine Barnett, a charming and sympathetic Marie, soon finds favour with the audience; Mr. Paul E. Teulon plays naturally, but none the less effectively, the rôle of Leon Baron Hanber, and his companion in villainy, Louis Duroc, is cleverly depicted by Mr. Duncan Bell; Miss Zana St. George powerfully portrays the title-rôle; and Miss Violet B. Clarke makes an excellent Rudolph; Zarka has an efficient exponent in Mr. R. Bradbury; Mr. Harry Liddle creates considerable merriment as Dick Brown, and finds a pretty and vivacious partner in Miss Cissie Clemmet, as Jasqueline.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. F. A. Rogers. — *Bonny Boy Blue* is the attraction here this week. Miss Lena Stanton, is smart as Bonny Boy Blue; and Miss Norah Neville is a pleasing Dolly Dickory; as the Dame, Mr. Bruce Green is quaint; Mr. Adrian Romer and Mr. Will Terry are successful respectively as Squire Longacre and Lawyer Copall; Little Keeno makes a big hit with song and dance; the Orient Troupe of dancers are worthy of mention.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Leonard Greg.—Mr. Edward Terry is playing a round of his favourite characters here, and is well-supported in *Liberty Hall*, *Sweet Lavender*, and *The Magistrate*.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock. — The chief turn here is a successful sketch, entitled, *Would-be Actors*, in which Mr. Carter Livesey plays the leading part. Miss Bertha Winder gives a pretty display of dancing; Letta and Minni, as hand jumpers, are clever; De Vere and Kenwick are amusing comedians; and other artists include Wyndham and Waters, sketch artists, Wal Robins, and Bicknelle, clay modeller.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—*Monsieur Beaucaire* is being played here this week by Mr. Norman Macowan's London company. Mr. Macowan, who takes the title-rôle, is admirably fitted for the part physically, and his acting is both polished and forceful. Miss Violet Sterne makes an admirable leading lady, and her conception of the part of Lady Mary Carlisle leaves nothing to be desired. The principals are supported by an excellent all-round company. Mr. Murray Hathorn is well placed as the Duke of Winterset; Mr. P. Ramsey Forman admirably fills the part of the bloodthirsty Captain Badger; Beau Nash is safely entrusted to Mr. Robert Entwistle; and Mr. Hans Schlesinger makes a soldierly figure as the Marquis de Mirefoix. The rôle of Lucy Rellerton is cleverly played by Miss Emilie Leslie.

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Carson.—Mr. Van Biene is here on a return visit in *The Broken Melody*. His exquisite 'cello playing has delighted large audiences; he is supported by a capable company, including the charming actress, Miss Lena Burnleigh.

KETTERING.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Payne.—This week we have Miss Bonwin Carlton's company in *The Plucky Nipper*. Mr. Edward Stream is an admirable Frank Leslie, and Mr. Fred Rivers does full justice to the part of Richard Vanbrugh. Mr. Douglas Campbell is amusing as Tommy Atkins. Mr. Edward Surrey is responsible for some clever acting as Bill Burgess, and Miss Bonwin Carlton as the Plucky Nipper is enthusiastically received.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. Fowkes.—Mr. Bannister-Howard's company opened here on Monday with *The Silver King*. Mr. Horace E. Herbert gives a fine rendering of Wilfred Denver, and Miss B. Doyle plays Nellie Denver in true sympathetic style. Captain Skinner finds an able exponent in Mr. Oswald

Empire Palace.—Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The Boisset Troupe are again appearing in their uproarious comedy sketch, *The Bricklayers*, here, and the presentment is vastly enjoyed. The Selbinis perform feats on cycles which are nothing short of sensational; a charming vocalist, Beatrice Willey, appears with conspicuous success in a pretty song-scena; and Les Voces render duets in accomplished style; a trio of capable comedians, Dion Wade, Phil Hermann, and Johnny Gilmore are in the bill, and provide thoroughly enjoyable turns. Frances Letty has a pleasing style and a good voice, and succeeds as a comedienne; and in a similar line Bessie Butt earns much appreciative applause.

Hippodrome. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Claude Shayler and Mr. Chas. Weldon.—A strong Hippodrome bill is headed by Bob Hutt and company, whose extravagant musical *mélange* is most entertaining. Charles Prelle presents an eccentric novelty act with success; Harry Edson's intelligent canines go through an interesting exhibition; the Carina Sisters are doing well with accomplished musical specialty; that clever pair of comedy eccentrics, Downes and Langford, provide an entertaining interlude; Mac and Hill also subscribe a smart comedy turn; that popular vocalist, Frank Cass, has a host of appreciative admirers; and Elton and Elma introduce a successful comedy bar act. Will Lytton and Jack Hylton, with clever eccentric comedy business, complete the show.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Those popular vocal entertainers, King and Benson, lead the bill here. A capital comedy sketch, *Always Moving*, by Rose, Ross, and Rosert, is provocative of much merriment; Harry Wenburn and Ventom Swift also provide a good comedy entertainment; George Bendon again sings coon ditties in clever style; a charming vocal turn by the Sisters Hall gets well-deserved appreciation; the Mystic Mahatma is displaying her wonderful powers; and Los Rupertos, novelty equilibrists, are another popular line.

Coliseum.—The William Hamilton's Excursions opened their annual visit here on Monday, and their beautiful scenic and panoramic display—agreeably varied with some entertaining variety turns—is attracting appreciative audiences.

Leicester.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche's company in *What the Butler Saw* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Lionel Rignold makes a conspicuous success with a really mirth-provoking performance as the butler. Miss Ada Blanche, a versatile and clever actress, delights all with her fascinating enactment of Mrs. Barrington. Mr. Charles Fawcett is deserving of the highest praise as Jack Barrington; Mr. Reddick Anderson is good as Sir Charles Foden; and Mr. Harry R. Rignold as Abraham Weinstein, Mr. Roy Byford as Professor Shale, and Mr. George Ascott as General Dunlop also give portrayals of merit. Miss Marie Daltra makes a capital Miss Foden, the same remark also applying to Miss Jennie Wigney as Nora, Miss Dorothy Garth as Maria, Miss Annie Goward as Mrs. Hake, Miss Violet Gould as Mrs. Fleming-Smyth, Miss Hylda Davies as Miss Clarissa Dunlop, and Miss Vera O'Connell as Miss Selina Dunlop.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-manager, Mr. R. R. Beaumont.—*The Woman Who Gambles*, presented by Mr. Morton Powell's company, holds the boards here this week. At the Countess, Miss Gertrude Hunt makes a favourable impression, and Mr. James Duncan as Count Otto Steinback and Mr. Horatio Sinclair as Baron Cratzlaw are both exceedingly good. Mr. Reginald Fox makes an excellent Lieutenant Carl Czarteryski, and as Cora Gouldhart Miss Florrie Halton is a success; Mr. J. O. Stevenson is amusing as the Hon. Bertie Bray; Miss Lily Malvern does well as Stella Malakoff. Others who also deserve mention for portrayals of merit are Mr. Ernest H. Clarke as M. Stambuloff, Mr. Fred Prior as Peter Peteroff, Miss Brenda May as Zannette, and Miss Florrie Hall as Mlle. Zila Zeyelda.

Palace Theatre, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—Heading this week's programme is Mr. Charles Carte and company, who are presenting the sketch *A Noble Brother*, the part of Jerry, the tramp, giving full scope for the display of Mr. Carte's versatility. Others in an efficient cast are Miss Doris Brooks, Miss Dora Bedford, Miss Kate Cameron, Mr. Howard Thirne, Mr. Barton Ford, and Mr. J. Ansdel Wilson. Kelly and Gillette create a vast amount of laughter, being especially clever on a billiard-table. Ginnett's *Rejected Remounts* also furnishes a merry and clever show. Die Obersteirers are accorded a warm welcome for their delightful singing and dancing turn; Carlotta Levey sings her sensible songs in a manner meriting the high commendation received; the Vernon Troupe of xylophonists score a well-deserved success; the Lyons Trio of pantomimists and dancers are good; Charles Vincent's medley of songs are appreciated; Dorothy L. Clarke is an entertaining vocalist.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—The chief item in an entertaining bill here this week is Miss Patey Trounsell and company, who are presenting in good style the naval dramatic episode, *Temptation*. Gus Harris is scoring a well-deserved success in his latest creation, *The Synagogue;* the Five Bon-Bons create much merriment with their cleverly worked pantomime scena, *A Hot Time for One;* the Ideal Trio introduce a refined musical and singing act, entitled *The Musical Outcast*, in which Mr. Cyril Godwin (a clever violinist), Miss Dot Williams (soubrette), and Mr. Bert Mortimer (pianist) appear. Gracie Bard is a capital character and coon speciality artist and dancer; the Three Coopers, harmonising and descriptive vocalists, are a popular turn; Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is a special feature of the programme; Edna Knollys, with her excellent illustrated songs, is remaining over another week.

Leigh.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—Miss Florence Baines and company are here in the farcical comedy, *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. In her impersonation of the "lass fra' Lancashire," Miss Baines embodies the qualities of good acting and brilliant singing, and merits the unstinted praise accorded to her. Miss Annie Mitchell is winsome and effective as Ena Lancashire; Mr. David Donaldson cleverly enacts the part of John Higgins; Mr. Walter Hicks is highly amusing as the manservant Grant; Mr. Burt Burton makes a typical Jew; Mr. Will Casey is a distinct success as the solicitor, Herbert Fox; and Mr. Payne Fletcher presents a good character sketch as William Thompson.

Leith.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The members of Mr. Herbert Ralland's company give a good account of themselves in the popular comic opera, *La Poupée*, now paying another return visit to Leith, after a comparatively short absence. Mr. Harry Brayne is exceedingly happy in his delineation of the eccentric Hilarius, and Alesia is represented with spirited effect by Miss Mysie Devine; Miss Edith Hunter is a good Madame Hilarius; and Miss Miss Dorris Dickens, a very pleasing Henri; while Miss Dora Dickens and Miss Nita Cree personate the first and second dolls quite cleverly. Lancelot is successfully portrayed by Mr. Arthur Cozens, Father Maxime is well rendered by Mr. Walter Balfour, and Baron Chantrelle and Loremois find characteristic exponents in Mr. Fuller Allen and Mr. Arthur Dennis.

Leven.—Town Hall.—On Monday night Miss Inez Howard's company presented the drama, *Man to Man*. George Gordon was played in manly fashion by Mr. Gordon McLeod; Mr. Chas. Clifford sufficiently realised the duplicity of Richard Ellerton; Mr. Alfred Mortimer was successful as Matthew Ellerton; Mr. Arthur Plummer as the Rev. Philip Ormond was decidedly good. Messrs. Sidney Dean and David Hamilton were amusing as Samuel Plumtree, Esq., and Bill Burkley. Miss Maud Camfield as Ethel Maythorne was winning and sympathetic; Miss Sassie Evelyn was excellent as Miss Lavinia Dove; Miss Cora Linda made a capital gipsy Madge, and Miss Nelly Walters a lively maid servant.

Limerick.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Robert Fogerty.—This week the boards here are occupied by the powerful Hoggan-Armadale Dramatic company in *The Bells*. As Mathias Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale was excellent, and the rôle of Christian was efficiently acted by Mr. F. Wilberforce. Mons. Bossey had a clever interpreter in Mr. Cotton Holmes, and as Father Hermann Mr. David Beattie was exceptionally clever. The rôles of Fritz, Kasper, Dr. Franz, and the dual parts of judge and Jew, were capably played by Messrs. T. G. Westland, George E. Liddle, Hartley, and Mr. Arthur Rose. As Madame Mathias Miss Violet Macaree was pathetic, the rôle of Annette was delightfully portrayed by Miss Marion Spencer, and Lucille was in the artistic hands of Miss Elaine Grant.

Lincoln.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank King.—This week we have a return visit of *The New Barmaid*, by Mr. C. Edwardes' company. Mr. Leslie Austin is an excellent Captain Lovebury, Mr. James Grant creates great merriment as Col. Claymore, and the leading comedy parts are in the able hands of Messrs. Chas. Adeson, Alexander Loftus, and W. E. Chewd. Miss Winifred Preston is good as Lady Moultin, and a charming trio are Dora Heather, Brenda Louth, and Ethel Joy, as represented by Miss Violet Osmund, Miss Grafton, and Miss Amy Preston. There is a strong chorus.

Palace.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur.—Dronza, the marvellous talking head, is the principal turn, and is really a mystifying item; Helen Martin sings brilliantly; Rowland Hill and Harry Thurston score as comedians; Captain Slingeby's ventriloquism is extremely clever; the Olive Trio do well as singers and dancers; Daisy Morell sings ably; and *Captain Cupid* is the bright sketch presented by Geo. C. Doughty and company, the entertainment being wound up by Raymond's Bio-tableaux with new films.

Liverpool.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—A splendid reception has been accorded here to Mr. Martin Harvey and his company, playing to excellent business. On Monday evening *The Corsican Brothers*, charmingly staged, was presented, Mr. Harvey undertaking the rôles of Fabien and Louis dei Franchi. The weird story was followed with the closest attention, the audience at times being spellbound by the fascinating acting of the distinguished artist, who was seen to great advantage. Around him were able supporters. Miss Mary Rorke displayed dignity and tenderness as the mother, Madame Franchi; Mr. Vincent Sternroyd was impressive as Renaud; Mr. George Cooke handled the rôle of Baron Martelli with every care and satisfaction; a capital Montgiron came from Mr. Albert E. Raynor; as Colonna Mr. Fred Wright, sen., created a deal of amusement; Miss Coleridge played sweetly as Emilie de Lesparre; and Mrs. Alfred Mansfield proved a pleasant Meynard. The list of the week also comprised *Boy O'Carroll, Hamlet*, and *The Only Way*. At the fall of the curtain on Monday evening Mr. Harvey, in response to a loud call, made a few remarks.

Shakespeare Theatre, Ltd.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—An altogether excellent production of *The Little Cherub*, which makes its first appearance in this city, has been given here during the week. Mr. George Edwardes certainly sent a first-class company, while the staging and dresses earned general praise. Miss Queenie Leighton, who was in good form, made a charming Molly Montrose, acting and singing in a manner which earned for her several encores; the able Mr. J. Robert Hall was a lively Lord Congress, his sprightly dances being rapturously applauded; Mr. A. Longley displayed all his well-known quiet humour in the character of Algernon Southdown; Mr. Lennox Pawle made his audience roar with laughter in depicting the adventures of the Earl of Sanctobury; Miss Fanny Dango and Miss Valli Valli, as the daughters, sang and danced very tastefully; Mr. Fred Winn made an admirable Shingle; and other artists who distinguished themselves were Mr. Nelson Keys as Ethelbert. Mr. Colin Coop (Alderman Briggs), and Mr. Edwin Rutland (Mr. Grimble).

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—A return visit of *The Ugliest Woman on Earth* has done most satisfactory business here this week. Miss Beatrice Homer, in the title-rôle, acted with discretion, and earned well-merited applause; Mr. Philip Darien ably presented Jack Merriman, speaking his lines with clearness and effect; Mr. Charles Barratt proved eminently creditable as Antonio Luchesi; Mr. Leyton Cancellor made a despicable Hubert Gold; a deal of humour emanated from the efforts of Mr. Tubby Edlin as Tubby Herrick and Miss Nellie Jackson in the character of Aggie Brown; Miss Nell Oliver was an unscrupulous Rose Courtenay; Mr. W. Wallace-Aston submitted a truthful picture of a London hooligan, in the rôle of Raggles; Mr. Leonard Thackeray did the most with Dr. Carr; and Miss Margaret Watson acquitted herself well as Morita.

Lyric Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles. — A good programme is billed this week. Claude Emmett and company are heartily received in the sketch, *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*, wherein Claude gives a capital display; Moon and Morris are a laughable pair; the Four Kweeries are loudly applauded for their clever and mystifying feats; McCann's dogs do credit to their trainer; Bert Williams' turn as a ventriloquist is applauded; Helen Charles is a capital mimic; in the sketch *I'm Coming Upstairs* Alsopp and Beckwith are very laughable; and the Anidow Sisters are clever musicians.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—One of the most important bookings this popular place has ever had comes this week in the shape of *Leah Kleschna*, and the demand for seats has been very great. Messrs. Armitage and Leigh have certainly provided an excellent company, while the scenery is that which was used at the New Theatre, London. The public appreciation has consequently been of a gratifying character. Mr. Paul Belmore was never seen to better advantage, his Kleschna making a great impression; Miss Bessie Rignold thoroughly grasped the possibilities of Leah; Mr. William F. Grant made a dignified Paul Sylvaine; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid was a finished Schram; Mr. Hamilton Deane afforded the utmost satisfaction as Raoul Berton; Mr. Roland Daniel handled well the part of General Berton; and the rest of the cast lent valuable support.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—A return visit of *The Golden Ladder* has proved a strong attraction here. Miss Mary Austin gave a most meritorious representation of Lilian Grant; Mr. William Clayton infused a deal of earnestness into his portrait of the Rev. Frank Thornhill; Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds played with dramatic force as Michael Severn; Mr. Joseph Rowlands, a most humorous Samuel Peckaby, was ably assisted by Miss Mimi Edwards as Mrs. Peckaby; and Mr. E. G. Winsford made his Peranza stand out with telling prominence.

Royal Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Top of the bill here this week is George Gilbey, a comedian whose songs and patter are keenly relished; Hal Godfrey, with his amusing "educational problem," *A Very Bad Boy*, keeps his audience in a merry mood; Frank and Fred, a pair of smart comedy artists, earn loud applause; a much appreciated farcical episode, *Barmaids*, is provided by the clever Hodgson and Lowther company; Flo Cecil sings and dances very neatly; the correct playing of Mabel Kessler is an acceptable item; a smart all-round performance is provided by the Five Whiteleys, acrobats, wire walkers, and musicians; Gracie Taylor proves herself a charming comedienne; Arthur Reece has a number of good songs; the talking and singing of Harris and Worth, a lively pair of comedians, provoke endless laughter; and Martinetti and Grossi, novelty surprise artists, are also in the list. The Barrascope projects "Bill goes to an evening party."

New Parthenon. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Fred Wyze and Ada Adna are prominent here this week, delighting everyone with their capitally-rendered operatic duets; Grapho and Jackson (Herbert and Billy) present a merry act, *In a Restaurant;* Bertha Duckett, a charming young burlesque artist, had a grand reception on her re-appearance, receiving encores for her singing and dancing; some taking songs came from Wat Tyler, descriptive vocalist; as a stump orator and negro comedian Billy Bowlby caused general laughter; and Alexander Royal sang several appreciated numbers. The Royal Bioscope showed some up-to-date pictures.

Royal Palace of Varieties. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The dramatic sketch *A Woman's Love*, given here this week by the "Royal" stock company, has proved popular. The humorous rôle of Solomon Hogg was in the capable hands of Mr. Percy Boucher; Mr. Sydney Grant did justice to the part of Sir Philip Grandleigh; an able Silas Grimm came from Mr. Cecil Ravenswood; Mr. E. D. Allen held the part of Alfred Grandleigh; Mr. Harry Tresham was powerful as Horace Fairbright; Mr. Robert Wilton played excellently as Bashem; Miss Florence Palmer gave full effect to Edith Grandleigh; and Miss Beryl Ravenswood made an impressive Miss Holbrook. The Royal Bioscope presented "The Unscrupulous Man" and other fine pictures.

Park Palace, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Top here this week are Benson and Geoffreys, in their laughable sketch, *Checkmated;* Barney Stuart, a man of many parts, presents a smart ventriloquial absurdity, "The Judge"; some wonderful shooting is gone through by Winona and Captain King; Flo Wood sings several taking songs; some clever juggling is executed by the boy Massona; Will E. Haines acquits himself as a vocal character comedian; some quaint coon singing and dancing is provided by Amber Austa; and others who appear include Wallace Whitney, eccentric comedian; and Beatie Foster, serio vocalist. The Park Palace Bioscope has some pretty pictures.

Westminster.—Lessee, Mr. Fred B. Welsker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—An attractive programme is given at this popular hall this week, with the result that good business has been done. Principal are Cullen and Carthy, with Little Cluley, a trio who create continuous laughter; the Jackley Wonders, with the whistling comedian "George," provide a merry entertainment; Percy Farrimond, the Lancashire singing collier, has several capital songs; Adey Spencer renders some catchy pieces; dainty comediennes and dancers are the Sisters Brooks; as coloured duettists Liggins and Murlone give a pleasing turn; and Kisbey, the call boy, also appears.

Olympia, Ltd. — Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—The always-popular Bella and Bijou head the bill here this week, and bring old and new favourites; a capital dramatic sketch, *A Drummer of the 76th*, produced by Matthew Brodie and company, meets with every approval, and wins loud applause; a smart musical trifle, *The Spider and the Fly*, is submitted by Talbot and Pearce; an uncommon turn, "Paper-picture making," showing much talent, comes from Playfair and Nikola; Cliff and his dog interest the audience immensely; R. H. Douglass, with his witticisms and character sketches, goes as strongly as ever; Charles Matthews, assisted by Miss Dorris Reece, gives a remarkable exhibition of jumping; the Picquays astonish everybody with their upside-down sand dancing; and Flo Esdaile, possessor of an excellent voice, renders some appreciated songs. The American Bioscope has several capital pictures.

Empire. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—An acceptable and diversified bill of fare is offered here this week. The merry Mark Sheridan stands out prominently and meets with a grand reception for his funny songs and sayings; Tom Tindall and company provokes roars of laughter with their burlesque *Behind the Footlights;* juggling by the Debreans causes surprise; Albertine Melich shows a number of wonderfully well trained birds; an unusually clever wire act comes from Lucia and Viata; the singing and playing of the Three Dumonds gain much aplause; a most pleasing performance on the silver bells and chimes is given by Will Cornish; Fielding and Hull, medley vocalists, are a good turn; Gertrude Bradshaw renders several songs in pleasing style; and Frank Darwin, actor vocalist, also appears. The American Bioscope has fine pictures.

Haymarket.—Licensee, Mr. J. S. Childs.—Top of the bill here this week is Will Bingham with his Ju-jitsu wrestling; Mark Anthony causes a deal of laughter with his merry stories and mimicry; Edward Ind has several capital songs; Bella Leaburn, a smart comedienne, remains another week; Ben Evens, the singing blacksmith, affords much pleasure with his vocal efforts; Jim Hegarthy, a local favourite negro comedian, is as funny as ever; and the Silver Gleam prize band, still retained, proves an excellent turn.

Roscommon.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The popular Frank Caffrey is foremost here this week with his inimitable Irish songs; W. H. Downs, the coloured Australian ballad vocalist, has some taking numbers; as comedy duettists and dancers Urley and Mora acquit themselves creditably; Lilian Victoria, a rising young character vocal comedienne, makes a hit with her smart songs; Carney Bros, are a most capable couple of comedians and vocalists; some remarkable hand-balancing and staircase walking is shown by the Bonanzas; the Zano Bros. perform smart work, accompanied by comedy, on the triple bars; and Walker and Lake keep everyone in a good humour with their incessant patter. The Roscommon Bioscope has the latest picture, "The Village Witch."

Llandudno.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. R. Chaplin.—On Monday and Tuesday Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil presented *Her Luck in London*. As the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor, Mr. Chas. A. Leicester was a typical hero; Mr. Valentine Henry as Richard Lenowen (the villain) was all that could be desired; Jerry Gotobed was well played by Mr. J. Telly Dillsen; Miss Ada Roscoe as Madame Gabrielle gave a good impersonation; Miss Frances Bruce as Lilian Harborne was simplicity personified; Miss Mary Neil as Nellie Harborne was excellent.

Llanelly.—Royalty Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company, in *The Drama of Life*, is here this week. The leading parts of Harry and Sylvia Beech are excellently undertaken by Mr. Edward M. Hamilton and Miss Kate Hallam; Mr. John J. Hooker is good as Walter Beech, as is also Mr. Harwood Roberts as Sir Dobson Wilde; the parts of Jack Lawton and David Crane are ably sustained by Messrs. H. Maxwell Payne and Sidney Fiennes; Mr. Edward Van Bienne, in the part of Count de Foi, is deserving of great praise for an artistic rendering. An old Llanelly favourite in the person of Miss Nellie Birchenough does splendidly as Betty Black; Miss Florence French is good as Lady Wilde, and Miss Elsie May as Little Robert Beech is also excellent.

Longton.—Queen's Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. L. Howard.—*Monte Cristo* is presented this week by Mr. Junius Booth's company. The interesting features in the play were maintained throughout in unflagging manner by Mr. Junius Booth as Edmond Dantes (Monte Cristo), Mr. E. H. Templeton as M. Nortier, Mr. Walter Huron as M. Villefort. Mr. J. W. Braithwaite as Caderousse, Miss Emma Robberds as La Carconte, and Miss Clare Elstob as Mercedes.

Loughborough.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—Mr. E. Lockwood's company in *Sergeant Brue* is on a welcome return visit. Mr. J. Harold Carson in the title-rôle is screamingly funny; Mr. Albert James's embodiment of Crookie Scrubbs is laughable; as Michael Brue, Mr. Robert Selby is successful; Miss Florence Spurgeon as Aurora Brue acts in a graceful manner, her songs being well received; and the Lady Bickenhall of Miss Raydon Dallas is charming and clever.

Lowestoft. — Marina. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, in *The Sin of Her Childhood*, is the attraction this week. Mr. Chas. Fancourt is highly successful as the Vicar of Northfield, and Mr. Austin Milroy is equally praiseworthy in doubling the arduous characters of Stephen Haysel and Hy. Grainger. Capt. John Thornton is ably represented by Mr. C. W. Hulse; Miss Madge Devereux wins the sympathies of all for her careful study of Mary Haysel; little Ivy Rochfort does exceedingly well as Eric Dugdale, and able assistance is rendered by Messrs. Hugh Brady, Sam Edwards, and the Misses J. D. Hicks and Nellie Hook.

Luton.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Business-Manager, Mr. L. J. Beard.—A visit of Mr. Edward Marris's No. 1 company, with the successful play, *As Midnight Chimes*, opened to a good house on Monday evening. The eccentricities of Tat Spavvin, as portrayed by Witty Watty Walton, are most diverting, and keep the audience in continual merriment; Mr. Leonard Dalrymple sustains the part of Nat Wilson, a coastguard man, in a very forcible manner, and Mr. Belmore is well placed as Ezra Gamble; Luke Dezzard, Dave Stannard, and Capt. Trevethick are effectively represented by Messrs. Percy Maitland, Lewis, Leslie, and H. B. Peppin respectively; Suzette, a French maid, is in the able hands of Miss Madge Beresford, who very soon made herself a favourite, and Miss Maya Hart, as Zamora, a Hindu girl, acts with much charm; Miss Jessie Harwood as Stannard's wife and Miss Denville, as his son win great credit in their respective parts.

Macclesfield.—The Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—A capital presentation of *The Best Woman in the World* was given here on Monday by Mr. Gordon's company. Mr. A. Curson as Sir Arthur was exceedingly good; Mr. B. Mitchell was a powerful Dudley Stewart; Mr. T. Smyth as Fitzherbert gave an excellent portrayal; Mr. J. V. Gordon as Solomon was satisfactory; Mr. J. W. Boyling admirably impersonated the part of Richard Thorpe; Mr. G. Lee was an acceptable Brooks; Miss Lily Annesley was charming as Muriel Clifford; Mr. Phyllis Esdaile was a satisfactory Trixie; Miss Marion Herbert a capital Grace Beale; and Maggie French was good as Mary.

Empire.—Sole Lessee, Miss N. Harrell-Palmer; General-Manager, Mr. J. Rolmaz.—Opening for the first time on Saturday evening, the place was packed to the utmost extent, many having to be refused admittance. The star turn is undoubtedly Tom White's Arabs, who give an amusing comedy act; the Two Deroneys, in *Fun in a Garden*, cause roars of laughter; Miss Pattie Burton, soprano, meets with a good reception; Miss Cynthia Carrington, coon comedienne, is pleasing; Sam Paul, singing actor, deserves special praise; another smart turn is the Two Musical Forsyths; Two Lindsay Sisters, dancing duettists, are a good turn; and the Harrell-Palmer, cosmopolitan part songs; P. J. Wyman, sensational skater; Durney, globe walker; and the Girl in a Trance are other attractive features of the programme.

Maidenhead.—Town Hall.—Secretary, the Town Clerk.—Mr. G. W. Bowes is to be congratulated on bringing here on Tuesday such an excellent show as Mr. Mouillot's company in *The Blue Moon*. Mr. Victor Wallace puts much "gusto" into the rôle of the Major; Jack Ormsby and Bobbie Scott were well represented by Messrs. Arthur Radcliff and Basil Mercer; Charlie Taylor was an entertaining personage as played by Mr. Charles Stephenson; and the Moolraj of Mr. Ainslie Burton was mirth-provoking in the extreme. Miss Dorma Morgan did well as Evelyn Ormsby; Miss May Audrey was bright, and danced well as Millicent Leroy; and Mlle. Marguerite Naudin was picturesque as Chandra Nil.

Manchester.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—*Acting*-Manager, Mr. Edmonstone Shirra.—A good house here on Monday watched with great interest the performance of Hall Caine's successful drama, *The Prodigal Son*. The play is distinctly of the tearful order, and furnished excellent opportunities for quite a number of the characters to score in emotional scenes. Mr. Norman Partridge and Mr. Herbert Hewetson are well suited to the rôles of Oscar and Magnus Stephenson, and Mr. Henry George gives a finished depiction of Stephen Magnusson. Miss Lily Hall Caine has special chances in the dual rôles of Thora and Elin, and acquits herself well; while as Anna, Stephen's wife, Miss Alma Murray is entirely successful. Miss Cecil Cromwell as Helga, and Miss Mima Renouf as Margaret Neilson, are also commendable; and quite satisfactory is the Oscar Neilson of Mr. Fred Epitoux. The remaining parts are all capably filled, and the staging is exceptionally fine.

Prince's Theatre, Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Considerable interest was attached to the presentment here on Monday of Mr. Robert Courteneidge's successful musical play, *The Blue Moon*, which brought also a number of local favourites in the cast. The piece is bright, clever, and tuneful, and there is not a dull moment from first to last. In the title part Miss Florence Smithson is very dainty and charming, and her songs are invariably well received, as they deserve to be, for their rendering and their intrinsic musical quality. Mr. Edward Lewis as Modraj is, of course, highly entertaining, and as Private Taylor Mr. Bert Gilbert is always smart and amusing. Mr. Herbert Clayton as Captain Jack Ormsby has not so much to do as might be wished, but he fills the part so far as it goes to perfection. Mr. George Mudie, jun., is a capital Bobby Scott, and Mr. Leslie Gaze makes a lively Major Callabone. Miss Daisy Revett is a clever and pleasing Evelyn Ormsby, and as Millicent Leroy, Evelyn's maid, Miss Lulu Valli adds to her reputation. Others well worthy of commendation are Mr. Thomas Holland as the Prince, Miss Mabel Lorrei as Lady Brabasham, and Miss Olive Crellin as Oma. The chorus and staging are all that could be desired.

Gaiety Theatre, Ltd.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—*Amorelle*, always popular here, drew a good house to this theatre on Monday. Miss Stella Gastelle retains her part as "Ripples," and is as charming and successful as ever. Dr. Crow is played by Mr. W. H. Powell, who has already made his mark in local pantomime, and who achieves quite a success in his impersonation of the eccentric charlatan. Another marked success is the Dotard of Mr. Fred Seymour, whose characterisation is admirable. Capital work is done also by Mr. Aubrey Carr as Jules, Mr. Frederick Hobbs as François, Miss Kitty Cavendish as Lesbia, and Miss Avis Grahame as Marina; while Mr. William Griffin presents a neat and clever impersonation of the Count de Cideaux. Chorus and orchestra add to the effect.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—*Under Two Flags*, played by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company at the Grand Junction theatre last week, is attracting good houses to this theatre.

Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Dinah Morris and company in their successful musical comedy, *The Lost Coon*, top the bill here this week. Prominent also is H. O. Wills, an excellent comedian; while Keith and Merson submit a capital novelty act, *Crossing the Alps*. Other enjoyable turns are offered by Johnson and Best, in a comic act; Cailler, a strong man; T. E. Johnstone, actor vocalist; Mary M. Glenn, a pleasing singer; France and Francis, acrobatic comedians; and the Weimars, in a lively comedy act.

St. James's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—A return visit of *The Throne of Terror* is to be recorded here this week. It is played by a clever company, headed by Mr. William J. Miller, who gives a powerful rendering of Robespierre, while Miss Katherine Maude Davies adds a pleasing and impressive performance as Marguerite Roquefort. Mr. Roy Milton makes a satisfactory De Lisle, the young patriot; and Miss Ethel Lanyan-Maude is also provided with a telling part. Acceptable humorous relief is furnished by Mr. Bert Ellis as Joujou and Miss Eva Norman as Peppietta.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Last week's attraction at the Royal Osborne Theatre, *The Little Breadwinner*, played by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, is staged here this week.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A fine turn here this week is the playing of the Wingates Prize Band, a truly excellent combination. The Achmed Ibrahim troupe of whirlwind acrobats are also here in their surprising feats; and clever turns are added by Bob Hamilton, a really amusing Scotch comedian; La Danseuse, a smart juvenile dancer; Lively Lily Langtry, the brisk comedienne; Boyd and Gilfain, in a clever burlesque sketch; Bennett and Martell, quaint comedians; Wyndham and Kitty, who give a remarkable performance on the wire; and Randall's Middies and Maids, in a clever vocal scena. The pictures are, as usual, very good.

Palace.—General Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—This week's big attraction here is Harry Lauder, whose comicalities are filling the house at every show. Pringle and Piddock's company in *The Romany King*, a clever musical sketch, is also a good turn; and Dan Thomas, "dame" comedian, works well up to his reputation. Pleasing business is added by Clive and Clark, black-and-white comedians; the Bros. Bright, accomplished gymnasts; Keir and Kempton, vocal duettists; George Antill, the evening shadow; Mlle. Oura, a charming equilibrist; and Gladys Huxley, "chic" comedienne. The latest events are portrayed by the Palace Pictures.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Mr. Hengler's spectacular pantomime absurdity, entitled *Harum-Scarum*, tops the bill here this week, the whole of the company working very hard. Will H. Sloan creates much laughter in a capital comedy sketch, *The Plumber;* charming Gwennie Hasto sings and dances nicely; Datas has a marvellous memory; and some excellent dancing is done by the Brothers Dion. James H. Jee goes through a wonderful performance on the wire; Norman and Saxon, operatic duettists, are well received; and Alburtus and Bartram are clever and amusing in a club-swing speciality. Two vocal items are contributed by the choir, and enjoyable pictures are depicted on the Bioscope.

Tivoli. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Harry Rogers, assisted by Lillian Dundas, is the attraction here this week, and is seen to advantage in a dramatic episode entitled *Told in a Flat*. Tom Woottwell, eccentric comedian, makes a big hit with a capital song, "The Little Shirt My Mother Made for Me"; Lilian Boanas, Australian vocalist, sings well; the Raymond Trio are good in a musical and dancing act; Miss Omega is clever on the wire; and Phil Sefton is a first-rate descriptive vocalist. Smart turns are also those of the O'Natis troupe of Algerian jugglers; Patty McCarthy, comedienne; Emily Lyndale, burlesque artist; and Phil Rabey, comedian. Raymond's Vivagraph Pictures complete the bill.

King's, Longsight.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—After a most successful week at the Manchester Hippodrome, Mr. Sidney Bacon introduces *The Duchess of Tooting* to the patrons of the King's, much to their delight. The Gondoliers (in costume) are excellent singers, and are well received; the Saletos offer a graceful and clever head and hand balancing act; Percy Curry, comedian, proves very popular; Dolly Denver is a smart buck dancer; Jas. Alston makes a hit with his funny parody, "Starve Her, Jo"; Little Beattie is a clever comedienne and dancer; and highly amusing are the Errolls in a smart act, including some marvellous leaping. "Saved by Rover" is the subject of the Bioscope.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Billy Williams, a capital comedian, is the attraction here this week, and meets with a flattering reception. A dramatic episode, *Kismet*, is presented with success by Oscar Luck's company, including Miss Mary Vaughan, Miss Cissie Murdoch, and Mr. Heaton Grey. Edie Grey and Coons sing in capital style; Smith and Johnson, coloured duo, are entertaining; and Lachie Thompson's Top-Weights (Tom and Ned) are smart boy athletes, who wrestle, box, and club-swing. The Seddons, lady juggler, and comic waiter, are clever and amusing; Avon and Crest are good in a comedy act; and Little Ada Merry, dancer and comedienne; Harry Village, comedian; and "The Missing Legacy," shown on the Bioscope, complete a good entertainment.

Hippodrome, Hulme.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Eight Lancashire Lads are the top "star" attraction here this week, and their excellent singing and dancing are highly

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf. Graham.—A varied and interesting programme is submitted here this week. The musical act by the Four Jumels is a feature of the programme. Alf Gibson proves himself a favourite comedian, and Ross and Grayson provide a clever singing and dancing turn. Arthur Bromley and Ada Fontein cause much merriment in their comic operetta, *A Musical Birthday*; and Chas. Sloman, comedian, does well. Other acceptable items are provided by Agnes Hanson, comedienne; The Cosmans in their comedy act, and the Palascope.

MORECAMBE. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—Messrs. Fred J. Webb and Wilson Benge's company has been appearing with success in *The Two Hussars*. Mr. Webb has proved an able Capt. Villiers, and Mr. Benge has equally well sustained the part of Harry Alford. Mr. J. Stuart has succeeded as Col. Manners; Miss Danvers-Smith has had a suitable part in Ellen Maythorne, and as the boy Gunstock in the later acts she played with spirit. Other parts have been well sustained by Messrs. Louis Stanton, R. Bell, G. Paradis, and Misses Sadie Smith and Lallah Price.

MOTHERWELL. — NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company is this week appearing in the ever-popular play, *The Silver King*. Wilfred Denver is well acted by Mr. Fred D. Daviss, a young actor of merit; Nellie Denver is admirably sustained by Miss Daisy Scudamore, and the child part is played in a charming and most natural manner by little Miss Flossie Hale Daviss. Mr. T. St. George Lowther as the Spider is the embodiment of polished villainy, and his confederates, Combe, Corket, and Cripps, are well sustained by Messrs. Arthur Wright, A. Hornby Warburton, and A. Warliss Lindon; Miss Dorothy Radford makes the most of her opportunities as Olive Skinner; Mr. Edward J. George contributes an excellent piece of character acting as Jaikes.

NELSON.—NEW GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. T. Greenwod Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. George E. Mudd.—*The Love that Women Desire*, presented by Mr. G. Carlton Wallace and powerful company, is here this week. Mr. J. O. Stewart gives a clever impersonation of Squire Abingdon; Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, in the character of Richard Abingdon, deserves the highest praise. Mr. Fred Lloyd gives a fine portrayal of Philip Carnaby; Mr. Leonard Montgomery as Frank Hardy, the outcast, does some really good work; Mr. Jno. Hignett ably sustains the part of Dennis O'Rourke; Mr. J. W. Wilkinson makes a typical P.c. Sowerberry; Mr. Gilson Brooke is good as Dr. Brandeth; Mr. Hugh Wallace ably takes the part of Rev. Arnold Catherine. Miss Lalla Stanhope is responsible for the part of Sybil Thornburn, which she plays to everybody's satisfaction; Miss Alice N. Livesey is to be commended for her representation of Madge Abingdon; Miss N. Griffiths does well in the rôle of Mariquinta, an Indian maiden; Miss Nita Imeson is amusing as Pattie Swift.

NEWARK.—IMPERIAL THEATRE.—During this week Mr. J. H. Clyndes, supported by his *Royal Revenge* company, has been fulfilling a special engagement here. In the dual rôle of Estevan Alverez and Pedro de Castro, Mr. Clyndes was heartily received. Miss Aimée Grattan Clyndes as Cora Casilda played in truly artistic style; Miss Enid Edoni interpreted Inez Alverez with much success, and Mr. Fred Ingleby as an old miser was most effective; Mr. Geo. Foster made a dashing young soldier. Able performances were given by Mr. A. F. Dudley as Azan Ben Musid and Count Ulric Uzeda, two very different rôles. Dignity marked the deportment of Miss Ethel Whiteley as the lady superior of the convent, and of Mr. Leslie Parker as the King's Confessor. Mr. H. W. Bradford was well placed as the King of Spain. Comedy figured prominently, and was in the capable hands of Mr. Walter Kenion and Miss Emmeline Roselle.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe. —Mr. George Dance's company in *A Country Girl* is always a favourite with audiences here, and another visit from this sparkling melodious comedy shows that it has by no means exhausted its powers to attract. Mr. Charles Walenn is the life and soul of the performance as the irrepressible Barry, singing, acting, and dancing throughout with great success; Mr. Percy Carr is very acceptable as Geoffrey Challoner; Miss Addie Lennard, as Madame Sophie, ably assists Mr. Walenn in his duets, acting and singing with great vivacity and charm; as the unconventional Nan Miss Maisie Gay is excellent, her assumption of the country dialect being admirable; Miss Winnie O'Connor uses her fine voice to advantage as Princess Mehelanah; the dignified Rajah of Bhong is well sustained by Mr. St. John Hammond; and Mr. J. C. Graves does all that is possible in the rôle of Sir Joseph Verity, whose son, Douglas Verity, is also ably played by Mr. Robert Corray. Miss Catherine Ronayne makes a stately Lady Ancaster. Other members of the company include Mr. F. W. Pedgrift (Granfer Mummery), Mr. Percy Corray (Lord Ancaster), Miss Florence Linton (Miss Carruthers), Miss Violet Worth (Miss Egerton), Miss Ena Carruthers (Mrs. Powyscourt), Miss Violet Wake (Miss Courtly).

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing - Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. and Mrs. Kendal and company are paying a welcome visit here this week, their répertoire, including *The Elder Miss Blossom* and *The Ironmaster*, two old favourites, and *The Housekeeper* and *A Tight Corner*, two plays new to Newcastle playgoers. On Monday evening *The Elder Miss Blossom* was staged, the parts of Andrew Quick, F.R.S., and Dorothy Blossom being played with splendid naturalness and artistic discretion by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal; Mr. Ernest Hendrie and Mr. Metcalfe Wood, the joint-authors of the comedy, were excellent as bluff old Christopher Blossom and Withers, the valet, respectively; Mr. Bassett Roe was a breezy Twentyman; and Miss Moore-Lane imparted rare grace and charm to the rôle of Sophie Blossom; as the golfing curate and lover, Mr. Maurice J. Toke fulfilled his part well; and other characters were ably taken by Mr. R. Burnett, Mr. W. M. Rutherford, Mr. A. B. Tapping, and Miss Kate Bishop.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clarke.—Mr. G. R. Sims's play, *For Life—and After*, performed by Hardie and Von Leer's company, is paying a visit here this week. Mr. Vernon Sansbury acts with great success the part of Richard Grey; Miss Grace Heywood, as Marion Grey, displays great feeling and power in that rôle; Mr. Charles Osborne is good as Rube Hexlam; and Mr. Sidney Vautier is a life-like surgeon as Gilbert O'Neil. The comedy element is supplied by Mr. Chris Mason as Joe Grimfed; Miss Muriel Dean was clever as Doris Grey; Mr. Henry Hare, Miss Barnwell, Miss Vayne, also do well in their respective parts. The scenes, which include Henley Regatta and Epsom Downs on Derby Day, are extremely effective.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sydney Bacon.—The romantic drama, *A Warning to Women*, occupies the boards this week. The author, Mr. C. Watson Mill, in the chief part of Dr. Marcus Bread gives a fine representation of the rôle; Miss Rosalind Tate acts with great power as Moira Kennion; Mr. Howell Travis is clever in the rôle of Shaun, the wandering minstrel; and Mr. Norman B. Cannon is admirable as Fergus McNaughton; Mr. Henry Rutland ably sustains the part of Squire Kennion; Mr. Henry P. Kennedy makes a comical Mike McQuade; Miss Edith Rutland, as the cripple, Miles O'More, is pleasing; and Miss Emmie Barton is a charming Sheila Kennion.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Andrews. — *The Fighting Parson*, which heads the bill here this week, owes its popularity to the able manner in which it is played by Mr. George Gray and company; Ben Albert scores with his funny melodies; Walter Curtis is a comedian rapidly coming to the front, and is a great success; the Sisters Finney performed wonders under water in a tank; the Maples are a couple of expert dancers, who introduce a novel method of waltzing; while the Eight of Hearts give a capital ballet performance. Henri Taylor Trio give a smart performance; and Maxwell and Francis in their comedy act score heavily; E. J. Sheldon makes a quaint comedian; and the Bioscope picture, "The Stolen Bride, is distinctly funny.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—The management of this popular house have to regret the non-appearance, through serious indisposition, of Hetty King, but have none the less an excellent bill to place before their patrons. The clever manipulation of the cornet and other brass instruments by Alice Raymond is an item that is well appreciated; the Lavalls' performance, in the aerial trapeze line is novel, and as sensational as one could wish; Harry Rogerson, comedian, scores well; Damerel Rutland and company appear in their sketch, *A Housefull*, and never fail to evoke roars of laughter. In another sketch Johnny Holland has an opportunity of displaying his humorous ability, and he has excellent support from his small company; Gus Garrick gives a laughable portrayal of people seen on the stage; Tatton Hall is another good comedian; the Valdos, in their comic absurdity, and Babs Lloyd, a miniature artist, complete the bill

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Cooper.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company, under the management of Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux, with *The Walls of Jericho*, is paying a return visit here this week. As Jack Frobisher Mr. Herbert Bunston contributes a really fine piece of acting; Mr. George A. Brandram as Hankey Bannister displays the breeziness that the part demands; and Miss Florence Jackson as Lady Alethea scores her greatest success in the reconciliation scene; Miss Molly Carlton as Lady Lucy is in turn serious and amusing; Mr. Cyril Baleine gives a fine representation of the Marquis of Steventon; and Miss Lydia Busch's portrayal of Lady Westerby is touching and impressive.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Mr. Fred Karno's *The Mumming Birds* heads the bill here, and is well received; Dan Crawley earns encores with his catchy songs; and Silent Tait, eccentric wizard, presents a good comic conjuring turn; the Molasso Quartette in whirlwind dancing are clever; Lilian Bishop is a clever male impersonator; Jack Charman sings a couple of acceptable songs; and Lilian Lea secures a well-earned encore for an operatic selection; the Bioscope completes the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company in *Florodora* is here this week, and the performances are as attractive as ever. Mr. Duley Cooper (Tweedlepunch) is with us once again, and his clever local allusions get home every time; Mr. Jos. R. Tate is good as Cyrus W. Gilfain; Mr. R. Courtier Dutton is an excellent Frank Abercoed; Mr. Harold Perry scores as Captain Arthur Donegal; Mr. Edwin Oxlee is a capital Leandro; Miss Edith Housley gives an effective representation of Lady Holyrood; Miss Gladys Elvey wins favour as Dolores, whilst her singing and dancing are full of vivacity; Miss Nellie Bowman is a charming Angela Gilfain, and her incidental songs and dances are well received. The chorus and orchestra are under the able baton of Mr. B. J. Paterson.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Representative, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—The Sisters Lunelle, who gain great applause, are two refined and dashing soubrettes and dancers of ability; Walker and May, coloured comedians and dancers, also secure a hearty reception; Arthur Royce is an eccentric comedian with some funny patter and tricks on the piano; Frankie is a clever boy juggler; A. Woodville, swell comedian, is well received; Madge Morley and company give an amusing comedy sketch, *After the Races*; Floretti and May appear in a jumping act; and C. Vincent shows some excellent Biograph pictures.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—An admirable programme has been presented here this week by Mr. Edmund Tearle and Miss Kate Clinton's company, which opened on Monday with the ever-popular *Virginius*. Mr. Tearle's portrayal of Virginius was highly appreciated; Mr. G. F. Greig as Appius Claudius deserved the highest praise; Mr. Clifford Marle was clever as Caius Claudius; Mr. R. H. Lace was good as Marcus, and Mr. R. H. Stephenson made the most of Julius; Mr. Sidney Leyton scored as Lucius, and Mr. Frank Fuller gave a satisfactory impersonation of Numitorius. As Virginia, Miss Esther Tearle was seen to great advantage; Miss Mary Campbell was an able exponent of Servia, and Miss Vera George was pleasing as Ishlar. *Hamlet*, *The Ticket of Leave Man*, *Ingomar*, *Jeanie Deans*, and *The Octoroon* have also been presented during the engagement.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Mr. Raleigh Abraham's company, with *Fun in a Pawnshop*, tops the bill here, and is well received. Primavesi, juggler, performs some clever feats, and the Lizette Troupe of acrobats are smart; Mr. Percy Hannen, a young baritone, renders his songs in good style; Miss Molly Augarde, vocalist, goes well; and Mr. Fred Horsfal, double-voiced vocalist and mimic, and the Bio-Photoscope are popular.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. S. Golden; Secretary, Miss E. Golden.—Miss Evelyn Moore's company in *The Crimson Club* is this week occupying the boards of the local theatre. Miss Florence Delmar gives a fine reading of the part of Julia Marsden. Mr. Fred G. Kay does well as Sir Philip Garside; Mr. Will Shaw is a manly Richard Fenton; Mr. Percy Shaw, the whistling comedian, appeared as Reginald Adolphus Garside; and is well supported in his efforts by Miss Kitty Elliott as Sophonisba. Miss Sydney Barrasford, as Muriel Lockwood, is a charming heroine.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company occupy the boards this week, and is giving a capital rendering of *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edward Kennedy as John Durham acts well. Mr. Robert Forsyth as Lord Mountfallon is very good, whilst Mr. Arthur Leigh as Reginald Steighton is very amusing. Mr. A. E. Walker is successful as Mr. Allerton, and Mr. W. V. Simmons-Lynn does well as Arthur Walcome. Mr. W. F. Clitheroe ably assits as the Israelitish money-lender. Miss Alice Esther Belmore is successful as Helen Vallerbon, and Miss Florence Dulhuntz deserves praise as the Hon. Margaret Steighton. Miss Louisa Gourlay most charmingly acts the part of Mrs. Durham, and is well received throughout.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor, F. W. Fitt.—An excellent and attractive programme is presented, it being anniversary week at this popular place of amusement. Foremost among the artists is Lottie Lennox, with her pleasing songs; the Lukushima Troupe of Japanese are no strangers here, and fully sustain their reputation; Harold Montague's Vagabonds as strolling players of bygone days are well received; Capt. Devereux's dogs, with their marvellous training and intelligence, are interesting; Dolly Harmer is a pleasing comedienne; whilst the Vikereys are dexterous and accomplished banjoists. Fred Curran, comedian, and Grant and Allen, burlesque comedians, with the Hippodrome Bioscope, complete a capital programme.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*Mr. Popple* is presented this week by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Mr. G. P. Huntley as Freddy Popple is the life and soul of the piece, his effervescing humour, bubbling at all points, provoking the audience to genuinely unrestrained laughter. Miss Millie Legarde plays La Bolero with admirable piquancy and coquettishness and sings with dainty effect. Miss Eva Kelly appears as the American girl, vocalising with ability and spirit. Miss Kate Forster capitally sustains the zealous Mrs. Doring, and Miss Ella Daincourt smartly acts the tearful Mrs. Hennay, her songs also winning general favour. Mr Arthur Grover as Jacques Kenyon displays his cultured voice in a couple of songs, and Mr. Basil S. Foster entirely grasps the humour of his part as Norman Popple. Mr. C. M. Daly gives a diverting performance of Platt, and droll representations of George Hennay and Henry Doring are furnished by Messrs. Sydney Young and James Stephenson respectively. A vivid display of colouring is seen in the dance of the "Scarlet Runners," a bright and alert bevy of girls, and Mr. Julian Rutt's augmented orchestra do full justice to the music.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke. —Excellent houses are this week welcoming Mr. James Willard's company in the exciting production, *A Woman's Pluck*. Mr. Austin Mortimer essays the gentlemanly villain, Dick Darrell, with conspicuous success; Miss Grace Lester plays Grace Daremont with a brightness and energy that gain her many expressions of approval; Miss Violet Carr portrays the heroine, Jessie Pope, in a quiet and refined manner; and Matthew Pope is excellently pictured by Mr. Harry Emerson. Mr. John Campling is thoroughly effective as the senile old General, and Miss Tina Shaw causes hearty laughter by her assumption of Bertie Daredevil, Mr. Dicky Bird as Roger Pippin and Miss Nellie Freeland as Ophelia Pippin add considerably to the hilarity, and good work is also shown by Misses Helen Elmar, Kitty Emmerson, Margaret Smart, and Messrs. Frank Etheridge, H. T. Wood, and Fred Norburn.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—Ancilotti presents a cleverly-trained dog in a thought-reading entertainment, which secures a favourable reception. A charming number is provided by the Scottish Meisters, who display a good quality of voice, with some quiet humour that wins general approval. Mount and Correlli contribute an attractive "turn," the gentleman vocalising with considerable skill. The ventriloquism of Fred Russell and his amusing patter compel hearty laughter, and the quaint mannerisms of George Formby are another source of hilarity. The acrobatic dancing of the Three Amarantha leaves nothing to be desired, and the Barowsky Trio neatly execute some gymnastic feats. Mark Melford and company submit a sketch that provides several merry moments, and the programme is further enlivened by Madge May, comedienne, Little Ganty, and the American Bioscope.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon's company is occupying the boards here this week with *Blue Bell in Fairyland*. Miss Lily Eyton gives a very winning portrayal of Blue Bell; Miss Vera Vizard sings and acts capably as Blue Bell's good Fairy; Mab and Winnie are capably impersonated by Miss Maud Harris and Miss Rena Robertson; Mr. Lawrence Emery submits a pleasing conception of Dickie; Mr. Frank Lennard is good as Mr. Joplin; and Messrs. Harry Vernon and W. L. Clement cause an amount of fun as the two footmen. The chorus is a strong one, the music bright and catchy, and the scenery and effects are above the average.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—A well filled house welcomed *The Christian* on Monday evening on a return visit, and Mr. Wentworth Croke's company gave a capital performance. Miss Grace Chalmers submitted an excellent rendering of the part of Glory Quayle, Mr. Frank Tennant was an admirable exponent of the exacting rôle of John Storm, Mr. F. Scarth was a very good Lord Robert Ure, and Mr. W. Briscoe Owen portrayed Horatio Drake in a capital manner. Miss Vashti Wellborne scored as Polly Love, and Miss Molly Hayden made the most of Mrs. Callander. Mr. Chas. E. Dering did well as the Archbishop Wealthy, as did also Mr. Wilfred Noy as Brother Paul. Mr. C. Hill was successful as Parson Quayle, and Mr. Edward Ling was good as Father Lamplugh. The remaining characters were ably played by Misses Dudley, White, Rokeby, Lee, and Weir, and Messrs. Conway Pounds and Kingston.

COLOSSEUM. — Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mr. Augustine Knight opened here on Monday with the sensational drama, *The Assassin*, and met with a good reception. Included in a first-class company are Miss Ella Vane, who appears in the title-rôle as Countess Wanda, and she makes an admirable foil to the scoundrelly Prince Demetri, well portrayed by Mr. Knight. Mr. E. E. Ashby is a manly hero as Ivan Ipanoff, and Mr. Theo Balfour is an aristocratic Duke Carl. Mr. Cecil H. Raymond is funny as the Baron Alphonse, and General Nichol is well represented by Mr. Chauncey Morris. Miss Hettie Senior is an excellent Connie Johnathan, and Miss Francis Waring a sympathetic Nita. Miss Edith Woodward is good as Olga Stadt, as is Miss Ada Douglas as Nadia. Miss Marie E. Robertson is the maid Katrina, and Mr. Tom Taylor scores as Peter. Mr. Edward Jenner is a capital Captain O'Neil, and Mr. Jack H. Smith appears as Evangie.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—A first-class company is appearing this week, at the head of which stands Madame Ada Colley, and she received a hearty welcome. Mr. Leo Dryden, actor-vocalist, is a capable artist. A prime favourite here is Jenny Johns, the sparkling soubrette; Bosanquet, the musical marvel, is also well received. The Mario Dunham Trio gives a smart and novel gymnastic display, and the Three Sisters Hayden are good comediennes; Harrigan and Holt, comedians, cause roars of laughter; and Alec Kendal is a funny comedian. "The Dog Detective" is a popular turn, as shown on the Royal Dottoscope.

HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—The Kurios are topping the bill with a Komical Kombination of Kuriosities. Harry Coates, singing navvy, is a capital double-voiced vocalist; Grace Langley is a smart comedienne; and the Brothers Montes appear in their latest novelty, *Mishaps on a Motor-Car*; Warden Reed and Co. have a good duologue; and Fred Mason, whistler and comedian, is excellent. The Lowenworth Brothers, Hebrew comedians, also appear, and the Dottoscope concludes the programme with "The Motorist."

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill. Mr. James Welch opened here on Monday with his company in *When Knights were Bold*, and had an extraordinarily enthusiastic reception from a crowded house, who simply roared with laughter right through the play. Mr. Welch's impersonation of Sir Guy de Vere was irresistibly funny, and there was not a single dull moment. Admirable support was given by Mr. Edward Sass as Sir Brian Ballynote, Mr. A. Grenville as the Jew Isaacson, Mr. Chesney as the Dean, and Messrs. G. F. Tully, G. Tomkins, and H. J. Ford as Wittle, Barker, and Widdicombe respectively. Miss Audrey Ford scored a great hit as Rowena Eggington, Miss Daisy Cordell made a fascinating and handsome Jewess, and the other ladies' parts found capable exponents in the Misses Emma Gwynnes, Estelle Winwood, Enid Sass, Mabel Wentworth, and Annie Chippendale. That amusing little curtain-raiser, *The Lady Burglar*, was performed in bright and pleasing fashion by Mr. H. J. Ford and Miss Estelle Winwood.

TOWN HALL.—Managers, Messrs. Lyndney, Acott, Harris, and Co.—Miss Camille Clifford on Tuesday gave a flying matinée here, assisted by Miss Margaret Cooper, Ethel Legniska, Ivy Angove, Alan Turner, and that clever veteran, Lionel Brough. The matinée was a great success, the spacious hall being well filled and the audience most appreciative.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager Mr. J. H. Savile.—*Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush* is being played here for the first time by Messrs. Durward Lely and William Mollison's company, the play, scenery, and staging being quite up to the highest expectations. That sound actor, Mr. William Mollison, plays with consummate skill the rôle of Lachlan Campbell; Mr. W. A. Mackersey makes William MacClure an attractive personality; the Rev. John Carmichael is capably sustained by Mr Durward Lely; Mr. D. Lyall essays with considerable success the part of the Earl of Kilspindie; Lord Hay is impersonated in a satisfactory manner by Mr. Archie W. Chappell; Mr. Kendall Chalmers is to be complimented on his portrayal of Tammas Mitchell; and Mr. Alec F. Thompson as Archibald McKittrick has a part particularly suited to his capabilities. Miss Evelyn McNay's rendition of Flora Campbell is a realistic and graceful performance; Kate Carnegie is capitally played by Miss Alice Francis; Margaret Howe is finely and characteristically sketched by Miss Josephine Woodward; Miss Edith Blair Staples makes Annie an interesting study; and Miss Martha Stewart and Miss Jeannie Fitzgerald as child actresses are warmly applauded for their clever acting.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Wilson.—The best turn in the bill this week is submitted by Harry Tate's *Motoring* sketch, which is most amusing and greatly applauded. The Silbons' American vaudeville circus and feline funnioslties are well received; Ernesto, expert juggler and musical equilibrist, gives a pleasing show; the Custances present a bright and sparkling comedy duologue, *A Game for Two*; Brown and Robinson are applauded for their excellent singing; Fred Herbert, topical vocalist, has a good reception; Andy Fagan is a talented comedian and dancer; and Harry Clyo and Rose Rochelle, in their sketch, *The Antics of an Actor*, are amusing.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—Clark and Glenny, who are here this week, evoke enthusiasm with their funny comedy act, *The Haunted House*; Stuart and Worth, refined comedy entertainers, supply an excellent turn; Louie Hurman, comedienne and dancer, is exceedingly well received; the Lennards score in their unique pictorial songs; Claremont and Victor are accomplished Continental acrobats; Jack Crawley wins favour in his entertainment of "Song and Story"; and the Empire Animatograph adds to the attraction.

PENTRE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Owners, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Coursell.—Mr. Frank Bertram and company are here this week with *The Convict's Daughter*. Mr. Bertram is exceedingly good in his varied impersonations of Weary Willy, Michael Grahame, and Convict 99. He is admirably supported by a strong company.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Mr. Edward Marris's No. 1 Company, under the direction of Mr. W. H. Kirby, is here this week in *Somebody's Sweetheart*. Mr. W. H. Kirby himself creates unrestrained mirth throughout as Martin Slabs, and Miss Molly Hackett is accorded a warm reception in the title-rôle; Mr. E. H. Bertram sustains the part of Stanton Ashleigh with marked ability, and Miss Millie Gordon is advantageously placed as Freddie; Mr. Douglas B. Watson successfully represents the arduous rôle of the conspiring Stephen Leverton, and Mr. J. Templer Ellis is a capable Lem Lee; Mr. Reg. Hugh Hamber as Old Joe receives a special ovation for his vocal contribution; Miss Cordelia Knight shows talent above the usual in her clever portrayal of Zora; Miss Norah Melton makes an ideal Mrs. Ainslie; the Misses Rosie Chandler and Dolly Payne are well received as Molly and Kitty, two barmaids, their dancing attracting favourable notice; Messrs. William Brown and John Cronin are capable exponents of Pete and Sambo.

PETERBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's company is here this week with *The Traitor*. Mr. Bensley Evans submits a finished piece of acting as Prince Rudolph; the Chief of Police is excellently represented by Mr. Stephen E. Scanlon; Mr. T. W. Hurst plays well as Captain Ross; the humorous element is ably sustained by Mr. Frank Sutherland as Jack Boult; Miss Ruth Shepperd fills the rôle of Zula in a way that leaves little to be desired; Miss Gwynne Warren acquits herself well as Countess Zicka; and Miss Katherine Vere is seen to advantage as Elsie Dupres; Miss Maud Stuart as Cen Cen and Miss Isabel Hunt as Lieutenant Nicholas give satisfaction.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—Notwithstanding *A Royal Divorce* has been before the public for some sixteen years its popularity evinces no signs of waning, judging by its reception at Plymouth on Monday. Principal interest centres round Napoleon and his two wives, and as the former Mr. Frederick Victor gave an excellent representation; as Josephine, Miss Edith Cole played with her customary ability, and despite her lengthy association with the part was free from any suggestion of "staleness"; while Miss Agnes Imlay as Marie Louise was warmly applauded, though her part is by no means an acceptable one. Mr. Graham Woods proved himself a clever actor as the cowardly villain the Marquis of Beaumont; Miss Helen Richmond was vivacious as Stephanie; and Miss Maggie Cardiff as the Little King of Rome is deserving of especial commendation.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Percy Williams' company is here in the naval drama *The Mariners of England*. Mr. Edward Lloyd as the hero Harry Dell gives a dashing embodiment; Mr. Clavering Craig is a dignified Lord Nelson; Mr. J. Durford Geddes has a realistic make-up as Capt. Hardy; Mr. Alfred Brandon is capable as the villain Capt. Lebaudy; while Mr. Tommy Gough extracts plenty of fun out of the part of Old Tripp. Other members of the company include the Misses M. C. Livesey, B. Whitney, and Ethel Kay.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Darc's Marionettes are among the leading attractions here; Griff, the clown-juggler, is well received, his quips and wheezes causing much merriment; Charles Austin is a comedian of quite an original style; the Jupps have a humorous burlesque acrobatic turn; Otto and Olga were successful in a mock operatic act; and Miss Ivy Galland is a high-class comedienne and dancer. Others contributing to a capital programme are Miss Nell Richardson (vocalist), E. W. Selmon (comedian), and Vernon's Pictures.

PONTYPRIDD. — ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—This week the attraction is provided by Mr. Samuel James's company in *Why Woman Sins*. Lieut. Maxwell is ably portrayed by Mr. Harry Cullinford; Captain Carlton is in the able hands of Mr. Jackson Hayes; Mr. George Ellis is seen to advantage as Cecil Spencer; Mr. George Claremont capably impersonates Jim Rainbird; Mr. Edwin Wilde skilfully plays Oliver Desmond; Miss Hilda Baynton is a pronounced favourite as Nell Desmond; Miss Gertrude Netterville shines as Ida Valette; Miss Hettie Graham is successful as Nancy Nibble; Miss Nellie Sheffield as Lily De Vere could scarcely be excelled; Mrs. Benbow is well sustained by Miss Alice D'Arville.

PORTH.—THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—The programme here includes Lena Dudley, the sprightly comedienne; the Strads, musical sketch artists; the Three Etteras, globe speciality artists; Lord, Murray, and Lord, in their comedy gymnastic mélange, *The Intruders*; Ruby Bijou, smart and charming dancer; Cosgrave and Burns, duettists; Sleath and Aldin, in their musical success, *Dashing Duval, the Knight of the Road*; Les Zaros, in a unique acrobatic and tumbling act; and the pictures shown on the Bioscope. The stage is now lighted by electricity, which it is intended to instal throughout the building.

PORTSMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. George Dance's No. 1 Company with *The Country Girl* is paying a return visit this week. Miss Barbara Babington sings with expression, and puts in good work as Marjory Joy; Nan finds an able exponent in Miss Ellaline Thorne; Miss Ernestine Desborough is an excellent Princess; and Miss Muriel Johnson a bright and vivacious Madame Sophie; Mr. John M. Hay acts with refinment and sings well as Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. F. J. Rooney sustains the part of Mr. Raikes with distinction; Mr. Arthur Jackson is a droll Sir Joseph Verity; and Mr. Comingsby Brierley an irrepressible Barry.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate. —A cordial welcome was given to Mr. Jack Haddon and company in *Under the Russian Flag*, presented for the first time in Portsmouth on Monday by arrangement with Messrs. Paumier and Howard. Ivan Romanoff is portrayed in manly style by Mr. Cecil Melton; Michael Romanoff is played with the utmost sangfroid by Mr. Edward Avinal; the outspoken Captain Demetrius is convincingly and ably taken by Mr. Jack Haddon; Mr. Charles Siddon in the part of Wolf Marischle gives a clever and sombre impersonation; and Mr. George Herbert fittingly plays General Romanoff; the trying part of Luke Marischla is played artistically by Miss Maria Rayner; Vera Vassiloff is well sustained by Miss Elaine Vanbrugh; and Miss Violet Lytton does well as Ogarita.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The attractions here for the week are many and varied Barney Burke and Bray in a ludicrous and novel act, *From Trafalgar Square to Madrid*, provoke roars of laughter. Barney Vox, with his ventriloquial figures, makes for amusement; the Elvio Trio in *Those Troublesome Slaveys* are capital; the Musical Palmers as military music experts are very good indeed; Leslie Race, vocal comedian, is quite successful; Maxford and O'Neill, speciality artists, with their much appreciated patter, keep the fun going; W. J. Churchill, eccentric comedian, has a cordial greeting; the Three Victorias, vocal terpsichorean trio; Daisy Palmer, a pleasing soubrette, and Payne's Bio-Photoscope are also in the bill.

PRESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt. Mr. Geo. Dance's chief company is here this week with *Lady Madcap*. Mr. J. Knox Orde cleverly fills the rôle of Count de St. Hubert; Bill Stratford has an excellent representative in Mr. Bay Russell; and Mr. James Graydon is an amusing Posh Jenkins. Mr. Emlyn Davis as Colonel Layton, Mr. Ernest Crestan as Major Blatherswaite, Mr. Sheriff Clunes as Captain Harrington, and Mr. Frank Hilton as Lieutenant Somerset are quite successful in their parts. Mr. Oswald Marshall gives a good impersonation of Lord Framlingham, Mr. Vincent Erne is a mirth-provoking Corporal Ham, and Mr. Harold Parkes causes hearty laughter by his droll delineation of Oroya Brown. Miss Maude Davis is a pleasing exponent of Gwenny Holden, Miss Ethel Beech as Susan is dainty and attractive, Miss Gabrielle Lighton is seen to advantage as Mrs. Layton, and Miss Izabelle Dillon displays the requisite gaiety and charm in her portrayal of Lady Betty. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Leonard Leslie.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Mr. Fred J. Little and Fred Sarcy's company is appearing here this week in the well-known drama entitled *The Executioner's Daughter*. Mr. Stanley Radcliffe as Monsieur Roche shows great dramatic ability; Miss Nellie Howitt is distinctly successful in the part of Annette; Mr. Juan de Alberti deserves great praise for his conception of Felix Marius; Miss Evelyn Robson is an excellent representative of Felice; Mr. W. S. Stevenson acquits himself admirably as Kretch. Miss Bella Moody as Sally King and Mr. Willie Hicks as Tom Holmes supply some excellent comedy. Miss Maria Ada Dowsing gains the sympathy of the house in the rôle of Christina, Mr. W. Ruddle Brown makes an excellent Paul Rovel, and Mr. Geoffrey Chate is a mirth-provoking Vivian Ormonde.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—The chief attraction here this week is *The Casey Circus*, a clever and amusing juvenile burlesque. Tom and

Royal Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Variety and amusement are included in the programme here. Ronald Bayne and Evelyn Hope do some clever business in *David Garrick;* another amusing sketch is *A Broken Promise*, presented by Stanley and Vandyke. The other turns are the Canarys, in *The Flying Kitchen;* Harding and Preston, speciality dancers; Happy Attwood, comedian; Kroney Brothers, London's lazy coalmen; Annie Cohen, dainty descriptive vocalist; Arthur Holland, refined vocal comedian; and Sylvia Martin, a clever equestrienne.

SCARBOROUGH.—People's Palace and Aquarium.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Entertaining here we have Bert H. Delmar and Miss Edith Van Diene, who give an excellent entertainment; Charles Cardle, in coon songs; Mr. J. Hichens and Miss Frances Ferina, in a dramatic dialogue, *Pity the Blind;* Syd Bazley, comedian; Ferina and Hitchens, in a *Motor Muddle;* Miss Elliott, soprano; Mr. J. McCann, on roller skates; Mr. D. W. Watson, cornetist and coach-horn player; and the Two Neros, acrobatic comedians.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietress, Mrs. Henry Mayhew; Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan.—*The Life of a Showman* is being presented by Mr. George Testo Sante and company. Mr. Sante in the title-rôle gives exhibitions of strength. The mounting of the play is good, and all the parts are in capable hands.

SEACOMBE.—Irving Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company provides the attraction here this week with *Are You a Mason?* George Fisher is well acted by Mr. Ernest Cassart; Amos Bloodgood is adequately personated by Mr. E. H. Patterson; Mr. Howard L. Tracey is a capital Frank Perry; and Mr. Edwin Millins causes plenty of fun as John Halton. Mr. Frederick Jacques is quite at home in the rôle of Hamilton Travers; and Ernest Morrison is well played by Mr. Dare Austin. Miss Adelaide Grace submits an admirable interpretation of Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood, the same remark applying to Miss Mabel Durrant as Eva. Annie and Lulu Perry find suitable exponents in Miss Babs Stuart and Miss Madge Merrique. Mrs. Halton is well looked after by Miss Dora Frank Harvey, Lottie by Miss Minnie Rayner, and Franchon Armitage by Miss Ploensgains. The principal piece is preceded each evening by *The Ruby Heart.*

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Mr. Bert Coote's company in *The Fatal Wedding* is here this week. Howard Wilson is powerfully depicted by Mr. Ernest Owtrim; the villainy of Robert Curtis is capably shown by Mr. Herbert Humber; Loto is a laughable part as submitted by Mr. C. H. Hughes; Schwartz is well acted by Mr. Cyril Melton; Miss Madge Haines is a sympathetic Mabel; the deceitful Cora finds a careful exponent in Miss Gertrude Harrison; Bridget is humorously drawn by Miss Julie Temple; Jessie is delightfully presented by Miss Marjorie Lawrence, a dainty juvenile. Specialities in Act. III. are introduced by a company of juveniles.

SHEFFIELD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The annual visit of the Carl Rosa Opera Company has always given delight to local music lovers, and on Monday the Lyceum was filled with a representative audience when the curtain rose on Bizet's *Carmen.* Miss Doris Woodall sang dramatically as Carmen; Mr. Julius Walther repeated his fine performance of the rôle of Don José; Mr. Charles Victor was an effective Escamillo; and the rest of the characters were cast as follows: Zuniga, Mr. A. Richard; Morales, Mr. Arthur Thomas; Pastia, Mr. Felton; Dancairo, Mr. F. Clendon; Romendado, Mr. Arthur Hyde; Michela, Miss Burgess; Frasquita, Miss Ina Hill; and Mercedes, Miss Dorothy Mayfield. Band and chorus were excellent, and Mr. Walter Van Noorden conducted. The operas billed for the balance of the week were *Faust, Il Trovatore, Maritana, Fidelio* (first time in Sheffield for many years), *Tannhäuser,* and *The Bohemian Girl.*

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Mouillot's company opened on Monday in *The Toreador.* Mr. Harry Buss made a funny Sammy Gigg. Mr. Howard Cridland as Sir Archibald Slackett submitted a quaint and laughter-provoking sketch; Mr. Fred Fowler was clever and agile as Pettifer; Mr. H. M. White made an imposing Carajola, and Mr. Alfred Majilton was lively and amusing as the Governor; Miss Rose Helena charmed the house as Nancy; Miss Katie May acted gracefully as Susan; Miss Zoe Gilfillan was a pretty and vivacious Dora; Miss Florence Burdett was full of humour as Mrs. Malton-Hoppings; and Miss Marie Adair looked handsome as Teresa and sang dramatically.

Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The Fatal Wedding* is again being played to large and enthusiastic audiences by Mr. Bert Coote's combination. Mr. Wilson Howard appears as Howard Wilson, and Mr. Guy Hastings is the typical fast New Yorker as Robert Curtis; and other characteristic impersonations are Mr. Edward Morgan's Toto, Mr. Jack Waring's O'Reilly, Mr. A. L. Raynor's Dr. Lancefort, and Miss Blanche Stanley's Bridget. Miss Leah Marlborough is a handsome and fascinating adventuress as Cora Williams, and the injured wife, Mabel, is represented in a sympathetic and graceful manner by Miss Catherine Clarke. The chief interest centres round the child, Jessie, "the little mother," a part played with delightful spirit by Miss Madge McCalla. The "children's scene," with up-to-date songs and dances, is still a big feature.

Empire Palace.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The pièce de résistance this week is the lively musical farce in three scenes, *The Mad Minstrels,* produced by Mr. John Tiller and supported by Mr. Sam Poluski, jun., Mr. Harry Elliston, and a large array of pretty and accomplished ladies. The smart patter and dancing of that diverting duo, Messrs. Sandford and Lyons, bring down the house; Mr. Albert Le Fre does some clever characteristic dancing; Mr. Frank Lynne sings a ditty about his "new hat"; the Glenroy Troupe introduces several international dances; Mlle. Violi's musical act is cordially received; Atroy is an expert juggler and hoop manipulator; and Miss Irene Rose, comedienne, and Mr. George Reeves, comic vocalist, complete a good all-round company.

Grand Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Mr. R. Cochrane's company is appearing here in the farcical sketch, *No Parson Required.* The programme also includes the Evalos, jugglers, &c.; Mr. Percy Gallena; the Lovelaces, novelty entertainers; the mysterious artist known as Mr. E.; the vivacious Sisters Melba, duettists; and Pallister's Bioscope, with interesting new films.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—Mr. Geo. Dance's excellent company played the popular musical piece, *The Duchess of Dantzic,* here on the first three nights of the week. Mr. Frank Bradley made a fine Napoleon, and acted the part consistently well throughout; Mr. Bernard Collis sang effectively as M. D. Alagro; Mr. C. Burrunston Williams was a soldierly François; Mr. S. H. Curzon merited high praise as Adhemar; Mr. Frank Attree was most amusing as Papillon; Miss Florence Radnor acted with care and ability the part of Empress Josephine; Miss V. Kennerley and Miss M. Eastland were a graceful pair as Caroline and Pauline respectively; Miss Gladys Dale was an attractive Renee de St. Mezard; Miss A. Knolleys and Miss Kitty Quinn were successful as Mlle. de Legrande and Mme. de Chatel; Miss Isabel Vivian, a clever dancer, was smart as the gay Lizette; and Miss Elma Morris was vivacious, and sang in an accomplished manner as Catherine Marechal Lefebvre.

SOUTHAMPTON. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company is this week successfully appearing in Conan Doyle's *Brigadier Gerard.* Mr. Loring Fernie gives a capital impersonation of the title-part; Miss Maude Hoffman as the Comtesse plays most artistically; Mr. George Mallett's Talleyrand is a fine portrayal; and Mr. Arthur Somers looks well and acts convincingly as Napoleon.

Palace. — Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—Frank Hardie and company are very successful in an entertaining sketch, *Pedlar Sam;* the Musical Johnstons, expert xylophone players; Ed. E. Ford, a wonderful facial artist; the Steinway Quartette of vocalists with "Songs of the Sea"; Radford and Valentine, a clever and comical couple; Will Driscoll, comedian; the Cullane Trio, in *Pipple from Poppleton;* and Anna Kenwick, comedienne, also contribute to a capital programme.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Fred Karno's comedians, in *The Dandy Thieves,* are starring here, and draw crowded houses; Mr. George Hestor as the impossible Sergt. Lightning, creates roars of laughter; Calby and May are popular in their ventriloquial and doll act; the Ongars dance capitally; and Bert Lytton, a swell comedian; Penley and English, in a clever and amusing duologue; Rita Resdan, male impersonator; and George Prince, comedian, also prosper well.

Philharmonic Hall.—Crowded houses are filling this hall nightly, the attraction being the Eclipse Animatograph and Concert Company, under the management of Messrs. H. Richardson and F. H. Wyatt. The pictures, both serious and comic, are splendid, being both steady and clear, and the engagement is quite the event of the season. Excellent variety is imparted to the programme by the appearance of the Morrellis, who present a popular comedy act; and Mr. Harry Lesley, comedian.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — Empire Theatre. — Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. Ian Maclaren's Shakeperean and classical productions are proving both instructive and highly pleasing. The tragedy of *Hamlet* was given on Monday, when Mr. Maclaren in the title-rôle portrayed this difficult character with complete success, gaining rapturous applause. On Tuesday, *Othello* was staged, and chief honours fell again to the proprietor of this excellent répertoire company. He had valuable assistance from Mr. Whitford Kane, whose clever handling of Iago was a feature. Cassio found in Mr. Alfred Gray an able interpreter; Miss Edith Coleman gave a clever portrayal of Desdemona; and the Misses M. Jowett and G. Littlewood were capable exponents of Emilia and Bianca respectively. *Romeo and Juliet* was presented on Wednesday, *The Merchant of Venice* on Thursday, and *The School for Scandal* on Friday.

The Kursaal.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—A new feature of this week's attraction is the dancing in the ball-room, apart from the usual variety entertainment which is given in the Café Chantant, and this experiment ought to prove most popular. The Bric-à-Brac Vaudeville Company are presenting first-class concerts, and well merit the splendid reception they gain. Mr. Fred Allan is delightful in his songs; Miss Kate Oxford is pleasing and successful with her ballads; Mr. Geo. Croft provides hearty laughter in his humorous songs, and Miss Doris Wyndham sings with satisfactory results. The duologues are well rendered by Mr. G. Croft and Miss Doris Wyndham; whilst their novel novelettes also please immensely. The fantasie by the Living Marionettes and Fantoccios is a capital item. The concluding part of Monday's entertainment was devoted to a comedy sketch, entitled *Lydia's Dilemma,* which is cleverly acted by Mr. F. Mantell and Miss Edith Maynard as Frank Fairlove and Lydia Merton respectively. *A Sailor's Love* and *The New Domestic* are other items from an excellent répertoire.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House, Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—*The Belle of Mayfair,* elaborately staged and dressed, was presented for the first time here on Monday evening to a full house by Messrs. A. and S. Gatti and Charles Frohman's capable company. Miss Alice Russon is an attractive and vivacious exponent of Julia Chaldicott, her vocal numbers being pleasingly rendered. She is ably supported by Mr. Vernon Davidson as the Hon. Raymond Finchley; Miss Maud Aston depicts the maid Pincott in a smart manner; the Earl of Mount Highgate has a capital representative in Mr. Percy Yorke; Mr. Charles McNaughton gives a good account of himself as Sir John Chaldicott; Miss Barbara Huntley submits a commendable portraiture of Lady Chaldicott; and the same may be said of Miss Rosa Snell as the Countess of Mount Highgate. Hugh Meredith is characteristically impersonated by Mr. Wensley Russell; Mr. Trueman Towers is versatile and diverting as Dr. Marmaduke Lawrence; the Comte de Perrier is well enacted by Mr. Robert Whyte, jun.; Miss Blanche Massey appears to advantage as Lady Rosaline Rockesly; and the Princess Ehrenbreitstein has a finished representative in Miss Joan Keddie. The augmented orchestra is conducted in a praiseworthy manner by Mr. Alfred C. Toone.

Pier Pavilion.—Proprietors, The Southport Pier Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Charles F. Johnson.—The following attractive variety combination is appearing here. The Royal Tokio Troupe of Japanese performers; Gena Manon, soprano; Halma, society juggler; the Brothers Adderley, musical mimics; Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's company of comedians, including Charley Harvey, "the droll"; Elsie Steadman, comedienne; Clifford Morgan, baritone; Daisy Irving, soprano; William Strong, basso; and the Bio-Tableaux.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt and company are appearing here in *Two Little Sailor Boys.* Miss Blanche Steele depicts Lola Grey in powerful style; the Mildred Grey of Miss Alice Defoe is sweetly and charmingly portrayed; the two little sailor boys, Cyril Grey and Tom Yorke, are both capitally performed by Miss May Day and Miss Ethel F. Greene; Mr. J. Heather, as Commander Noel Tregarthen, is an ideal hero; Mr. Ellerslie Pyne makes the most of Lieut. Richard Redstone, R.N. The comedy element is well supplied by Mr. Oscar Power (Jack Jolly), Mr. Tom E. Sinclair (Ben Baxter), and Miss Lizzie Chambers (Lucy Wilson). Mr. W. H. Hallatt is good as Captain Tom Yorke, and Mr. A Horton is effective as Jim Royston.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Carl Hertz, assisted by Emmeline D'Alton and company, have had a good reception. The Bridal Chamber, a mystifying performance is shown, also some clever cabinet tricks, &c. A good laughing song is contributed by the Brothers Obo; the Mezzettis score in a comedy bar act, "The New Recruit"; Minnie Cunningham, Irish comedienne, sings sweetly; the Two Tees, musical grotesques; Walter King, comedian; Queenie May, the juvenile prize packet, G. H. Elliott, the chocolate coloured coon, all entertain, and the Bioscope completes the bill.

Tivoli.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Jos. Sweeney.—Fred Cary causes a good deal of laughter by his eccentric songs and patter; Mark Merry's contributions are much appreciated by the audience; good conjuring and illusions are introduced by Henry Bekker, assisted by Mlle. Maie; Jeannette Hall, Georgina Leonard, Little Rose Pink, and the Bio-Photoscope also attract.

STALYBRIDGE.—Grand Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Louis Ellison; General-Manager, Mr. Eugene E. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. D. Oswald.—Ossi Souplessi, described as the anatomical wonder and the flying serpent on the silver ring, is a marvel in his line. Robert Gilbert appears with his troupe of performing dogs and cats, and the remaining turns include Harry Bent, mimic; Golden and Grey, duettists; Carlotta Lunn, comedienne; Bessie Wallow, vocalist; Louis Kerno, comedian; the Sisters Selwyn, dancers; and an excellent sketch by Messrs. Hardie and Hardie's company, entitled *Those Awful Kids.*

ST. HELENS.—Theatre Royal and Opera House, Ltd.—Proprietors, the St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—Messrs. Carpenter and Cooper's company is here in the new drama, entitled *The Spider and the Fly.* As Stella Gray, Miss Amy Venimore is well placed; Miss Nina Vaughan ably acts the rôle of Edith; Miss Ada Palmer makes a capital Jane Ellen; Mr. Stanley S. Gordon plays in a finished style as Cyril; as Romulus Roe and Remus Roe, Messrs. Fred Terriss and Charles A. Preece create much amusement; Mr. Ellis J. Preston effectively portrays the villain, Welby; as the village pastor, McAllister, and David Strong, Messrs. H. C. Lancelly and Frederick Ross have congenial rôles. The scenery and effects are exceptionally good.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—This week's bill is headed by Mr. George D'Albert and company in the episode *'Tis Never Too Late to Mend,* which is achieving a decided success. The Three Seabornes are equilibrists of no mean merit; Victor is a capital character-vocalist; the Violas are clever exponents of second-sight; Jack and Evelyn receive the welcome due to old favourites in the sketch, *The Cigar Divan;* the Three McDonalds give a clever and refined musical act, and Cardo mystifies all with his sleight-of-hand tricks.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Abundant patronage has been bestowed upon Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart and company, who are reappearing here in *Sherlock Holmes,* which has been excellently presented and greeted with much appreciation. A powerful impersonation of Sherlock Holmes is given by Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart, and a realistic character is Dr. Watson as portrayed by Mr. Stanley Logan. Mr. Fred Bell makes a capital John Forman, and Professor Moriarty is capitally acted by Mr. F. W. Stirling. Miss Constance Leigh fills the part of Alice Faulkner with charming grace; and Madge Larrabee is effectively given by Miss Lindsay Fincham.

Empire.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—An exceptionally talented company appearing here this week to excellent business includes *The Orange Girl,* presented by Miss Dolly Elsworthy and company. Miss Elsworthy as Nell Gwynne is the chief attraction, and has met with marked success. That genuinely funny comedian, Ernie Myers, has kept the audiences in roars of laughter; and Lily Lonsdale has, as usual, charmed everyone with her delightful vocalism. The Cumberlands display marvellous ability as acrobatic cyclists; a pleasing artist is Ada Twibell; Ted Young, character comedian, sings in good style; Fannie Humber, musical entertainer and skipping-rope dancer, is cordially received; and the Four Charles, in their clever acrobatic juggling act, are heartily applauded.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—The Palace.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil. Reymond.—The present company is fully up to the usual standard. Mr. Nock Ohlson is a capital comedian, and his songs are well received; Miss Berris Forde sings charmingly; Mr. Gus Daniels, comedian and descriptive vocalist, is well applauded for his clever turn; Royde and Watson are a very entertaining pair of duettists and patterers, who cause no end of fun; Phil Reymond fully sustains his reputation, and is loudly applauded for several first-rate comic songs; and the Paragon sketch company conclude with a comedy sketch, *Wanted, A Serio,* which causes roars of laughter.

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Theatre.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—There was a packed audience on Monday, when Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company opened for a three nights' engagement with *Florodora.* Mr. Gus Danby has been here on previous occasions, but his presentation of Anthony Tweedlepunch was received just as heartily as ever; Mr. Colin Johnstone was a capital Cyrus Gilfain; Mr. Howard Cropton as Frank Abercoed was well received; Mr. H. Carnell-Jove as Arthur Donegal, although suffering from a cold, proved a capable artist; Mr. C. A. Road-Knight was admirably suited for the character of Leandro. Angela Gilfain had a charming impersonator in Miss Dorothy Dempster; while the part of Lady Holyrood could not have been entrusted to a more capable artist than Miss Rosa Sullivan. Miss Daisy Lake as Dolores received unstinted applause for an admirable performance.

SUNDERLAND.—Avenue Theatre.—Director and Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here in *The Freedom of Suzanne.* Miss Mabel Love as Suzanne has a part that will rank amongst any of her former triumphs. Mr. Percy Hutchison's interpretation of Charles Trevor is bright, incisive, and manly throughout. The remaining parts are all in the hands of capable artists, notably Mr. Patrick Quill (Sir Horace Hutton), the admirers of the wayward Suzanne, Messrs. J. H. Batson, Townsend Whitling, and Rich. Neville as Lord Dachett, Harry Cecil, and Tommy Keston respectively, Miss Annie Stalman (Lady Charlotte), Miss Charlotte Mead (Fanny Minching), Miss Violet Ley (Lady Isabel), Miss D. Hart (Mrs. Tustail), and Mr. F. G. Thurstans (Fitzroy Harding).

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Mrs. Bulman's company in *Sentenced for Life* is here. Mr. R. Brancepeth Nevill acts the part of Sir Wallace Stillwell with acumen; Mr. Edward E. Louis plays Lieut. Roy Stillwell in a satisfactory manner; and Mr. Ernest Vaughan accounts for Capt. Derrick with satisfactory results. Mr. Morris Maud is good as the Rev. Martin Orris, and Messrs. Arthur Keand and Reg. Oldroyd score as the Two Convicts. Miss Madge Douglas effectively portrays the rôle of Adele Gray, and Miss May Neilson and Miss Mary Dalby suitably sustain the parts of Kate Rennel and Lady Stillwell respectively.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Managers Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—The bill this week is headed by John Lawson, in his well-known dramatic scena, *Humanity.* George French scores in his quaint and quiet way; Maude Mortimer proves a favourite; Daisy Mayer is an American sand dancer of merit. The bill also includes Nellie Rose, comedienne; the Sivronis, comedy artists; George Hyam, comedian; and the Bioscope pictures.

SWINDON.—Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor and Responsible-Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Local music-lovers are enraptured with a return visit of the Moody-Manners Grand Opera company, under the business direction of Mr. J. St. Clair. The visit opened on Monday to a house crowded in all parts, with a really fine production of *Carmen,* with Mlle. Zélie De Lussan in the title-rôle. That renowned artist, who had been specially engaged for this work, made a great impression with her rich voice and vivacity. She was ably supported by Mr. Charles Carter, who stood out prominently as an excellent José, and Mr. Marshall Vincent, admirable as Escamillo; while Miss Lucie Lever as Micaela won hearty applause with her well-cultured vocalism. In smaller parts Misses M. Wood and M. Wilcocks, Messrs. R. Brookes, S. Lansdale, and G. Gorst did well. A feature of this production was the strong chorus and augmented orchestra under the bâton of Mr. H. Frewin. On Tuesday *Faust* was presented to another crowded house. The following operas are also billed: *The Bohemian Girl, Il Trovatore, Tannhäuser, Lohengrin,* and *Maritana.*

TONYPANDY. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ridgewood Barrie.—A sterling attraction is provided by the engagement of Mrs. Morton Powell's company in *When It Was Dark.* Mr. Austin-Lee as the Rev. Basil Gortre is all that could be desired; Messrs. G. H. Pitt and Riddell Robinson are suitably cast as Constantine Schwabe and Sir Robert Llewellyn respectively; Mr. G. Rammell plays Harold Spence in a convincing manner; Mr. Henry Hellier presents a capital rendering of Rev. Mr. Bynes; as Helena Bynes Mrs. Morton Powell proves herself an actres of undoubted ability; the trying part of Gertrude Hunt is sustained in a capable manner by Miss Mabel Mannering.

TORQUAY. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—To a large and appreciative audience *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt* was presented by Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. Leveaux's company on Monday. Miss Gladys Mason as Lady Clarice Howland made a charming study of that light-headed but good-hearted member of society; Mr. Reginald Dance played with considerable skill in the name-part; Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton made a capital Col. Rayner; Miss Mary Weigall an excellent Marchioness, and Miss May Brooke a satisfactory Lady Clementina. Mr. George A. Seager was a typical Judge, and Miss Helen Tyler a good Mrs. Mellon.

TREHERBERT. — Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Poole; Manager, Mr. James Gunn.—Messrs. Thavis Green and Arthur Hinton's company is attracting excellent houses here this week in *A Soldier of France.* Mr. Arthur Hinton presents the part of Father Jean in a capable manner; Judas Delara is well embodied by Mr. Thavis Green; Mr. Dan. E. Clifford as Pollput Jollyboy is exceedingly amusing; Mr. Charles Langton, in the double rôle of Captain Louis Lorraine and Lieutenant Louis, scores a great success; Mr. Harry Cave as Duc de Laval is acceptable; Miss Leila Zillwood as Pauline Lorraine gives a refined reading; Miss Jennie Clare is excellent as Margot; and Master Freddie Cave in the part of Master Louis Lorraine deserves praise.

WAKEFIELD.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—Messrs. Polini and Maitland's company is here this week in the drama *The Coal King.* Mr. Lauderdale Maitland gives a manly rendering of Tom Roberts; Mr. Lionel Thompson acts with power as Sir Reginald Harford; Mr. Escott Robson is successful as Walter Harford; Mr. Frank Dalton is well placed as Dick Shirley; and Mr. Alfred Terriss as Jim Williams and Miss Sybil Coghlan as Araminta Green are responsible for enjoyable comedy business; Miss Sinna St. Clair depicts with ability the rôle of Mad Ann, and Miss Gertrude Valentine gives an able impersonation as Grace Shirley.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Miss Diana Hope and company are presenting here a sensational sketch entitled *Her Good Name;* the Swaines comedy artists, merit applause; Mlle. Lucretia, burlesque artist, sings and dances nicely; Ivan and McQue, comedians, are funny; other items include Miss Lil Hartley, descriptive vocalist; Albert Kail, comedian; and Herr Blumenfield and his troupe of performing dogs.

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Tschernoff's animal novelty heads the bill here this week; Clarice Netta is a charming vocalist. Other entertaining turns are Letine, the mysterious; Xley and Hamilton, in a burlesque opera; Howard and St. Clair; Tom Percy, comedian; Nat Clifford; and the pictures on the American Bioscope.

Grand Theatre, Ltd. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Hilliard Vox and company, including Mr. Albert Rogers, occupy the boards here this week in *Alaska.* Mr. Hilliard Vox, who is a very capable actor, plays the rôle of Skookum Jim; Mr. C. D. Pitt is well placed as Ned Larson; Pompey Cæsar is commendably presented by Mr. Albert Rogers. Other characters are ably sustained by Mr. Bevan Fenten, Mr. John Ford, Mr. J. Howarth, Mr. E. Brookes, Mr. S. Lynch. Miss G. Hastings Walton as Alaska is all that could be desired.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. Joseph Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Preece.—The return visit of Mr. William Greet's company with *The Earl and the Girl* is proving a highly attractive one, and on Monday a large house received it with enthusiasm. The Jim Cheese of Mr. Walham Cromwell is a quaint and humorous impersonation; Mr. Robert Hyett is quite natural as Dick Wargrave; Mr. Stanley Harrison as the Hon. Crewe Boodle plays pleasantly, and a smart performance is given by Mr. Frank Cane as Downham. A good sketch of A. Bunker Bliss is submitted by Mr. A. E. Coleby, and Mr. Arthur Cassidy is well placed as Mr. Talk. Miss Florence Wix submits a really clever performance of Liza Shoddam, and both Daisy Fallowfield and Elphin Haye have charming representatives in Miss Eva Berrington and Miss Gertrude Simpson respectively. Miss Nellie Grant is an imposing Mrs. Shimmering Black, and as Virginia Bliss Miss Helen Langton is a dignified personage.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Capital turns are given here this week by Mr. Charles Morritt, magician; a blind man with a remarkable memory; the Dagodets, comedians; Arthur Austin, ventriloquist; Dan Conroy, comedian; the Elgars, operatic vocalists; Edna Latonna, vocalist; the Waldrons, sketch artists; and the Royal Bioscope pictures.

WEST BROMWICH.—New Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—There is another exceptionally strong programme at the Carters Green place of amusement this week. The Six Bros. Luck give an exceedingly funny show, *The Demon of the Cellar;* Charles Williams, strangely called a Scotch nigger, sings some clever songs well; Frank Coyal is a lively comedian; Matt Wilkinson and company appear in a really comical sketch with much success; and Ernest Rees is one of the drollest of comedians; C. Emlyn Jones and his Emerald Ladies' Quartette are accomplished singers whose work is warmly appreciated; the Dewars sing and dance well; and the extra turn provided by Sibb and Sibb, acrobats, is remarkably clever.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Thomas; Manager, Mr. Herbert Vere.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 Co. is appearing with marked success in the ever-popular musical comedy, *Florodora.* Mr. Alf. E. Passmore is a very successful Anthony Tweedlepunch, and keeps the audience in a continual state of merriment. As Lady Holyrood, Miss Kate Leinster has a part admirably suited to her; Miss Josephine Sullivan is a charming Dolores, and Miss Lily Gullick is delightful as Angela Gilfain. Mr. Stanley White as Cyrus W. Gilfain introduces into the character delightful touches, and Mr. Herbert St. John as Capt. Arthur Donegal is very fine.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—The return visit of Mr. Louis Calvert's company in *Sunday* has been heartily welcomed. In the title-rôle Miss Emelie Polini is admirable; the quartette of "boys," Towzer, Davy, Lively, and Jacky, have excellent exponents in Messrs. William Lockhart, Sydney Rennel, Cecil Yapp, and Arthur Vezin; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas in the character of Tom Oxley continues to create a favourable impression; Colonel Brinthorpe has a capital exponent in Mr. Leonard Pagden; Miss M'Aimee Murray shows undoubted talent in her delineation of the character of Mrs. Naresley; Miss Muriel Pope and Mr. G. Wallace Johnston ably sustain the respective rôles of the Nun and Arthur Brinthorpe.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—The account given by George M. Schilling of his walk round the world is full of interest; Bernar, the King of Marionettes, has a splendid reception, his life-like figures being watched with keen interest and repeatedly applauded; the humour of Andie Caine is amusing, as also is that of Fred Land; some graceful gymnastic poses and evolutions are contributed by Dora Martini; Rastus and Benks, the coloured Major and the Maid, meet with a gratifying reception; W. B. Raby, in quaint comedy, Rubie and Elsie Redfern, charming banjoists and dancers, and a new series of films are also strong items on the programme.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Allan Wilkie's répertoire company is here this week, and on Monday *Othello* was staged. Mr. Allan Wilkie's interpretation of the title-rôle was intensely tragic. Mr. G. Alexander Marsh showed rare histrionic ability as Iago. Mr. Herbert Morgan gave an exceedingly fine impersonation of Cassio. Another excellent piece of acting was the Brabantio of Mr. Aubrey Mather. As Roderigo. Mr. George Munro was praiseworthy. Mr. C. W. Dockwray's Duke of Venice was worthy of commendation, as was the Montano of Mr. Ian Flemming. Mr. Wilton Ross (Lodovico) and Mr. Ernest Digges (Gratiano) both did good work. Miss Carrie Baillie looked remarkably handsome as Desdemona, and acted the part well. Miss Ivie Cameron displayed ability as Emilia, and Miss Ruth Nightingale's Bianca also deserves eulogy. Other plays in the bill are *Hamlet, David Garrick, The Bells, The Corsican Brothers, The Lady of Lyons,* and *The Ticket o' Leave Man.*

WEST STANLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Samuel James's company is appearing here this week in *As Good as Gold.* Mr. H. H. Barrington makes a typical country gentleman as Mark Williams; Mr. Wm. Heilbronn is responsible for a strongly-marked portrayal of Lieut. Jack Stanton; the rôle of Sir Richard Wharncliffe is finely embodied by Mr. Richard Ferris; Mr. Norman Hall is good as Horatio Spanker; and Mr. Ern Carlton presents the part of Capt. D'Arcy James in an able manner. Miss Kate Froud makes an admirable Kate D'Arville; the rôle of the Kipper is in the clever hands of Miss Irene Tracey, and Miss Barbara Allison in the title-rôle wins admiration.

Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. F. C. Raws; General-Manager, Mr. John Cassidy.—The attraction here this week is a fine variety company, giving, for the first time in the town, two performances nightly. The top of the bill is occupied by Miss Daisy de Roy, a capable and clever artist, well deserving her warm and enthusiastic reception. Miss Violet Robson renders some good songs; the Sages are responsible for smart dancing; the Musical Howards well deserve their title; Doris Middleton has some clever impersonations; Soros is smart in his mysterious performance; and a clever sketch is presented by Miss Mabel Wood, Miss Edna Reeve, and Mr. Clement Burge. The Bio-motograph presents comic and local pictures.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Kiddie.—Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, the famous illusionists, are here this week, and a packed house gave the artists a great reception on Monday evening, when they appeared in their new mystery play, *Lady Kinton's Necklace.* The illusionists have the support of a capable company, and *Lady Kinton's Necklace,* quite apart from its "mysteries," is thoroughly well acted. Mr. Frank Melrose, in a novel make-up, does very well as Professor Le Gros; Mr. Harry Danson is a capable Robert Fenton; Mr. Stafford Smith acts impressively in the part of Lord Kinton; Mr. John S. Chamberlain is most effective as Bothwell Darraville; Mr. Thomas Burdett is decidedly humorous as a burly German trombonist; Mr. Willie Atom makes a great hit as Billy, a call-boy, and, in company with Miss Marie Ault as Annie and the ubiquitous Bosco, causes roars of laughter. Mr. Robert A. Innes is a capital Rufus Merrivale; Miss Queenie Fraser Brunner is a charming heroine as Lucie Darraville.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, Wigan Entertainments Co.—The sensational drama, *The Beast and the Beauty* has had a very good reception here. The part of Jack Barrymore is cleverly enacted by Mr. W. S. Hartford. Mr. Bernard Mervyn as Henry Denver; Mr. Eric Campbell as Ned Samson, and Mr. Wm. E. Passmore as the Earl of Loman sustain their respective rôles very effectively. Miss Daisy Gwynne assumes the heavy part of Delilah Vane with power and subtlety, and Miss Alice Bowes as Violet, the Beauty, is the personification of innocence.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Hermann Melot is a marvellous conjurer; Harry Roxbury and company give a refined and mirthful sket

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

SLEEPING HARE, Cav. Rooms, April 6, 1868.
SLEEPING PARTNER, Criterion, Aug. 17, 1897.
SLEEPWALKER, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, April 5, 1893.
SLEIGH BELLS, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, March 11, 1872.
SLENDER THREAD, Rochdale, April 18, 1896.
SLICE OF LUCK, Adelphi, June 17, 1867.
SLIGHT HEADACHE, Southsea, Jan. 25, 1898.
SLIGHTLY SUSPICIOUS, Globe, Oct. 5, 1891.
SLIGHT MISTAKE, Folkestone, Aug. 4, 1869.
SLIGHT MISTAKES, Folly, Jan. 31, 1876.
SLOCUM'S PERPLEXITIES, Surrey Masonic Hall, Nov. 22, 1898.
SLOW AND SURE, Pavilion, Aug. 28, 1876.
SLOW MAN, Adelphi, April, 1855.
SLOWTOP'S ENGAGEMENTS, Olympic, Jan. 13, 1862.
SLUMS OF LONDON, Newcastle, Dec. 19, 1892.
SLY AND SHY, Theatre Royal, Southampton, Nov. 4, 1870.
SLY DOGS, Opera House, Torquay, April 11, 1887.
SMACK FOR SMACK, St. James's, Nov. 26, 1860.
SMALL AND EARLY, St. George's Hall, June 5, 1882.
SMILES AND KISSES, Comedy, Manchester, Feb. 23, 1885.
SMITH'S MIXTURE, Philharmonic, April 19, 1879.
SMITHS OF NORWOOD, St. James's, Jan. 19, 1863.
SMOKE, Adelphi, Dec. 26, 1870.
SMOULDERING FIRES, Alexandra, Walsall, April 23, 1883.
SNAEFEL, Gaiety, June 30, 1873.
SNAKE IN THE GRASS, City, Nov. 8, 1858.
SNARES OF LONDON, Stratford, April 16, 1900.
SNATCHED FROM DEATH, Novelty, Oct. 12,
SNATCHED FROM THE GRAVE, Grecian, March 13, 1876.
SNEAKING REGARD, Surrey, April 16, 1870. 1896.
SNIP, SNAP, SNORUM, Grecian, Sept. 24, 1875.
SNOWBALL, THE, Strand, Feb. 2, 1879.
SNOW DRIFT, Britannia, Feb. 15, 1869.
SNOWDROP, Royalty, Nov. 21, 1864.
SNOW FLAKES, Prince's, Portsmouth, March 14, 1878.
SNOWMAN, THE, Lyceum, Dec. 21, 1889.
SNOWSTORM, A, Gaiety, Oct. 1, 1892.
SNOW WHITE, St. George's Hall, May 3, 1899.
SOCIAL DEBTS, Kingston, Dec. 2, 1897.
SOCIALIST, A, Royalty, April 16, 1887.
SOCIAL PEST, Novelty, Jan. 3, 1891.
SOCIAL SINNERS, Theatre Royal, Sunderland, Aug. 17, 1885.
SOCIETY, Prince of Wales's, Nov. 11, 1865.
SOCIETY BEAUTY, Cambridge, May 1, 1884.
SOCIETY BUTTERFLY, Opéra Comique, May 10, 1894.

THE Crystal Palace concerts will be continued this afternoon by Miss Marie Hall, who will give a violin recital in the concert-room of the Palace. She will play Symphonie Espagnole (Eduard Lalo), Fantasia on "Otello" (Ernst), "Ave Maria" (Schubert-Wilhelmj), and "Hejre Kati" (Hubay). Miss Hall will be assisted by Miss Eleanor Felix and Mr. Willy Scott. On Saturday afternoon next a vocal recital will be given by Mr. John Coates, who will be assisted by Miss May Mukle ('cellist) and Mr. Haddon Squire.

THE Committee of the London County Council, sitting on the 16th inst., having considered drawings submitted by Mr. A. B. Jackson, showing certain alterations which it is desired to make at the Savoy Theatre, Strand, with a view to obtaining an entrance from Savoy-court, recommended that Mr. Jackson be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawing submitted provided the undermentioned conditions be complied with—that the gangway on the prompt side be continued, 3ft. wide, through the front row of seats; and that a 2½in. outlet fire hydrant connected to the Metropolitan Water Board's high pressure service by a 3in. rising main be provided in an approved position in the gallery and upper circle tiers.

ARBITRATION was resorted to in a dispute which took place at Birmingham last week. Walter Robbins and Frederick Robbins (better known as Melville) claimed from Clarence James Sounes, formerly the lessee of the Queen's Theatre in that town, £1,500 for dilapidation of the premises and £3,000 for the loss of the drink licence attached to the theatre. Evidence as to the value of a drink licence was given, and in the end the arbitrators awarded £350, the sum offered by the defendant, for dilapidations, but declined to grant any compensation for the loss of the licence.

THE Waldorf, about which so many conflicting statements have appeared, is to reopen in about a month's time, with *The Social Whirl*, a musical comedy, written by Mr. Charles Doty, and composed by Mr. Gustave Kerker, which has attained a sensational success in New York, where it was produced in April last. The piece will be given its proper significance by a company composed exclusively of American artists.

AT the Elephant and Castle, Mr. J. M. East is extending his stock season, which was originally only intended to last five or six weeks. The present company includes Messrs. Albert Ward, Horace Hunter, and Teddy Coleman, and Misses Kathleen Russell, Daisy Murch, and Agnes Paulton.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Saturday, Oct. 13, Puccini's *La Tosca* was performed for the first time this season. The indulgence of the audience was requested on behalf of Mme. Giachetti, but beyond her voice showing some effects of a cold this fine artist gave an intensely dramatic embodiment of the ill-fated heroine. Her efforts were most ably seconded by Signor Sammarco, who undertook the character of the villain Scapia in his forcible and incisive style. Cavaradossi was played by that excellent tenor, Signor Zenatello, with fine results; and the remainder of the cast was filled by skilful exponents. There was a large audience present, and Signor Mugnone ably performed his duties as conductor.

Gounod's popular masterpiece, *Faust*, was given on the following Monday, and a fine performance of this evergreen opera was witnessed by a large audience. Mme. Melba, in excellent voice, sang superbly, giving an especially brilliant rendering of the "Jewel Song," and acting with more than usual power in the Church scene. Signor Zenatello also deepened the good impression he has already made this season by his really fine impersonation of Faust, and his fervent and passionate singing of the lovely "Salve dimora" received most enthusiastic applause. The Mephistopheles of Signor Walter had many good points. He avoided conventionality in his acting, and sang the music with marked ability. Signor Scandiani's fine voice was heard to great advantage in the character of Valentine; and Signora Giaconia as Siebel and Signora Liviabella's Marta deserve much praise. Mr. Percy Pitt was the conductor, and acquitted himself admirably. It will be remembered that this clever English conductor appeared with success in this capacity during the last season, when the short opera *Der Vagabund und die Prinzessin* was given at Covent Garden. *Madama Butterfly* was announced for Tuesday, but owing to the indisposition of Mme. Giachetti *Carmen* was given, with Mme. Kirkby Lunn, Mme. Suzanne Adams, and Signor Zenatello in the cast.

Verdi's fine spectacular opera *Aïda* was performed on Wednesday night at Covent Garden in a manner that reflected credit on all concerned. Two newcomers—Signora Scalar and Signor Franceschini—appeared with complete success. Signora Scalar not only has great personal attraction, but her voice is of great beauty and power, while her ability as an actress was shown in every scene. Signor Franceschini, the new tenor, also created the most favourable impression by his fine stage presence and the really beautiful quality of his voice. Seldom has the famous air "Celeste Aïda" been better sung, a fact which the large audience speedily recognised. The success of Wednesday night's performance of *Aïda* was indeed chiefly due to these two talented artists, although the rest of the cast deserve great praise. Signora de Cisneros in particular gave a striking picture of Amneris, and seldom has the fine duet between Aïda and Amneris been better sung; while Signor Sammarco made a superb Amonasro. The dignified Ramfis was also admirably impersonated by Signor Walter, and Signor Thos made an effective Il Rè. The opera was handsomely mounted, and both chorus and orchestra shared in the applause, while Signor Mugnone conducted with great spirit.

"JOHN HUDSON'S WIFE."

(FROM OUR AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT.)

A substantial success was scored by the above-named play, recently produced in four acts, by Miss Alicia Ramsey and Mr. Rudolph De Cordova, at Weber's Theatre, New York. It is announced as a story of modern English life, its main theme, the old one of love, being "treated in a new and unconventional fashion." Honor Beauchamp marries a wealthy man, John Hudson, for whom she has no affection, her motive being to pay the debts of her undeserving father and brother and lighten her mother's lot. She enters into the marriage as a business contract, defining its conditions and limitations clearly to Hudson. In course of time she grows to love him, but does not admit it until certain dramatic but rather improbable complications have been unravelled. Honor Beauchamp's family is aristocratic but beggarly, and they bleed Hudson through his wife until their over-reaching avarice brings about their downfall. The elder Beauchamp is all selfishness, his one thought being to fill his pockets, and his son is cut after the same pattern. They steal some important documents belonging to Earl Seaton, Prime Minister of England, and sell them to the editor of the *Forerunner*, which, as subsequently develops, is owned by John Hudson. The latter falls under suspicion, but the wife clears her husband's name. He has been gradually freezing up in the cold shadow of his wife's neglect, but he is at length rewarded for his unfailing thoughtfulness and generosity by his wife's love, which is now manifested openly and unreservedly. The play is admirably acted. Miss Spong wins emphatic approval in the rôle of Honor Beauchamp, and Mr. Herbert Percy's John Hudson is a convincing portrayal. The character of the unprincipled father, Colonel Beauchamp, is ably represented by Mr. William F. Hawtrey, who has been specially engaged for this part, his engagement in *The Two Mr. Weatherbys* having terminated. Other members of the company deserving favourable mention are Miss Leila Repton, Mr. John Westley, Mr. Lionel Walsh, and Mr. Charles Rowan.

"THE MAN FROM NOW."

(FROM OUR AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT.)

A musical "fantasy" is the description given to the new play, in a prologue and two acts, by John Kendrick Bangs, Vincent Bryan, and Manuel Klein, which was recently produced by Mr. Henry W. Savage at the New Amsterdam Theatre, New York, where it had a short but very successful run. The time of the prologue is 1906, in which year Professor Forecasta, of Usona College, discovers a liquid compound, a drink of which will project one into 2906. Some idea of what the world will look like at the latter period of time is obtained by peeping through a wonderful telescope which the Professor has invented. Jack Raleigh, a student, looks through it and sees a vision of feminine loveliness. John Pennypacker, a billionaire, takes a peep, and discovers extraordinary opportunities for adding to his pile; and Steve Waffles, a tramp, fleeing from a rural constable, sees the possibility of escape into the future. These three, and the Professor, drink the potent compound, and are immediately whisked into 2906. The rural "sleuth," Eli Beasley, also takes a drink, and follows them. They arrive during an athletic festival at Gassar College, where Jack meets the feminine "vision" in the person of Samsonia, the lady captain of the tug-of-war team, while Waffles is appropriated by Matricula, the president of the College. The possession of money is unlawful, and because they offend in this regard the Professor and his companions are frozen by liquid air and taken to "Screamland," where they are put on exhibition as curious relics of a bygone age. The scene of the second act, the "National Amusement Park of 2906," is a sort of burlesque of Coney Island. Gasolina, an automobile maid, thaws out the prisoners, and in the finale all of the characters are brought back to the present.

Mr. Harry Bulger was very funny as the tramp Waffles, his quick repartee and effective way of singing comic songs making him one of the most popular of entertainers. Miss Helen Hale was a captivating Samsonia; and Miss Sallie Fisher won approval in a prominent rôle. Miss Hattie Arnold, as Matricula, did a roller-skating bit with Mr. Bulger that sent the audience into convulsions of laughter.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on the Saturday night of June 30. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left the same night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared the following week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital. She was found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body.

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

Miss Stephens was a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of

Photo by Sydney Wood.

MISS DOT STEPHENS.

Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

Amount already acknowledged ..	£815	19	0
J. Bannister Howard's N. *Silver King* Company :—			
S. D. O.	0	5	6
Horace E. Herbert	0	5	0
Percy Foster	0	2	6
B. Doyle	0	2	6
A. H.	0	2	6
Doreathea Black	0	2	0
Dorothy Laine	0	2	0
Sybil Coventry	0	2	0
Violet Bazargette, 1s.; W. Dempsey, 1s.; Oswald Cray, 1s.; Seton Bernard, 1s.; Raoul Gilbert, 1s.; Alex. Begbie, 1s.; J. Harris, 1s.; J. Olivert, 1s.; R. Leo, 1s.; Laurie Hunter, 1s.; W. M. I., 1s.	0	11	0
The Orchid Company, W., per Charles Seymour :—			
Charles Seymour	0	2	6
Stanley Hope	0	2	6
E. Wolfe	0	2	0
Harry Walsh	0	2	0
L. Neville	0	1	6
Doris Vaile, 1s.; Clifford Bing, 1s.; Jackson Collis, 1s.; Aubrey C. Cheshire, 1s.; Harry Malthouse, 1s.; Ernest Pierce, 1s.; Rita Prescott, 1s.; Louie Smythe, 1s.; Eva Hamilton, 1s.; Elsie Allen, 1s.; Beatrice Manners, 1s.; Dora Gray, 1s.; Poppy Wilkinson, 1s.; Sissie Brand, 1s.; T. Collier, 1s.; Mrs. Blake, 1s.; Clara Beck, 1s.; Hilda Vining, 1s.; H. J. Honiter, 1s.; C. F. Barham, 1s.; Geoffrey Berwich, 1s.; B. S. Hardley, 1s.	1	2	0
Further amounts collected by C. Musset :—			
S. Allsopp and Sons, Ltd.	0	5	0
Four Empire Sympathisers	0	4	0
Canned Friends	0	3	6
J. G. Laing	0	3	0
J. R.	0	2	6
Tom Maxwell	0	2	6
J. Mitchell Langle	0	2	6
Jas. B. Neville	0	2	6
Season Ticket	0	2	6
Jas. J. Marr	0	2	6
J. F. Scott	0	2	6
Big Bob	0	2	6
His Pal	0	2	6
John Henderson	0	2	6
Sympathisers	0	2	6
Wee Jimie	0	2	6
A. Friend, St. Rollox	0	2	6
T. C.	0	2	6
J. T. H. L.	0	2	6
Y. K. E.	0	2	6
A. D.	0	2	0
J. MacWilliams	0	2	0
Frank J. Cohen	0	2	0
J. Macdonald	0	2	0
W. B. McNunn	0	2	0
Sympathiser, 1s.; G. N., 1s.; G. A. B., 1s.; Ayr Racus, 1s.; W. Sly, 1s.; W. M. and W. G., 1s.; W. Stack, 1s.; Donald Ross, 1s.; Wm. D. Hetchin, 1s.; F. N., 1s.; John M. Rachlan, Glasgow, 1s.; Robert Scott, 1s.; F. E. Beatty, 1s.; Geo. Croll, 1s.; J. McIntyre, 1s.; Friend, 6d.; Friend, 6d. ..	0	16	0

It is intended to purchase an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock street, W.C.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Oct. 10.—*The Prince of India*, a dramatisation of General Lew Wallace's novel of the same title, is playing to crowded houses at the Broadway Theatre. The drama was fully described when it was first produced in Chicago last March. Messrs. Klaw and Erlanger have spared no expense in making this one of the most complete and truthful representations in the history of the American stage; and as a spectacle it has seldom been excelled in magnitude and splendour. The scene showing the Moslem hordes hammering at the gates of Constantinople, the fall of the massive walls, and the hand-to-hand conflict between the soldiers of Prince Mahommed and the Emperor Constantine is a masterpiece of stage realism. The play has five acts and eleven scenes, the latter comprising a superb view of Constantinople, and the Golden Horn from Galata; a wonderfully effective panoramic picture of the Bosphorus, with a terrible storm in progress; the White Castle of the Turks, "on the sweet waters of Asia"; the palace of the Princess Irene at Therapia; the audience-hall in the palace of the Emperor Constantine at Blacherne; the tent of Mahommed before Constantinople; the Princess Irene's palace in Constantinople; and four remarkably vivid pictures of Mahommed's successful siege of the city, ending with an impressive scene in the interior of the Church of Sancta Sophia. The scenery was painted by Messrs. T. E. Ryan and Richard Marston, several of the larger sets being designed by Mr. Henry Emden, of London.

MR. GEORGE CLARKE, who, in his day, was one of the best-known actors in New York, and was for many years asociated with the late Augustin Daly both as stage-manager and as a leading member of his company, died on the 3rd inst., at Norwich, Conn., after a short illness. Mr. Clarke, whose real name was O'Neill, was born in 1840. Owing to the fact that they appeared together in numerous productions at Daly's, the names of George Clarke and Ada Rehan are almost inseparable.

NEW YORK, OCT. 17.—Mr. H. B. Irving and Miss Dorothea Baird have changed their bill at the New Amsterdam Theatre, and are appearing during this, the third week of their engagement, in *Charles I.*, *King René's Daughter*, and *The Lyons Mail*. The performances of *Paolo and Francesca* were attended by large and appreciative audiences. Mr. Irving's Malatesta was a masterly portrayal, and in the character of Francesca Miss Baird's intelligent and sympathetic depiction of girlish innocence was most appealing.

MR. NAT. C. GOODWIN, after a series of "misfits," has at last found a play that suits him. It is called *The Genius*, and is now running at the Bijou Theatre. It is classed as a farce comedy, and was written by Messrs. William C. and Cecil de Mille. Jack Spencer, a wealthy young American, is in love with Josephine Van Dusen, who worships art and artists. In order to win her, Jack takes lessons at a studio occupied by an Irish sculptor, a German musician, and a French painter, but makes very little progress until Nell Graham, an artist's model, suggests that he can win fame by passing off the pictures, musical compositions and sculptures as his own, the three students being quite agreeable so long as they are allowed to pocket the proceeds. The plan is carried out, and the new "genius" is discovered by Percival Clutterbuck, a connoisseur, who gives Spencer some valuable advertising in the art journals as "the new impressionist." When he visits the studio Clutterbuck finds that his new discovery is none other than his old friend Jack Spencer; and Josephine, who also drops in, is overjoyed at the sudden rise of her old lover Jack, who never showed any symptoms of an artistic temperament. They become engaged on the spot, and the demand for Spencer's work grows steadily. But Jack has fallen a victim to the charms of the beautiful model, Nell Graham, and no longer cares for Josephine. He tries to break the engagement by declaring that he is an impostor, but fails to convince the young lady, because Clutterbuck, to save his own reputation, insists that Spencer is simply a great genius gone mad. Josephine is finally persuaded to release him when he tells her that she was his inspiration, and when an artist marries his inspiration he ceases to do good work. Then Clutterbuck tells Josephine that he has always loved her, and she accepts him, while the "genius" and the model fall into each other's arms.

THE play provides Mr. Goodwin with a number of opportunities for being amusing in the way that is all his own, and keeps the audience in a good humour from beginning to end. In his speech on the opening night Mr. Goodwin said: "I am now presented by myself. When presented by other managers during te last few years I have left a trail of tombstones across the country. I now hope to go over my trail and wipe out the epitaphs."

MRS. FISKE has produced a new comedy, by Langdon Mitchell, entitled *The New York Idea*. The play deals with the divorce problem, and Mrs. Fiske appears as Cynthia Karslake, a vivacious young society woman who has but slight regard for the permanency of marriage. She divorces her husband for a trivial cause, and plans a second match for reasons of policy only. The genuineness of her nature rises uppermost through various complications, and in the end the real love she has for her husband asserts itself, and they are reunited. Prominent members of Mrs. Fiske's company are Miss Dorothy Dorr and Messrs. George Arliss, John Mason, Charles Harbury, and Dudley Clinton.

"THE ERA"

EARLY DELIVERY.

SPECIAL NEWSPAPER EXPRESS SERVICES now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible.

	a.m.
RUGBY	4.30
COVENTRY	4.54
BIRMINGHAM	5.20
CREWE	6. 5
MANCHESTER	6.50
LIVERPOOL	7. 0
CHESTER	9. 3
DONCASTER	6.10
YORK	7. 0
HULL	8.20
DARLINGTON	8.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 5
NEWCASTLE	10.10
LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4 36
NOTTINGHAM	5.16
DERBY	5.35
SHEFFIELD	6. 6

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, SEPT. 11.—Mr. Bland Holt changed the name of *A Woman's Revenge* to *A Woman's Hate*, and revived it with astounding success at the Royal on the 8th. The production ranks next to *A Prodigal Son* in Mr. Holt's répertoire. Misses Frances Ross, Harrie Ireland, Jennie Pollock, and Florrie Kelly, Mrs. Bland Holt, and Messrs. Walter Baker, Albert Norman, Arthur Styan, Charles Brown, Max Maxwell, and Bland Holt artistically and satisfactorily realise all that the author intended.

MR. CHARLES HOLLOWAY provides his Criterionites a weekly change of bill. The latest is the ever-welcome *Shaughraun*. This time the light-hearted ne'er-do-weel is undertaken by Mr. J. P. O'Neill, who represents a typical Irishman. Miss Beatrice Holloway is a good Clare Ffolliott; Miss Alice Deondyn is a capital Mrs. Kelly; and Miss Mabel Russell is a pleasing Mona. Mr. Robert Inman appears as Captain Molyneux, a fine, manly representation; and Mr. W. Jeffreson Taite scores as Corry Kinchela. Mr. Godfrey Cass (Robert Ffolliott), Mr. John Hesford (Father Dolan), and Mr. J. P. West (a very fine Harvey Duff), with Miss Ethel Appleton (Arte O'Neill), and Misses Hilda Fraser and Pattie Gourlay as the Keeners, complete a good cast.

MISS ANNIE MAYOR, after over 20 years' absence, has returned to Sydney, to give her entertainment, called *Drama in Camera*, on a well-appointed stage and in most appropriate costumes.

A BIG house at the Tivoli is the rule, and on the 8th Mr. Harry Bedford had an enthusiastic welcome. Miss Nellie Kilburn returned, and was received with demonstrations of pleasure.

MELBOURNE, SEPT. 11.—PRINCESS THEATRE (Lessees, Messrs. Meynell and Gunn; Representative, Mr. Allan Hamilton).—*The Fatal Wedding* continues to attract large houses, and on Saturday evening there was not a vacant seat in the theatre. A feature of the performance is the children's scene, and the clever little ones are nightly recalled. Miss Maggie Dickenson scores a success with her song, "Kids from the alley." The stirring incidents of the play and the acting of the principals play an important part in the success of the performance. *The Fatal Wedding* will run till the end of the current week.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis).—The popularity of *The Little Michus* remains unabated. The theatre was again crowded on Saturday evening by an appreciative audience, which responded heartily to the entertaining efforts of the comedians.

THEATRE ROYAL (Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant). — The stirring melodrama of Australian bush life, *Thunderbolt*, has evidently hit the public taste, the theatre being thronged nightly. Mr. George Cross in the name-part displays remarkable talent; while Miss Eugenie Duggan is graceful as the heroine. The rest of Mr. Anderson's company appear to advantage in their various rôles. Mr. Reg. Robins has painted some excellent scenes for the production, and, taken on the whole, *Thunderbolt* is one of the best things Mr. Anderson has produced during his present Melbourne season.

OPERA HOUSE (Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon).—Mr. Harry Tate's company made its first appearance on Saturday evening in a laughable sketch, entitled *Motoring*, and scored an instantaneous success, the house being in roars of laughter the whole time they were on the stage. Little Cliff appeared in a number of new songs and dances; Miss Cassie Walmer has established herself a genuine favourite; Augustin and Hartley astonish all with their clever barrel act; Brinn still presents his wonderful cannon act; while Fred Bluett, Elsie Brown, Tim Howard, the Phillips Bros., Collier Sisters, Irving Sayles, and a host of others give satisfactory turns.

GAIETY THEATRE (Manager, Mr. Joe Solomons).—A complete change of programme drew a crowded house on Saturday evening. Among new arrivals may be mentioned the Norman Sisters, dancers and vocalists, and Miss May Dagmar, contortionist. Interesting turns were given by Harry Leggetts, Rexo, Ruby Crawford, Ern Delavale, Joe Morris, and Alf Wilson.

AT the Athenæum Hall Best and Baker's moving pictures are drawing large houses, the business during show week being exceptionally good.

"MIZPAH."

(FROM OUR AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT.)

A sensational success has been made by the drama in four acts and ten scenes, by Ella Wheeler Wilcox and Luscombe Searelle, at the Academy of Music, New York. The play is written mostly in blank verse, and is founded on the Bible story of Esther. The action begins in the boudoir of Queen Vashti, who tells of her dissatisfaction with her lot as the unloved consort of King Ahasuerus. The ambitious Haman sees in her a tool for his schemes to secure the throne, and determines to take advantage of her weakness. Upon the King's return from a victorious war she gives vent to her vixenish temper and is divorced, and cast out of the city. Ahasuerus seeks another Queen, and when Esther appears she immediately finds favour in his eyes. She, of all other maidens, gives the most satisfactory answer to the King's demand for a definition of love. Esther is installed in the palace, and when it seems that she has reached the zenith of her happiness and stands highest in Ahasuerus's regard, she falls through a plot of the villain Haman and the former Queen Vashti. With a stolen key Vashti plans to introduce assassins into the bridal chamber of Esther, slay the King, and throw the blame on her rival. Her tiring woman, Maashla, finding the key as Vashti drops it, betrays the plot to Mordecai, who, despite his advanced age, rushes to the palace and kills the two would-be assassins posted in the ante-chamber. Haman's theft of Esther's key as she swoons at the bloody sight, attaches guilt to the innocent, and it is only when the same little key—mischievous cause of everyone's undoing—subsequently drops from Haman's bosom that Esther is vindicated and restored to favour. The final downfall of the two conspirators is depicted in a realistic manner, the pair being pilloried until King Ahasuerus and his court have, with much deliberation, hit upon a punishment to fit the crime. Then Haman is dragged, screaming for mercy, from the throne-room to hang on the scaffold prepared for Mordecai and Vashti, her proud spirit crushed, slinks away to spend the rest of her days in a desert forest where she is bitten by a poisonous serpent so that she dies.

Mr. Charles Dalton's King Ahasuerus is a powerful and convincing portrayal. Miss Elizabeth Kennedy is an excellent Esther, and the two conspirators, Haman and Vashti, are effectively represented by Mr. Frank Losee and Miss Lillian Lamson. The piece is mounted with care, several of the scenes being very beautiful, while the music, which is Mr. Searelle's exclusive contribution, is appropriate. Mrs. Wilcox is at her best in a rhyming ode to love murmured by Esther into the King's ears to an accompaniment of soft music. Enthusiastic approval was manifested at frequent intervals by a large audience.

MISS EDITH GIBBS, the well-known instructress in tone production and singing, has commenced her classes for the season at Bechstein Hall. Appointments can be made by letter only.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

MR. AND MRS. F. R. BENSON AND COMPANY.

A new era of prosperity seems assured at this fine suburban playhouse. People are flocking to its doors, and a big clientèle has continued to patronise it since its re-opening, under the managing-directorship of Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan. In Mr. J. Murray Herriot the proprietors have a popular and energetic acting-manager, always at his post, and business is conducted in a smooth, even, and proper fashion. This week Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and his Shakespearean company are proving a great draw, and an excellent selection of plays has been presented throughout the week, the characters in each work being represented by thoroughly capable artists. On Tuesday, the night of our visit, *The School for Scandal* was presented, and no trouble or expense had apparently been spared in the mounting and dressing of the piece. That the play is still a favourite was evidenced by a full house. Nothing could have been better than Mr. H. O. Nicholson's portrayal of Sir Peter Teazle. His acting throughout the piece stamped him as an artist of exceptional merit. As Sir Oliver Surface, Mr. E. A. Warburton did convincing work; and Joseph Surface found in Mr. Clarence Derwent an actor who, while realising the cunning and hypocrisy of the character, glazed them over with courtliness of demeanour. The audience was especially pleased with Mr. F. R. Benson in the part of Charles Surface—a clever impersonation indeed, the actor infusing plenty of humour and life into the part. As Careless, Mr. George Buchanan was a distinct success, an encore being demanded for his rendering of the song in Scene 3 of Act 2. Old Rowley and Trip were cleverly represented by Messrs. G. F. Hannam Clark and Stanley Howett. Mr. George R. Weir capably depicted the rôle of Moses; and Mr. J. P. Wilson was sufficiently cynical in his performance of Snake. Mr. Murray Carrington's interpretation of Sir Benjamin Backbite; and Mr. Percy D. Owen's interesting study of Crabtree were appreciated highly. As Lady Teazle, Mrs. F. R. Benson was seen to great advantage, her reading of the part drawing forth merited applause. Especially good was she in the famous screen scene. Praise should also be given to Miss Helen Haye for her portrayal of Lady Sneerwell; and as Mrs. Candour Miss Elinor Aickin had a part which suited her well. Miss Gwladys Wynne made a sweet Maria; and Miss A. P. Nicholson, Messrs. McLeod and Johnston, well sustained minor parts.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Play, by E. W. Peple, entitled
"THE PRINCE CHAP."

If all plays imported into this country by our friends across the "pond" were as agreeable to witness as *The Prince Chap* there would be no cause for the bitter remarks so often made when a transplanted American play has failed to attract. *The Prince Chap* need fear nothing of that kind occurring. It is a delightful and cheery story clearly told, and the audience at the King's Theatre on Monday night clearly recognised its merits, being charmed by the simple and unaffected writing of Mr. Peple, so that curtain-calls were numerous. The part of William Peyton, the young sculptor with a heart, is perfectly played by Mr. H. R. Roberts, his natural and easy manner creating a most favourable impression. As at the Criterion, Marcus Runion is in the hands of that prime actor Mr. George Shelton, who exhibits much characteristic humour as the old servant. Mr. Wilfred Draycott makes the most of his opportunities as the Earl of Henningford; and the three artist friends, Ballington, Jadder, and Fritz, are excellently impersonated by Messrs. A. E. Greenaway, Arthur Eldred, and Ivan Berlyn. Miss Ethel Hollingshead, a very graceful actress, deserves high praise for her clever handling of the unsympathetic part of Alice Travers. Mrs. Harrington is well realised by Miss Kathleen Kellie; Miss Adie Boyne's representation of Phœbe Puckers is deliciously humorous, and her quaint methods induce genuine laughter. The three Claudias of little Betty Green, little Geraldine Wilson, and Miss Lorna Laurence are each most successful. The Criterion scenery is utilised with excellent effect. Messrs. F. C. Phillips and C. Brookfield's comedy, entitled *Burglar and Judge*, is also played, in which Messrs. Ivan Berlyn, Greenaway, and Eldred create a deal of merriment.

THE GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Farce, by R. C. Carton, entitled
"MR. HOPKINSON."

Mr. Clarence Sounes is to be congratulated on his enterprise in booking Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company in the above-named play, and the enthusiastic reception accorded to *Mr. Hopkinson* and his confrères on Monday night proved that the taste of, at any rate, a good number of Woolwich playgoers had been correctly gauged. Mr. Frank Stanmore is well suited in the title-rôle, his acting showing that careful study has given him a thorough grip of the character. He is particularly well advised in sufficiently exaggerating Hopkinson's "bounderism" in the first act to leave room for a perceptible improvement in the subsequent acts, without destroying the impression that the little counter-jumper will remain a howling outsider to the end of his days. Mr. Shirley Lea gives a richly humorous representation of the Earl of Addleton, playing this choleric nobleman in true light-comedy vein, and getting his laughs with that absence of effort which marks the work of the genuine artist. As the Duchess of Braceborough, Miss Marie Hassell is amusingly impassive and placid amid somewhat trying circumstances, the Duchess's good-natured attempts to do Hopkinson, and at the same time her own family a good turn, being skilfully portrayed. Miss Gladys Jesson plays Lady Tyra with all the *aplomb* and *savoir faire* of the ultra-modern girl, and if the part is not notably sympathetic she at least makes it far from heartless. As Eliza Dibbs, Miss Katherine Romsey has the chance of making a considerable impression with a very few lines, and comes successfully through the ordeal. Mr. Arnold Lucy gives a careful, clever representation of the Duke of Braceborough; Mr. C. M. Heslop does well in the somewhat thankless part of Otho Dursingham; Mr. Reginald Dane imparts a touch of character to the aristocratic *roué*, Lord Cawthorpe; and Mr. George McCloskie is effective as Mr. Smethurst. The farce is well mounted, and a special word of praise must be given to the excellent stage-management. The main play is preceded by a comedietta, entitled *A Love Game*, in which the mock heroics of Mr. C. M. Heslop and the pretty acting of Miss Marjorie Chard give general satisfaction.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
The Drama, in Five Acts, by Geo. R. Sims,
entitled
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

Melodrama still continues to win immense favour with Shakespeare audiences, and the management is to be congratulated upon the engagement of Mr. Herbert Hollister's company in Mr. Geo. R. Sims's world-famed drama, *The Lights o' London*. Well staged and performed by a really strong company, the piece on Monday night went with a swing from start to finish, and at the final fall of the curtain the applause was very pronounced. A sound and convincing impersonation of Seth Preene is given by Mr. Herbert Hollister, who throughout acts with dramatic force, and quite impressed the audience. Mr. C. F. Collings quickly wins the favour of the house by a manly and vigorous portrayal of Harold Armitage; and Miss Jennie Burgoyne gives a very natural representation of the sorely-tried Bess, winning sympathetic applause. Mr. Herbert Lewis does all that is possible with the part of Jarvis, and keeps the audience well amused. He is well supported by Miss Violet Temple as Mrs. Jarvis and Miss Renée Douglas as Shakespeare Jarvis, both contributing excellent performances. Mr Sidney N. Hallows is a dignified Squire Armytage; and Mr. F. V. Lloyd gives a very satisfactory delineation of the old lodge-keeper Marks. The talents of Mr. Raymond Thomas are well employed in the rôle of the scheming Clifford Armytage; and commendation is due to Mr. George Wallace for a capital character-sketch of Philosopher Jack. The gay and selfish Hetty Preene is effectively played by Miss Constance Davey, who cleverly depicts the varying moods of the part.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE GIRL BEHIND THE COUNTER."

Mr. Hayden Coffin and Miss Isabel Jay are a stupendous attraction in themselves, but when they apear in a bright musical play with an excellent company it is no wonder that overflowing audiences—such as are to be found at the Camden this week—are the rule. *The Girl Behind the Counter*, which is being played by Mr. Frank Curzon's company, forms quite a delightful evening's entertainment. Mr. Hayden Coffin appears as Charles Chetwynd, and acts and sings in his best and most finished manner. As Winnie Willoughby, Miss Isabel Jay is truly charming. She is in capital voice, and has some pretty songs, which she sings in artistic fashion, and the applause which greets her is tremendous. The comic element is supplied by several actors, headed by Mr. J. F. McArdle, who as General Sir Wilkie Willoughby is absolutely irresistible. His song on Sir Walter Raleigh is a very original number, and was thrice encored. Another comedian—Mr. Lionel Victor, who is well known here—makes a most amusing Adolphus Dudd, and scores with his song "If there hadn't been an Apple on the Tree." Mr. George Barrett finds ample scope for his talent in the character of the waiter, which is laughable in the extreme; while Mr. A. E. Edwardes is also very comic as another waiter. As the dude, Viscount Gushington, Mr. G. Davy Burnaby is particularly good; and Mr. Fred Allandale is excellent as Monsieur Duval. Miss Violet Englefield is a very fascinating Millie Mostyn; and Miss Helene Rose is a vivacious and captivating Susie, her "Kate Greenaway" duet with Mr. Lionel Victor being a delightful number. Mr. E. W. Laceby makes a first-class Rudolf. There is an excellent chorus, and the composer, Mr. Howard Talbot, conducts with his usual ability. The play is mounted exactly as at Wyndham's Theatre, in the most lavish style, and the whole performance is of the best description.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Comedy, in Three Acts, by Brandon Thomas,
entitled
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

Peals of laughter have this week echoed through the Palace, where Mr. Bannister Howard has put forward a company directed by the author in the indefatigable *Charley's Aunt*. By the size of the audience it is evident that Mr. Howard has brought home to the residents of Sydenham and neighbourhood the claims of the theatre, and patrons, who come by train, carriage, and omnibus, as well as on foot, have been glad to avail themselves of standing-room in the popular parts of the house. The company, most of whom have for a considerable time been associated with their parts, combine in an admirable all-round representation. Mr. Stanley Cooke remains in possession of the title-rôle, and his whimsical portrayal is as fresh and diverting as ever. The airs and graces of the little old woman are presented without exaggeration, but so quaintly as to keep the house constantly in laughter. Mr. C. B. Keston has taken up the part of Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, Bart., recently impersonated by the author, and puts forward a true type of the military martinet, brusque and abrupt, yet kind-hearted and sympathetic. Mr. Walter Beaumont gives a truly comic conception of the oleaginous Stephen Spettigue, and the spectacle of the portly old solicitor prancing round the house in pursuit of his wooing is one that puts the audience in the heartiest merriment. Mr. Beaumont's utterance, too, is capable of many inflections, which are all skilfully adapted to the droll requirements of the part. A handsome and stately Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez is presented in the person of Miss Lena MacNaughton, who employs a melodious voice agreeably; and a pleasing and dainty representative of Ela Delahay is found in Miss Gladys Storey, whose refinement of manner is greatly admired. Miss Lilyan Lait and Miss Kitty Carew both act gracefully in the parts of Kitty Verdun and Amy Spettigue respectively; and their conspiring lovers, Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham have bright and buoyant exponents in Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. Richard B. Mason. Mr. Sydney Compton submits a performance of the college scout Brassett, in which the essence of drollery is apparent. The scenery is on a complete scale, the college garden being quite an elaborate specimen of pictorial art.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

The Belle of New York has now been a long time on the road, but age does not diminish her charms, and the simple Salvation lass was as winsome and captivating as ever when she made her curtsey to a full house at Kennington on Monday. The play was produced by Mr. George Musgrove's principal company, a combination as rich in talent as it is strong in numbers, and the performance was thoroughly enjoyable. The familiar music was excellently rendered, the fun was both fast and furious, and the dancing was full of vim. The dressing and mounting left nothing to be desired, the scenic effects of Chinese New Year's Day in Bowery and the Lawn at Narragansett Pier being admirably managed, and furnishing two effective stage pictures. In the title-rôle, Miss Empsie Bowman was eminently successful, singing the favourite air, "Follow on, follow on," in bewitching fashion. As Cora Angelique, Miss Winnie Brown acquitted herself well; while Mr. John Doran made a manly and amusing Harry Bronson, son of the eccentric millionaire, Ichabod Bronson, whose eccentricities were piquantly exaggerated by Mr. Paddy Duprès, an undoubtedly clever comedian. For it was on the comedy side that the company was especially strong. Mr. Frank Lawson, in his original part of Blinky Bill, was a host in himself, and a perfect embodiment of the corner-boy type of humanity. His whistling solo in the shop scene won a triple encore, and he also brought down the house with his expert manipulation of the bones. Mr. Lawson had a wonderfully smart partner in the person of Miss Florence Hersee, who impersonated his sweetheart. She is a vivacious dancer and a brilliant actress, her gaiety proving quite infectious, and supplying a good deal of the life of the performance. Mr. Max Copeland made an inimitable polite lunatic; and as Kenneth Mugg, Mr. Walter Uridge was a complete parody of the operatic comedian. Mr. L. Yeoman and Mr. R. L. Cody were creditable as the twin Portuguese Counts; whilst Mr. Alfred Sandoe's operatic manager deserves mention. Miss Lily Maxwell as the French girl sang and danced in fascinating style, her song, "The Gay Parisienne," proving as popular as ever. Mr. Owen O'Brien made a lot of fun as the interviewer.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"SERGEANT BRUE."

The musical comedy, *Sergeant Brue*, written by Owen Hall, with music by Mme. Liza Lehmann, and lyrics by J. Hickory Wood, is in full swing at the Dalston Theatre this week, and is "drawing" well. Sergeant Brue, of the C Division, is played with admirable effect by Mr. Arthur Reynolds, who is really a brilliant representative of "the force" in more senses of the word than one. Another admirable representation is that by Mr. Charles McLagan as Crookie Scrubbs, an amusing criminal, who, while he is made use of by the sergeant with a view to secure the promotion of that officer, really only adds to his discomfort and chagrin. Lady Bickenhall, for whom the amorous sergeant entertains a strong affection, is charmingly played by Miss Hebe Bliss, whose singing, as well as her histrionic powers, secure for her universal admiration. Mr. E. Percy Rogers and Miss Mary Hay, as the son and daughter of the sergeant, are amusing personages; and Mr. Charles Sims adds to the comedy element as Mr. Crank, a magistrate. Miss Marion Hargraves's impersonation of a typical general servant is also a good specimen of character-acting. All the members of Mr. E. Lockwood's company, who assist in the representation, are worthy of much praise, and the musical director is Mr. Norman Latham.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Farce, in Three Acts, by W. W. Jacobs and
Louis N. Parker, entitled
"BEAUTY AND THE BARGE."

Messrs. W. W. Jacobs and Louis N. Parker's *Beauty and the Barge* is being presented this week by Mr. Arthur Hardy's company, with Mr. Blake Adams in the rôle of Captain James Barley The piece was keenly appreciated by the large audience which assembled on Monday last, the many clever and witty lines and farcical situations keeping the house in a constant state of laughter from the rise to the fall of the curtain. Much of the success achieved is due to Mr. Blake Adams, whose admirable performance of Captain James Barley is of immense value to the production. It is on Mr. Adams that the burden of the work falls, and it would be difficult to find anyone more worthy to bear it, and needless to say the audience are not slow to recognise the many excellent points and subtle touches he imparts to his impersonation of the too affable bargee. The choleric and irascible Major Smedley of Mr. Walter Pemberton is another clever character-study, which is in no way exaggerated and thoroughly effective. Lieut. Seton Boyne and Herbert Manners are pleasantly and naturally played by Messrs. Edward Coventry and Pennington Gush respectively. Tom Cod and John Dibbs, as played by Messrs. Fred Knight and Charles A. White, add materially to the general success; and good work is also done by Mr. Thomas Pauncefort as the sentimental Augustus and Mr. Ewart Drake as the diminutive landlord of the "Old Ship." Miss Ruby Wyndham is a quaint and droll Mrs. Baldwin; and a typical landlady is found in Mr. J. W. Braithwaite, who appears as Mrs. Porter. Miss Mary Pemberton is a bright and vivacious Lucy Dallas; and Mrs. Smedley and Ethel Smedley are played with success by Miss Mona Robin and Miss May Fairclough.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Tuesday, Oct. 23,
the Comic Opera, entitled
"PATIENCE."

It is quite pleasing to record that Gilbert and Sullivan are all the rage and quite the fashion in Kensington, and there is no sign of abatement in the violent siege which is laid to the Nottinghill Gate playhouse during this the second week of the three weeks' season of D'Oyly Carte's répertoire performances, with the result that the auditorium is uncomfortably crowded nightly with the disciples of the old Savoy operas. Next week is the last week of this short season of revivals, so walk up all ye lovers of pure and laughter-laden satire wedded to dainty lilting melody. Mr. C. H. Workman as the fleshly poet, the sham æsthete, the superficial lover of adulation, Reginald Bunthorne, is simply splendid. His ridiculous halting gait and contortional pose, his simpering manner, and his "quite-too-utterly-all-but" ecstatic absorption are excruciatingly funny, whilst his singing and dancing are everything that could be desired. Mr. Albert Kavanagh as the idyllic poet, the self-apotheosised Adonis, Archibald Grosvenor, is deliciously droll, and hits off the characteristics of the part to a nicety. Miss Hope Hastings again wins golden opinions by her delightful rendition of the tuneful and trying songs allotted to her. Her delivery of the sweetly pretty ballad in the second act, "The love that is true," is received rapturously and encored tumultuously. Miss Theresa Rassam is seen quite at her best in the part of the Lady Jane, and her song, "Soon there'll be too much of me," meets with the appreciation it deserves. Miss Lulu Evans makes much of the part of the Lady Angela; and as the Lady Saphir Miss Mabel Burnege does remarkably well; and Miss Bessell Adams also excels in the rôle of the Lady Ella. Mr. Fred Edgar is very droll as Major Murgatroyd, and sings remarkably well; Mr. Leicester Tunks is excellent as Colonel Calverley; and Mr. Pacie Ripple is well to the fore as Lieut. the Duke of Dunstable. The chorus is splendidly well drilled, and all praise is due to Mr. Fred A. Leon for his able stage management. During the week *The Gondoliers*, *The Yeomen of the Guard*, *The Pirates of Penzance* and *The Trial by Jury*, and *the Mikado* were given.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Musical Pantomimical Comedy, in Four Acts,
entitled
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."

The Swiss Express has had such a long and prosperous career on its travels, meeting everywhere with such phenomenal success, that it is now somewhat late in the day to further sing its praises. Suffice it to say, however, that as James and John, the Brothers C. and F. Renad, seem to excel more and more in their eccentricities. They continue to play these really amusing rôles. As Dr Gondimar Gull Mr. Johnny McElroy works with unflagging energy and determination; Mr. George Martin is well to the fore as Bob Rollingstone; Mr. Alec Wylie scores as Dudeley Green; and Mr. Harwood Cooper is amusingly quaint as Admiral Bombshelli. Miss Dora Moorhouse acts Mrs. Septimus Squeeze in thoroughly satisfactory fashion; whilst Miss Ida Ernest, as the much-perturbed bride, Virginia, is full of life and go, singing with much taste, and dancing with no mean ability. A feature of the evening's entertainment is the singing and dancing of the Edene Quartette, four clever little ladies, the spontaneous warmth of their reception in Marylebone being entirely due to their pronounced merit.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Carlton Wallace,
entitled
"THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH."

Lovers of sensational drama are having something quite after their taste at the Royal County Theatre this week, where Mr. Wallace's stirring play, full of fun, pathos, and adventure, is being presented by a capable company under the direction of Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey. The popularity of this form of play with a large section of Kingston playgoers was attested by the crowded state of the gallery and pit. A capital blacksmith was found in Mr. Sam Livesey, who both spoke and acted the part to the life. He soon made himself a great favourite with his auditors. Equally successful, though in an opposite sense, was Mr. Joseph Carter in the part of Captain Leo, whose villainies frequently aroused the execration of the house. Miss Maggie Edwards gave a forceful rendering of the part of the heroine, Kate Strong; and an especially clever bit of juvenile acting was that of little Miss Bertha Hanbury, who, as the blacksmith's little boy, displayed rare histrionic gifts in one so young. Mr. Geo. B. Campbell invested the part of the rustic simpleton, Billy Twigg, with a most amusing eccentricity. Others deserving of particular notice were Mr. Thomas E. Marshall and Mrs. T. C. Livesey as Mr. and Mrs. Parkins, Mr. Edwin Maydew as Lucas Marlow, and Miss Cassie Le Grande as Ruth Parkins. The wrestling match in the last act was admirably carried out.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Charles Darrell,
entitled
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS."

Mr. Lester Collingwood's company in *When London Sleeps* is delighting large audiences at the New Prince's Theatre this present week. The play abounds in exciting incidents and thrilling situations. As David Engleheart, Mr. Sam Arthur makes a handsome athlete, and throughout the play wins golden opinions by his fine rendering of the character. Mr. C. P. Wentworth as Captain Rodney Hayes does not commit the mistake of making the villain of the piece unnaturally repulsive. As Furnaby Fuller, Mr. Charles E. Sutton renders good service; and Mr. F. E. Thomas as Bob Jones, the circus proprietor, could not be bettered. Mr. D'Arcy Kelway evokes plenty of amusement by his delineation of the character of Sammy Blythe; and the Hon. Bertie Broomhead finds an able representative in Mr. Frank Howard. Miss Mabel Scudamore is attractive and bright in the part of Queenie Carruthers, and quickly wins favour. She is ably seconded by Miss Bessie Frank as Carrie Jones. Miss Maud Yorke is to be congratulated on her excellent acting as Hilda Carode; and Miss Daisy Clifford does exceedingly well as Maudie de Freier. Mrs. Edgar Colona as Signorina Jones gives a touching performance; and Miss Josephine Melbourne is very clever as Lelia. The minor parts are all well played, and the piece is capitally staged.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Romantic Drama, entitled
"GIPSY JACK."

A successful appeal to the Hammersmith playgoers is made this week by Mr. Harry Bedford, who, assisted by an excellent company, is appearing here in the romantic drama, *Gipsy Jack*. In the hands of Mr. Bedford, the title-rôle is played with a rollicking, hearty manliness that wins all hearts, and his different disguises are cleverly assumed. Mr. Charles Archer makes a capital Sir John Dexter, portraying the disappointed old man to the life. The Skinner's, father and son, are intrusted to Mr. David Curtis and Mr. Robert Gilbert respectively, both of whom display considerable ability in the portrayal of their villainies A fine performance is given by Miss Frances Foley, who is responsible for the part of Hagar. Miss Phyllis Elton makes a charming Dorothy Dexter; while Miss Bessie Beresford as the vivacious May Harvey is equally good. A pathetic study is given by Miss Ada Antley as the gipsy girl Nan; and the Rev. Francis Harvey is successfully played by Mr. E. Rayson-Cousins. The author has given abundant opportunities for merriment, and Mr. Syd Bedford as Joe Banks, with Mr. Archer Brown as Charlie Bates, assisted by Miss Jennie Risley as Jennie Huggins, are all quite equal to the occasions offered, and much laughter is the result of their combined efforts.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Comedy, by Arthur Law, entitled
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."

The popular manager, Mr. Cecil Paget, this week follows his laudable custom of presenting us with another West-end success, and his patrons are accordingly enjoying a visit from that clever actress, Miss Annie Hughes, in *A Country Mouse*. The piece concerns itself with the doings of characters who scarcely appeal to our sympathies, but the situations are so clever and the dialogue so sparkling and epigramatic that the success of the production is assured from the outset. The company, which is under the direction of Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison, gives a rendering of the play which leaves nothing to be desired, and Miss Hughes and her clever companions on Monday received a warm welcome from a crowded house. Miss Annie Hughes furnishes a capital embodiment of Angela Muir, who, as it turns out, is not quite so simple as she appears at first sight, and the delightfully arch way in which she ensnares the Duke of St. Kitts in the matrimonial net is much appreciated by the audience. Miss Moyra Creegan makes a stately Lady Sylvia Bowlby, and her clever acting in an unsympathetic rôle is of the greatest value to the success of the piece. Mr. Charles Esdale gives a polished and natural rendering of the Hon. Archibald Vyse; and Mr. Evelyn Vernon makes the most of the character of the old reprobate, the Duke of St. Kitts. Mr. Fomas A. Braidon is amusing as Lord Robert Wyckham; and Miss Frances Davie is a bright and engaging Violet Aynesley. Mr. William Calvert gains the sympathy of the audience by his sterling performance of honest John Bowlby; and Mr. John E. Watson supplies a good character-sketch as the butler, Jephcot. Miss Ida Laurie is a humorous Mrs. Crooper. The *lever de rideau* is Mrs. Oscar Beringer's pretty one-act play, *Saucers*, in which Miss Annie Hughes shows her versatility by her delightfully natural impersonation of the warm-hearted little cockney flower girl, who is nicknamed "Saucers." Mr. Chas. Esdale is good as Jack Hillier; and Messrs. Evelyn Vernon and Thomas A Braidon are amusing as his two bibulous companions. Mr. John E. Watson undertakes the duties of business and stage management.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Drama, by Henry Arthur Jones, entitled
"THE SILVER KING."

Messrs. Polini and Melford's company has been paying a return visit with the ever-popular *Silver King*. It is a remarkable tribute to the worth of this fine play that its drawing powers are as great as ever, and the more often one sees it the more it seems to stand head and shoulders above the ordinary modern melodrama. Several old favourites are in the cast, notably Mr. Herbert Ford, who repeats his exceedingly strong impersonation of Wilfred Denver. In like manner, Mr. Henry Osman again plays Elijah Coombe with all his former skill; and Miss Amy Wood is found again in the humorous part of Tabitha Durden. Mr. Charles Baird is well suited to the rôle of the Spider, and plays with all the needful coolness and polish. Mr. Arthur Rooke is good as the Detective Baxter; and Mr. Charles Fenton is bluff and straightforward as Cripps. The part of Corkett is taken by Mr. Claud Vernon, who, in the later scenes, does well. Mr. Percy Stone is satisfactory as Parkyn, and is well supported by Messrs. Bingham and Haichway, as Binks and Bronson. The important rôle of Daniel Jaikes is admirably played by Mr. Tom Paulton, who contributes a delightful sketch of the faithful old servant. Miss Victoria Addison is a capital representative of Nellie Denver, and plays with great charm and power; while Miss Jessie Apted acts with delightful simplicity as the child Cissy, and Miss Viola Holland scores as Olive Skinner. Mr. Lionel Sisley is amusing as the Tipsy Passenger. The other members of the cast are well up to their work, and the whole production, with all its varied scenery and numerous characters, runs most smoothly under the management of Mr. Arthur Rooke.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Drama, in Five Acts, entitled
"THE HARBOUR LIGHTS."

Mr. J. M. East this week revives the famous old Adelphi drama, *The Harbour Lights*, and, as is usual with Mr. East's productions, great care is noticeable in every detail. The very popular stock company is received with unbounded applause. Mr. Albert Ward is seen as the young naval lieutenant, David Kingsley, and as the dashing, manly young hero is entirely successful. Mr. Wm. Felton as the young debauchee, the Squire, Frank Morland, gives a careful reading of the part; Nicholas Morland, his cousin, is played by Mr. Horace Hunter, who again takes up the rôle of villainy; Mr. Harry Crane as Mark Kelston gives a fine, robust rendering of the part; Mr. Teddy is again seen as a Jack Tar, he is quite at home in the character, and delights the audience in the second act by introducing a hornpipe; Mr. Brian Daly gives a clever impersonation of the aged butler; Mr. Alfred Holles is capital as the old retired Captain Nelson; while Mr. Sydney Teversham earns much applause as Captain Hardy; Lieut. Wynard is satisfactorily represented by Mr. Edward Boddy; Miss Kathleen Russell makes a sweet and gentle Dora Vane; as the unfortunate Nina Nelson, Miss Daisy Murch is sufficiently pathetic. Mrs. Calhaem as Mrs. Chudleigh causes much amusement. This admirable actress shows in her performance all the advantage of a thorough training in technique, and the most valuable experience. Peggy is brightly and prettily played by Miss Agnes Paulton; Miss Phyllis Manners gives a vigorous rendering of Mrs. Kelstone; and other characters are in good hands.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 22, the Musical Play,
entitled
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."

Despite the fact that it is the fourth visit of the piece to Stratford, the entrancing story of Napoleon and the "Washerwoman Duchess" retains a strong hold on the playgoing public, and large and apreciative audiences are being attracted to the Borough Theatre this week. Miss Kitty Gordon now fills the name-part, and is entirely successful, as the plaudits of the audience testify. Miss Lilian Best is a self-possessed René de Saint Mezard, and sings "Le petit caporal" very prettily. Miss Lily Edmonds is a bright and engaging Lisette, and wins loud applause for her rendering of Blanche Marie. Napoleon's sisters are excellently played by Miss Josephine McCarthy and Miss Doris Grenville; and Miss Nancy Hearne is well placed as the Empress Josephine. Mr. Frederick Moyes's long association with Napoleonic parts enables him to do complete justice to the part of the Emperor, who is readily suggested in make-up, voice, and gesture. Mr. Albert Chapman is an admirable Duke of Dantzic; and as the outspoken Adhemar, Mr. T. C. Maxwell acts and sings pleasingly. Mr. H. C. Barry is an exceedingly amusing Papillon. Minor parts are all in capable hands. The efficient chorus and augmented orchestra are directed by Mr. Sydney Shaw, and Mr. George Dance's general-manager is Mr. George W. Slater.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Sutton Vane,
entitled
"THE SPAN OF LIFE."

There are plenty of deeds of daring and exciting moments in *The Span of Life*, and it is a thrilling incident indeed when the retreat of Richard Blunt and Kate is cut off by the destruction of the bridge of the King's Chasm, and the three Browns, as represented by the Almo Trio, form a human pathway across the gap for the fugitives to pass over. There is an abundance of interpolated comedy business in the piece, and its reception on the opening night of the week was extremely cordial. Mr. A. S. Trelawney is a manly and earnest exponent of Richard Blunt; Mr. Sanderson Moffatt handles with much skill and power the rôle of the noxious Dunstan Leech; and Mr. Walter Dale is very diverting as Nutty Brown. Miss Ella Wilmer plays with much sympathy and charm as Kate Heathcote; and Miss Kitty Russell gives a decidedly clever performance as the grotesque little Shrove Tuesday. The remaining parts are well played by Mr. James Jarrow as Joshua Gurnet, Mr. Charles Noel as Inspector Ferguson, the Almo Trio as Dismal, Tipton, and Dapper Brown, Mr. J. Petersfell as Azrek, Miss Phyllis Hamilton as Mrs. Jelf, and Miss M. Douglas as the boy Cecil.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 22,
the Comic Opera, in Three Acts, entitled
"VERONIQUE."

Mr. George Dance's leading company appeared in this popular comic opera on Monday night and was enthusiastically received by a large and delighted audience, the charming music, clever acting, and handsome dressing all being greatly appreciated. Chief honours fall to Miss Ruth Lincoln, whose impersonation of the title-rôle, otherwise Helene de Selanges, is admirable in every detail; and to Mr. Roland Bottomley as Florestan de Vallancourt. The singing of these two artists roused the house to enthusiasm, especially in the duet "Swing high, swing low." Miss Lena Maitland presents a clever and amusing portrait of Emerance Countess de Champ Azur. A charming performance is that of Denise, by Miss Gracie Sinclair, who sings with considerable success "The first little hubby I ever, ever had." Miss May Leslie is good as Aunt Benoit; Miss Ethel Negretti is a charming and vivacious Agatha, Mme. Coquenard; Mr. Fred Lyne is very funny as M. Loustot, the bailiff; as is Mr. Courtenay Comber as Seraphin. Florestan's friends, Octave and Felicieu, are well represented by Messrs. Robert Cranney and Maurice Ogle; Mr. Arthur Wilmer is suitably placed as the waiter Max, as is Mr. Tom Robertson as the orderly; and Mr. Leslie Holland's quaint rendering of M. Coquenard is greatly enjoyed.

Mr. T. C. Raws, the popular proprietor of the Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, has granted the use of his theatre for a benefit performance today in aid of the widows and orphans of the miners killed in the Wingate disaster. Mr. Collins's company, who occupy the boards this week, have volunteered to give the performance.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee has recommended that Mr. Sprague be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawing submitted with regard to the installation of certain additional means of ventilation in the auditorium of the Aldwych provided that the electrical arrangements in connection therewith be in conformity with the regulations of the Council.

The Committee of the London County Council reported that the expenditure incurred with regard to the inspection of places of public entertainment respecting the character of the performances, &c., during the quarter ended Sept. 30, 1906, was £1 4s. 9d. The supervision, at any rate, "came cheap."

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

PARIS, THURSDAY, OCT. 11.—*Les Passageres*, M. Alfred Capus's four-act play, lately produced at the Renaissance, scored a moderate success. The trifling plot reminds us very much of one of Paul de Kock's stories, "Un bon Garçon," wherein a man full of good intentions brings trouble on the head of those he wants to befriend. The dialogue, however, is bright and witty, and the piece was so admirably acted that we, nevertheless, spent a delightful evening. The plot is as follows:—Robert Vandal, a man of about forty, is very much in love with his wife, to whom he has always been faithful. He is a model husband. His only fault is that he is too good. Immensely rich, his hand is constantly in his pocket to assist people in distress. With men this is not very dangerous, but with the members of the opposite sex it leads him into trouble. The ladies admire his generosity; they fall in love with him, and, worse still, they tell him so. His beautiful cousin, Hortense, having lost her fortune, has opened a milliner's shop, and gets into financial difficulties. The instant the good Robert hears of her plight he goes to her, and places his cheque-book at her disposal in such a generous manner that Hortense at once throws herself into his arms. Robert feels he is doing a stupid thing, but he has not the strength to resist this windfall. For the first time in his life he is compelled to tell a lie to his wife, and, when found out, to confess his guilt. His wife pardons him, and the repentant Robert swears never to deceive her again. And he certainly would have kept his promise but for Adrienne, the governess. This young lady has lost her heart to him, and informs him that as she loves him she no longer can remain in his house. She carries out her intention, and leaves for the United States; but not before Robert has spent a night with her in a hotel in Havre, where his wife finds him. Once more he is forgiven, and if the ladies will but leave him alone he will once more become a model husband. M. Guitry's acting as the kind-hearted Robert was splendid, and the same can be said of M. Huguenet, who supplied an admirable sketch of a snobbish country cousin. Mme. Juliette Darcourt—one of our very best actresses—shared with them the honours of the evening. Her rôle of Robert's wife was a difficult one, and could only have been entrusted to such able hands. Mlle. Cheirel, Mlle. Caron, Mlle. Ryter, and M. Dieudonné, completed an excellent ensemble.

"LA COURTISANE."

Play in Five Acts, in Verse, by M. Andre Arnyvelde, Produced at the Comedie-Française on October 16.

Comtesse Féline	MLLE. DELVAIR
Mme. de Chambreuse	MLLE. DUSSANE
Une jeune femme	MLLE. BERGE
Pyrenna	MLLE. BERTHE CERNY
Une Camériste	MLLE. FAYLISS
Mme. de Subrice	MME. FARNES
Callige	M. LELOIR
Robert	M. LAMBERT FILS
Le roi	M. LEITNER
Pradelys	M. JACQUES FENOUX
Voron	M. JOLIET
Maitre Anselme	M. FALCONNIER
Prince de Sardane	M. HAMEL

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18.—What did M. Claretie see in the five acts of *La Courtisane* that he should have accepted the piece? is the question many people asked themselves at the première. When M. Arnyvelde—the anagram of André Lévi—wrote the work he was only nineteen, and two years later it was accepted by the manager of the Comédie-Française. For an inexperienced young man it was a very creditable production, but despite its qualities it was not suitable to the House of Molière. The scene of the plot is laid in an imaginary country. Pyrenna, the old King's protégée, is hunting in the forest with a long train of gentlemen and ladies of the court. In matters of love Pyrenna is very changeable, and she has long given up keeping a record of her intrigues that generally do not go beyond one day or night. Pradelys, a powerful knight, loves her to distraction, but she lets him sigh in vain. She wants some fresh excitement for her jaded palate. As it happens she is in luck, for the noisy throng come upon a miserable hut, whence issues a kind of half naked savage. He is tall and well-built, and when the courtiers begin to deride him he answers them very *à propos*. In fact, he tells them a few things that rather surprise them. He has, it seems, been brought up by an old man imbued with socialistic principles, and he informs his hearers that all men are brothers and equals. Pyrenna is not much interested in the youth's tirades. She admires his physique, and takes him with her. It must, however, not be supposed that the lady is really the King's mistress. The truth is, that the King, having lost his daughter, of whom he was very fond, met a girl who resembled his child. He at once adopted her, and from that moment gratifies all her whims. All he wants is to gaze every day on the woman whose features remind him of those of a being he loved. And when the courtiers inform the King of Pyrenna's escapade with the young savage he only shrugs his shoulders. Thanks to Pyrenna's powerful protection Robert—the name given to him—becomes chief minister. And this new minister puts into practice the wonderful theories he preached when he was first discovered. Pradelys and the other nobles are exiled. Money ceases to be a commodity. The baker must exchange his loaves for a pair of boots, and the bootmaker his boots for a piece of meat. Money has disappeared, everybody works—or has to work—and everybody is happy. No, not everybody, for there are the exiled nobles, who, under Pradelys, undertake to dethrone the King, and murder his minister Robert. But the conspiracy fails, and Robert generously forgives his enemies. Unfortunately, Robert has another enemy. The fair Pyrenna, not much interested in socialism, begins to grow tired of Robert's company, and she thinks—not without reason—that she did not bring him to her palace that he should dabble in politics. The King suddenly dies, and the people place Pyrenna and Robert on the throne. The least Robert can do is to offer a banquet to his subjects, which he does in royal style, with as much champagne as they can manage to drink. Pyrenna, too, has her share, and, under the influence of wine, confesses to Robert that he bores her tremendously, and that she will be a happy woman if he will but go away. This communication falls upon poor Robert like a thunderbolt, and he withdraws to his apartment to think the matter over. Whilst he thinks something unforeseen happens. Callige, the fool at Court, a hideous deformed monster, throws himself upon Pyrenna. The lady at first is horror-stricken, but the novelty of the thing appears to her, and the ugly Callige takes the place of the beautiful Robert. The latter, too, has trouble with his subjects. The lazy portion of the population refuse to do any work. They rise in arms, and the wily Pyrenna urges them to resist. Robert then makes a speech, and peace is at once restored. Pyrenna's baleful influence shall no longer make itself felt. Robert tells her to go, and she goes. The work was beautifully mounted, and excellently interpreted. M. Albert Lambert fils, who had sacrificed his fine beard to impersonate Robert, was most impressive. Mlle. Cerny was a delightful Pyrenna. M. Leitner made the most of the effaced rôle of the old King. As the monster Callige M. Leloir scored a genuine success, and M. Fenoux gave much colour to the rôle of Pradelys.

The Odeon, under M. Antoine's management, has opened its doors with a fine revival of *Oiseaux de Passage*. We had trouble to recognise the old theatre. It looks so new and comfortable, and the numerous changes reflect the greatest credit on the new management. *Jules Cæsar* is not yet ready for production, and a curious incident occurred in connection with that play. The rehearsal having been postponed, the stage manager had forgotten to give notice to the supers—"Messieurs les figurants," as we call them here—many of whom have their domicile underneath the bridges or in some shed or other. When these gentlemen put in an appearance they were told that their services would not be required this week. As they were engaged to represent Roman warriors, they took their rôles seriously, and, not having yet girt their swords they started drawing their knives. The police promptly came upon the scene, and took the noble warriors to the lock-up. Let us hope that on the day of the dress-rehearsal the Roman army will be let out on bail.

Not long ago I had to record the death of Mlle. Léonie Dallet, who, driven to despair by an actor in one of our leading playhouses, put an end to her life. To-day another name has to be added to this sad list, that of Mlle. Germaine Primevère, a young actress, who committed suicide in her apartment in the Rue de Clichy. In a pathetic letter addressed to her friends she states the reasons that prompted her to commit this desperate act, and gives the name of the scoundrel, the cause of her trouble. He, too, belongs to the profession, and it is a pity that it should be considered the right thing not to publish the names of these two individuals.

MR. EDWARD ROCHELLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Through your kindness, I was enabled some five months ago to bring to the notice of your readers the very sad case of Mr. Edward Rochelle. At that time he was about to undergo a very serious operation, and being entirely without means it was necessary to make an appeal to his friends with the hope that sufficient donations might be received to meet the hospital expenses and keep him going for some time after his leaving the hospital, and, as we then hoped, his return to convalescence. I regret to tell you now that although the operation was successful his entire recovery can scarcely be hoped for. He is at the present time very ill indeed, unable practically to get about at all, and, from what I learn, there is very little hope that he will ever be able to follow his profession again. The funds that I have had in hand are now nearly exhausted, and unless some kind sympathisers can give him a little practical assistance I dread to think what his future may be. I enclose you a little statement, which I shall take it a favour if you will reproduce, showing the amounts I have received and the amounts I have expended and the balance in hand, which I propose dividing over the next three weeks, and I trust that those who have known Teddy Rochelle in the days gone by may take this opportunity of showing him that he is not altogether forgotten. His address is No. 5, Manchester-street, Manchester-square, and if, as it may happen, some of his old friends can ill-afford to send him help in the shape of money, I feel sure that a little kind letter of sympathy will help to ease his present great troubles.

Moneys Received.

	£	s.	d.
George Arliss	2	2	0
Gerald Maxwell	1	1	0
Rev. W. P. Besley	1	1	0
Bassett Roe	0	10	6
Austin Melford	0	10	0
Compton Coutts	0	10	0
A. J. Duck	0	5	6
W. S. Lyon	0	5	0
George Collins	0	5	0
F. Wynne	0	5	0
Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution	30	0	0
	£36	15	0

Cash Paid.

	£	s.	d.
Edward Rochelle, previous to entering Hospital	4	9	0
Ten Weeks Gordon Hospital, at £1 1s. per week	10	10	0
To Matron, petty Disbursements on behalf of E. R.	3	0	0
Surgical Belt	1	0	0
Fares from Hospital to Country	1	0	0
To E. R., Ten Weeks at 25s.	12	10	0
Chemist Account, Wells, Somerset	0	12	7
Wires and Messenger	0	1	11
	£33	3	6
Balance in Hand	3	11	6
	£36	15	0

Yours faithfully,
JAMES W. MATHEWS.

Duke of York's Theatre, Oct. 24, 1906.

"MAN AND HIS ANGEL."

(FROM OUR AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT.)

The central character of the above play in four acts, by Mr. Stanley Dark, which was produced at the Hackett Theatre, New York, recently, is indicated by a quotation from Tennyson:—

If there be
A devil in a man, there is an angel too;
And if he did the wrong you charge him with
His angel broke his heart.

In other words, the play is intended to exemplify the ennobling influence of a good woman upon the life and character of a deformed and embittered man by whom she is beloved. This individual is befriended when he is a fugitive from justice by a girl who afterwards becomes a famous singer. He follows her like a shadow for several years, and although hopeless of marrying her himself does all in his power to prevent her from marrying anybody else. When she ultimately falls in love he makes a breach between her and the man who idolises her, and makes her miserable until he is sufficiently moved by the sight of her distress to admit his offence and restore her to love and happiness. When the play begins Paul Stepniak, a Russian, is living in shabby lodgings in the East-End of London. He is approached by some wealthy people who have heard his daughter's voice and are desirous of educating her for the operatic stage—a proposal to which the father and daughter immediately assent. Sonia Stepniak, the daughter, is told that the family prayer-book contains a secret which she will one day learn. David Tryne, a hunchback, enters by an open window, declares that he is being unjustly pursued, and is sheltered. In course of time, when the prima donna, Sonia Stepniak, loves and is loved by the Hon. Cecil Stanforth, Tryne produces the prayer-book and takes from it a paper declaring that Sonia is illegitimate. This disclosure he communicates to Lord Arthur Dalton, one of Sonia's rejected suitors, who undertakes to apprise the lady of her doubtful origin. The document turns out to be a forgery, the hunchback having imitated old Stepniak's handwriting, and his confession of guilt ends the estrangement between the lovers. Mr. Fred Tyler as Lord Arthur Dalton, Mr. Holbrook Blinn as David Tryne, Mr. Frank Gillmore as the Hon. Cecil Stanforth, and Miss Frances Bing as Sonia Stepniak did commendable work in their respective rôles, but the play was not a success.

MANY of the profession who have visited West Stanley will be sorry to hear that Mr. Mark H. Linden, managing-director of the Theatre Royal, is at present seriously indisposed.

DEATH OF MR. W. E. ASHCROFT.

With regret we record the death of Mr. William E. Ashcroft, who passed away on Sunday last at the Cottage, Findon, Sussex, at the early age of thirty-seven. The deceased actor made his first appearance under his brother, Mr. Harold B. Nelson's management, at Worcester, April 17, 1891, as Granger, in Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's play *Judah*. His next engagement was with Mr. J. F. Elliston, playing the part of Kazrac, in the Christmas production of *Aladdin*, at Bolton. In the spring of 1892 he went to Folkestone for a short stock season at the Pier Theatre, and played the parts of Hardress Cregan, Captain Molyneux, the Parson in *The Danites*, and the Emperor in the burlesque *Aladdin*. A re-engagement with Mr. Elliston followed this for the summer stock season at Bolton. In the autumn he played Lieutenant Stanley in *The Union Jack*, then being toured under the same management. Following this came an engagement with Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, and during it he went through what is known as the "mill," playing from ten to twelve parts in a week. This engagement terminated in the spring, 1893, and then he again came under his brother's management, playing the well-known leading parts of D'Alroy, Beaufoy, and M'Alister, in the *Caste* répertoire. He was next engaged by Mr. F. R. Benson for the part of Sicinius Velutus, in his production of *Coriolanus*, at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon. He remained with Mr. Benson until May of the following year, and during this engagement he again played a large number of parts, ranging from Don John in *Much Ado*, to Mat Muggins in *She Stoops to Conquer*. He was also the Prince John in Mr. Benson's production of *Henry IV.*, at Stratford, April 27, 1894. Then he rejoined Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, and played the

THE LATE MR. W. E. ASHCROFT.

parts of Charles Surface, Claude Melnotte, Laertes, Mercutio, Claudio, Sir Charles Pomander, Sir Edward Mortimer, Carlyle, Gratiano, Beauseant, &c. He next fulfilled a year's engagement with Mr. Edward Compton, and while with him played Joseph Surface, Young Marlowe, Captain Absolute, Bertie (*Home*), and Sir Frederick Blunt. Leaving Mr. Compton in the spring, 1896, he was engaged by Mr. Edward Terry for tour, and played a number of leading parts with him. When Mr. Terry reopened his London theatre in the autumn of 1896, he appeared as Frank, in *Love in Idleness*. On Jan. 1, 1897, he had the honour of appearing at Sandringham before their Royal Highnesses the then Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Fife, and the Duke and Duchess of York, the occasion being the "command" performance of *Love in Idleness* by Mr. Terry and his company. Another tour followed under the same management in the spring of 1897, and again in the autumn. On this tour he took up the duties of stage-management in addition to playing a number of leading parts, and when Mr. Terry was making arrangements to return to his own theatre, he offered Mr. Ashcroft the position of stage-manager at his theatre. In this capacity he stage-managed the production of Mr. Stuart Ogilvy's play, *The White Knight*. In 1901 Mr. Ashcroft became a member of Sir Henry Irving's company at the Lyceum, playing Tullus Aufidius in the revival of *Coriolanus*, and other characters.

THE recent bequest of sums of money to be expended in the purchase of "In Memoriam" rings has revived an interest in the old custom of leaving rings to legatees. In designing the ring of which a sketch is here given the jewellers, Messrs. E. Stockley and Co., of 60, New Bond-street, W., have carried out the wishes of an admirer of the late Mr. J. L. Toole. While retaining the full value as a memorial of the deceased actor, they have carefully avoided the funereal appearance so usual in this form of souvenir.

The centre of the ring is a beautifully executed portrait in platinum, surrounded by diamonds, the gold shank of ring being on the one side the entwined letters J. L. T., and on the other the masks of Comedy and Tragedy.

MR. EDITOR.—SIR,—Your Nottingham correspondent, in his notice of *The Dandy Doctor* at the Grand Theatre, was in error respecting the part of Melchisadeck Brown. You will see by enclosed programme that it was played by yours faithfully, JAMES SALTER.—Theatre Royal, Worcester, Oct. 22.

A REPETITION of S. Feinman's drama, *A Father's Curse*, was given by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic company, at the Pavilion Theatre on Monday evening, when a good house again testified its approval. Honours must be awarded to Mr. S. Feinman for his striking impersonation of Reb Josele, and to Mr. M. D. Waxman for his fine acting as Max. During the week *The Zionist*, *Holy Sabbath*, *The Two Cripples*, and *The Jewish World* have been played.

AN office of the Austrian Costume Atelier, Alexander Blaschke and Co., proprietor R. Winternitz, has been established in London, with Mr. Ernest Mayer as representative of Great Britain. The artistic adviser of the well-known firm is Prof. Lamer, of the Vienna Academy of Arts. The Metropolitan Opera House, New York, the Imperial Burg Theatre and Opera House, in Vienna, and other of the world's playhouses, place many of their orders with the Vienna firm, who have won an enviable reputation for workmanship, artistic design, neatness of execution, and reliability. Mr. Mayer's offices are at 34, Norfolk-street, Strand.

"THE GREAT DIVIDE."

A Drama, in Three Acts,
by William Vaughn Moody,
Produced at the Princess Theatre, New York, on Oct. 3.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The original title of this drama, *A Sabine Woman*, would be more intelligible, perhaps, than the present one to those who have never travelled in America. But for an American drama pure and simple the title under which the play was produced in New York is more apt and significant in view of the fact that two of the scenes are laid in the Rocky Mountains, the great dividing line which, broadly speaking, separates the East from the West, while the play deals with a conflict between the natural freedom and impetuosity of a man brought up in the Arizona desert and the inherited pride and Puritanical training of a New England woman. An extremely interesting play, cleverly conceived and skilfully put together, *The Great Divide* has scored a success of the first magnitude.

Ruth Jordan, who lives with her brother on a ranch in Arizona, is attacked during his absence by three drunken ruffians. She seizes a gun to defend herself, but it misses fire, and in the desperation of the moment she offers to become the wife of the least offensive of the three if he will save her from the others. This man is an American named Stephen Ghent, his companions being Mexican "greasers." The American agrees to this astounding proposal, and to one of the Mexicans offers all the money in his possession to get rid of him. The fellow pushes the money aside with the remark that the price offered would not pay for an Indian's squaw, but he finally accepts a string of gold nuggets and departs. With the other Mexican Ghent fights a duel for the human prize and wins. He seems to realise that he is a scoundrel, and when he returns from the shooting he lays his pistol on the table and gives the girl the choice of killing him or herself. But finding herself unable to face the horror of either murder or suicide, Ruth implores him to take her away at once. She has agreed to the bargain, and will stand by it. But she warns him that it means a life of misery for both of them. In the dead of night, then, the pair ride off, and are married by a justice of the peace. In the note she leaves behind she simply tells her brother that she has gone away to get married, and that he is to make no attempt to follow her. The second act, nearly a year later, finds her on her husband's place in another part of Arizona. Gold has been found there, and Ghent is a rich man. Ruth loathes his riches, however, more than his poverty. Unknown to him she makes a living for herself by weaving baskets, which she sells during his absence over at the big hotel. The man is honestly in love with her, and in his rough, untutored way, does everything for her happiness. But her soul revolts at the thought of the bargain she has made; and, while there are indications that at heart she loves the man, she fights against any show of affection, and in a burst of outraged pride tells him he has bought her like an animal in the market. With the labour of her hands she has regained the string of gold nuggets with which he bought off the Mexican and gives it back to him. But Ghent refuses it, places it around her neck, and says that they are man and wife, and such they must remain. By chance, however, Ruth's brother discovers her whereabouts; and, although she shields her husband, and by a tissue of lies tries to conceal the ignominy of her escapade, her brother overhears enough to convince him that all is not well with her, and tells Ghent that he intends to take his sister away with him. Ghent says "No," but seeing how his wife turns from him and clings to her brother, offers to abide by her decision. She decides to leave him, and returns with her brother to her mother's home in Massachusetts.

In the last act, after a lapse of time, a son has been born to Ruth, but in her constant brooding over her degradation she denies the child a mother's love. Her mother has secretly communicated with Ruth's husband. Still in the dark, and blundering along in his pitiful effort to make reparation, he answers the summons and is kept in hiding. He befriends the family in their need, and the mother, supposing that an ordinary quarrel has parted Ruth from her husband, plans to bring them together. Then Ruth discloses the true circumstances of her marriage. The mother cries: "And you married him after that!" and turns from her daughter in horror. When the brother is told he starts for the door, intending to kill Ghent, but Ruth interposes. She pleads her husband's cause for the first time, and in the final scene, when he is prepared to give her up and is about to depart, she finds it impossible to turn a deaf ear to his plea that his offence has been expiated, and confesses that he has won her love.

As Stephen Ghent Mr. Henry Miller has a part that appeals to one's sympathies more surely than any character that he has assumed since he appeared as Sidney Carton in *The Only Way*. It is one of those strong portrayals that one remembers when much else is forgotten. The rôle of Ruth Jordan, not in itself convincing, is played in a manner that carries conviction by Miss Margaret Auglin, whose admirable art is shown in a subtle and finished delineation. Mrs. Thomas Whiffen, who appears as Ruth's mother, is one of the "old favourites" of the English-speaking stage, and the last act is enriched by the sweet womanliness of her representation. Miss Laura Hope Crews makes herself very popular as Polly Jordan; and other important parts are played in a praiseworthy manner by Messrs. Charles Wyngate, Robert Cummings, and Charles Gotthold.

"THE RED MILL."

(FROM OUR AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT.)

In *The Red Mill*, which has scored an emphatic success at the Knickerbocker Theatre, New York, those clever comedians, Dave Montgomery and Fred Stone, who won fame as the Scarecrow and the Tinman in *The Wisard of Oz*, have come to the front again, and set the town talking of their acrobatic drollery. In this case they represent two impecunious Americans detained at an inn during their travels in Holland because they fail to pay their bills. The red mill of the title holds the centre of the stage and has practicable sails. It serves as a prison for Gretchen, the Burgomaster's daughter, when she rebels against parental authority over her love affairs, and the revolving sails enable the Americans to rescue her. They are swung up on one side and down on the other, one of them holding on by one hand while he grasps the maiden in distress around the waist and lands her safely on terra firmâ, the situation being quite tense and melodramatic. In the second act the pair of adventurers masquerade as waiters and Italian organ-grinders, and they finally appear as Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson, being summoned by the Burgomaster to find the missing Gretchen, who has disappeared on the eve of her wedding. The opening scene is remarkably pretty. It represents a picturesque perspective of Dutch lowland with a number of flaxen-haired Gretchens and Wilhelminas in the foreground, all carrying flower-baskets dangling from shoulder-yokes. As the Italian organ-grinders, Messrs. Montgomery and Stone are irresistibly funny. Their wrangling in broken English and their singing of "Good-a-bye, John," brings down the house. The piece is replete with novel surprises; and the music, by Victor Herbert, is delightful. The book is by Henry Blossom, and is bright and witty from start to finish.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DIE HOCHZEIT VON POEL."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Georg Engel, Produced at the Neues, Oct. 9.

Von Wildhausen	HERR KORNER
Brummer	HERR STANGE
Von Thümler	HERR CHRISTIANS
Von Schoenborn	HERR STADTHAGEN
Fritsch	HERR EISOLD
Biebow	HERR WALDOW
Quast	HERR MARLOW
Pagels	HERR SCHWAIGER
Kusemann	HERR ENGELS
Jasper	HERR KAISER-TITZ
Anne-Marik	FRAULEIN JAEGER
Broekel	HERR HELMERDING
Böttcher	HERR BORNSTEDT
Ohm	HERR SCHMIDTHASSLER
Jakobs	HERR GORDON
Voss	HERR BLUMEL
Korthals	HERR PAROW
Dürthen	FRAULEIN OSER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, OCT. 18.—The esteemed dramatist's latest work is not nearly so good as some of the preceding ones. It is, nevertheless, amusing in parts, and it met with a cordial reception. Several of the scenes are too drastic, even overstepping the bounds of good taste, but the character types are very smartly and sharply delineated, and the satire is as bright as it is evident. Poël is a little island somewhere in the Baltic—Herr Engel likes proverbially to place his "milieu" near the water—and a contest has broken out among the fishers of the island and the coast as regards the booty of the ocean. The government sends a young official to quell the strife. The envoy is Von Thümler, a pleasant, happy-go-lucky fellow, who succeeds in everything without any merits of his own. There are other and better men in the "Ministerium," but Thümler—being born under a lucky star—gets advancement undeserved, and when he stumbles falls—as the Germans term it—upstairs instead of down. The emissary of peace makes a muddle of everything. Each side of the conflicting party manages to dupe him in turn and expose him to ridicule; his suave, man-of-the-world manners only provoke the uncultured fishermen, while the better-class party invites him to a champagne supper and makes him intoxicated. The pilot, Oll Kusemann—an old villain who sticks at nothing—lays a kind of blackmail plot. He makes Von Thümler believe he has, while under the influence of wine, insulted the pretty daughter of his host, the well-to-do boat owner Bjebow. Kusemann makes use of Von Thümler's fright (for he believes the lie) to gain his interest in favour of himself and his party, and he also succeeds in obtaining Anne-Marik and her good-sized dowry for his son Jasper. Once again Von Thümler comes off conqueror. He has successfully substituted peace for strife, and a grateful government rewards him with the promotion to the rank of Regierungsrat. The clever comedian Herr Engels carried the whole piece on his shoulders with his masterly impersonation of the old rascal Kusemann, and he was applauded to the echo. No less good was Herr Christians in the rôle of Von Thümler; and other characters were admirably sustained by Fräulein Jaeger, Herr Waldow, and Herr Schwaiger.

DR. OSCAR BLUMENTHAL'S adaptation of M. Sardou's three-act comedy *La Piste* was produced on Friday last at the Lustspielhaus. The German title is *Verwehte Spuren* (vanished traces). As the piece is doubtless known to your readers, a narration of the plot will be superfluous. Whether its reception was the fault of the play itself or of the adaptation is not for me to say, but the fact remains that the audience was extremely captious. The first act produced neither applause nor dissatisfaction to speak of; the second was warmly applauded; the third proved an utter failure, the majority of the audience scarcely waiting to see the curtain fall. The interpretation was thoroughly adequate and the mounting in good taste.

MR. BOURCHIER AT MANCHESTER.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier lectured from the stage of the Theatre Royal, Manchester, last week, on "William Shakespeare, Maker of Men." Judge Parry presided. In the course of his lecture Mr. Bourchier said: To me, a world without Shakespeare is inconceivable. After the Bible there is nothing in literature so full of truth and instruction as Shakespeare. Shakespeare, the greatest of all Englishmen, loved his country, and some of us who are much smaller men might do well to follow his example. Nowhere does Shakespeare attempt to teach theatrical critics their business, which points to one of two things—either Shakespeare had not the courage which only a certain amount of common sense keeps in check, or there were no theatrical critics in his day. The old cheap gibe that "the critics are those who have failed in every other walk of life" is a fallacy. Nobody knows this better than I do. But I often wish that the theatrical critic would aim to distinguish between the actor and his part, and not impute faults to the actor which really belong to the character he is playing. You may remember that when the celebrated artist Whistler was asked if he objected to all criticisms, he replied: "Certainly not—not from a master of my craft, not from anybody who fully understands its technique, its difficulties." And I believe most members of my profession often wish that there was more knowledge of the technique of our art among the theatrical critics, more desire to appreciate the difficulties of our craft. Very often an actor is lauded to the skies for his performance of a part which may be said to play itself; but the same actor will get little praise for a performance of a less showy character, which, nevertheless, has required more study, more care, more intelligence. Many a clever young actor or actress is ruined by indiscriminate praise at the outset of his or her career; many a one is disheartened by imperfect appreciation.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The first item of the concert on Wednesday evening was Miss Daisy Walker's pianoforte solo "Hexentanz," by MacDowell. Miss Sophie Newson received much applause for her violin solo, Adagio and Rondo from De Beriot's 9th Concerto; and a very youthful student, Master Cecil Hay, did great credit to his professor in Raff's piano solo "Tambourin." One of the most successful instrumental pieces was the piano solo by Miss Inez Levy, who proved an excellent executant, and played with evident appreciation Chopin's "Fantaisie-Impromptu" and "Etude" in G major by Moszkowski. Fischer's "Romance" for solo-violoncello was remarkably well played by Mr. J. R. Sutton, who produced a good and expressive tone. Several promising vocal items were included in the programme, Miss Hannah Lightman giving recit. and aria "Che faro, from Gluck's *Orpheus*, and Miss F. E. Bickerton sang in a bright and effective style German's song, "Love is meant to make us glad," although the young lady must try and avoid a tendency to vibrate. In Gounod's song, "Entreat me not to leave thee," Miss Florence M. Cross was somewhat overtaxed, the melody requiring more dramatic expression; but Mr. C. H. Fisher gave a good account of the song "Hybrias the Cretan," by Elliott. Relief was afforded by the very clever recitation given by Miss Winifred Barnett, pupil of Miss Kate Rorke, who greatly distinguished herself in the recitation "The Clown's Baby." Miss Florence Paul sang "At Vespers," by Signor Tosti, and the concert concluded with Schumann's solo pianoforte "Etudes de Concert," No. 2, played by Miss Millie Flower. The accompanist was Miss Jenny Hyman.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. E. S. Willard, now touring in Canada, takes a proper pride in the fact that Actors' Day has virtually been in force under his management since 1903. The idea was instituted by Mr. Willard during his season in that year at the St. James's Theatre at the time that he was producing *The Cardinal*, and the proceeds on that occasion amounted to something not far short of £100. The difference between Mr. Willard's scheme and that initiated by the Actors' Day Association, is that while the former is made a condition of each artist's contract, the latter is purely voluntary. Which is the better of the two is a problem that still requires solution.

Mr. Willard's reception in Toronto in *Colonel Newcome* has been very gratifying, the enthusiasm of the crowded audience being of quite an unparalleled nature. Mr. Willard's American season will continue until the end of next April, after which it is well within the bounds of probability that he will return in time to produce a new play during the London season.

Miss Ellen Terry will finish the activities of a most momentous year this evening, and will take a hard-earned rest till the New Year. She then revisits America, the scene of many social and artistic triumphs, opening in New York on Jan. 28, under the management of Mr. Charles Frohman. Her first appearance will be made in Mr. Bernard Shaw's comedy, *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, in which the popular actress contributed so much to the prosperity of the Court Theatre, and other of her artistic impersonations will be given in due course.

Mr. H. B. Irving has set at rest the minds of some of the New York critics, who, while acknowledging the young actor's ability, have questioned his wisdom in appearing in rôles in which his famous father was unapproachable. Mr. Irving's reply was as follows:—"I have been unwilling, reverently unwilling, to appear in characters he made his own, but it does not seem to be known that it is by the directions of my father's last will, in which he asked that I should do so, and that part of the proceeds of my engagements in his plays I should keep and part I should pay over to members of the family, as I am doing. That is the reason *The Lyons Mail*, *Charles I.*, *The Bells*, and other dramas are in my season's work, as my father wished."

The Academy of Dramatic Art, initiated by Mr. Beerbohm Tree, has so grown in estimation that the Council have to announce that the institution is now full, and no more students may be admitted this year. Intending candidates, however, may make application for next January, when the next entrance examination will be held. The special honorary classes for students who have reached the "final school" will be taken during the present term by Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Cyril Maude, and Sir Squire Bancroft.

Mrs. D'Oyly Carte has eventually made the concession to a strongly expressed desire, and will revive at the Savoy some of the operas with which the fame of Mr. W. S. Gilbert and the late Sir Arthur Sullivan are associated. The revivals will commence with *The Yeoman of the Guard*, which it is hoped will be produced about Dec. 8. The memory of the Savoy operas, which have had no counterpart in the metropolis, has been kept alive by touring companies, whose appearances in the foremost houses in London and the suburbs have always proved phenomenally attractive.

The late J. L. Toole's house, No. 44, Maida-vale, together with the furniture, is to be sold at auction by Messrs. Robinson and Fisher on Nov. 12. A complete record of Mr. Toole's stage career is constituted in the collection of photographs, among which is a drawing of a stage interlude during *Walker, London*, when the King went behind the scenes between the acts, and the Prince of Wales climbed the ladder on the houseboat Wild Duck. The wigs used by Mr. Toole in the majority of his productions are also to be offered. A large quantity of curios, silver plate, etc., has been removed to Willis's Rooms, St. James's, for disposal on Nov. 15.

The famous comedian's books, pictures, letters, and play-bills will be sold at Sotheby's on Nov. 8. Many of the bills note the earliest appearance of actors and actresses who are now at the head of the profession. Upwards of a thousand letters, some in the handwriting of Irving and Edmund Yates, hundreds of autographs and photographs, one of the latter representing Mr. Toole and Mr. Lionel Brough in *Dearer than Life*, and a lifelike portrait of Mr. Toole, painted in oils, will be included in the sale.

The trustees of the Actors' Day Fund, at a meeting on Monday last, decided to invite all classes of contributors to send representatives to an Advisory Board, who will make recommendations as to the disposal of the fund. All contributors will thus be enabled to make their wishes known through their representatives. The method of nomination of these representatives will be published next week. Meantime, the trustees affirm the principle that only those who are on the register—viz., actors and actresses who are willing to give their services on one night a year, and managers and authors who support the scheme—will be eligible to benefit. Encouraging returns of the result of the initiation of the scheme are coming in; but it is not probable that the final result will be known for some little time.

Daily additions are being made to the programme of the matinée to Miss Emily Soldene, which is to be given at the Palace Theatre on Nov. 13. Sir Charles Wyndham will on this occasion make his only appearance in London this season, and the entertainment will be further enriched by contributions from Miss Marie Tempest, Mlle. Mariette Sully, Mlle. Adeline Genée, Miss Nellie Stewart, Miss Agnes Fraser, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Miss Carrie Moore, Miss Florence Lloyd, Mr. Seymour Hicks, with the *Bath Bun Girls* from the Aldwych Theatre, Mr. Louis Bradfield, Cav. Mario Sammarco, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Walter Passmore, and Mr. George Grossmith. The souvenir programme is being designed by Mr. John Hassall, R.I., and copies of it will be sold by popular actresses. There will be no managerial expenses, and Mr. Richard Northcott, the hon. secretary, has been able to arrange for the whole of the proceeds to be devoted towards the formation of a fund to provide Miss Soldene with a life annuity.

The King recommenced playgoing on Monday, when he visited Drury Lane, and enjoyed the performance of Mr. Hall Caine's *The Bondman*. Although His Majesty had previously sent word that the rising of the curtain was not to be delayed on his account, he entered the Royal box punctually at the advertised time.

All good wishes will go to Miss Edith Adeson, the daughter of the well-known comedian, Mr. Martin Adeson, who on Saturday last was married to Mr. Ryton Hoare at the Halifax Registrar's Office. Both young people are members of *The Geisha* company on tour, the bride being the Molly Seamore and the bridegroom the Second Officer in the popular musical comedy. Mr. J. H. Kidger, the company's manager, was "best man," and Mr. Chevalier Legrand, the musical director, and Mr. Harry Reynolds, the stage-manager, were also present.

Mr. Felix Rimington has been engaged by Mr. Lingford Carson for pantomime.

America has anticipated England in paying honour to Mr. T. P. O'Connor for his exertions in behalf of the Musical Copyright Bill, which recently passed through Parliament. On the evening of the 19th inst. the New York Music Publishers' Association celebrated the victory over musical piracy by a dinner to the popular M.P., the guests at which included prominent members of the musical world of America. London will have the opportunity of expressing gratitude on Sunday, Nov. 18, when Mr. O'Connor will be similarly entertained, the committee for the occasion being one of unexampled strength.

Mr. Sinclair Neill and company produced Muskerry's *David Garrick* at Ulster Minor Hall, Belfast, on the 11th and 12th inst., and attracted crowded audiences. Mr. Neill is a clever actor, and gave a perfect delineation of the title-rôle, excelling especially in the tender passages with Violet, while in the last act he rose to quite a sublime height, fully meriting the enthusiastic applause bestowed. Miss Mina F. Murphy was a charming Violet Gresham, her acting fully earning the high enconiums showered upon her. One of the most meritorious performances was that furnished by Mr. W. J. Rea as Alderman Gresham; and Miss Lilias McBain as Mrs. Rumbelow deservedly shared in the honours. Mr. J. D. Brannigan as the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut acquitted himself creditably; and the same may be said of Mr. J. Walker as Rumbelow. Miss Eveline Moore was decidedly humorous as the maiden lady Selina; and other parts were admirably sustained by Messrs. W. J. Ellis and C. Murphy. The performance was a striking success, and Mr. Neill deserves to be heartily congratulated. Mrs. Jansen was responsible for the pretty scenery and costumes.

By kind permission of Mr. George Dance and Mr. Frank Allen, on Wednesday, Oct. 24, a copyright performance was given at Richmond Theatre of a new (Dutch) comic opera, *Onawaker*, in two acts, by Mr. Newman Harding.

Miss Davies Webster and Miss Rose Cazalet's entertainment company will give musical and dramatic entertainments on Wednesday evening, Nov. 14, and Friday afternoon, Nov. 16, at the Royal Albert Hall Theatre. Among the items of the programme will be the late Alfred Lord Tennyson's one-act play, *The Falcon*, with Mr. John Macfarlane, Miss Davies Webster, Miss Rose Cazalet, and Mr. Percy Goodyer in the cast, and a new monologue, entitled *Flat Burglary*, written for Miss Rose Cazalet by Mr. George P. Hawtrey. Mr. Noel Fleming, Miss Gertrude Wood, and others will sing. Miss Violet Cecil will dance. Miss E. Caverhill Shiels will direct instrumental music, and be the pianiste.

The seventh annual dinner of the O.P. Club will take place on Sunday, Nov. 4, at the Criterion Restaurant. Mr. Sidney Dark, who will occupy the chair, will propose the toast of "The Drama," to which Mr. Hall Caine will respond. The toast of "The Visitors" will be acknowledged by Mr. Granville Barker, and Miss Edith Wynne Matthison will reply on behalf of the ladies.

An unfortunate accident has compelled Miss Lilian Braithwaite temporarily to retire from the cast of Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen's production of *The Amateur Socialist*. During her absence her part of Evelyn Rivers is being played by Miss Sybil Carlisle. Mr. Allen has also made some alterations in the cast of *The Lemonade Boy*, the part of Guy Turner now being entrusted to Mr. P. H. Clayton Greene, and that of Maria to Miss Margaret Bussé.

Mr. Templer Powell, lately supporting Miss Mabel Love, has been transferred to Mr. Hutchison's répertoire company to play the leads, including Mr. Cyril Maude's part in *Cousin Kate*. Mr. Powell will remain with this company till the expiration of his year's contract with Mr. Hutchison at Christmas.

Mr. Robert Newman's annual concert will take place at Queen's Hall on Wednesday evening, Nov. 7, when promenade concert-goers and patrons of music in London will heartily welcome this opportunity of again hearing the Queen's Hall Orchestra (conducted by Mr. Henry J. Wood) at an evening concert, the regular season of symphony concerts being given on Saturday afternoons. Mr. Newman has selected a very strong Wagner programme, which includes in chronological order excerpts from *The Flying Dutchman*, *Tannhäuser*, *Lohengrin*, and all the master's finest works, and a well-attended and successful concert may be safely predicted.

"The Vicar of Wakefield," which is to be produced at the West-end in December, will have a preliminary tour in the provinces, beginning at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, on Nov. 12. More than one of the original members of the Savoy opera are included in the London cast, which comprises Mr. David Bispham, Mrs. Theodore Wright, Miss Isabel Jay, Miss Edith Clegg, Mr. Arthur Eldred, Master Gordon Travis, Mr. Richard Temple, Mr. Walter Hyde, Mr. C. Oram Lander, Mr. Powis Pinder, Miss Moreen, Miss Valerie de Lacey, and Miss Bella Wallis.

The annual prize distribution to the students of the Guildhall School of Music will be made this afternoon at the school by the Lady Mayoress. The proceedings will also include a report on the work of the past year by Dr. W. H. Cummings, the esteemed principal of this institution.

The members of the Shakespeare Society in connection with the Moody-Manners Opera Company, by permission of Mr. Manners, gave a recital of scenes from several plays before the Glaspow branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society on the afternoon of the 19th inst. The programme commenced with the Forest of Arden scenes from *As You Like It*, in which the honours were carried off by Mrs. Wilson Pembroke as Rosalind and Mr. Frank Rowe as Orlando. The Forum scenes from *Julius Cæsar* followed, Mr. Charles Magrath using his fine voice to great advantage as Brutus. Antony was undertaken by Mr. Chapman-Huston, Cæsar by Mr. George King, and Cassius by Mr. E. G. Renshaw.

The balcony and farewell scenes from *Romeo and Juliet* were afterwards beautifully rendered by Miss Edith Alvord and Mr. Frank Rowe; Miss B. Alexander and Mr. Chapman-Huston gave the Queen's closet scene from *Hamlet*; and the programme ended on the comedy note with the kitchen scene from *Twelfth Night*, played by Mrs. Wilson Pembroke, Messrs. Renshaw, King, and Rowe. The pleasure of the audience was further enhanced by the fine rendering of Sargent's setting of "Blow, blow, thou winter wind," by Mr. Charles Manners; an entirely new version of "Sigh no more, ladies," by Cuthbert Hawley, was interpreted by Mr. Lewys James; and Mr. Frank Rowe sang the same composer's exquisite setting of "O Mistress Mine."

Miss Nita Faydon and Mr. Whitford Kane, whose finished performances of Sunday and Jacky on the original tour of Thomas Raceward's play will be agreeably recalled, will make their first appearances in the leading Shakespearean parts at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, in December. Amongst the company will be found such well-known names as Mr. Godfrey S. Tearle (who will play Orlando, Brutus, &c.), Mr. Philip Gordon, Mr. F. M. Paget, Mr. Alfred Gray, Miss Molly Malone, Miss Gertrude Gilbert, and Miss Edith Coleman, in addition to Mr. Sinclair Neill and Mr. Houston Mebarry, two Belfast actors.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier's lecture on "William Shakespeare, Maker of Men," which he gave with the greatest success at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on the 19th inst., was repeated at the Glasgow Athenæum on Tuesday, when Sir Ure Primrose was in the chair. On Tuesday next Mr. Bourchier will deliver it again at the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, when the chair will be taken by Lord Kingsburgh. These lectures are given under the auspices of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, and have proved of infinite interest to large audiences.

Mr. George Edwardes has been unable to find a more fitting title for his new production at Daly's, and it will therefore see the light this evening under the name of *Les Merveilleuses*. It was hoped that M. Sardou, the veteran author of the French original, would have been present at the premier of the new opera, but he is advised that at his age it would hardly be wise for him to venture on an autumn journey over the sea. "I hope, however," he adds in a letter to Mr. Edwardes, "that though I shall not be there, you will reap the fruits of your labour in producing *Les Merveilleuses* and introducing the piece to the British public, and will once more justify your high reputation as an impresario."

Miss Violet Lewis has been engaged by Mr. Richard Flanagan to play Emilia in his revival of *Othello* at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, about the second week in January. Miss Lewis is now with Mr. and Mrs. Kendal on tour.

An operatic concert in costume will be given by M. and Mme. Cokkinis, at the Queen's (small) Hall, on Wednesday evening next. M. and Mme. Cokkinis will be heard in a number of excerpts from grand opera, and will be assisted by Miss Millicent Bradfield (violin), Mr. T. Methodios (flute), Mr. Geo. W. Hodgson (baritone), and Signor Tito Mattei, who will play pianoforte soli and company several of his own compositions. Mme. E. Hastings Warren and M. Napoleon Lambelet will also officiate at the pianoforte.

Mr. Wentworth Croke will have the deep sympathy of his many friends, theatrical and otherwise, in the sad bereavement that has befallen him in the sudden death of his father at the advanced age of eighty-one. The late Mr. Charles John Croke was one of the oldest civil servants, having held a high position in the Post Office, from which he retired many years since. Mr. Wentworth Croke and his brother inherit their late father's entire fortune.

A fantastic comedietta, entitled *Humpty Dumpty*, by Hubert Colegrave, and a new musical children's play, called *Under the Greenwood Tree*, by Major Philip Trevor, will be produced under the direction of Mr. Leo Trevor at the Scala Theatre, on Dec. 11 and two following days. The dances are being arranged by Mme. Katti Lanner. The performance, which is under the patronage of the Princess of Wales, will be given in aid of the Kensington General Hospital.

Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton, the proprietors of the Royal Opera House, Leicester, are having installed a new heating apparatus of the very latest pattern, with radiators in different parts of the auditorium. They have also had the curtains taken from the back of the upper circle, and replaced them with a handsome glass screen, which can be removed when the warmer weather arrives.

Mr. Bannister Howard will put forward Messrs. E. Lockwood and Robert Crossman's *Sergeant Brue* company at the Crystal Palace Theatre on Monday. If pretty faces, lovely frocks, catchy music, smart dialogue, and heaps of fun are an attraction to theatre-goers the patrons of the Palace Theatre will be amply satisfied. An interesting attraction at the Sydenham house on November 5 will be *The Four Just Men*. This play, which has been dramatised from Mr. George Wallace's celebrated book, was first presented to London playgoers at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Oct. 8, when it met with great success.

Mr. Louis N. Parker, who organised such triumphs of scenic splendour in the Sherborne and Warwick panoramas, will be the master of the Bury St. Edmunds pageant, which is to take place amid the ruins of the old monastery from July 8 to 13 next. Mr. G. Stuart Ogilvie has contributed Episode I., and Mr. James Rhoades has written the connecting narrative choruses. The first episode begins at the period of A.D. 50, and depicts the revolt of Boadicea, Queen of the East Anglians. Episode II. portrays the coronation of Edmund. Edmund sacrifices his own life to save the lives of his people. He is bound to a young oak and slain, and his head is found miraculously guarded by a great wolf. In Episode III. King Canute comes to Bury (then called Beodricsworth), and founds a monastery, and grants a charter establishing the future greatness of the house. Edward the Confessor comes on a pilgrimage to St. Edmund's tomb, and a rich new shrine is set up, to which the body of St. Edmund is, with great solemnity, translated.

Henry II. and Queen Eleanor visit the shrine in the fourth episode, during which Richard Cœur de Lion disputes with Abbot Samson for the wardship of Nesta of Cockfield. In this episode King John also visits the town. The Magna Charta forms the chief theme of the next episode, and in the following one the arrest and murder of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, as set forth in Shakespeare's *Henry VI.*, Part 2, is depicted. The dawn of a new age begins in episode seven, when Mary Tudor, widow of Louis XII. of France, and wife of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, is present at St. Matthew's Fair, where she is entertained with dances and madrigals by the "merry and jovial East Anglians." Afterwards comes the dissolution, with the dispersal of the monks, the sale of the Abbey buildings to John Eyer for £412 19s. 4d., and the foundation of the first of King Edward VI.'s thirty grammar schools. This leads to the final tableau, in which the thousand and odd performers will take part.

Mr. Edward McLean will commence touring this Christmas a first-class drama by a well-known author. The tour will be under the direction of Mr. Leslie Vyner, who recently took out *The Lightning's Flash* and *Saved from the Sea*.

Miss Sophie Harriss, who is pursuing a triumphal tour of the provinces with Baron H. Harriss's production of *The Prince of Pilsen*, entertained the members of the company to a picnic at Cleethorpes in the 18th inst. The party, which numbered nearly sixty, proceeded to their destination in chars-à-banc, and disembarked at the Dolphin Hotel, where a sumptuous luncheon was served. Afterwards various games and pastimes were indulged in, and a pleasant afternoon was spent. At the conclusion of the outing, the party drove back to Grimsby, where the company was appearing at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, and escorted Miss Harriss to her hotel. Miss Harriss's kindness was of course warmly appreciated.

Mr. E. B. Norman has finally fixed upon Saturday, Nov. 10, as the date of the production at the New Royalty Theatre of Mr. Charles Hannan's farcical comedy, *The Electric Man*. In addition to Mr. Harry Nicholls, who will play the title-rôle, Mr Marsh Allen, Miss Phyllis Relph, Mrs. B. M. de Solla, Miss Ruth Maitland, and Mr. H. de Lange, have been engaged, and Miss June Van Buskirk, who has just returned from a trip to California, has been selected to play the principal lady's part. Mrs. Charles Calvert will also be in the cast.

An event of considerable interest next week will be the reappearance on Monday of Mr. Beerbohm Tree at His Majesty's, where *The Winter's Tale* ends this evening. Mr. Tree will give London playgoers an opportunity of renewing pleasurable acquaintance with *Colonel Newcome*, which will be replaced on Monday, Nov. 26, by a revival, for two weeks, of Shakespeare's *Richard II.* Mr. Tree then leaves town again in order to open the New Theatre at Cardiff, where he will play from Dec. 10 to Dec. 15 inclusive, his most famous productions, including *Twelfth Night*, *Hamlet*, *Colonel Newcome*, and *Business is Business*. His Majesty's will be closed while Mr. Tree is away, and his return to the theatre on Thursday, Dec. 27, will be marked by the production of the eagerly-awaited *Antony and Cleopatra*.

The dominant note of *Antony and Cleopatra* will be struck at the first rising of the curtain, when a colossal figure of the Sphinx, inflexible and unmindful of human suffering, will be revealed, and fade away as the play begins. The figure appears again at the end, after the turmoil of passion has passed away, as an emblem of eternity. The painting of this picture is in the artistic hands of Mr. Joseph Harker. Among those already engaged to support Mr. Tree and Miss Constance Collier in the title-rôles are Mr. Norman Forbes and Mr. Julian L'Estrange.

The usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday, when there were present:—Sir Squire Bancroft (president), Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mr. Cyril Maude (vice-president), Miss Carlotta Addison, Miss Kate Phillips, and Messrs. Blake Adams, Cecil Barth, Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, C. Hayden Coffin, F. Cremlin, Lawrence Grant, Fewlass Llewellyn, Norman McKinnel, Quinton McPherson, Algernon Syms, Spencer Trevor, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

In connection with the proposed Irving memorial it was resolved, "That as from this date a movement be set on foot for the purposes of raising a memorial to the late Sir Henry Irving." Further, "That a meeting of the theatrical profession be convened by the Actors' Association at the earliest possible date, to forward the movement of the Irving memorial, at which the public may attend, and a preliminary committee of five, with power to add to their number, be formed to carry out, with the secretary, the necessary arangements." Messrs. Cyril Maude, Acton Bond, Cecil Raleigh, Lawrence Grant, and Gerald du Maurier were elected to constitute the preliminary committee.

A complaint was submitted concerning the alleged insanitation of a provincial theatre. The secretary was instructed to communicate with the Licensing Authorities. The hon. solicitors reported they had advised several members. The result of the meeting of the A.A., inaugurated by a member of the commissioners' committee, and held under the chairmanship of Mr. Arthur Bourchier at the Theatre Royal, Manchester on Friday, the 19th inst., was reported to the council by two members of that body who were present on the occasion. Percy Corray was nominated for election to the A.A., and two former members were reinstated.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting last Tuesday, when there were present Mr. Acton Bond (chairman), and Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater, Lawrence Grant, C. Aubrey Smith, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). The secretary received instructions in connection with routine.

Mr. Robert Ganthony, the popular actor, author, and entertainer, is to be accorded a complimentary benefit at the Castle Theatre, Richmond, on Tuesday and Wednesday next, when the programme will include a new comedy by Mr. Ganthony, entitled *Uncle Jack*. An influential committee is working hard to secure the success of the occasion, which is meeting with gratifying support.

Brilliant and crowded audiences have greeted Mr. Martin Harvey at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, this week, and the revival of *The Corsican Brothers* has created the maximum of interest. Next Friday night, at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, Mr. Harvey will produce *The Spell*, a play in two panels, by Miss Rosamond Longbridge. Miss N. de Silva will appear as a "red-haired girl," the play, the scene of which is a Galway cabin, dealing with the Irish superstition concerning hair of that tint. Mr. Harvey will also appear therein, and the third part will be played by Miss Mary Rorke. *A Cigarette-Maker's Romance* will be revived on the same evening. The advance booking for the Manchester engagement shows a large increase on any previous visit.

Mr. Fred Bulmer has secured the entire rights of a powerful domestic drama, *The Girl Who Went Astray*, and is sending it out at an early date. Mr. Bulmer is commendably proud of the fact that his Scotch tour of *Sentenced for Life* has beaten all previous visits of the play, notwithstanding strikes and other obstacles to theatrical business.

Mr. George Dance's *A Country Girl* (North company) played at Dublin last week, and their journey to Newcastle was notable from the fact that they were the first theatre party to cross the King Edward Bridge. Moreover, the special train in which they travelled from Leeds had the same driver as the King's train in July.

Mr. Sidney Dark, in his paper, entitled "Are we Downhearted?" read to the O.P. Club at the Criterion on Sunday, came to the conclusion that what was wrong with the theatre was its commerce. At the same time, he maintained that what London wanted was cheaper theatres run on more business-like lines. Mr. Carl Hentschel, in a cheery speech, pointed out that the theatres were paying well, and that the managers obeyed the law of supply and demand. He considered that the modern play was of a higher standard than that of some years since.

We regret to have to record the death of Mrs. E. C. Matthews, who passed away suddenly on the 19th inst. Mrs. Matthews was a member of Mr. W. Payne Seddon's company, which gave a one-night performance of *The Bells* at Tipperary on the day previous. She was taken ill with violent internal pains early in the morning, and, subsequently, the doctor advised her removal to the hospital, where she died. At the inquest Miss E. Bergin said the deceased lodged in her house in James's-street, and came home after the performance on the Thursday night in her usual health. Before going to bed she partook of some milk and toast. Witness was called about three o'clock next morning by the lady's companion, Miss Wall, and a medical man was immediately sent for. The doctor said death was due to cardiac syncope, following acute gastric symptoms, and a verdict was returned accordingly. The funeral took place on Monday morning at Tipperary, several members of the company being present at the grave.

Miss Annie Hughes, who is continuing her tour in *A Country Mouse* at the Camden Theatre, next week will produce on Monday, Nov. 25, at the Midland Hotel Theatre, Manchester, a new comedy-drama, by Jerome K. Jerome, with the title of *Tommy*. The character to be played by Miss Hughes is that of a daughter of a gentleman who attempts to run a London newspaper with disastrous results. Mr. Jerome's novel, "Tommy and Co." was founded on the play, which is to be seen at Fulham the week following its production.

Miss Mariette Sully, who is engaged for the part of the cousin of Illyrine in *Les Merveilleuses*, to be produced at Daly's Theatre to-night, promises to take a place on the London stage similar to that held by Juliette Nesville. She has already secured the favour of playgoers on this side the Channel by her piquant rendering of O Juliette Diamant in the recent Daly's revival of *The Geisha*. A charming singer, she left the music halls in Paris to take up the part of La Poupée. She is quite learned too, boasting a degree, and is familiar with Latin and Greek.

The directors of the Spa Theatre, Bridlington, which was burnt down on Saturday last, together with their general-manager, Mr. Henry Hague, are already engaged in the arrangements for the rebuilding of a thoroughly up-to-date new theatre, which they have decided shall be ready for opening in the spring of the forthcoming year. Bridlington people, it is assured, will have every reason to be proud of a handsome new theatre properly equipped in every detail desired by both artists and audience. All contracts made for next year stand good, and bookings for first-class attractions are to be proceeded with.

The Prince's Theatre, Horwich, was reopened on Monday under the management of Mr. Fred Lewis, of Oldham, several improvements in the lighting, heating, and decorating making the place very comfortable. Some good bookings are announced, and, with Mr. Lewis Grainger as business-manager, the place bids fair to become as popular as heretofore.

At the New Theatre on Thursday Mr. Mackainers resumed his part of the wine merchant, from which he has been absent for the last fortnight owing to illness.

Mr. Wyn-Weaver and Mr. Ernest Noble, who have been touring through the year with Mr. H. F. Maltby's successful play, *The Youngest of Three*, are re-engaged by Mr. Peter Davey, of Kingston-on-Thames, for pantomime. This makes Mr. Weaver's second and Mr. Noble's fourth consecutive year in pantomime under this management.

Mr. Alfred Manners, the energetic proprietor and manager of the Queen's Theatre, Swindon, carried out an interesting scheme in connection with the return visit of the Moody-Manners Grand Opera Company this week. Before deciding which operas should be presented he took a ballot of the town, posting voting papers to his many patrons, asking them to choose the seven works they would prefer. The result was that the following operas were billed:—*Carmen*, *Faust*, *Bohemian Girl*, *Il Trovatore*, *Tannhäuser*, *Lohengrin*, and *Maritana*. They were accordingly presented with the greatest success, the house being crowded at each performance as soon as early doors were opened, and all the extra rows of reserved seats and stalls found occupants.

Mr. Edward Marris has acquired the small town right of a number of Mr. Dance's pieces, including *The Catch of the Season*, *The Duchess of Dantzic*, *Veronique*, *The Orchid*, *The Girl from Kay's*, and *The Cingalee*.

"Alice in Wonderland," which Mr. Seymour Hicks is to reproduce at Christmas, has at length found a haven in the Apollo Theatre, where, by arrangement with Messrs. Greet and Engelbach, and Mr. Tom B. Davis, the dainty play will be revived about Dec. 18.

Miss Kathleen Rind has happily quite recovered from a serious affection of the throat, which has prevented her from taking any engagement for the past year. She makes her first public appearance since her illness at the Bechstein Hall on Thursday afternoon next at a vocal and dramatic recital given by her and Miss Adelaide Rind. Miss Kathleen will be responsible for the recitations, which will include a scene from *The Winter's Tale*.

In spite of a varied round of plays and many rehearsals, Mr. Norman V. Norman's company find time to indulge in a great deal of athletic exercise. There are two good hockey teams, one mixed, and a great number of matches are played. Last week the mixed team defeated a strong local club at Hastings by 10 goals to nil, and during the same week the men's team played the powerful Hastings and St. Leonard's Club, and after a very exciting game, were defeated by 3 goals to 2, the theatrical team scoring the first goal. Mr. Norman is a veteran football player, and occupied the position of three-quarter back under Rugby rules for Gloucester County over twenty years ago.

We regret to announce the death on Wednesday, the 17th inst., of Miss Lily Round (Doris), third daughter of the late Henry Round, of Liverpool, sister to Mrs. W. Saunderson and Mrs. Fred Emney (Blanche Doris), after a long illness of consumption. Wreaths and loving messages of sympathy were sent by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Williams, Mr. and Mrs. John Nash (Lil Hawthorne), Mr. and Mrs. Fred Eastman, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Emney, Mr. and Mrs. Saunderson, Mrs. Henry Round, Miss Enid Round, Miss Dolly Round (Mrs. Turner), and many other friends. Mrs. Emney and Mrs. Saunderson desire to thank the above ladies and gentlemen.

Frederic Hay's farce, *A Restless Night*, originally produced in 1873, replaced the old comedy *He's Much to Blame* at Terry's on Monday, when it was put on in front of *Yellow Fog Island*. The farcical character of the little piece, which portrays in comical fashion the efforts of a young lady and her maid to keep secret the visits of their sweethearts, is redeemed by some excellent songs, cleverly imitated from the French by Mr. Nation. Mr. Charles Groves appears successfully in his original character of Corporal Tir, and his fiancée, Fifine, is gracefully played and sung by Miss Elsie Cooke. The stern parent is effectively represented by Mr. Campbell Bishop; and Mr. A. B. Imeson as Jacques and Miss Gladys Archbutt as the maid Annette add to the agreeable nature of the production.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier, who recently entrusted Mr. Malcolm Watson's play, *Handsome Jim*, to Mr. Edward Michael for trial production at Margate by the Répertoire Theatre Syndicate, has shown his practical appreciation of the methods and work of this organisation by giving Mr. Michael yet another entirely new play, which is to be produced the end of November at the Theatre Royal, Margate.

Mr. Wallace Stranack has been transferred from Mr. Charles Macdona's *Three Little Maids* (N.) company to his *Mr. Popple* principal company. On leaving the former he was presented with a handsome solid-silver cigarette-case from the members of the company, and received a hearty send-off.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard has left London for Ryde, where he is to have a special benefit on Wednesday next at the Theatre Royal. The attraction will be *The Private Secretary*, performed by the Ryde Amateurs, with Mr. Howard in his original part of Mr. Cattermole.

Mr. Allan Wilkie, this week, is paying his first visit to Weston-Super-Mare, and is being received with great enthusiasm. At the end of the third act of *Othello* on Monday evening he had no less than seven curtain calls, while at the end of the play the audience refused to disperse until Mr. Wilkie made them a short speech, in which he briefly thanked them for their most encouraging reception.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE made a new departure at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Tuesday. In the picturesque garb of *The Man Who Was*, he offered, at the close of the performance, a protest against certain Press criticisms of *Colonel Newcome*. Mr. Tree's indignation is quite comprehensible when we learn that the play was described in the critique in question as "an outrage," "an annoyance," "the veriest rubbish," "a vulgarisation," "an outrage upon Thackeray," "like fifth-rate claret," "marring and debasing," "crude and clumsy," and "a mere caricature," with "language like a halfpenny novelette." These be very bitter words; but "what's the odds as long as" the piece is received, as it invariably is, with the most thorough and complete satisfaction?

THAT Mr. Arthur Bourchier is still unconvinced of the value of first-night criticism is shown by the letter which he forwarded to Mr. J. T. Grein, in lieu of personally attending that gentleman's interesting lecture on "The Vexed Question of Dramatic Criticism," at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday. Mr. Bourchier wrote:—"I earnestly advocate a change in the manner in which the critics of daily papers are compelled to write hurriedly on the necessarily nervous efforts of actors and actresses at first-night performances. My views on this point are unalterable. Of course, it can be argued that some players may give better individual performances on a first night than they subsequently do, but I venture to think they are the exception to the rule. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to attend an amicable meeting of leading editors and leading managers to discuss the question. Mr. Tree's suggestion, since carried out by Mr. Archer in the *Tribune*, that a short report should appear the morning after a first night, to be followed later with a detailed criticism, is, in my humble opinion, the very best solution of the difficulty."

MR. BEERBOHM'S TREE'S selection of the Sphinx as the dominating figure of the opening and final tableaux in his forthcoming production of *Antony and Cleopatra* may possibly have been suggested by Mr. Bernard Shaw's use of the statue in *Cæsar and Cleopatra*. The following is Mr. Shaw's idea of the "picture":—"Darkness. Dead silence. Then the blackness and stillness break softly into silver mist and strange airs as the windswept harp of Memnon plays at the dawning of the moon. It rises full over the desert; and a vast horizon comes into relief, broken by a huge shape, which soon reveals itself in the spreading radiance as a Sphinx pedestalled on the sands. The light still clears, until the upraised eyes of the image are distinguished looking straight forward and upward in infinite fearless vigil." That admirable artist, Mr. Harker, might find worthy inspiration in this poetical description of the Egyptian idol.

MR. ALBERT VISETTI, writing to the *Daily Mail*, protests against calls before the curtain. "How can we be expected," he says, "to stand, say, seeing Valentine, after cursing Marguerite—and dying—return a moment later with an expectant grin on his face? But I blame the public; artists are but human, and love the applause of their fellow-men. I was once present at a performance of *Trovatore*. You know how, in the fourth act, Manrico is heard singing a passionate farewell to Leonore from the interior of the tower in which he is imprisoned. Leonore waits in despair. A burly sentinel is at the gate. The audience shricked their plaudits. This was too much for Manrico. He descended the tower, burst open his prison locks, and, ignoring the sentinel, who was looking the other way, approached the footlights, kissed his hand to the house—and then, with the most sublime dignity, he released Leonore, re-entered the tower, shot the bolts upon himself—and sang the whole thing all over again!"

THE difference in the way of doing things in England and France is strikingly exemplified by the result of the contest between the French Society of Dramatic Authors and two Paris managers. The Society does not allow a leading manager to control more than one theatre; and it has quashed an attempt at plurality by which two men would have governed four playhouses in Paris. This was effected by expelling from the Society any author who wrote plays for the prospective pluralists. The Society has conquered, and continues to collect fees for its members at every theatre in France. In England a similar society once existed; but its most useful function was the detection—chiefly by the aid of local hairdressers—of unpaid-for performances of pieces given, chiefly by amateurs, in out-of-the-way villages and towns. Our English dramatists prefer to do their business by private contract.

IN the later stages of the French Revolution, the comparatively moderate men—they would have passed for fanatics at any ordinary period—found themselves outdone and even disgusted by the extremists of their own party. Something similar is the case in connection with the German drama and its advanced English critics. Mr. William Archer, writing in the *Tribune* on Wedekind's play *Erdgeist*, (*The Earth Spirit*), says:—"If *Erdgeist* were placed on the public stage in England it would excite an outcry more furious than that which greeted *Ghosts;* and as for its sequel, *Pandora's Box*, it would make even the Stage Society's hair stand on end. The German public, no doubt, is very different from the English public, and very much more enlightened; but there is no theatrical public on earth that could take Wedekind in large doses. It seems to me, then, that the critical attitude towards Sudermann and Wedekind is very significant. The critics are trying to frighten the great public—even the educated great public—away from things which it can really relish, and to force upon it forms of drama for which it is unripe, and which are, indeed, of doubtful theatrical value. I cannot but feel that an over-intellectual, over-exigent criticism, not untainted, perhaps, with what the Germans call 'snobismus,' is one of the dangers of the situation."

LULU, the heroine of the play, is vice personified. Her first "protector" is a rich journalist. He marries her to an old man and she proceeds to fascinate a young painter, the shock of the discovery killing her senile spouse with a stroke of apoplexy. Lulu marries the painter; but the journalist is still bewitched by the "little serpent," and tells the painter of Lulu's past. On this the artist cuts his throat, and the courtesan marries the journalist, whom she deceives with an acrobat, a schoolboy, an old man, a footman, and the journalist's own son. On her husband protesting, the seductive wanton shoots him dead. In the end Lulu is murdered in Whitechapel by "Jack the Ripper." If the Berlin critics are enjoying this sort of play, they must indeed possess strong stomachs.

MR. FREDK. MOUILLOT asks a Southampton paper to open its columns to public voting on the question, "Should smoking be allowed in the theatre proper?" "My conviction," Mr. Mouillot continues, "is that it should in the upper parts of the house. If it were the opinion of the majority that this innovation would be received with approval, my idea would be to turn the whole of the ground floor into stalls, and reduce the price of the dress circle, making it practically the pit, and allow smoking there and in the gallery. By this means, with proper ventilation, anyone who did not like smoking would be entirely free from it, and those who preferred to see the stage through the gentle influence of the soothing weed could do so. If your Editor would open your columns to the public vote on this vexed question, I should be much obliged."

"THE CHARITY THAT BEGAN AT HOME."

A Comedy, in Four Acts, by St. John Hankin.
Produced at the Court Theatre at a Matinée on Tuesday, Oct. 23.

Lady Denison ..... MISS FLORENCE HAYDON
Margery ..... MISS MAY MARTYN
Mrs. Eversleigh ..... MISS MARGARET MURRAY
Mrs. Horrocks ..... MISS LIZZIE HENDERSON
Miss Triggs ..... MISS AGNES THOMAS
Anson ..... MISS GERTRUDE HENRIQUES
General Bonsor ..... MR. DENNIS EADIE
Mr. Firket ..... MR. EDMUND GWENN
Hugh Verreker ..... MR. BEN WEBSTER
Basil Hylton ..... MR. BERTE THOMAS
Soames ..... MR. EUGENE MAYEUR
William ..... MR. NORMAN PAGE

Messrs. Vedrenne-Barker's matinées at the Court Theatre are, invariably, well worth witnessing. There is always an attempt, at any rate, at intellectual appeal in the plays produced; and if the endeavour is not always crowned with complete success, there is generally sufficient achievement to create interest and give satisfaction. The Court is becoming a home, not exactly for "lost plays," but for those pieces which, admirable in their own way, would hardly be likely to see the light elsewhere. It is also a happy opening-ground for young talent, and a place in which artists hitherto regarded as conventional may prove their capacity, at need, for more subtle work than is usually demanded from them.

Mr. St. John Hankin's piece *The Charity that began at Home* is a rather discouraging essay on the difficulty of doing good. That is to say, the general tenor of the satire is depressing; but the actual exposition of the author's argument, with the characters and incidents evolved therein, is decidedly diverting. The only obstacle to our satisfaction at the Court Theatre on Tuesday afternoon was the difficulty of being certain, from the commencement, what line the author was taking. His philanthropic missionary is so excellent in his arguments that Mr. Hankin almost lead us to believe that the laugh was going to be for, instead of against, him and his admiring disciple, Lady Denison, who is so much troubled by her attempts to carry Mr. Basil Hylton's theories into effect. Hylton, who is a preacher in an Independent Church somewhat similar to that founded by Robert Elsmere in Mrs. Humphry Ward's novel, advocates the assistance of the undeserving and forgiveness of the erring again and again; and Lady Denison, faithful to this creed, asks down to her country house a vulgar woman whom no one wants to know, an anecdotic bore, who has "cleared" out several clubs, a soured teacher of German who is continually harping on her humble position and the humiliations it involves, a shy nondescript, and a young man whose military past is not entirely spotless. A cynical and common-sense Chorus is supplied in the person of Mrs. Eversleigh, who comments very severely upon Lady Denison's indulgence, especially in the case of the maid-servant, Anson. The latter has been seduced by Soames, a butler who was engaged by Lady Denison in spite of a bad character from his last place, on the principle of giving a sinner a second chance. On being requested to "make an honest woman" of Anson, Soames smugly states that he is already married. Then, instead of taking a fancy to Hylton, who is rich, Lady Denison's daughter Margery, who is a strong Hyltonian, falls in love with Hugh Verreker, the young officer above-mentioned, who boldly admits his attachment to a system of individual egoism. In the end, however, Verreker finds that Margery is really too good for him, so he releases her from her engagement, and suggests that she should marry Hylton.

The difficulty is, indeed, constantly cropping up: how far absence of desert is to govern our charity. Possibly the quality of mercy is exercised by Lady Denison with too little wisdom and discretion; but, after all, Mr. Hankin does not punish her very severely in his play, and the annoyances caused by the behaviour of the "spoiler" of servants and the tiresome guests are merely trivial. Their effect on the audience is decidedly diverting, and those present at the Court on Tuesday afternoon laughed heartily at the droll lines the author has placed in the mouths of his characters, most of which are drawn without much subtlety, but with a vast amount of the direct and decided appeal which is so effective on the stage. It should be remembered that the charitably-endured guests are supposed to be exceptionally "impossible" people, or they would not be invited to enjoy Lady Denison's hospitality. The excessive anecdotage of the General, the abject timidity and self-effacement of Mr. Firket, and the sleek offensiveness of Miss Triggs account for their being "boycotted" by fellow-creatures less altruistic than her ladyship, and also for their exaggerated characteristics.

The members of the cast at the Court Theatre on Tuesday afternoon devoted great care and pains to their respective embodiments. Miss Florence Haydon was absolutely natural and convincing as the puzzled, plaintive, and kindly hostess, Lady Denison. She delivered the droll lines of the part with an absence of effort which made them doubly effective, and an excellent result was attained by Miss Haydon's admirable ease and unconsciousness. Indeed, the fault, if any, was on the side of underacting, a little louder enunciation being at times demanded by the gallery. Miss Haydon's impersonation was quite in the vein of pure comedy, and was capital, both in tone and general treatment. Miss May Martyn, who enacted Margery, has a winning way and a pleasant, prepossessing smile and manner. Her rendering of the rôle—quiet and moderate, yet never inadequate or perfunctory—was extremely good, and marked her as an actress of decided gift and promise. The amiable, facile way in which she met objections to her mother's Hyltonian methods was charming, and Miss Martyn may congratulate herself on having made a most agreeable impression. Miss Margaret Murray gave a bright and emphatic exposition of Mrs. Eversleigh's acute and cynical character, and looked the part satisfactorily. Miss Lizzie Henderson was sufficiently spacious and self-esteeming as Mrs. Horrocks, and did justice to the not too pronounced vulgarity of this personage; and Miss Agnes Thomas was vinegarish humility itself as Miss Triggs, her enunciation of the teacher's offensive insinuations being smooth, polished, and distinct. Miss Gertrude Henriques had not much to do as the lachrymose Anson, but made the most of her opportunities, and carried herself quite consistently. Mr. Dennis Eadie gave a striking portrature of a prosy, dense, and conceited old officer, his exterior being well attended to; and Mr. Edmund Gwenn, who had evidently devoted much time and care to his make-up, was irreproachably demure and submissive as Mr. Firkit. Mr. Ben Webster played the "awkward" and unthankful part of Hugh Verreker with his usual skill and tact, and gave conscientious care to the embodiment of the author's creation; and Mr. Berte Thomas was admirably unctuous and fluent as Basil Hylton, the persuasive style in which he set forth the philanthropist's principles quite accounting for the spell exercised by him over his admirers. Mr. Eugene Mayeur was the acme of demure impudence as Soames; and Mr. Norman Page contributed a clean and intelligent performance of the part of William. A distinctive feature of these Court Theatre matinées is the thorough way in which all the pieces are cast and acted, and the trouble and talent which are employed in their performance.

"THE VIRGIN GODDESS."

A Play, in Three Acts, by Rudolf Besier,
Produced at the Adelphi Theatre on Tuesday, Oct. 23.

Cresphontes ..... MR. ALFRED BRYDONE
Althea ..... MISS LILY BRAYTON
Cleito ..... MISS GENEVIEVE WARD
Haephestion ..... MR. OSCAR ASCHE
Iphicles ..... MR. CHARLES ROCK
Virgin ..... MISS MADGE MCINTOSH
A Herald ..... MR. G. KAY SOUPER
Priest ..... MR. H. R. HIGNETT
Attendant ..... MISS FLORENCE GRETTON
Leader of Male Chorus .. MR. WALTER HAMPDEN
Leader of Female Chorus .. MISS AGNES BRAYTON

"The Greek tragedy," says our old friend Schlegel, "in its pure and unaltered state will always for our theatres remain an exotic plant, which we can hardly hope to cultivate with any success, even in the hothouse of learned art and criticism"; and yet on Tuesday at the Adelphi—once the theatre of melodrama—was produced a tragedy founded on the classic models of Æschylus and Sophocles—a work full of poetic fervour, qualified by powerful situations, and clouded throughout by overwhelming sorrow. We welcome such a work as heartily as we admire the courage of Mr. Otho Stuart in producing it; for we doubt very much that a public displaying an affection for modern musical comedy will patronise to any great extent a theatre presenting a tragedy of such an uncompromising type as *The Virgin Goddess;* and yet on the first night no portion of the house was more enthusiastic in its applause of the author—Mr. Rudolf Besier—than the gallery. Enthusiasm broke out at the end of the fine first act, and as to the artistic success of this bold excursus into the realms of mythologic tragedy there can be no two opinions.

Mr. Besier, true to the chief models of the Greek dramatists we have mentioned, has not hesitated to introduce the Chorus, to which Horace ascribes a general expression of moral sympathy, exhortation, instruction, and warning. Poetical justice, we are told, is by no means indispensable to a good tragedy, but nevertheless we look for it; and though one's very soul is moved by the pity and terror of the final catastrophe in Mr. Besier's play, it could not be otherwise.

At the rising of the curtain we are in the city of Artis, in the marble courtyard before the Temple of Artemis (Diana). The inhabitants are in sore straits, for their doughtiest warriors are believed to have perished in some over-sea expedition, and Cresphontes, their King, prays with the women and boys, giving no heed to the defence of his kingdom. The monarch's arrant cowardice stirs up the resentment of his Queen, Althea, who, by secret messenger, sends a summons to the brother of Cresphontes, a mighty warrior and a great hunter, who has devoted himself to the service of Artemis in distant Arcadia. Cleito, the aged and blind mother of both the men, has the gift of prophecy, and presages that evil will ensue from the return of Haephestion to Artis. Cresphontes is angered greatly when he first sees his brother, and, refusing his help, not only tells him to be gone, but makes shameful terms with the enemy. If Artis is to be saved there is but one thing to be done—kill the man who is responsible for the policy of surrender. Urged by Althea, Haephestion strikes down the recreant King with his father's sword, which the dead man has disgraced.

The aged Cleito learns of the tragedy, and a most impressive scene is enacted over the bier of the murdered Cresphontes. She slowly realises the double-edged sorrow that pierces her heart; but tears are dried by the burning desire for the elemental justice of a life for a life. She will be the instrument of the gods, and bids Haephestion bare his breast for the stroke of the avenging sword. Haephestion is ready, but asks to be heard in his defence, and so eloquently urges the necessity for the deed that the distraught woman drops the sword. Left together, Althea tells the man—who more than hinted his love for her at their meeting in the first act—that it was not patriot love that prompted him to fratricide, but love of her. Equally guilty is she, and Haephestion hears her avowal of love with rapture. But what of Artemis? Will she not punish the warrior who is false to his vows? Suddenly the doors of the temple open, and the message of the outraged goddess comes through a virgin priestess. Artis is to be given over to the hands of the enemy, and is to become desolate, unless Haephestion, before the setting sun touches the western sea, slays Althea. The young Queen hears not the dread sentence, but falls in a swoon. Haephestion treats the message with contumely, and is about to rush away to head the warriors of Artis, when his limbs refuse to act. His heart is numbed. Struggling against the decree is useless, and the excited populace, with piteous cries, urge him to the deed. Their clamour but determines him to defy the goddess, obedience to whose decree is insisted upon by Cleito. Althea, coming upon the scene, realises the necessity for the sacrifice of her life, and, hand in hand, the pair enter the temple. The ban is immediately lifted; the ships of Artis return with the lost warriors; and the crowd that but a few minutes before was in the throes of despair is uplifted with joy when the bowed figure of Haephestion comes slowly down the marble steps of the temple. Amid a dead silence he says, "The Queen is dead."

The acting was on a high plane of excellence, and in no instance was there any lack of dignity and elevation in the delivery of Mr. Besier's sonorous verse. A notable addition to the Adelphi company is Miss Genevieve Ward, who has been specially engaged to play the part of Cleito. The warmth of her welcome on Tuesday must have been very gratifying to this fine tragic actress, who sustained her reputation by a performance of the blind Queen that was sublime in its tenderness. The impressive scene over the bier of Cresphontes we have already spoken of. Herein Miss Ward rose to heights of passion, and yet sounded a deeply pathetic note in the expression of maternal grief. Mr. Oscar Asche, who "produced," must have had a very anxious time on the first night. The great opportunity of the representative of Haephestion comes in the second act, where the warrior, at the very threshold of a new-found happiness, is thwarted by the decree of Artemis. Passion seems to thrill every nerve of the warrior as in a gust of rage he vainly tries to break the spell that is upon him, and the rugged power of Mr. Asche's acting was never more apparent than in this scene. Miss Lily Brayton's Althea might have stepped from one of Leighton's canvases, so true was it to the classic conceptions of that great artist. In her queenly robe of deep red and white, she stood in the first act a fateful figure, and made it clear that the love of a passionate young heart was struggling against her fealty as a wife and queen. It was a performance instinct with strength, dignity, and beauty throughout. Mr. Alfred Brydone's elocution as Cresphontes was admirable; and Mr. Charles Rock's Iphicles was a finely-conceived and virile character. Miss Madge McIntosh as the virgin priestess played a difficult part with judgment and discretion; Mr. Walter Hampden's beautiful voice was heard to advantage as the leader of the male Chorus, and Miss Agnes Brayton was also effective as the leader of the female Chorus. Mr. H. R. Hignett and Mr. G. Kay Souper added to the completeness of the representation by their delineations of a herald and a priest. The one scene—a marble courtyard before the Temple of Artemis—has been cleverly painted by Mr. Joseph Harker; and Mr. Gilbert Clark has shown taste in the designs of the costumes. Mr. Christopher Wilson, whose music is always worth listening to, has revealed much ability in the setting of the two hymns.

THE A.A. AT MANCHESTER.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier presided at the second provincial meeting of the Actors' Association, held on the stage of the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on the 19th inst. There were present:—Miss Edith Cruikshanks, Miss Mabel Osmond, Mrs. Shiel Porter, Mr. Walter Kennion, Mr. C. Levison Lane, Mr. Frank Pemberton, Mr. Shiel Porter, Mrs. Mortimer White, Miss Ethel Edwards, Miss Mary Thorne, Mr. Atheling Farrar, Mr. George Whillis, Mr. Herbert Franklin, Mr. Buchanan Wake, Mr. Alfred Bristowe, Mr. Fred Beal, Mr. Harrison Carter, Mr. J. H. Troughton, Mr. J. F. Haylock, Mr. C. V. Hawkins, Mr. F. Hunter, Mr. A. Taylor, Miss Georgina Hamilton, Mr. Cecil Barth, Mr. S. F. Major, and Mr. Acton Bond

MR. BOURCHIER, speaking in support of Actors' Day, said: Here are we, a very rich profession, some of us drawing salaries that are a great deal more than a Prime Minister's, and even those of us who only get small salaries can perfectly well afford to spare something for the collective good of the profession. We should take away from the stage the stigma of habitually appealing to the public for support. It seems to me a miserable thing that when an actor who has perhaps been playing big parts all his life and has had opportunities of putting money away, dies, his wife and family are dependent on the profession, and the usual benefit performance is held. It is to be hoped that through our newly-established Actors' Day we shall, in the course of five or six years, have funds large enough to support ourselves, so that when worthy cases come before us they can be helped at once. Almost at this time last year Mr. Cyril Maude, at a meeting of the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, received the following message from Sir Henry Irving—almost the last communication the great actor, our late President, wrote:—

"Greeting to all comrades. My heart's desire will ever be for the interests and honour of our Association. The Actors' Association can only be supported by the enthusiasm of all actors."

When we think of the dangers we run, it is to me inconceivable that any actor or actress should refrain from participating in the benefits to be derived from joining the Association. I need only remind you of the sad case of Miss Dot Stephens which happened so recently.

MISS GEORGINA HAMILTON, in an eloquent speech, said: If we are to encourage and promote the art of acting and protect and advance the interests of our members and the profession generally, there is only one possible way it can be done: the actor's and manager's interests must be the same. We want every actor and every manager to belong to the Association. The Association is not working for any party, but for the cause, to promote the art of acting and protect and advance the interests of the profession.

MR. ACTON BOND hoped that those who were visitors would become members—if not at once, at least within the year. The Association had many schemes in progress or coming to a head, and several were hung up because they could not at present honestly say to the "powers that be" outside the profession that the Association, numerically as well as in regard to force of circumstances, was wholly representative of the profession. There was not any truth in the statement that the Council of the Association worked "behind a screen." At the meetings that were held managers as well as members of the rank and file of the profession were present, and matters were discussed for the benefit of the profession as a whole.

MR. CECIL BARTH drew the attention of those present to the fact that when an artist had paid his current subscription he had the benefit of an insurance policy, which no insurance company would issue to him as a private individual for the full amount of his year's subscription. At present, in the event of an accident on the railway journey, a non-member of the Association could not claim compensation from the railway company because of travelling at the three-quarter rate. A grievance was that the headquarters in King-street, Covent Garden, were really a club for those in London, and useless for those who were touring the provinces ten or eleven months of the year. As soon as funds would permit branches were to be opened in some of the principal towns.

MR. S. MAJOR JONES said the attention of members and non-members of the Association should be called to the risks attendant on conveyance of personal luggage and the intentions of the Association on the matter.

MR. ACTON BOND said the matter would be satisfactorily arranged if they could raise the membership to the requisite strength. In reply to a query from Mr. Jones, Mr. Bond stated that if an actor wished to insure his luggage privately, the Association would undertake that.

MR. SHIEL PORTER made an urgent appeal to non-members to join the Association, Agency Department, and humorously suggested that members of the profession would never be satisfied until the Association could guarantee a twelve months' engagement.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. John Hart and Mr. Edmondstone Shirra for the use of the Theatre Royal. The question of actor-managers being allowed to become members was being discussed.

MR. BARTH seconded the motion, which was passed.

MR. ACTON BOND proposed, and MR. SHIEL PORTER seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. Arthur Bourchier for presiding.

MISS HAMILTON, in supporting the motion, said she would be pleased to organise ten more meetings of this kind, until the services of the whole of the vice-presidents had been utilised.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

Mr. Stewart Macpherson, F.R.A.M., continuing his lecture on "The Evolution of the Symphony" on Wednesday afternoon, referred to Franz Peter Schubert, born in 1797, and the lecturer spoke of the prodigious number, 1131 works, produced in or about thirty-one years by the famous composer, a great number of these compositions being little known. Mr. Macpherson said that Schubert was almost entirely self-taught, and this, to no small extent, prevented the full development of his genius. On the other hand, Schubert was a great colourist in music. The professor here gave a short example on the piano, and then mentioned perhaps Schubert's greatest work, the noble "Unfinished Symphony," and after playing the first movement, spoke of the glorious air on which it is founded, and mentioned the remark of the famous conductor Weingartner, who said "it was a good job the symphony was unfinished," this not being said in condemnation, but merely that any addition would have perhaps spoilt the effect of a work in which every note was precious.

The lecturer also referred to Spohr, whose best-known work was "The Power of Sound," this being the beginning of what is now called "Programme Music." In speaking of Mendelssohn, Mr. Macpherson referred to the Italian and the Scotch symphony as being two of his best works, particularly the latter, the first sixteen bars of which were written in Holyrood Palace. The lecturer here played an example of the Scotch symphony, saying that Mendelssohn was always successful in his scherzos, which were full of dainty and sparkling music. In speaking of Schumann, he thought that this composer had the true spirit of romance, and in an example given on the piano compared a movement of Schumann's B flat major with the Scotch symphony, saying at the same time that mere tune was not enough, although he, Mr. Macpherson, did not under-rate tune, far from it. As a fine example, the professor gave an adagio of Schumann, and said that in many respects this composer came nearer to Beethoven than either Schubert or Mendelssohn.

"THE INTRIGUERS."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by Frank Nasmith and Stanley Houghton, produced for the first time on any stage at the Manchester Athenæum, on Friday, Oct. 19.

Leonard Ainsworth .... MR. STANLEY HOUGHTON
Oliver Brinton ..... MR. HAROLD FURBER
Comte Simon de Montignac ..... MR. F. A. MITCHESON
Herr Hartmann-Auerbach.. MR. HARRY WILLIAMS
Riecke ..... MR. E. MERTON
Kellett ..... MR. FRANK NASMITH
Withecomb ..... MR. CHAS. E. WARD
Stott ..... MR. R. D. BATEMAN
Miriam Brinton ..... MISS CARIE MOORE
Nora Dale ..... MISS MAUD ELLIOTT
Fenwick ..... MISS A. P. COOPER

The Intriguers, produced by the Manchester Athenæum Dramatic Society, at the Manchester Athenæum, on Friday, the 19th, presents the story of a young inventor, who has perfected some plans for a new submarine, and is on the eve of selling his invention to the British Government, and thereby, of course, making a fortune. It is a happy situation, beset, however, with many difficulties, of which one is his infatuation for the wife of a man who is in the pay of a foreign agent—another being the said agent's resolve to steal the plans by any possible resort, with the injured husband's complicity. Overtures are made at the outset to purchase the plans by one Herr Hartmann-Auerbach, who, failing in the attempt, is seen no more; influences are also at work to bring to an end the baleful intimacy between Ainsworth, the inventor, and Oliver Brinton's wife. The person most interested in the latter development is Nora Dale, Ainsworth's secretary, who secretly loves him, and who ultimately, in rather a pretty fashion, proposes to him, at a moment when his future seems to depend upon the venture. How the intriguers—namely, the Comte de Montignac, Oliver Brinton, and Riecke, a secret service agent—get hold of the plans, and are in the end defeated by a clever ruse of Nora Dale, who manages to retain them after they have been purloined on Ainsworth's behalf, by Brinton's wife (afterwards a vengeful woman), is well presented by the authors, Messrs. Frank Nasmith and Stanley Houghton, who have arranged their material with an eye to effective curtains. Perhaps the last of these is the least effective; and this is a pity, for it makes a rather flat and abrupt conclusion. But, on the whole, the play is clever and entertaining, and might be expanded into an acceptable drama for the stage.

The characters were well rendered by the various members of the cast. Mr. Stanley Houghton gave a studied depiction of the somewhat unheroic Leonard Ainsworth; and Mr. Frank Nasmith was distinctly successful as Kellett, Ainsworth's servant. Miss Maud Elliott played the part of Nora Dale (at very short notice), and played it with a quiet confidence and an entirely pleasing effect; while as Miriam Brinton Miss Carie Moore, though rather staccato in style, showed herself possessed of more than average ability in a comparatively exacting part. Mr. F. A. Mitcheson's Comte de Montignac was neat and effective; and Mr. Harold Furber made a vigorous Oliver Brinton, a character-study in its way. For the rest, Mr. E. Merton acted quietly and naturally as Riecke; Mr. R. D. Bateman did well as Stott, the butler; Miss A. P. Cooper was quite satisfactory as Fenwick, Mrs. Brinton's maid; and Mr. Chas. E. Ward made a distinct success of the small, but valuable, comedy part of Withecomb.

Special scenery was supplied by Messrs. F. Le Maistre and Co., and the wigs and costumes were from Messrs. S. B. Watts and Co. The performance, repeated on Saturday evening, gave pleasure to a large audience.

DESTRUCTION OF THE BRIDLINGTON THEATRE.

A disastrous fire occurred at Bridlington on Saturday by which the Spa Theatre, which formed part of the New Spa and Gardens, opened on July 27, 1896, was burned to the ground. The outbreak was discovered about nine o'clock, when smoke was seen rising from the building, and the fire brigade was at once summoned. For the first few minutes a small hose was directed by some fishermen upon the building, but the engine and brigade arrived soon afterwards, and efforts were concentrated upon saving the pavilion, bandstand, café, refreshment rooms, and offices, the fire being happily confined to the theatre. The hall was completely gutted, its iron girders bending or falling, and one large pillar at the south end of the hall crashed through the eastern wall. Within half an hour of the fire being noticed the roof fell in. The firemen remained on the scene all night, and were engaged till the following day playing on the smouldering ruins.

The cause of the fire is a complete mystery. Mr. Henry Hague, manager and secretary to the New Spa and Gardens Company, by whom the theatre is owned, states that he is utterly unable to account for the fire, as all had been left secure early in the afternoon. There was neither gas nor electric light on in the theatre, which had not been used for performances since Mr. Sydney James's Strolling Players gave their farewell concert there on Sept. 22. Since that time both the gas and electricity had been cut off from the theatre. Mr. Hague understands that the gardener locked the place up safely after four o'clock, but when the latter was fetched he found the small door leading to the stage—which had been left padlocked securely—was wide open and the place in full blaze.

The damage, which is estimated to be about £4,000, is, it is understood, fully covered by insurance.

Mr. Hague informs our correspondent that the directors have resolved at once to make arrangements for the building of a new and up-to-date theatre, and they intend expediting the construction of the new building so that it can be opened next spring.

MR. GERALD MAXWELL, who has obtained great praise for his novel, "The Miracle Worker," was editor of the *Court Journal* up to the beginning of the present year, and since then has devoted himself to travel on the Continent and the study of European politics. Mr. Maxwell is firmly of opinion that hard writing makes easy reading, and in consequence he spares no pains to ensure accuracy in scientific data. Valuable assistance in this direction has been derived from fellow-students of his old University days at Cambridge and Leipzig, many of whom have since become eminent men of science. Mr. Maxwell is an ardent supporter of the exiled House of Hanover, and has displayed so much zeal in the cause that the Guelph party awarded him the medal struck in honour of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Duke of Cumberland's marriage with the Princess Thyra of Denmark.

THERE is a curious little discrepancy between the dialogue and the costumes in the first act of *Robin Hood* at the Lyric. Mr. Lewis Waller, as Robin, says to his followers, "Off with your hats," &c. They are unable to comply with the order, as the "merrie men" all wear the pointed head-cloak of Saxon origin, and Friar Tuck has only his tonsure.

THE Duke and Duchess of Orleans were present at the performance of *La Boheme* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on the 19th inst.

MME. CHARLES GOUNOD, widow of the celebrated composer, died on the 19th inst., at her residence in Paris. She was seventy-seven years of age.

AMUSEMENTS IN GLASGOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company commenced the second week of its engagement on Monday, when very complete and spirited performances were given of *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci*, under the conductorship of Mr. Romualdo Sapio. Mr. John Child appeared as Turridu in Mascagni's opera, and being in good voice made a strong impression; the Santuzza of the cast was Madame de Vere, whose singing and acting were intensely dramatic throughout; Mr. Lewys James filled the rôle of Alfio in his usual artistic manner; and the parts of Lola and Lucia were adequately represented by Misses Garland and Alvord. In the second opera, the Canio of Mr. Joseph O'Mara was a capital performance; and as Nedda, Miss Kate Anderson sang with expression; Mr. William Dever was repeatedly recalled for his fine rendering of the prologue; Mr. Lewys James made an excellent Silvio; and Mr. V. Brodo was good as Beppo. The week's programme included *Lohengrin*, *Carmen*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Marriage of Figaro*, *Faust*, and *Maritana*.

Royalty.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—The grand scenic and poetic play, *The Lady of the Lake*, is now running its fourth, and last, week, and continues to draw good houses.

King's, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—After an absence of ten years, Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh are again visiting Glasgow, and their appearance in Mr. Alfred Sutro's play, *The Walls of Jericho*, was welcomed by an overflowing house. As Jack Frobisher Mr. Bourchier has a strong part of the type he plays so well, and he shows the awakening of the revolt within him against the shams and follies of the smart set in masterly fashion, culminating in the powerful scene with his wife, Lady Alethea. In the latter part Miss Violet Vanbrugh is happily suited, and alike in her light-hearted enjoyment of the frivolous amusements of the society lady and the pathos of the broken-hearted wife she carried the sympathies of the audience with her. Mr. H. Nye-Chart is still the Harry Dallas, and acts the butterfly lover with excellent discretion; Mr. Arthur Whitby as the callous and impecunious Marquis of Steventon ably depicts a familiar stage type; the bluff Hanky Bannister was cleverly acted by Mr. Charles Goodhart; Miss Pamela Gaythorne gave a pleasing performance as Lady Lucy; and Miss Nora Greenlaw ably filled the part of Lady Westerby. Other society ladies were depicted with much humour and vivacity by Miss Jean Harkness, Miss Olive Terry, Mrs. Nye-Chart, and Miss Vivienne Whitaker.

Grand, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—That the production of *Cymbeline* at this house merits the appreciation of the Glasgow playgoers is manifest by the enthusiasm of the audiences which nightly visit the theatre. The piece itself is gorgeously set and capably and artistically depicted, whilst the acting of the principals, Miss Mona K. Oram, Messrs. Vincent Clive, F. Joynson-Powell, E. Story-Gofton, and H. M. Clifford, is of a uniformly high standard. Unfortunately, however, the production which drew Manchester playgers for three months has not secured the same appreciation in Glasgow, and the last nights are announced.

Royal Princess's.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey's company opened here on Monday in *The Shaughraun*, Mr. Mackey giving his well-known impersonation of Conn, which was greatly enjoyed. Mrs. Mackey as Clare Ffolliott gave a pleasing interpretation of the part, and she and her husband had good support from their well-balanced company.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—The attraction here this week is the drama *Her Lost Self*. Phillippine Marcel has a most accomplished representative in Miss Frances Delaval; Mr. Leslie York plays excellently as Paul Kimberley; and Mr. G. Osmond Tearle gives an artistic performance as Norman Esmond; Mr. Fred Lillywhite is seen to advantage as Victor Elsworth; and the part of Abraham Cohen is well looked after by Mr. L. W. Halfpenny. Rachael Cohen is ably sustained by Mrs. Edmond Lyons. The humorous element is in no wise neglected, Mr. Jimmy Stewart (Tom Flyaway), Miss Hetty Stewart (Bridget Mahone), and Mr. Fred Taylor (Carlisle Montmorency) having plenty of opportunities, of which they make the most.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Mr. Charles Harrington and company, in *The Sailors of the King*, after a successful week at the Royal Princess's, have migrated here, and are proving equally popular at the Govan house.

New Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, B. M. Armstrong.—The dramatic productions, under the direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, are still attracting good audiences here. This week *The Sins of the Fathers* is submitted, and was well received on the opening night. The company includes several capable artists, notably Mr. Horace Booth, who is seen to advantage in the character of George Armitage; Miss Laurie A. Pardy also gives a capital impersonation of Ethel Harmsworth. The other characters are all well filled, particularly those by Miss Marie de Roos and Messrs. H. C. Clarke, Alfred D. Adams, H. Hesslegrave, and J. A. Wood.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—The Harmony Four top the bill here, and in the wealth of humorous business they introduce prove a most amusing combination, while their musical talent is undoubted. Ando's Japs give a clever and varied performance, concluding with the sensational "Slide for Life"; Millie Hylton assisted by Little Decima Brooks gave a picturesque and dainty turn; Kent and Keith are a clever comedy couple, with quite a plethora of new wheezes; Lilian Lowe sings sweetly, as also does Alfred Hurley; Arif Hemet is a new conjurer; and Rita and Roma give a diversified and clever turn; some wonderful acrobatic, yet graceful, dancing is shown by La Sylphe, who contributes several examples of the poetry of motion.

Zoo-Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—An item of special interest here is the engagement of Corri and Dereve's musical comedy sketch company, in the clever sketch entitled *Office Hours*; Mabel Bright and Co. are equally successful in a laughable sketch, *Girls will be Girls*; and the eccentric dancing of Will Vokes causes roars of laughter. Other capital turns are submitted by Bugler Carr, the musical puzzle; Phillips and Terry; the Three Sisters Sprightly; Woodhouse and Wells, comedy artists; Beatrice Renee, comedienne; and the Vivians, high-class comedy artists, in a musical playlet, entitled *A Reverie*.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—In a well varied programme the outstanding feature is the performance of the Daanton Shaw troupe of Australian trick cyclists, who have met with a cordial reception; Miss Alice Hollander, contralto, is also well received. The other members of the company include Ted Cowan, comedian; Emil Amiel, contortionist; Tray and Rich, comediane and dancers; Whit Cunliffe, the clever young light comedian; Athas and Collins, speciality artists; Beatie Kent, comedienne; the Ten Dixie Girls, vocalists and dancers; Tom Collins, comedian; and Frank and Violet Payte, sketch artists.

Colisеum.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—The principal turn this week is that of R. A. Roberts, in his sketch, *Dick Turpin*, in which he personates five distinct types of character; the peerless De Dio is a wonderful skirt manipulator, who emerges smiling from what looks like the flaming crater of a volcano; George Westland is an amusing Scotch comedian; Drew and Alders personate a funny pair of bill-posters; Frank Halter and Marie Ray keep the fun going with a variety of clever dialogue; the Northern Troupe of dancers are graceful and entertaining; the Mayvilles give a good marionette performance; Ella Shields is a lively coon singer and dancer; May Henderson looks and acts the little nigger girl to the life; the Bioscope completes a pleasing entertainment.

Palace.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Frank Leslie, vocal comedian, and Leah Arden, soubrette, have good receptions; J. W. Rickaby is a popular comedian; the Six Æolians have proved a big attraction in a varied programme of solo and concerted popular pieces and some pleasing dances; the Wilfords give a splendid turn; their equilibristic acts are skilful and daring. Miss Constance Moxon has little to do, but it is done artistically and with considerable "go"; Charlie Dean again proves a favourite; *Taking the Census* is a funny act by the Bros. Curran; and Karr and Kooney are also well received in a smart comedy turn.

Harmonic Concerts.—Musical Secretary, Mr. Wm. Bigram.—A couple of popular favourites top the bill here, Clyo and Rochelle, and give a clever comedy turn. *Antics of an Actor*; Bob Sloan is a smart comedian; the Five Devlins dance neatly; Bros. Brooks contribute a good comedy turn; Dennison and Clingan are comedians of much ability; and the Sisters Brand, James Perston, Charles Howarth, Joe Morley, and Kate Pryce also provide enjoyable items.

MIDDLESEX ANNIVERSARY.

Mr. J. L. Graydon celebrated in fitting fashion the 246th anniversary of the Middlesex Music Hall on Thursday evening, when the historic place of amusement in Drury-lane was packed well-nigh to its utmost capacity. In fact, it was difficult to move among the gay throng that filled the decorated and flower-scented saloon, and among whom were to be noticed Mr. Blyth-Pratt, Mr. Laurie Graydon, Mr. E. E. Lockwood, Mr. Jesse Sparrow, Mr. Tom Pacey, Mr. E. Edelsten, Mr. Walter De Frece, Mr. Jack De Frece, Mr. A. Simmonds, Mr. Tom Claxton, Mr. Ernest De Vere, Mr. Will Oliver, Mr. Harry Hart, Mr. Harry Day, Mr. C. F. Reed, Mr. Walter Gibbons, Mr. Amery Parkes, Mr. Jack Somers, Mr. Manuel Warner, Mr. Fred Yates, Mr. Will Collins, Mr. George Parry, Mr. Ernest Aplin, and Mr. Edgar Granville.

In an interval between the turns Mr. Graydon stepped before the footlights, and after a very enthusiastic reception by the crowded house, made a brief speech. He thanked them for their support for many years past, and hoped it would continue. Since he had last appeared before them on an anniversary night he had been convicted and fined for furnishing them with a class of entertainment that they wanted, and that they ought to have. The worthy magistrate who decided the case was perfectly right in his decision, because all that was open to him was to administer the law, and that was merely his duty. He (the speaker) thought that it was mean conduct on the part of theatrical managers that they should take advantage of an Act which was in itself bad law. There was room for all classes of entertainment, and a live and let live policy should be followed.

There was plenty of variety and quality and quantity in the programme. It was confidently anticipated that Miss Marie Lloyd would turn up, especially as her mother and Miss Rosie Lloyd were present, but late in the evening Miss Lloyd caused a telephone message to be sent from the Tivoli to the effect that in consequence of a bad cold she was only able to sing one song there, and would be unable to perform at the Middlesex. Under the stage management of Mr. Charles Chapman, assisted by Messrs. E. J. Macdermott and Sam Hart, a capital "show" was given, a great deal of interest centering around the turn of Eugénie Fougère, who danced and sang in the most vivacious style. Another performance worthy of special note was that of Mrs. Sims Reeves, who sang "Come into the garden, Maud," with variations, her work being voted most attractive.

The following list of names gives the order in which the artists appeared:—Dale and Vale, Gicardo, Mark Tapley, Vere and Royal, Harry Desmond, Cissie Cross, Horace Sado, Eddie Comet, the Bollingers, Charles Harvey, Rose Hamilton, Sisters Chester, Frank Cumminger, Irene Maldon, Phene and Phene, Michael Nolan, Dan Filmer, Abdullah Arabs, California Girls, Salvani, Charles Norton, the Pasqualis, Nipper Lane, Marie Kendall, John E. Coyle, Miss Myer, Hal Forde, *Bink's Blunder*, sketch, Ernest Shand, Harry Anderson, Gus Elen, Frazer and Mac, Twin Andersons, Sam Mayo, Eight Sunrays, Jordan and Harvey, Cissie Lupino, Florrie Gallimore, Bessie Benson, Mrs. Sims Reeves, Lilly Burnand, Two Dixons, Amy Elvira, Tom Dunmore, Fred Earle, Mme. Fougère, Kitty Clover and Co. in sketch, Nat Phillips, Ruby Holly, Bioscope pictures, and George M. Marriott and Co. in *Oliver Twist*.

ALBERT CHEVALIER IN NEW YORK.

Mr. Albert Chevalier and Mme. Yvette Guilbert appeared at Carnegie Hall on the 13st inst., their joint engagement in the metropolis being disposed of in less than twelve hours, in which space of time they gave a matinée and an evening recital, and then "jumped," as the Americans say, to Detroit, Michigan, which is about 750 miles from New York, and is, therefore, in a literal sense, pretty good "jumping." But Mr. Chevalier and Mme. Guilbert have to cover a good deal of ground during their six weeks' tour of the principal cities of America, so their engagement in the Empire City was merely an incidental—a "one-night stand," so to speak. Forty cities are to be visited in forty-two days, which means that these distinguished artists will travel over twenty-three thousand miles.

"Is it not terrible?" Mme. Guilbert exclaimed, when she arrived in New York. "Mr. Tyler is such an enthusiastic person that he does not intend to let us sleep much. It will be to sing, and then to travel, and then to sing again. How we shall like it is something that remains to be seen." But if Mme. Guilbert receives such an enthusiastic welcome everywhere as she found in New York, she will probably decide that "the strenuous life" of this Continent has its compensations. Travelling in America can have no terrors for Chevalier. He has been over the ground before, this being his third trip to Uncle Sam's dominions, and an artist who receives an ovation when he makes his appearance, and hears a vast audience clamouring for old songs that he sang many years ago, can afford to laugh at the inconveniences of long "jumps."

At Carnegie Hall Mme. Guilbert sang four old French songs and four modern ones, the best of the latter being a grim conceit of the Paris slums called "Ma Tête." But she pleased the audience most with her three English songs, entitled "The Keys of Heaven," "The Bargain," and "The dumb wife cured." Chevalier sang no less than ten songs, including several new ones, but it was plain to see that the old familiar numbers in his répertoire were the favourites, and there is no doubt they always will be. "The Future Mrs. 'Awkins" and "My Old Dutch" are listed among "the songs that never grow old." The stillness and sympathetic attention of a New York audience when Chevalier sings "My Old Dutch" is something that, once witnessed, can never be forgotten. This was remarked by the writer in 1896, when Chevalier made his American début at Koster and Bial's Music Hall, and it is as true now as it was ten years ago.

The Shuberts have opened a new theatre in Kansas City, U.S.A., as a memorial to the late Sam S. Shubert, who was fatally injured in a railway accident last year whilst he was travelling to Kansas City to negotiate for the erection of this house. It is the fifty-second theatre controlled by the Shubert "combination."

The nomenclature of the stage, if nothing else, will be enriched by the forthcoming production of a "musical absurdetta," entitled *A Simple Sweep*, which will be performed at the Scala Theatre on Nov. 9 and 10, in conjunction with a fantastic opera called *The Minstrel*. Both operas are composed by the Reverend Father Downes, the first being written by F. W. Broughton, and the second by J. Arthur Bleackley. The performances, which will be given in aid of the Little Sisters of the Poor, will be under the patronage of the Princess of Monaco and Princess Lowenstein.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

Among those who have already consented to be patrons of the stage employees' annual concert and sent donations are: Her Grace the Duchess of Leeds, the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., Miss Irene Vanbrugh (£1 1s.), Mr. Dion Boucicault (£1 1s.), Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Mary Moore, Miss Jessie Bateman, Miss Genevieve Ward, Miss Constance Collier, Sir Edward Moss, Mr. Charles Frohman, Mr. Frank Curzon (£1 1s.), Mr. Alfred Sutro (£1 1s.), Mr. Sidney Jones (£1 1s.), Mr. A. W. Pinero (£2 2s.), Mr. Seymour Hicks, and Mr. Frank Glenister. Six boxes have already been applied for.

It should be borne in mind that the donations sent to the concert funds will be handed over to the "National Benevolent Fund" which is being formed for the benefit of theatrical employees—men and women, irrespective of whether they are members of any society—and also that applicants for assistance from that fund must obtain a letter from a subscriber or from the committee of one of the theatrical or music-hall societies. This fund is being established with the view of assisting those sections of theatrical employees who are not eligible to join any of the existing societies.

A general meeting of the members of the Carpenters' Branch, N.A.T.E., will be held on Sunday evening at 8 o'clock in the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's-lane.

A meeting of day men employed in the various stage departments of the West End theatres and music halls will be held on Sunday evening at 8 o'clock in the Nag's Head Hotel, Floral-street, Covent Garden, to consider the question of forming a branch of the National Association.

At a meeting of music hall artists held in Barrow-in-Furness, reference was made to "threatened antagonism of stage hands" to the No Tipping" rule.

A meeting will be held on Sunday morning at eleven o'clock in Prebend-square, Packington-street, Islington, for the purpose of discussing the conditions of employment under the new system at the Grand Theatre, Islington.

A pleasing little function took place in the property room of the Theatre Royal, Dublin, at the conclusion of the matinée of Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company with *The Walls of Jericho* on Saturday. Mr. Charles King, the property-master of the company, was presented with a Kapp and Peterson's pipe by Mr. Jos. Rankin, on behalf of the property staff, as a token of esteem. Mr. King expressed his appreciation of the pleasant surprise. Mr. Rankin also presented a carved shamrock briar pipe to Mr. King's able assistant, George.

Many of our readers will hear with regret of the death of William Deboa, the genial hall-keeper of the Royal Opera House, Leicester, under Col. Winstanley, and an old friend of the profession. The employees—past and present—of this theatre offer a mark of respect to their old friend and express their keen regret at his loss.

"THE DEVIL'S SUNDAY."

An Episode, in One Scene, produced at Tottenham Palace, on Monday Oct. 22.

Fay Faber ..... Miss Cissie Lawson
David Faber ..... Mr. Arthur Royston
The Caretaker .. .. Mr. J. S. Boom

Short, sharp, incisive, charged to the full with the electricity of passion, *The Devil's Sunday* is a striking and distinctly interesting piece of work. Playing little more than twenty minutes, the sketch contains subject matter sufficient to form the framework of a three-act drama. It is well constructed, and is written in strong, forceful dialogue, commendably free from the affectation of "smartness," yet always to the point.

The scene is laid in a flat in Grangecourt Mansions, South Kensington—a pretty and realistic set—and it is soon discovered that Mrs. Faber has escaped the unpleasant surroundings of her husband's incarceration in Exeter Gaol on a charge of forgery, and determines to have a good time in town by herself. She is particularly pleased that David has been unable to find bail, so the coast is left clear for her to enjoy herself in the manner most agreeable to her temperament. This takes the form of arranging to receive a visit from her friend Lord Harrington. After sending off a telegram to her husband expressing her regret that he cannot find bail, and telephoning to a caterer to supply a dinner for two, she retires to change her dress. Then David Faber appears on the scene. He has unexpectedly found bail, and has at once come up to London to spend the time with his wife. When, however, he finds a telegram from Lord Harrington couched in unmistakable terms, the true light breaks in on him, and he discovers that Fay has prepared for herself a regular "Devil's Sabbath." Mrs. Faber, knowing someone is in the drawing-room, and believing it to be the man she is expecting, comes gaily in to rush into his arms, when she finds herself confronted by her husband. Casting her false blandishments to the winds, David Faber utters the most scathing and terrible indictment. She is alternately frightened and defiant. Finally, goaded to extremity, she tells him she hates him, and would not be reconciled to him for worlds. She simply glories in the fact that she was preparing evidence against him in his forthcoming trial. This is the last straw. Faber, now mad with rage, seizes the cynical, heartless creature he once loved, and strangles the life out of her. Then he finds a pistol in her desk, and, kneeling down, points the lethal weapon towards the door, waiting to "pot" the gentleman who is coming to dinner.

Among all the effective parts Miss Cissie Lawson has played in her time, Fay Faber must rank as one of the most striking. The nervous tension imposed upon a woman who may not be inherently vicious, but who simply craves for admiration and unholy "sympathy," is soon made evident in the partly-suppressed "jerkiness" of manner and the haunted look on her face. The cold cynicism of the woman is admirably expressed, and her facial play when, seated on the couch, she listens impatiently to her husband's scathing denunciation is a revelation of the inward working of the guilty soul. Miss Cissie Lawson's Fay Faber is an impersonation to be seen and remembered. Mr. Arthur Royston throws a great deal of power into his impersonation of the husband, who, if his deeds have brought him within the clutch of the law, is at least a man who will resent to the death any infringement of the ethical laws that ought to govern the married state. Mr. Royston's denunciation of his wife, when he seems to expose the inmost recesses of her heart, is very fine indeed, and well deserves the volley of applause with which it is received. Mr. John Lawson produced the sketch, which on Monday evening was received with every sign of approval.

The grand shooting competition at the rifle range at the Crystal Palace will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 27, from 3 until 5 p.m. and from 8 to 9.30 p.m., and continue on the following days until the finish of the competition. The first prize is valued at £7 7s. and the second prize at £5 5s. Entries for the competition, the entrance fee for which is 2s., close on Nov. 5. Targets used will be ⅔ths of an inch bull's-eye and ⅘ths at 25 yards range, and special facilities are available for competitors to practise at the range.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Lorimer.—On Tuesday, Oct. 16, '06, Mrs. Jack Lorimer (wife of Jack Lorimer, Scotch comedian), a bonnie laddie. Both doing well.

Murray.—On Thursday, Oct. 25, 1906, the wife of Leslie H. Murray (Miss Marie Winsome), a son. Both doing splendidly.

MARRIAGES.

Ayliff—Homewood.—On the 25th inst., at St. Peter's Church, St. Leonards-on-Sea, H. K. Ayliff to Gertrude Homewood.

Grovini—Thelma.—Harry Grovini (of the Grovini family) and Mlle. Thelma (lady clay modeller) were married Oct. 24, 1906, at All Saints', Manchester.

Hanson—Little.—On the 23rd inst., at the Parish Church, Bradford, Arthur Hanson, teacher of Dancing, Masonic Hall, Salem-street, to Ellie, second daughter of Mrs. Little, 21, Houghton-place, Bradford.

Hoare—Adeson.—Oct. 20, at Halifax Registrar's Office, Ryton Hoare, to Edith Adeson, daughter of Martin Adeson. Both members of *The Geisha* company on tour.

Land—Clark.—Oct. 20, special licence, at Glasgow, Fred Land to Dorothy Clark, daughter of the late Thomas Clark, of Edinburgh.

DEATHS.

Ashcroft.—Oct. 21, at The Cottage, Findon, Worthing, William E. Ashcroft, the beloved husband of Edith C. Ashcroft.

Ashcroft.—Oct. 21, at The Cottage, Findon, Worthing, William E. Ashcroft, the dearly-loved and only surviving brother of Harry Adair Nelson.

Fayme.—Oct. 17, suddenly, at Manchester, T. B. Fayme, comedian.

Gannon.—Martha Ann Gannon (daughter of Nellie Gannon), died Oct. 18. Buried in family grave, Leicester Cemetery.

Harrison.—Oct. 19, at her residence, Comedy Villa, St. John's-road, Walthamstow, Flo Majilton (Mrs. W. Harrison). Gone, but not forgotten. Continental papers please copy.

Matthews.—Oct. 18, suddenly, at the Union Hospital, Tipperary, Mary Frances Matthews, late of Mr. W. Payne Seddon's company, aged 45.

Poole.—Oct. 21, at his residence, Verona, Malmesbury, Joseph Poole (senior brother of Poole's myrioramas), aged 59 years. Interred at Malmesbury Cemetery, Wednesday, Oct. 24, 1906.

Ross Selwicke.—On Oct. 21, at 48, Belleville-road, Wandsworth-common, entered into her rest, after great suffering, most patiently and bravely borne, Ethel Ross Selwicke, actress and dancer.

Round.—Oct. 17, of consumption, Lily Round (Doris), third daughter of the late Henry Round, of Liverpool, sister of Mrs. W. Saunderson and Mrs. Fred Emney (Blanche Doris).

St. Aubyn.—Oct. 20, 1906, Harry St. Aubyn, husband of Irene Wingrove (Sisters Wingrove).

Tula.—John Tula, of Tula and Miaco, gymnasts, died Thursday, Oct. 18, at Stockton-on-Tees; aged 56.

In Memoriam.

Cavanah.—In loving memory of John Cavanah, acting-manager, Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, who died Oct. 24, 1901.

Gillin.—In loving memory of our darling eldest daughter of Beatrice and W. E. Gillin (ventriloquist), who died Oct. 27, '05, aged 5 years.
"Suffer little children to come unto me."

Lee.—In loving memory of Richard Lee, father of the original Sisters Lee, who departed this life Oct. 25, 1895. Gone but not forgotten by his loving wife and children.

Mellors.—In loving memory of Arthur Mellors Gregory, who died in Paris, Oct. 22, 1899. Loved by his wife, son, and daughter.
Jesus loved, too, and thought it best
To take him to his home of rest.

Toft.—In affectionate remembrance of our dear father, William Toft, who departed this life at his residence, Oxford Lodge, Ranelagh, Dublin, Oct. 14, 1904. Thy will be done.

Toft.—In affectionate remembrance of William Toft, who departed this life at his residence, Oxford Lodge, Ranelagh, Dublin, Oct. 14 1904. Never forgotten by his sister-in-law, Nellie Ashley.

"WHEN THE CLOCK WENT WRONG."

A Farcical Sketch, by E. C. Matthews, produced at the Royal Standard Music Hall on Monday, Oct. 22.

The Husband ..... Mr. Vernon Cowper
The Wife ..... Miss Wildenburg
The Servant ..... Miss E. C. Matthews
The Jew ..... Mr. John Laking

Mr. E. C. Matthews is a prolific writer of music-hall sketches, and the work under review bids fair to become as popular as some of his previous successes. *When the Clock Went Wrong* is a laughable trifle as played by Mr. Vernon Cowper and his company. A servant breaks a clock, and the services of a Jew are sought to repair it. The clock is referred to as "she" by the good people in the household, and the same curious fad which endows the article with a gender is also responsible for another clock being honoured with the personal pronoun "he." The master and mistress of the house have a little tiff, and subsequently the wife is missing. The husband, seeing his old Irish servant in an agitated state of mind, presumably over the breakage, enquires "Where is she?" referring to his better half. The servant, much concerned about the clock, fancies that it is to that useful ornament that his master refers, and he tells him that "she" has gone away with a Jew, who is going to keep her for a week. Of course the rest may be imagined. The husband is terribly perturbed on the subject of the temporary absence of his wife, and there is an angry scene when she finally returns and is asked to explain, &c., &c. The character of the enraged husband, who can scarcely be complimented on his powers of divination, is played in forcible style by Mr. Vernon Cowper, while the part of the wife receives adequate treatment from Miss Wildenburg. From Mr. E. C. Matthews as the Irish servant we get a delightful character-sketch, amusing in its various aspects; and Mr. John Laking creditably acquits himself in the rôle of the Jew.

"Pelleas and Melisande" is to be given under distinguished patronage at the Royalty Theatre on Thursday evening, Nov. 1, and the following afternoon, in aid of the London Hospital. The Melisande is to be Lady Vivian, and the Pelleas Mr. Frank Lascelles, and the company will also include Mr. Hermann Vezin, Mr. Graeme Campbell, Master Philip Tonge, and Mrs. Theodore Wright. The costumes and scenery are being lent by Mrs. Patrick Campbell, by whose permission the play is given. Maeterlinck's play, if we remember rightly, has not been seen in London since its performance by Mrs. Campbell and Mme. Sarah Bernhardt at the Vaudeville in the July of 1904.

The Dulwich Philharmonic Society will give a concert on Saturday evening, Nov. 3, at the Crystal Palace. Coleridge-Taylor's "Hiawatha" will be performed, and the "Old Sea Chanties" of Mr. John Bradford and Mr. Arthur Fagge will also be heard. The artists will be Mme. Conly, Mr. Joseph Reed, and Mr. Julien Henry. Mr. Arthur Fagge will conduct. A special late train will leave the Crystal Palace Low-Level Station at 10.45 p.m., calling at nearly all stations to London Bridge. A train will also leave Peckham Rye at 6.40 p.m. for the Palace.

ON THE ROAD, OCT. 29.

After the Ball.—Ayr and Kilmarnock.
All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—West P., Brighton.
An Actor's Romance.—T. R., Lincoln.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona).—Stratford-on-Avon.
Assassin.—Met. T., Birmingham.
At Cripple Creek.—Grand T., Derby.
At Duty's Call.—H. M. T., Barrow.
Beast and the Beauty.—Star T., Liverpool.
Beautiful Fiend.—T. R., Macclesfield.
Beauty Shop.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Belle of Mayfair.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—O. H., Kidderminster.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Cirencester and Stroud.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs, and Co.—Crown T., Peckham.
Breed of the Treshams.—Grand T., Blackpool.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Grand T., Leeds.
Catch of the Season (No. 1).—Marlborough.
Charley's Aunt.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona).—Midlands.
Christian, The (Croxe).—Prince's T., Bradford.
Cingalee (S.).—Coventry.
Claudian.—T. R., Preston.
Coal King.—Grand T., Stalybridge.
Convict's Daughter.—Grand T., Cardiff.
Country Girl (Macdona).—Midlands.
Country Girl (N.).—Glasgow.
Country Girl (S.).—Brighton.
Country Mouse.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Dairymaids, The.—King's T., Hammersmith.
Dandy Doctor.—County T., Kingston.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
D'Oyly Carte.—Coronet Theatre.
Driven from Home.—Met. T., Devonport.
Duchess of Dantzig (N.).—Birmingham.
Duchess of Dantzig (S.).—Wolverhampton.
Earl and the Girl (M.).—Hanley.
Earl and the Girl (W.).—Exeter.
Earl and the Girl (N.).—Keighley.
Executioner's Daughter.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Face at the Window.—Prince's T., Glasgow.
Fascinating Mr. Vandervelt.—Kennington Theatre.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Palace T., Newcastle.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—Royal Court T., Wigan.
Faust Up-to-Date.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Female Swindler.—T. R., Jarrow.
For Life and After.—T. R., Hull.
Four Just Men.—Folkestone and Hastings.
Freedom of Susanne.—Grand T., Southampton.
French Spy.—West London Theatre.
Frivolity.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Gay Parisienne (Macdona).—Rotherham.
Geisha.—York.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—Dublin.
Girl on the Stage.—T. R., Nottingham.
Golden Ladder.—O. H., Wakefield.
Great Awakening.—T. R., Leicester.
Held in Bondage.—T. R., Rawtenstall.
Her Fatal Past.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Her Lost Self.—Kirkcaldy and Motherwell.
Her Luck in London.—T. R., Middlesboro'.
Her One Great Sin.—T. R., Wednesbury.
His House in Order (N.).—O. H., Cork.
His House in Order (S.).—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Hour of Her Triumph.—Radcliffe.
Hutchison Repertoire.—H. M. T., Blackpool.
Indian Mutiny.—O. H., Northampton.
Kitty Grey.—Lyceum T., Govan.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Bexley and Northfleet.
Lady Kinton's Necklace.—T. R., Darlington.
Lady Madcap (N.)—Stratford.
Lady Madcap (S.)—Birkenhead.
La Poupee (Levilly).—Gaiety T., Manchester.
La Poupee (Ralland).—O. H., Perth.
Lights o' London.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Lion and the Mouse.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Little Breadwinner.—Dewsbury.
Little Michus (Edwardes).—Prince's, Manchester.
Little Michus (S.)—Sunderland.
London Fireman.—Queen's T., Gateshead.
Love that Women Desire.—Prince's, Accrington.
Manxman.—Met. T., Glasgow.
Marriage of Kitty.—Worthing and Leamington.
Midnight Mail.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Midnight Wedding.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Moody-Manners (A.)—Alexandra T., Hull.
Moody-Manners (B.)—Bath.
Mr. Hopkinson (Macdona).—Ipswich.
Mr. Popple.—T. R., Glasgow.
Mr. Popple (A.).—T. R., Plymouth.
Mr. Smith.—Doncaster.
Napoleon the Great.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
Nethersole, Miss Olga.—T. R., Bradford.
Norman V. Norman.—T. R., Aldershot.
On the Stroke of Twelve.—Gaiety T., Clydebank.
Orchid (N.)—Portsmouth.
Orchid (S.)—Barnsley.
Otto the Outcast.—Met. T., Hoyland.
Power of Gold.—Prince's T., Horwich.
Price of Her Soul.—T. R., South Shields.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris).—T. R., Bolton.
Prince of Pilsen (Musgrove))—Empire T., Oldham.
Private Secretary.—O. H., Harrogate.
Prodigal Parson.—Miners' T., Ashington.
Prodigal Son.—Court T., Liverpool.
Proof.—Grand T., Chorley.
Public Opinion.—T. R., Worcester.
Raffles.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Revenge.—T. R., Smethwick.
Royal Divorce.—T. R., Torquay.
Royal Revenge.—Carlton T., Saltley.
Sailors of the King.—T. R., Sheffield.
Saints and Sinners.—Falkirk and Kirkcaldy.
Shadow of Crime.—P. O. W., Salford.
Sherlock Holmes.—T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Shulamite.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Sign of the Cross.—Met. T., Gateshead.
Silver King (Polini) (N.).—Alex. T., Greenock.
Silver King (Polini) (S.).—Grand T., Brighton.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Windsor.
Spider and the Fly.—T. R., Hyde.
Spring Chicken (S.).—Halifax.
Still Alarm.—T. R., Blyth.
Swiss Express.—Prince's T., Poplar.
Temptress, The.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Terry, Edward.—Cambridge and Middlesbrough.
Three Little Maids (N.) (Macdona).—Blackburn.
Throne of Terror.—St. James's, Manchester.
Toreador (Macdona).—Midlands.
Toreador.—Burnley.
Traitor.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Trip to the Highlands.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Trumpet Call.—Queen's T., Swindon.
Two Hussars.—Grand T., Radcliffe.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Prince's T., Portsm'th.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—Irving T., Seacombe.
Two Little Vagabonds (M.).—Blaenavon.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—Alex. T., Sheffield.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—Lyceum T., Crewe.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—T. R., Ton-y-pandy.
Under the Russian Flag.—Dudley Port.
Unwedded Wife.—T. R., Scarborough.
Veronique (N.).—Cardiff.
Veronique (S.).—Reading.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Stratford.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—T. R., Belfast.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—Stoke Newington.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Altrincham.
Warning to Women.—T. R., West Stanley.
Wearin' o' the Green.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
What the Butler Saw.—Grand T., Fulham.
When London Sleeps.—Dalston T., N.E.
White Chrysanthemum (Curzon).—T. R., Newcastle.
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—Swansea.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—P. Pier, Brighton.
Worst Women in London.—Queen's T., Dublin.
Youngest of Three.—Londesboro' T., Scarboro'.
£1000 Reward.—T. R., Crook.
10.30 Down Express.—H. M. T., Carlisle.

A "CURRENT" COINCIDENCE.

Sir,—I notice in your last issue an announcement that Mr. Hannan is producing a farce called *The Electric Man*. I, too, am producing shortly a new farce, entiled *The Electric Girl*, which I completed last February. I mention this merely to prevent any misconception of plagiarism.—Yours sincerely,
FREDK. JARMAN.
Torquay, Oct. 25, 7906.

Mr. Matthew Brodie is delighted with his reception in the halls, both before and behind the curtain. At the Olympia, Liverpool, where he has been playing *The Drummer of the 76th*, by Louis Cohen, "the audience," he says, "is equal in refinement and intelligence to any West End London theatre. From the rise of the curtain

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

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(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. WILLIAMS.—(1) *The cast of* Unmasked, *produced at the Pavilion Theatre on Nov. 13, 1875, was as follows: Richard Marwood, Mr. F. Tyars; Jabez North, Mr. J. B. Howe; Augustus Darley, Mr. F. Thomas; Jinks, Mr. Arthur Williams; Peter Dawkins, Mr. T. Morrison; Mrs. North, Miss Jenny Grainger; Mrs. Marwood, Miss Harriett Clifton; Miss M. Foster as a waitress; Miss Lottie Reynolds and Mr. Henry Lynn were also in the cast.* (2) Slow and Sure, *produced on Aug. 23, 1876: James Sibley, Mr. C. T. Burleigh; Chas. Stedman, Mr. F. Thomas; Lionel Chester, Mr. F. Tyars; Edna Lewis, Miss Jenny Grainger; Walter Larkley, Mr. A. Williams; railway porter, Mr. Lynn; Alice, Miss H. Clifton; Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Murray; Jane Mason, Miss M. Foster; Mr. Morrison and the Messrs. Woolf and List were also in the cast.*

A. A. N.—*At Cripple Creek, an American play, was first produced in this country at the Theatre Royal, Dover, on Jan. 5, 1905.*

J. R.—*(1) May 12, 1905. (2) Yes.*

T. SIMPSON.—*Our advice is not to attempt to enter a much overworked profession, in which the prizes are few and the blanks many. If, however, you are quite decided on the matter, your best course is to join an amateur dramatic society or obtain lessons from a qualified instructor.*

THESPIS II.—The Duke's Motto *was first played at the Lyceum on Jan. 10, 1863, and was revived at the theatre in March, 1867, the leading male part being on both occasions sustained by Chas. Fechter. Henry Irving did not appear at the Lyceum until Sept., 1871, when he represented Landry in a piece called* Fanchette.

GEORGE BASTARD, SEN.—*Your letter has been handed to the Secretary of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, 29, Wellington-street, Strand.*

ELSIE PELHAM.—*Arrived too late for insertion in this week's birthday list.*

C.W.—*At the clog-dancing contest, held at the Hippodrome, Accrington, on Oct. 6 last, the judges awarded the belt to W. Brennan, of Uddington, Glasgow, and gold medal to Geo. Mackintosh, of Motherwell.*

COMEDIA.—(1) *The usual course is to forward the piece, type-written, to the theatre managers who produce that particular class of play.* (2) *It all depends on the reputation of the author and other circumstances.*

FRANK PERKINS.—*We cannot say. Watch the announcements in our Gossip columns.*

E. BROOKES.—(1) *No.* (2) *It is against our rule to recommend anyone; and we know nothing of the gentleman mentioned.*

PALETTE.—*In the spring of 1662 Sir William d'Avenant erected a new playhouse in Lincoln's Inn Fields, and opened it with the first part of* The Siege of Rhodes. *In the same year he produced the second part of* The Siege of Rhodes *and his comedy called* The Wits. *"These plays," according to an actor named Downes, who himself appeared in* The Siege of Rhodes, *"having new scenes and decorations, being the first that ever were introduced in England." Scenes had certainly been used before in the Masques at Court and by d'Avenant himself in attempts at theatrical entertainments before the death of Cromwell. Downes no doubt meant the first scenes ever exhibited in a regular drama in a public theatre. This information sufficiently answers your inquiry.*

"JUDGED by the interest taken in him and his work, Mr. Hall Caine," says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "is, at this moment, the most popular dramatist in England. And when we add that he was an intimate friend of Dante Gabriel Rossetti, and that, thirty years ago, when he was little more than a stripling, he wrote a pamphlet on Henry Irving's Hamlet, in Liverpool, so brilliant in technique and lofty in idea that it aroused attention far beyond the Lancashire city, that position seems the most natural thing in the world. But in spite of all the public applause and glory and worldly gain, one seldom sees Mr. Hall Caine's name coupled with those of our leading dramatists; the majority of responsible critics do not seem to take his work very seriously; and the general opinion of thoughtful men and women appears to be that his plays are to be judged by the estimated requirements of the melodrama-loving public rather than by any high standard of dramatic writing. In the early summer of last year Mr. Caine was contemplating, with the permission of the directors of Drury Lane Theatre, the production at that theatre of a series of the great dramas to be found in the mighty Saga literature of Scandinavia. The idea has not so far been fulfilled, and was probably more splendid than practicable. But England has its Sagas as well as Norway—old stories charged with immortal life, and capable in his hands of being converted into plays that would elevate the theatre, the public, and himself. Might he not turn his attention to them?"

AT a meeting recently convened by the Mayor of Chester to consider an offer made by the English Drama Society to give representations of the Chester Mystery Plays of the fourteenth century, a resolution was ultimately passed, "expressing the desirability of reviving the plays," and leaving arrangements to a committee. "We know these plays of the Nativity group," says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "We have not forgotten the inept absurdity for which Mr. Housman made himself responsible under the title of *Bethlehem*, and we should like 'ethically and with regard to all due interests,' to associate ourselves very strongly with the protest of the Dean of Chester and the caveat of the Bishop. Admitting fully the reverent intention of players, and scene-shifters, and limelight men, and all the rest, we are quite unable to agree that such performances can be other than offensive. There are some, of course, who see 'no offence i' the world,' but most will, we fancy, be found on our side. We do not forget the legitimate success of *Everyman* and its impressiveness. But exceptions do prove rules. We still hope the Chester project may be dropped."

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this List

Addison, Mr. Bert
Alberto, Mr. Fred.
Alexander, Mr. W.
Alexander, Prince
Andre, Madame
Anson, Mr. Geo. W.
Archer, Mr. J.
Armour, Mr. Wm. A.
Ardeck, Miss Agnes
Arnold, Miss Tiny
Artois Brothers
Ash, Miss Marie
Athos, Mr. Jack
August and September
Baker, Mr. Edmund
Baldry, Mr. H.
Baldwin, Mr. Chas.
Banana Man, The
Barnet, Mr. W. J.
Bartlett, Miss Lucy
Bayard, Miss
Bayne, Mr. Ronald
Beckwith, Miss Agnes
Bedford, Mr. E. A.
Black, Mr. W. E.
Blair, Mr. Athol
Boothman, Miss
Bosco, Mr. Irving
Bowman, Miss Isa
Boyd and Gilfain
Bright, Mr. Arthur
Brown-Potter, Mrs.
Butler, Miss E.
Byron, Miss Maggie
Canton, Mr. Wynne
Carbon, Mr. C. O. D.
Carver, Mr. Cecil
Castello, Bros.
Cavalazzi, Mme.
Cavanagh, Mr. J.
Chapin, Mrs. A.
Chard, Lieut.
Chipperfield, Mr. Henry
Christian, Mr. Albert
Clayton, Mr. Rene
Clayton, Mr. Herbert
Clarence, Mr. Fred
Cliffe, Mr. H. Cooper
Clifford, Mr. Nat
Cochrain, Mrs. C.
Cohen, Mr. S. L.
Collins, Miss M.
Colwell, Mr.
Connell, Mr. James
Conrad, Mr. Harry
Conroy, Mr. E. L.
Conroy, Mr. Oliver
Coopers, The Three
Costello, Mr. Tom
Costello, Bros.
Courtiers, The
Craige, Miss Edna
Cranston, Mr. Ottley
Curre, Mr. Carne
D'Alcourt, Miss M.
Dallas, Mr. Henry
Dampier, Mr. Alfred
Danby, Mr. Gus
Danvers, Mr. John
Dawson, Mrs. Emily
Day, Miss Lilly
De Camo, Mr. C.
De Sousa, Miss May
Dobbs, Miss Edith
Donaldson, Mr. Leon
D'Ostas, The
Doughty, Mr. Henry
Dudley, Miss H.
Dunbar, Miss Milly
Easton, Mr. Reg.
Edgar, Mr. Ralph
Edwards, Mr. E.
Edwin, Mr. J.
Ellison, Mr. J. W.
Entwistle, Mr. H.
Everard, Mr. Walter
Faber, Mr. Arthur
Finney, Mr. James
Fitzgerald, Mr. Geo.
Florador, Mrs. Fred.
Fox, Mr. James
Francis, Mr. Geo.
Gamble, Mr. R. C. W.
Gaston, Miss Lily
George, Miss Marie
Gerrard, Mr. C. H.
Gerrard, Mr. Douglas
Gerard's Lions
Gilbert, Mr. Bert
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Glover, Miss Catherine
Gomer, Miss Florence
Gratton, Miss Emilie
Gray, Mr. George
Greville, Mr. Herbert
Gribben, Mr. H. A.
Guedes, Miss Vera
Guyne, Mr. P. H.
Hanson, Mr. Beverley
Harland, Mr. Albert
Harvey, Mrs. Frank
Harlow, Mr. L.
Harrison, Mr. Fred
Hawthorne, Miss G
Hearn, Mr. Tom
Hector and Sultan
Heinch, Mme.
Henry, Mr. Percy
Henchil, Mr. Herbert
Henske, Mr. Robert
Herberts, The Four
Herman, Mr. Chas.
Herman, Mr. Syd
Hillias, Miss May
Hobbs, Mr. Billy
Hodges, Mr. Horace
Hone, Mr. Fred.
Hope, Miss Nell
Hurman, Mr. Ernest
Hurst, Mr. Terry
Jeffries, Miss M
Jackson, Mrs.
Keitch, Miss Alice
Kemble, Mr. Bert
Kendall, Mr. Harry
Kildare, Miss R.
King, Miss Hetty
Knights, Mr. Fred
Lawrence, Mr. Woods
Lawson, Miss Violet
Le Hay, Miss Daisy
Levaine, Mr. Gus
Levett, Mr. Walter
Levey, Mr. H. B.
Lewis, Mr. Gilbert
Leyton, Mr. Geo.
Leyton, Mr. George
Lincoln, Mr. L.
Lockner, Miss Hilda
Loftus, Miss A.
Lowe, Mrs. Lillian
Lukushima, Troupe
MacClelland, Mr. Harry
Mace, Mr. Fred
Mackintosh, Mr. Geo.
Martino, Mr.
Maude, Miss Beatrice
Maynard, Mr. R. T.
Mayne, Mr. W.
Mc Calla, Miss D.
Metheringham, Mr. J. W.
Milton, Mr. Ethel
Mintos, The Musical
Montford, Mr. Geo. R
Monti, Bros.
Moore, Mr. G.
Morgan, Miss Edna
Munro, Mr. D.
Murray, Miss Lillian
Napier, Miss B.
Neilson, Miss Naomie
Newton, Mr. Cecil
Norman, Mr. E. B.
Novell, Mr. W.
Ottavia, Mr. George
Payne, Capt. T.
Peterman, Mr. J. B.
Phillips, Mr. Nath.
Poline, Mrs.
Prince, Mr. Maurice
Pringle, Mr. Ralph
Revett, Miss Daisy
Reynolds, Mr. Harry
Rogers, Mr. A.
Rooney, Mr. Michell
Russell, Mr. Harry
Scarth, Mr. Frederick
Schubert, Miss Flo
Sharlotte, Miss Freda
Shine, Mrs.
Sinclair, Miss M.
Smith, Mr. G. H.
Smithson, Miss Florence
Soden, Mr. John
Sprays, Les
Stadleman, Messrs. F.
Star, Miss Jessie
Stephens, Mr. Yorke
Steuart, Miss Emmie
Stuart, Mr. Barney
Stone, Mr. J. B.
Streeley, Mr.
Studt, Mrs. J.
Stormont, Mr. Leo
Taylor, Mr. Greene
Taylor, Mr. Wm.
Terry, Mr. Herbert E.
Thomas, Mr. A. D.
Thurlestone, Mrs. Witr.
Travers, Miss Helen
Urquhart, Mr. H.
"Vasco"
Vassar, Dr. Carl
Vere, Miss Doris
Vilero and Vine
Wallace, Mr. Fred
Wallace, Mr. Tom
Walpole, Mr. E.
Walton, Mr. J. K.
Wardroper, Mr. Henry
Warren, Miss L.
Westlake and Clifford
Whyte, Mr. Carl
Williams, Miss Cora
Wills, Mr. Chas.
Wilsher, Mr. Fred
Wilson, Miss M.
Woulfe, Mr. F. B.
Wyndham, Miss K.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Percy Compton—Saturday, Oct. 27.
Enid Dane—Saturday, Oct. 27.
Cosmo Stuart—Sunday, Oct. 28.
J. D. Beveridge—Sunday, Oct. 28.
Jessica Black—Sunday, Oct. 28.
Harry Lupino—Sunday, Oct. 28.
Horace White—Sunday, Oct. 28.
H. Sherwood Martin—Monday, Oct. 29.
Ventom Swift—Monday, Oct. 29.
Frank Lindo—Tuesday, Oct. 30.
Byron Douglass—Tuesday, Oct. 30.
Mary Stuart—Tuesday, Oct. 30.
J. Dobson Clyde—Tuesday, Oct. 30.
Lilian Burns—Tuesday, Oct. 30.
Arthur Hinton—Tuesday, Oct. 30.
Madge Crichton—Wednesday, Oct. 31.
Thomas Searle—Wednesday, Oct. 31.
George Stone—Wednesday, Oct. 31.
Mrs. William Lowe—Thursday, Nov. 1.
Edith Wallis—Thursday, Nov. 1.
J. Leicester Jackson—Thursday, Nov. 1.
Ida Heath—Friday, Nov. 2.
Clinton Baddeley—Friday, Nov. 2.

THE Greenwich Theatre is to be sold by auction by Messrs. Farebrother, Ellis, Egerton, Breach, Galsworthy, and Co., at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, E.C., on Thursday, Nov. 22, at two o'clock. The theatre, which is in the midst of a densely-populated neighbourhood, has a seating capacity for about 1000 persons, with commodious stage, scene dock, dressing and retiring rooms, and all necessary emergency exits as required by the London County Council. Possession of the property, which is held on lease for a long term at a nominal ground rent, may be had immediately.

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To ARTHUR MARSON, late of East Cliffe, Folkestone, in the County of Kent.
TAKE NOTICE that a Citation has been issued in this Division citing you to appear and answer the Petition of Editha Harral Marson, of 29, Middle-lane, Crouch End, in the County of Middlesex, praying for a dissolution of marriage. In default of your so appearing, you will not be allowed to address the Court, and the Court will proceed to hear the said Petition proved and pronounce sentence in respect thereto. And take further notice that for the purpose aforesaid within one month after the date of this publication, an appearance must be entered at the Divorce Registry, Somerset House, Strand, London.
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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1906.

THE DRAMA AND THE REVOLUTION.

The production of *Les Merveilleuses* at Daly's Theatre this evening revives the interest—never long-slumbering—which is created by everything connected with the French Revolutionary period. As CARLYLE remarks, even while the September massacres were going on, twenty-three theatres were giving performances in Paris; and the French stage was prominent during the Revolution in many ways. Several of the leaders in the stirring events of the time had been actors or dramatists. BILLAUD-VARENNES, one of the most relentless advocates of the system of terror, was a playwright, and left Rochelle, where he was born, at twenty-three, from the vexation caused by a piece of his composition having been hissed. COLLOT D'HERBOIS, another prominent Conventional, appeared on the stage at Lyons. It is stated that, having often been "boo-ed" by the public of that place, he vowed against it a vengeance which he glutted exorbitantly when he was sent as Commissioner to quell the Royalist rising at Lyons in 1793. FABRE D'EGLANTINE, who went to the guillotine in the same tumbril with DANTON, was the author of some meritorious plays. Overhearing him emit a groan, DANTON asked him what was the matter; to which FABRE replied, "I have just remembered that I left at home a capital comedy which I finished just before I was arrested. The police will seize my effects, and someone is sure to steal the piece, and get all the credit for it." The great French actor TALMA lived through the Revolutionary period, and it was to his house that MARAT came uninvited, to cross-question the Republican General DUMOURIEZ as to certain military executions. It was TALMA who stepped forward and asked MARAT by what right he came there unasked. The trial of LOUIS XVI. led to "scenes" at the Théâtre de la Nation, when a comedy in five acts and in verse by M. LAYA was performed for the first time. It was a remarkably bold attack on the Revolutionary party, ROBESPIERRE, PETION, and MARAT being depicted under thinly-veiled disguises. The piece, though in itself a poor affair, was enthusiastically received by a Royalist audience, and the Council-General issued an order suspending the performances. When the order was posted on the walls of the playhouse the audience had already taken their seats. The MAYOR of Paris drove up in his carriage, and, from a private box, explained the reasons why the Municipality had stopped the performance. His voice was drowned by cries of "The play! The play!" FLEURY, the leading actor, stepped forward, and asked the audience to accept another drama in place of *The Friend of Law*. The house objected. SANTERRE, the Commander of the Parisian National Guard, arrived with his soldiers, and tried to address the audience, but was hooted down. A hundred and fifty Jacobins, armed with swords, guns, and pistols, rushed into the theatre, and declared that *The Friend of Law* should not be given. The author having sent a deputation to the Convention, it returned with a decree stating that the Municipal body had no authority to censure a play. The piece was then given, all the best lines being taken up by those present with delighted applause. The author and the principals were called, amidst a scene of great effervescence. The management, however, feeling probably that they had gone too far, put off a repetition of the play for a day or two, and in the interval the Council-General issued another decree stopping the performances. SANTERRE and his forces again put in an appearance; but the audience demanded that *The Friend of Law* should be read from the stage. This was done by a young man, who was afterwards carried through the corridors on the shoulders of the playgoers. In eight months all the actors who had appeared in the play, and all the other members of the company, were arrested. COLLOT D'HERBOIS said: "The head of the company will be executed and the rest transported," and against the name of Mademoiselle RAUCOURT he placed in red a "G," meaning "to be guillotined." Thanks to the devotion of CHARLES DE LABUSSIERE, formerly an actor, and then employed in the offices of the Committee of Public Safety, who destroyed the documents relating to the artists, they escaped the Revolutionary Tribunal, and were set free in Thermidor after the fall of ROBESPIERRE.

Another piece, *La Chaste Suzanne*, which had no real political tendency, was made offensive to the Convention after the execution of the King by the meaning attached by the audience to certain lines. The chief of the tribunal which was trying Susanna, when the two elders took seats on the bench, rose and said:

"You are her accusers; you cannot be her judges."

This was very similar to a phrase in the speech of LOUIS'S counsel, DESEZE. When Susanna was being led to execution, Daniel stepped forward and cried, "Judge Azarias, I am innocent of the death of this woman!" The audience received the line with frantic and significant applause. On the day after the production a number of members of the Society of Defenders of the Republic were in the house, protested furiously against the applause, and invaded the stage in their efforts to get at the manager, who, however, escaped their fury. The actor who played Azarias presented a petition to the Council-General complaining of the disturbance; but that body dismissed it as "contemptible," and the manager, under pressure, was obliged to withdraw the play. Shortly afterwards, as a hawker was selling copies of it in the Palais Royal, some members of the society tore the books from him, and murdered him on the spot. The authors of the piece, who were good patriots, having "cut" everything that could possibly be misconstrued, submitted the revised work to the Defenders of the Republic, with whose permission it was again presented, this time at the Paris Vaudeville. In the first row of the balcony sat four grave and reverend Jacobins, solemnly watching to see if all the objectionable lines had been excised. As it was, the collaborators were arrested a few weeks later, and only regained liberty—and perhaps saved their heads—by producing a vaudeville called *Le Retour*, full of the most ardent patriotism. One of the results of the reign of Equality was that the Municipality suppressed private boxes, for which, indeed, no occupants could be found. The place of the boxes was taken by promenades, in which smoking was permitted. The old-fashioned paperings were replaced by others of tricolour, and busts of MARAT and other popular people ornamented the galleries. The Municipality, in further pursuit of patriotism, covered the beautiful painted ceilings of RAMEAU and other artists with broad stripes of the national hues; and in the middle of the curtain was usually painted a picture of Nature, Reason, or Liberty. The innovation of dividing the curtain into two, and drawing them apart and upwards, instead of lowering the whole, was first introduced at the Théâtre Molière in, or just after, the Reign of Terror. But the Revolutionary period proper was a bad time for theatres, chiefly for the reason that nobody had any money. With the revival of luxury under the Directorate, things looked up a little; and they were better still under the Consulate and the Empire. NAPOLEON was a friend of TALMA, and a lover of the drama; and amongst the few poetical compositions from his pen are some verses which he wrote to a leading actress who was playing in *Dido* at Toulon, where NAPOLEON was on service.

THE attractions of the fine programme at the Oxford will be augmented on Monday by Miss Marie Lloyd, Brown, Le Clerq and Co., Ernest Shand, and the Stella Troupe.

OWING to the nightly demand on the seating accommodation at the Palace (late Theatre Royal), Gloucester, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole are contemplating a rearrangement of the seating in order to economise space, as the two houses are nightly filled to overflowing.

HAVING considered drawings showing alterations proposed to be made to the seating at the London Pavilion Music Hall, Piccadilly, and works which have been executed in the pit saloon and basement of the premises, the Committee of the London County Council on the 16th inst. recommended that Messrs. Wylson and Long be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the two drawings submitted by them.

THE Palace Theatre, Belfast, will be occupied on the 19th prox. by the Carl Rosa Opera Company; then Miss Winifred Emery will appear as Olivia, followed by what must be considered one of the events of the season, in the appearance of Mr. Martin Harvey. Following Mr. Harvey's engagement, the Palace will resume variety; but the Christmas pantomime will be produced there instead of at the Theatre Royal, Belfast.

SKETCHES AT THE HALLS.

Mr. John L. Graydon, of the Middlesex, was summoned at Bow-street on Tuesday for producing a stage play on six days during the week commencing Sept. 10.

Mr. Bodkin (instructed by Mr. Hedderwick) appeared on behalf of the Theatrical Managers' Association in support of the summons; Mr. Walter Payne (instructed by Mr. Philip Rutland, J.P.) defended.

Mr. Bodkin explained that the piece to which objection was taken was entitled *The Sorceress*, and its performance at the Middlesex occupied about thirty-three minutes. It would seem that the proprietors of some music halls thought it better to have stage plays and pay fines than to comply with the law, but, of course, this was a state of things that could not be tolerated. No doubt it would be said that the Theatrical Managers' Association were trade rivals, but it was submitted on their behalf that managers and proprietors of theatres were placed at a great disadvantage by the production of stage plays at music halls. Theatres, it must be remembered, were under restrictions which did not apply to music halls. The Theatrical Managers' Association had no wish to take up a harsh or uncompromising attitude, and an understanding had been come to with a large number of music hall proprietors in London and the provinces, who had agreed to keep their sketches within certain limits. Certain gentlemen, like Mr. Graydon, however, would not fall in with that arrangement, and prosecutions like the present would have to go on until they were led, as the result of sharp experience, to reconsider their position.

It having been intimated that the facts were not disputed, no evidence was called.

Mr. Payne, in addressing the magistrate, stated that his client had been proprietor of the Middlesex since 1878, and this was the first complaint that had been made against him during the whole of that time. The persons now complaining were trade rivals, who took these proceedings for their own benefit, and not for the good of the community. The agreement which had been referred to was acceptable to the owners of large halls where expensive ballets could be run, but it did not suit the proprietors of small houses. This case was an attempt on the part of the Theatrical Managers' Association to coerce the defendant into signing an agreement of which he disapproved, although he was willing to agree to anything reasonable. It was all very well to say that the theatres were subject to restrictions which did not affect the music halls, but it was also the fact that no new music hall was now licensed by the County Council unless the proprietor agreed not to sell intoxicating liquor.

The Magistrate: What about new theatres?

Mr. Bodkin: They get a licence from the Lord Chamberlain, which carries a right to sell liquor, but not in the auditorium.

Mr. Payne repeated his expression of opinion that the agreement was harsh and unfair, if not iniquitous, and said he hoped the magistrate would not encourage these prosecutions by inflicting a large fine.

Mr. Marsham inquired whether the Middlesex was a small hall.

Mr. Bodkin said he saw that 2d. was charged for a programme, which contained advertisements of various brands of champagne. Apparently that was the standard of liquor consumed in the hall. (Laughter.)

Mr. Payne: You can have a seat in a box for half-a-crown.

The Magistrate: It is smaller than the Tivoli?

Mr. Bodkin: Oh, yes; but since the Tivoli prosecution there have been ten or twelve cases and two appeals to Quarter Sessions, when the opinion was expressed that the penalty should be £5 a day.

Mr. Payne: That was the Oxford.

Mr. Bodkin: The other was the Metropolitan, which is very much the same kind of hall as the Middlesex.

The magistrate said he saw no reason why persons whose rights were interfered with should not take steps to enforce those rights. He thought it did interfere considerably with theatrical managers if stage plays were performed at music halls, and he did not consider that any blame could attach to the Theatrical Managers' Association if they took proceedings. He did not think it was a case for a nominal penalty, and he ordered the defendant to pay fines amounting to £30.

The Metropolitan Theatre of Varieties, Ltd., of 267 and 269, Edgware-road, was summoned before Mr. Kennedy, at Marylebone, on Wednesday, at the instance of the Theatrical Managers' Association, for keeping the music hall for the public performance of a stage-play called *Nana*, without the authority of letters patent or the licence of the Lord Chamberlain. Mr. A. H. Bodkin, instructed by Mr. Hedderwick, prosecuted; Mr. Walter Payne, instructed by Mr. Philip Rutland, the solictior to the London Entertainments Association, defended.

Mr. Bodkin reminded the Court of the many previous prosecutions that had taken place in regard to the production of stage-plays at music-halls, and remarked that some of the music-hall proprietors evidently found it a great deal more profitable to continue the stage-plays and pay the fines imposed for so doing than to obey the law. This, he said, was a very unsatisfactory state of affairs. The piece complained of was an undoubted drama, containing three scenes and six speaking parts, and was produced by what was called the Adderley Howard company, occupying thirty-five minutes. The defendant company admitted that it was a stage-play, and after withdrawing it they introduced in its place another stage-play, entitled *Moses and Son*, which was the subject of prosecution only a few weeks before. Some of the music-hall proprietors, added counsel, had entered into an agreement with the Theatrical Managers' Association to confine these plays within certain limits, but the defendant company refused to do so.

Mr. Payne pointed out in extenuation that the only persons who objected were trade rivals. The agreement referred to, he said, was an attempt on the part of the theatrical managers to define the terms upon which the music-hall managers should break the law, but the defendant company refused to sign it, one reason being that it gave the theatrical managers power to get an injunction in the High Court to restrain the music-hall managers from breaking the law, and have them committed to prison in default.

Mr. Kennedy said he had nothing to do with any agreement. There had been a deliberate infringement of a well-known law, and he therefore imposed the maximum penalty of £20 for each offence, amounting in all to £120, with costs.

MR. GRAYDON ON THE SKETCH TROUBLE.

Mr. J. L. Graydon, in conversation with *The Era* interviewer after the decision of the magistrate had been made known in his case, strongly resented Mr. Marsham's remark to the effect that he (the learned magistrate) did not see why persons whose rights were interfered with should not take proceedings to enforce those rights. "If stage plays," continued Mr. Marsham, "are produced at places not licensed for the purpose, there is no reason why the Theatrical Managers' Association should not take action." Mr. Graydon considers that this statement savours of partiality. "It is as good as saying," he remarked, "that the theatrical managers have more right to enforce the law than anybody else."

So far as the agreement which the Theatrical Managers' Association drafted, and which several of the music hall proprietors have already signed, Mr. Graydon informs us that he is perfectly willing to agree to all the conditions which were arranged between the two associations, but he complains that since this agreement was come to the theatrical managers have added an additional clause, which is to the effect that in the event of any breach of the agreement on the part of a music hall manager, that manager, by virtue of his having affixed his signature to the agreement, is compelled to submit to an injunction without having the satisfaction of opposing it, and, in addition, he is liable to pay damages.

"The terms we agreed upon some time ago," Mr. Graydon goes on to say, "were, to put the case briefly, that a sketch should not last longer than thirty minutes, that six principals should be allowed, and as many supernumeraries as we liked. Those conditions I am perfectly willing to abide by; but I do not feel justified in signing away my freedom to the extent indicated by the clause which I have indicated, and to which I take the strongest objection. As to the Act under which we are being prosecuted, let me say that on its introduction into law it was never intended to create a monopoly for any one class of interest or any one branch of the profession. It was merely put into force for the purpose of preserving order and decency in places of public entertainment and to prevent plays being performed except under the control of some authority."

COPYRIGHT CONVICTIONS.

At North London, Harry Feinstein, twenty-eight, a British subject, with no fixed abode, was charged with exposing and offering for sale 113 copies of pirated music. He pleaded guilty.

Police-sergeant 62 N said that at seven o'clock on Tuesday night the prisoner called at his house in Ayrsome-road, Stoke Newington, and offered for sale some copies of music, which he (witness) knew to be protected. He consequently took him into custody.

Prisoner now said he had always sold good copies, but he happened to get this lot cheap.

Mr. Fordham: All you dealers or hawkers in pirated music have known for years that it was a wrong thing to do. Now there is, fortunately, an Act of Parliament passed to deal with you if you persist in this form of dishonesty.

Prisoner: I did not know it.

Mr. Fordham: That may or may not be so; but there has been so much stir about the matter that probably no one, especially you people, has not heard of it. This is practically trading in other people's brains. A man writes a piece of music, and if it can be turned to account in this way he gets very little out of it. You will pay £5 or go to gaol for a month.

Last week the Sheffield police apprehended three men who were selling music in the centre of the town, and Mr. Arthur Preston, of the Music Publishers' Association, London, attended before the Stipendiary to prove that the copies seized were all infringements of copyright. He had no light task. Although the songs seized were practically the same in all three cases, the magistrates insisted on examining separately the Stationers' Hall certificate of copyright of each song in each case. As there were fifty-one copies in the first case, seventy-one in the second, and eighty-one in the third, this proceeding occupied considerable time.

Philip Poulson, the first defendant to appear, was the only one to offer any defence. He said he had not had any pirated music of his own since last November, but had been selling flowers. On the day of his apprehension business was very bad. As he was walking up High-street, a man asked him to "hold" some music while he went to tea. Desiring to earn a shilling if he could, he did so.

The Stipendiary asked who the other man was, but Poulson would not say.

He was fined 5s., and the music was ordered to be destroyed.

William Turner and William Watts lost their music, and had to pay 7s. 6d. each.

"OLIVER TWIST" AT THE EUSTON.

Little Oliver Twist in the course of his travels has arrived at the Euston, at which hall a version of the famous novel from the pen of Charles Dickens is being played by Mr. Rollo Balmain and his excellent company. The sketch is in three scenes; the first representing the abode of Fagin, who gives a lesson in pocket-picking to his promising pupils, Charley Bates and the Artful Dodger, Hither is brought poor little Oliver, whose piteous plight arouses the womanly interest and sympathy of Nancy The boy escapes, but Nancy yielding to the brutal Bill Sikes, induces him to accompany her to Fagin's den. In the second scene—a rural one—the Jew learns by watching Nancy that she is in communication with Mr. Brownlow, and forthwith he informs Sikes of his discovery. This happens in the third and last scene—the abode of the burglar. The news infuriates Sikes, and with murderous intention in his mind he arouses the sleeping Nancy. She begs piteously for mercy, but the brute does not know the meaning of the word, and he, dragging the girl into the adjoining apartment, kills her. The Jew's announcement of the arrival of the police and the renewed rage of Sikes brings the sketch to a conclusion. Mr. Rollo Balmain continues to give a realistic rendering of Fagin, the avaricious, cruel, venomous nature of the man being indicated by numerous clever artistic touches. Such a well-experienced actor as Mr. Balmain is able to bring out all the salient points of the character with certainty and skill. Miss Sara Mignon gives adequate expression to the feelings of Nancy, a compound of good and bad qualities, and whose cruel death at the hands of the burglar arouses the deep sympathy of the audience. Miss Sybil Glynne presents a pathetic picture as Oliver, and obtains a large share of the sympathetic feeling aroused by the tragedy of his young life. Excellent representatives of the Artful Dodger and Charley Bates are found in Mr. R. Augustus and Mr. A. Gilbey, while the part of Mr. Brownlow is safe in the capable hands of Mr. A. Gilbey. The sketch, it should be added, is admirably staged.

At the Euston this week, Little Tich is delighting his countless admirers with his new song, "The Park Keeper," already an assured success. Miss Victoria Monks also meets with a flattering reception; Larola is adding to his reputation as a comedy juggler. Mr. Ernest Shand's contributions, "Dearly Beloved Brethren" and "Look at the weather we're having," are much appreciated; Rex Fox does some wonderful things on the slack wire; Mr. Charles Mildare, whistler, gives close imitations of birds; Ruby and Laws, vaudeville artists, are applauded; Miss Marie Empress sings in piquant style "I'd like to see a photograph of that"; and other turns include the Lupino Brothers and Miss Rose Cabini, with a capital chorus song, "I don't want no mansion." Mr. Fred McAvoy is the popular manager, and Mr. Charles E. Wellman gives valuable assistance in front of the house.

MISS CLARA NESBITT (Mrs. Tom Vine) has now permanently taken possession of her comfortable home at Finchley, London, and wishes good health and prosperity to all her old friends. Her husband, Tom Vine, the famous topical and extempore vocalist, will continue to fulfil engagements as before, but prefers them near home.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Miss Maisie Lloyd is to be married to-day to Mr. Alec Hurley by special licence at the registrar's office, Town Hall, Haverstock Hill, at 12.30. After the wedding a reception will be held by Mr. and Mrs. Alec Hurley at the Gaiety Restaurant at one o'clock. The bride, who has been overwhelmed with congratulations, will be due to appear at the Tivoli about 3.15 the same afternoon. We join the swelling chorus of good wishes that is being uttered by the whole of the variety profession.

Mr. Walter Gibsons was prevented from opening the Brixton Hippodrome on Monday evening, as he had intended, by a peremptory telegram sent to his private house by the Lord Chamberlain, who refused permission to allow a variety entertainment to be given at a theatre holding his license. His lordship has thrown a number of hard-working people out of work by his action; but it should determine variety managers to vigorously promote a Bill enabling every proprietor of a place of entertainment to obtain both a music and dancing and a theatrical license.

The Ealing Hippodrome, the Walthamstow Palace, the Richmond Theatre, the Croydon Palace are all run under a double license; and we hear of no violent upheaval in the world of art. The licensing question could be settled by a Bill containing a couple of clauses, the second one being necessary to do away with the Lord Chamberlain's power to forbid smoking in a theatre under his control. The manager of the house should have the sole discretionary power of deciding the question of to smoke or not to smoke.

Mr. Albert Chevalier, who is now in the States, was so much interested in the outcome of the Vanderbilt motor race that he took a car direct to the course. He used to own a Darracq car, but sold it, he says, when repeated efforts to find a driver who would run it slow enough failed. He and Mme. Yvette Guilbert are to appear in forty cities in forty days, one of the most remarkable tours ever booked in any country.

The Water Rats' matinée at the London Pavilion, always a most interesting event, is fixed this year for Monday, Nov. 19. The chief novelty of the afternoon is billed as follows:—"The Water Rats' band of players will celebrate another milestone on the Hanwell-road, uncorking a sleeping draught entitled (*Cock*) *Robin Hood*. The draught is prescribed by Wal Pink, 'musically bottled' by J. S. Baker, and dispensed by the following, who ought to know better." Little Tich may be trusted to make a fiery, untamed outlaw; and there will be a "Gentle Gertrude" air about the Maid Merry-in of Wilkie Bard. The Friar Tuck of Tom McNaughton should be a jovial soul; and the Poluski Brothers, Papa Brown, Arthur Reece, Deane Tribune, Cliff Ryland, and Fred Collins should add to the merriment of the skit. The manager of the matinée is Mr. Frank Glenister.

In the course of the proceedings at the London County Council on Tuesday, Mr. Wm. Bailey elicited from Mr. Sankey, chairman of the Parks committee, that there was no truth in a newspaper statement that the "grand dukes" of the Council intended to put music-hall artists into the open-air musical performances in the parks. It was an invention, he said, and "give a lie a start, and it will take a long while to catch it."

Mr. and Mrs. John Nathan celebrated their silver wedding on Monday evening at the King's Rooms of the Holborn Restaurant, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Among the guests present to congratulate the happy pair were Miss Marie Lloyd, Miss Rosie Lloyd, Mr. J. L. Graydon, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Griffiths, Mr. Albert Gilmer, Mr. Joseph Wilson, Mr. Alec Hurley, Mr. James Howell, Mr. Claude Warner, Mr. Mervyn Dene, Mr. John Nanson, Mr. Sam Walsh, Mr. Fred Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Alf Knifton, and a host of others. Messrs. Will Bishop and J. Goodson officiated as M.C.'s.

Mr. John Lawson is springing another surprise upon music halls. During the coming week, at the Empire, Bristol, he will appear in no less than five different sketches. On Monday and Wednesday he will present Mr. Cecil Raleigh's *The King's Minister;* on Tuesday evening and at the Wednesday matinée, Mr. W. W. Jacobs' *The Monkey's Paw;* on Thursday, *Humanity;* on Friday, *Sally in our Alley*, with its studio sensation; and on Saturday, *Mr. Todd, of London*. Certainly, one cannot accuse Mr. Lawson of a lack of versatility or energy.

Miss Ada Reeve has just received an offer for a tour in America at better terms than she had in her recent South African engagement. The proposed American tour will begin about Christmas. She had intended to rest after her present tour of nine provincial music halls, but this offer is so good that she is half inclined to accept.

Messrs. Pacey and Reeves are very busy with Mr. Harry Rickards's engagements. Last week Leonie Dixon sailed; this week Chanti, the protean, departs; and next week King and Benson, the sketch artists, commence their voyage. Tom Pacey has received from Mr. Rickards a cheery letter dated Colombo, Oct. 6, in which he states that the passage so far has been an excellent one, and that he is much improved in health.

Miss Margaret Cooper, who is appearing this week at he Palace Theatre for the first time in variety, has been associated with music from earliest childhood. At the age of seven she was fairly conversant with the piano; at nine she took up the violin; and at fourteen became organist at a London church. Under Mr. R. Cummings, Miss Cooper gained the Associateship of the Royal Academy of Music, and expects shortly to be made a Fellow of that institution.

The Alhambra has had no more popular foreign artist on its stage than Mlle. Anne Dancrey, who a few years ago appeared with her brother on the English side of La Manche as The Dantes, sensational dancers. But the fair *danseuse*, discovering her possession of a glorious voice, became anxious to make use of it, and having studied in Paris and Rome, she appeared, in 1901, under her own name, as a solo singer, and to-day is one of the most successful vocalists on the variety stage. She is now twenty-six, and hopes before she is much older to appear at Covent Garden.

Mr. Harry Marvello, proprietor of the Harbour Green Pavilion, Portobello, has just purchased that very handsome building and grounds facing the promenade, Portobello, known as the Tower Hotel. The building is a very substantial one, and the gardens in front are most extensive. It is the intention of the new proprietor to utilize the gardens for entertainment purposes next season. The hotel until recently was fully licensed.

At the Canterbury a special matinée will be given on Saturday next, at three o'clock, when the moving pictures of the celebrated Britt-Nelson fight for the light-weight championship of the world will be shown. This fight is considered to be the finest ever contested.

A special feature of *The Land Grabbers*, which is to be produced at the Bow Palace by Messrs. Ward and Andrews' company of comedians, is the engagement of Mr. Ben Cunningham, who made himself notorious in connection with Triangle Camp, Plaistow. He will give his experience as an "appropriator" and tiller of the soil, and will also relate some anecdotes of prison life.

The application for a licence for the New Tivoli, Liverpool, which will be opened the first week in December, has been adjourned until the 15th of next month.

The management of Hastings Hippodrome has just been taken over by Mr. Walter Norman, who for many years was connected with the management of the Royal Standard, Pimlico. Mr. Albert Matham's resignation is much regretted by his subordinates, as he has made himself popular and respected during his residence in Hastings. Mr. Norman is a popular and prominent member of the Terriers fraternity, and takes much interest in the Music Hall Home. He is also a successful descriptive vocalist.

The committee in charge of the testimonial to Mr. Sydney Paxton, on his relinquishing the resident-managership of the Grand Theatre and district-management of the Hippodrome, Southampton, held their final meeting at the Royal Hotel on the 18th, under the presidency of Mr. W. Bulpitt. Mr. Geo. Gear, one of the hon. secretaries, and the hon. treasurer, Mr. Harold Howell, presented the statement of accounts, which permitted of a cheque for just over £100 being handed to Mr. Paxton.

The Mayor kindly attended to formally present the cheque, and Mr. Paxton returned thanks very feelingly, the proceedings concluding with hearty votes of thanks to the Mayor for his support and services throughout the affair; to Mr. Bulpitt, who ably presided at most of the committee meetings; to Mr. W. Trussell, Mr. Howell, Messrs. W. A. Gleave and George Gear (the hon. secretaries), and Mr. Cheffins (the proprietor of the Royal Hotel).

The Lyceum, Eccles, has been taken over by Mr. Hamilton Baines, of the Baines Theatre and Music-hall Syndicate, and will in future be known as the Grand Theatre. In about a fortnight the house will again be opened with a first-class London production.

The sequel to the police expulsion of the audience at the Queen's, Glasgow, a week ago, was heard on Wednesday in the Central Police Court there, when Mr. Henry Bowerman, acting-manager of the theatre, and his assistant, Mr. B. M. Armstrong, jun., were charged with the offence of opening an unlicensed theatre and giving an entertainment therein. After some discussion as to the relevancy of the charge, it being contended that the lessee, Mr. Barney Armstrong, ought to have been summoned, the magistrate found the charge against Mr. Bowerman proven, and fined him three guineas; the charge against Mr. Armstrong, jun., being found "Not proven."

The funeral took place on Saturday, at the Burmantofts Cemetery, of Mr. T. B. Fayme, the well-known Yorkshire comedian, who died in Manchester on the 17th inst. Deceased, who was a native of Leeds, was born in the year 1869 in Rider's-fold, Burmantofts. His career as a comedian began at the age of twenty-three, and from that time up to his death he has always been popular. He appeared as Buttons in the *Cinderella* pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, last year. His death came with startling suddenness, and at the inquest, which it was deemed necessary to hold, it was found that he died from heart failure. Deceased, who was the eldest of a number of brothers, leaves three children, who are totally unprovided for.

The Liverpool Theatrical Licensing Sessions were held on Tuesday, when the Head Constable reported that the various local places of amusement had during the year been satisfactorily conducted. Attention was called to the fact that at some theatres, where dramatic sketches occupied the whole of the evening's entertainment, smoking was allowed, and the Bench pointed out that such a practice would have to be dropped, as it was no excuse to contend that because a stage play was broken up into three or four parts that that made it a variety performance. There was no desire to interfere with smoking so long as the performance was a variety entertainment.

Another complaint from the police was that at some halls there prevailed a practice of allowing amateurs to appear. The Bench condemned such a custom in the strongest language, and any attempt to fill such places by any outside means such as that would be dealt with very severely, and very likely the licence would be withdrawn.

In the case of one theatre the Bench pointed out that it was necessary that the licensee should reside in the city. With reference to the Empire, the city surveyor said that the two houses a night system was working well. On the occasion of a sketch given one evening last month words of an offensive character were used, but the management took immediate steps, and cancelled the artist's engagement. Sir Edward Moss, said the solicitor for the applicant, had made it his aim to present at his theatres nothing but clean and healthy amusement, and it was a matter of grave regret that the occurrence should have happened. The performer had been forbidden to enter the theatre again.

The Bench expressed satisfaction that the management had taken such a course. They knew it was sometimes a difficult thing to control artists. They brought the manuscript of their sketch to the management, and it was found harmless and perfectly in order; but, unfortunately, some artists indulged in gag, and introduced something objectionable. It showed the necessity of the management hearing every night every part of the performance. Those remarks applied to all licensees.

Mr. Alan D. Dunbar, of the Empire, Sheffield, became the honorary general manager of that house during a representation by distinguished amateurs of *Brother Officers*, in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The performance was under the direction of Captain Philip Jeffcock, who at the conclusion of the play presented Mr. Dunbar with a handsome silver champagne cup, and to Mr. G. Rhone, the stage manager of the Empire, a case of silver-mounted carvers as a souvenir of a very successful matinée.

Miss Daisy James has met with a severe loss in the death of her mother, which sad event happened on Thursday. The funeral will take place on Monday at Willesden Old Cemetery.

Messrs. John Abbott and Edward Briebach, two members of Mr. David Day's staff, in conjunction with Mr. "Willie" Preston (together forming a trio which has long been a thorn in the side of the London music pirate), have just completed a successful campaign against Manchester music thieves. A start was made last week, two raids resulting in the capture of 3000 illicit copies.

Last Sunday night, whilst watch was being kept on the premises of a suspected wholesale distributor named Gatliffe, a hand-cart was seen to leave the house accompanied by three men, who proceeded to London-road Railway terminus. They were arrested and taken to the police station, when they were found to be in possession of about 1000 copies of pirated music. At the hearing of the cases on Monday morning the principal man was fined the maximum penalty for the first offence of £5 and costs, and his two assistants 50s. each. As we go to press intelligence comes to hand of a successful raid on Gatliffe's stock, when, amid scenes of great excitement, several thousands of copies were seized.

The matinée in aid of the objects of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, which is to be given at the Canterbury on Nov. 27, is shaping well. Any lady who is willing to help will much assist the work of the committee if she will write in to the secretary, Miss A. De Grey, 69, Primrose-mansions, Prince of Wales's-road, Battersea Park, S.W.

Rumour has antedated Miss Vesta Tilley's appearance at the Palace which is fixed for Christmas. Before fulfilling this special West-end engagement the famous male impersonator has a number of others to complete. This week Miss Tilley is at the Empire, Shepherd's Bush, and on Monday she proceeds to Coventry to open Mr. George Dance's new theatre there. Later will come some provincial engagements at Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, &c., including the opening of the new Hippodrome of the De Frece circuit at Portsmouth.

Mr. John P. Harrington, although still rather weak from the effects of his severe operation, which was performed last Thursday week, is so far recovered that he hopes to resume his post of literary editor to the Monte Carlo Publishing Company on Monday; and it goes without saying that he will be heartily welcomed back by the other members of the firm, who at this busy season have felt his enforced absence very greatly. We congratulate him on his speedy recovery.

Miss May Lillian Levey, comedienne, has been engaged by Mr. Robert Arthur for pantomime, this being her sixth panto. engagement with him. Mr. John Hart, of the Theatre Royal, Bradford, has acquired Miss Levey's successful "Suffragette" song for Manchester, Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield, and Hull pantomimes.

A young lady named Galatea is the newest aspirant for "statuary" honours at the variety theatres. She will make her public début at the Palace on Monday, but was seen by a specially invited audience at the Shaftesbury-avenue house yesterday (Friday) afternoon in a number of draped and undraped creations. Psyche, Sappho (the passionate poetess of Lesbos, not Alphonse Daudet's heroine), and Salammbo will be among the statues given. Galatea has been endowed by Dame Nature with a perfect figure and a pretty face, and both may be seen anywhere; for is she not the "Symmetrion" girl who has been so graciously looking down upon us from the hoardings for the last twelve months?

In the new ballet at the Empire, which is shaping well at rehearsals, Mr. Wilhelm will take us to the period of 1835, or thereabouts, the first scene being the rehearsal room at the Paris Opéra House. Mdlle. Genée, who is especially well suited to her part, appears as a novice anxious for admission to the dancing class presided over by Mr. Fred Farren as the *maître de danse*. The defection of the première danseuse of the opera gives the dainty aspirant her opportunity, and in the second tableau she appears as the principal dancer in an imaginary ballet on the boards of the Opera House. This scene is dressed very much as in the days of Taglioni, Lucile Grahn, Carlotta Grisi, and Cerito, the heroines of the famous *Pas de Quatre*, whose rival claims to supremacy nearly drove managers mad, and will be interesting as reviving the early Victorian ballet skirt, which was longer and more voluminous than the "tu-tu" which Mdlle. Eva Sarcy has claimed to be the traditional attire of the star dancer.

The Council on Nov. 21, 1905, approved drawings, submitted by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., on behalf of Moss' Empires, Limited, showing the arrangements proposed to be adopted in the erection of a music hall, to be known as the Finsbury Park Empire, on a site at the junction of St. Thomas's-road and Prah-road, Finsbury Park, and in respect of which it is proposed to apply at the forthcoming licensing sessions for a music and dancing licence. The period allowed by the Council for the commencement of the work having elapsed, the applicants have asked that this time may be extended, and the Committee recommended that Messrs. F. Matcham and Co. be informed that, provided the works be commenced within six months, the Council will be prepared to grant a certificate to the owner of such building, on being satisfied that the premises have been completed in accordance with the drawings referred to and the regulations of the Council, and that certain stated conditions have been complied with.

Miss Agnes Molteno has had to refuse an offer from Mr. Charles Manners to rejoin his company as one of his *prime donne*, on account of the success of her pretty and pathetic scena, *An Old Story; or, A Dolly and a Coach*. This is a ballad, illustrated by a series of tableaux, and the story is of a motherless little girl, who, touched by her widowed father's sad face, promises to buy him a coach and a pair of ponies grey which she sees in a toy shop—the second scene. The happiness of both is short-lived, as the little one is knocked down by a real carriage and pair and killed. In another picture the child is being borne heavenward by an angel; and the final tableau shows her spirit form appearing to the broken-hearted father as he sits gazing into the fire in his lonely cottage parlour.

Henri Cot, the French Giant, who will be exhibited at the Hackney Empire on Monday, wants to wed. He is good looking, intelligent, twenty-two years of age, 8ft. 7in. high, weighs 390lbs., and has for a mascot a dwarf, 1ft. 11½in. high. This little fellow the giant carries in his overcoat pocket. It will be open to any lady who is prepossessing and domesticated to write to Henri at the Hackney Empire asking for an appointment, whereat she may pop the question. The fair applicant must be ready to tour the world with her bridegroom, for H. Cot has a long list of engagements to fulfil.

Cliffe Berzac, who has just started his second year on the Keith Circuit in the States, having opened on Aug. 28, 1905, is booked up until Christmas, 1907. So great is the success of his act that he might remain on the other side for a couple of years or so. About three months ago, Mr. Berzac purchased outright Captain Woodward's original seal and sea lion act for the sum of £180. There are seven sea lions and two seals, and as the act is doing well on the Percy Williams tour, and is being well booked up, Mr. Berzac has had to refuse an offer from Mr. Harry Rickards from Australia.

Mr. Frank Sherlock, in consequence of the illness of his wife, Miss Jean Van Dalle, was obliged to discontinue the run of the sketch, *The Mummy and the Undergrad*, and cancel all engagements connected therewith. He has been resourceful enough, however, to introduce a monologue entitled *From the Smoking Concert*, with which he is scoring a gratifying success. Mr. Sherlock played the part of Roberts in *The Lady Slavey* for 10½ years.

Mr. Walter Graham, the Lilliputian wonder, has been giving his act with marked success at the Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, where only variety business of the most refined character is allowed. Mr. Graham was not only personally complimented by Mr. Dan Godfrey, but that popular conductor has given him a series of engagements extending over a period of three years at double his present salary. Mr. Graham's entertainment is full of fun, and laughter is obtained by the most legitimate means, and without descending to vulgarity.

Dr. Walford Bodie, the well-known exponent of bloodless surgery, has had an offer, through Mr. Harry Day's agency, of a long engagement in America at the principal halls at a fabulous salary.

Mr. Branscby Williams, who is appearing with great success at Hammerstein's Victoria Music Hall, will be the guest of honour at a dinner to be given by the Dickens Fellowship Association in New York on Monday, Nov. 5. On the following day Mr. Williams will leave for England.

Miss Katie Mabin, in her entertainment, *Grave and Gay*, has introduced with great success during the week at Collins' and the Empress a Scotch song entitled "Wee Macgregor's Sister," written by her uncle, Frank Folloy, who also wrote "Stop yer ticklin', Jock," for Harry Lauder.

The Canterbury management has decided to postpone the celebration of its anniversary from the 15th to the 22nd of November, in order to avoid clashing with Mr. J. W. Edgar's benefit at the Metropolitan.

Owing to increased business, Messrs. Richard Warner and Co., Ltd., the old-established variety agency, have taken larger offices at Lyric Chambers, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. They will remove there early in the new year.

At the Tivoli on Monday, Little Tich will sing for the first time a new song entitled "The Park-keeper" (L.C.C.), which, both in patter and business, promises to be screamingly funny. Little Tich will also give his inimitable imitation of a serpentine dancer.

Miss Ada Colley, who returns to the Tivoli on Monday, will sing Sir Henry Bishop's beautiful song, "Lo, here the gentle lark," the flute obligato to which will be played by Mr. John Radcliffe, the celebrated flautist, who has been specially engaged.

Poor Tuis (of Tuis and Minco, gymnasts) passed away on Thursday, the 18th, at Stockton-on-Tees. The funeral took place on Sunday. Mr. John Batty, Mr. Walter Batty, and all the staff of the Grand Theatre, Stockton, followed, and Mr. John Batty defrayed all expenses.

The paragraph in our last issue with regard to the rumours of Mr. Will Murray's marriage was incorrect in so far as the Christian name was concerned. It should have read Mr. "Pete" Murray, the acting-manager of Sadler's Wells. By a coincidence both gentlemen hold similar positions under the Macnaghten banner, but Mr. Will Murray has been married over five years.

Mr. Clifton Crawford, the popular monologue artist and versatile entertainer, during his recent Pacific Coast tour, having occasion to pass through the romantic Southern California town of Santa Barbara, happened to remember that an old Edinburgh acquaintance, well known in connection with the success of Moss's Theatre of Varieties at the Scottish metropolis in days gone by—to wit, Mr. Leonard B. Bramwell—was located in that district. A letter was accordingly written to the effect that Mr. Crawford would arrive on a certain train from San Francisco, en route to Los Angeles, in order to fulfil a two weeks' engagement with the Orpheum circuit in the latter city, and that a stoppage of four minutes at Santa Barbara would enable a much-desired meeting to take place for auld lang syne.

A few minutes previous to the train's scheduled time of arrival a steaming horse and dust-covered buggy might have been seen dashing into the railroad depôt after a desperate stretch of seven miles' hard driving; and a few seconds after the train arrived another conspicuous figure might have been observed rushing around "holding-up" the most likely-looking bystanders, inquiring as to their identity. Suddenly a break in the crowd. "Is your name Bramwell?" "Yes; and you are Crawford." "Yes." "Shake!" Toot-toot. "Mighty glad to see you, old man." Toot-toot. "Well, must be off—train starting—will write." Toot-toot. "Speediest visit on record after sixteen years," so the onlookers remarked when made acquainted with the circumstance, as the long string of cars disappeared in the darkness.

The M.H.A.R.A., for a 5s. subscription, offers indemnity to its members against the loss of luggage whilst travelling, up to the amount of £10, with a maximum of £6 in addition should the loss prevent performance. The cost for baggage insurance to the M.H.A.R.A. works out at 11d. a year for each member. The insurance against accident—£500 in the event of death and corresponding benefits—costs 6d. per member. Thus the total cost for accident and baggage insurance is 1s. 5d.

Miss Dora Lyric returns to town on Monday to the Surrey and Cambridge after eight weeks' tour in the provinces, where she has been creating a great success with her new song, "All that glitters is not gold."

There was a well-attended meeting of the I.A.L. on Sunday last, when Brother 876 took the chair. Brother 1226 reported in detail the work done and inquiries made by the International Insurance Committee recently appointed. It was agreed that the report of this committee be approved, and that the committee be empowered to proceed with its inquiries.

Brother 1226 reported that Brother 1355 had taken the advice of the meeting on the previous Sunday, and as a result his times had been arranged by Mr. G. A. Payne so that he could play the two halls a night. The question was asked whether Mr. Lloyd, of the Pavilion, Greenock, had taken over all the contracts from Mr. Selwyn. A brother agreed to get an answer to this question by personally attending to the matter in a week or two.

A brother, seeking for information as to the method of copyrighting an act, was advised to read Mr. Strong's useful and handy work on "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at *The Era* office.

A brother volunteered information as to the easiest way to secure a patent. Go to a post-office and ask for a provisional B patenting form, fill it up, and send it into the Patent Office in duplicate. This costs £1, and lasts six months. During this time you may make alterations in your invention. Then you go and get another form and pay £2. It is better, however, not to let more time than is absolutely necessary elapse between the sending of the first form and the final.

Brother 876 then suggested some ideas for the protection of artists' "business," referring to the case of Bedini and the Ten Loonies. A brother contended that there must be many similar cases of plagiarism, and suggested that when a special trick or new business is invented that particulars, description, etc., should be jotted down and signed by the people who have taken part in it. Then these particulars or this description should be filed for reference at the office of the Lodge.

Brother 876 informed the meeting that he had received permission from Berlin headquarters for the London Executive Committee to accept application of English members for reinstatement without first applying to Berlin. He also advised the London Committee to go into the question of sending all committee members in England reports of the Executive Committee meetings at the London office.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

Mr. Harry Lauder will, in pantomime, sing a song which will be a novel departure from the style of ditty with which his name is usually associated. It is called "Gilt-edged Bertie," is by Gerald Grafton, and is of such a glorified Beau Brummel type that every "principal boy" who looks her best in magnificent attire will hasten to Messrs. Francis and Day to secure this sweetest of swell songs.

Messrs. Chrisp Shield and Co., the old-established firm of 136, Shaftesbury-avenue, have a fine assortment of special pantomime songs which are issued in books, which are now ready. Among the most favoured melodies that are bound to be heard everywhere are "Sleep and forget," "Roses, roses, everywhere," "A sweeter story still," and "Farewell, my Annabelle." The firm offers a full professional copy and band parts for one shilling.

Phenomenal activity characterises the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. just now, and each week their output of new songs grows steadily greater. They are by way of issuing next week, for special pantomime use, three new and "catchy" numbers of which report speaks most highly, to wit, "You don't miss de water," by two members of the firm, Messrs. Harrington and Tate; "She didn't come from Borneo," by those rising young authors Newton Butts and Herbert Rule; and, last but not least, a stirring new march song, entitled "There's a big ship sailing in the morning," by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford.

"By the Side of the Zuyder Zee" (published by Feldman and Co.), which has now been introduced into *The Beauty of Bath* at the Aldwych Theatre with great success, is in great demand by pantomime producers and artists all over the kingdom; and, judging by the opinions of those "in the know," seems to be generally accepted as the leading pantomime song for 1906-7. It bids fair to exceed in popularity any of Mills and Scott's previous successes.

"Sailing in my Balloon!" the bright and breezy chorus carol which has just been let loose, is fast sailing towards popularity, skilfully steered by Miss Florrie Forde. There is a lilt in the melody which positively compels one to hum or whistle. Pantomime artists should secure this up-to-date novelty from Messrs. Mills and Scott.

These gentlemen are also responsible for "Snowflakes," a pretty winter ballad, with a harmonised chorus, which promises scope for effects, and is published by Francis and Day. This firm has also a grand pantomime number in "Nelson from his monument," another Mills and Scott composition in rousing march time, and written round the great admiral, whose name always evokes enthusiasm.

The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., have in the press Mellor, Laurance, and Gifford's song, "My Rickshaw Queen," originally sung by Miss Daisy Dormer. This song, with its pretty and romantic story and catchy melody, is rapidly gaining favour now, and looks like being a big pantomime number.

Miss Victoria Monk's "Take me back to London Town" looks like this season's biggest hit, and the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., have already had numerous applications for it from the managers of the principal London pantomimes.

The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., have accepted for immediate publication Will Hyde's song, "The Wee Aberdonian," which Jack Lorimer, the popular Scotch comedian, has been featuring all over England.

Will Hyde has just published with the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., two comic songs—"Would you like to do that again?" sung by Mr. Sam Mayo, and "The Aberdonian," sung by Mr. Jack Lorrimer, the latter written in collaboration with that popular Scotch comedian.

Among the newest songs of the hour that have been acquired for publication this week by Messrs. Francis and Day, may be mentioned Harry Anderson's huge success, "Woman without a tongue," which bears the unmistakable impress of Barnes and Weston; and "The stable-boy's story," a very fine racing song, by Fred Elton and T. F. Robson.

Other new publications of the house include Miss Daisy Dormer's "Mr. Johnson; or, I told you to go," by Chas. Collins and Chas. Ridgwell; and two new numbers of George Brooke's—"Would you mind passing the salt?" and "That's what they told to me," the latter by Keith and Merson.

Mr. J. F. Lambe has found another big winner for Jock Whiteford in his latest song, "The Banks of Allan's Water," which is nightly encored at the London Pavilion. He has also supplied him with a new song called "My Bonnie Jessie does not come from Borneo." J. W. leaves town for a short provincial tour on Monday.

Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have just issued two special pantomime numbers for principal boy and girl, entitled respectively "I wonder what we'd do without our girls" and "All girls are beautiful, but not one like you." The former is being sung with emphatic success by Miss Margaret Broadfoote. It has an earhaunting melody, and possesses the one thing essential in principal boy songs—refinement. Already it is booked for several towns; while the latter song has proved a veritable gold mine for its original singer, Miss Crissie Cross, that young lady having signed no less than thirty-six contracts during the first week she so successfully introduced "All Girls" to a London audience. Both songs are from the pen of J. F. Lambe.

Miss Maidie Scott has acquired an excellent song by Messrs. Harrison and Elton. She is also introducing next week a new song by Messrs. Steven and Mullen, which will be published by Messrs. Shapiro and von Tilzer.

The demand among pantomime producers and artists for the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s three big "winners"—"Queen of Old Samara," "When the band played the 'Men of Harlech,'" and "Somebody cares for you"—has been as flattering to the enterprise and "pushfulness" of this young firm as it has been unprecedented in spontaneity.

Messrs. Lawrance, Mellor, and Gifford have just placed a new song with the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. which the Berners-street firm confidently hope will prove as great and lasting a success as the same authors and composers' famous number, "I've built a bamboo bungalow for you."

The Monte Carlo Publishing Co. have just accepted for early publication two new songs, both written and composed by Paul Pelham, Newton Butts, and Herbert Rule, entitled respectively, "The Belle of the Dardanelles," and "Don't be afraid, little soldier."

The popular coon song, "Good-night, Mr. Brown, I'm out," is in very great demand for pantomime, and Chas. Collins, who, in conjunction with Tom Mellor, wrote the "Wooden Hut" craze, is to be congratulated on this successful number. Miss Daisy Dormer is just now evoking the greatest applause with this strong item, which will be featured by her in pantomime. This is also being "fixed up" for many annuals by Messrs. Francis and Day.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

The latest acquisition of Mr. Alfred Butt is Miss Margaret Cooper, whose appearance at the Palace Theatre is another concession to the higher taste of those music-lovers who seek *désœuvrément* at the variety houses. Miss Cooper is a delightful artist. Without a great vocal endowment, she yet completely satisfies the listener with her exquisite tone, while her sense of comedy exercises a wonderful fascination. If she came from Paris we should call her a *diseuse*, but so great are her gifts that she might even attain the altitude of Yvette Guilbert in the realms of art. She opened her entertainment on Monday by singing Lionel Monckton's song, "My heart's at your feet," following it with a pretty song, "I want someone to love me," composed by Mr. Pelissier, the chief of the Follies. Then came "The Chimney Sweep" (Monckton), and, in answer to a unanimous demand for a *bis*, the charming artist added "Jest her way."

The McNaughtons (Tom and Fred), who also made their first appearance at the Palace on Monday, have brought with them a choice assortment of cross questions and crooked answers that kept the house in roars of laughter. Their burlesque fight is a reproduction of their duel in the wood between the hired (pantomime) ruffians in *The Babes in the Wood*, and is exceedingly funny. The happily associated pair are undoubtedly a great success, and their broad humour is just the fillip required at the fine house in Shaftesbury-avenue. An act full of acrobatic surprises and not lacking in the essentials of comedy is presented by the Creo Brothers—English boys both of them—who work their clever business as "the Gipsies." The artfully contrived vehicle in which they arrive collapses into an ordinary table, and their tricks throughout are uncommonly neat and clever. Howard and Harris also combine humour with acrobatics. Mr. Malcolm Scott, as Boadicea from the Embankment, brings with him a host of humorous reminiscences and perverted biographies, and the turn is full of cleverness. Gillin, a ventriloquist new to the London variety theatres, introduces a couple of figures with great success, the vocal work being excellent. The Norman and Leonard Trio open the programme with their successful sketch, *The Itinerant*, in which excellent musical selections are given on violin and harp; Miss Daisy Dormer follows her well-rendered coon song with a prettily-executed dance; and the Palace Girls, daintily dressed, have been educated and drilled—one can easily see—by the one and only Tiller, and their dancing is always interesting, if not very varied. Homer B. Mason and Marguerite Keeler repeat their success in the smart sketch, *Hooked by Crook*; Miss Marie Tempest sings some of the numbers which have assisted to make her famous; Mr. Jack Lorimer furnishes excellent excuses for laughter in his Scotch contributions, his dancing being excellent; and other attractions in the bill are the Bioscope, which mirrors the events of the day; and Eadie and Ramsden. Mr. Herman Finck's fine orchestra plays admirably.

THE SURREY.

Seekers after amusement in South London cannot miss this popular house of entertainment at St. George's Circus, for the electrical brilliancy of the exterior is only a reflection of the bright and merry entertainment to be seen within its spacious interior, and it must be highly gratifying to Mr. Charles Craig, the ever-courteous acting-manager, to view —twice nightly—the sea of happy, smiling faces, eager, responsive, and appreciative, that fills every available space in the vast auditorium. Sketches are the principal items in the current bill, and habitués of the Surrey show by their eager attention their clinging to the old love. Topping the programme is the romantic one-act episode, with its pretty and effective rural set, entitled *A Child of Nature*, admirably represented by the Vaudeville Dramatic Company. Miss Edith Cochrane as Sister Staphanie imbues her part with a charm that reaches the hearts of her audience. In the title-rôle Little Gracie Lyndon as Winifred is good, and gives great promise; Mr. Ernest Wingfield as David Haydon acts with a manly earnestness, power, and sincerity beyond all praise; as the faithful old churchwarden Oose Mr. R. G. Whales gives a character-study full of clever points; Miss Ida Harrison invests the character of Alethea Vyse with a grace and womanly feeling of much merit; as Osmond Reece Mr. Lodge Percy contributes a fine sterling piece of work; and Mr. Dennis Ainslie appears as Sir Cauntley Reece.

Laughter permeates the whole action of the merry farcelet, *Colonel Pepper*, which is smartly played throughout by Mr. Dick Cruikshanks and his merry little company. As the distracted young bachelor barrister, Percy Gay, who has to find a wife and child in fifteen minutes, to satisfy his irascible uncle, who believes him married, Mr. Allan Hope scores heavily; Miss Kitty Kirwan as the servant Polly, who acts as his wife *pro. tem.*, thoroughly realises the character, and adds not a little to the undeniable success of the playlet; as the choleric Colonel Pepper Mr. Dick Cruikshanks is remarkably good; as the man-servant Brown, who assumes the disguise of a nurse, and raids all the nurseries in the neighbourhood for the loan of a baby, Mr. Wal Lovell is the life and soul of the absurdity. Another most amusing sketch is provided by the musical comedy sketch company, and written by Edgar Dereves, entitled *Rough on Tuff*. In this we have two Tuffs, father and son. The son is not willing to return to his scholastic studies at Pimple College, and the father, in persuading him to go, "wishes that he was young again," forgetting for a moment that he has in his possession a magic Indian stone, that gives the owner the power to have anything he desires. Instantly, the father and son change places, the son becoming the father and *vice versâ*. The son soon packs his father off to college, and the fun can easily be realised when, in the next scene, the elder Tuff is in his son's place at college, and is treated as a boy in the mixed classes. Mr. Joe Nightingale in this character is delightfully funny, keeping the house in roars of laughter, and is loyally supported in this direction by Mr. Stuart Ethall as Dr. Whacker; Miss Winnie Raynor, as his lively young daughter May, who sings and dances charmingly; Mr. Leslie Digby as Professor Long; Mr. Hyland Shea as Whimper; Mr. Leonard May as the son, Peter Tuff; and a smart and merry crowd of housemaids, guests, schoolboys and schoolgirls, who join in a mad revel of acrobatism and dancing.

Arthur Rigby, in his exhilarating scena, *The March of the Married Men*, and his lecture on "Women's Rights and Wrongs," keeps the audience in a merry mood. Millie Howell, looking bewitching in her tasteful costume of black and white, sings with purity of tone and much feeling a pretty tuneful ballad, "For better or for worse." Harry Morris is a resourceful entertainer, and soon sets his hearers laughing with his rustic puns, while his farmyard mimicry is realistic and amusing. Violet Choice introduces some clever step-dancing with her song, "Wait till I get older," and wins hearty approbation. Sam Redfern still has many admirers, although it is a generation ago since we first heard the same patter, and his topical song, "If you can stand this you'll stand anything." Nora Beverley voices with much feeling the old negro melody, "Kentucky Home." The Delomes, in their speciality, *The Phantom Clogs*, gain an ovation for their series of exceedingly clever clog dances. Fyne and Hurley are ever welcome as the "Coster and the Dude," their merry cross-talk, the smart skit, "Driving to the Derby," and the "Boxing Lesson," are so full of exquisite drollery that it leaves the audience no time to think, but only to laugh. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, depicting the "Komical Konvicts; or, How the Jail-birds Flew," is a most amusing and interesting film. The Surrey orchestra, under the direction of Mr. W. Hinkinson, deserves a special word of praise for their efficiency.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

Observant patrons of the variety places of amusement will no doubt have noticed that certain turns are not received with the same degree of favour that they were a few years ago; but the ventriloquist still flourishes, and his popularity shows no signs of diminution. Of late years, too, many new practitioners of the art have made their appearance at "the halls," and sundry novel features have been introduced into their performances. At the Holborn Empire this week considerable interest has attached to the appearance of Mr. Jay W. Winton, a ventriloquist who not long ago arrived in this country, after making quite a record cosmopolitan tour. Under engagement to Mr. Harry Rickards, he appeared no fewer than three thousand times in Sydney and Melbourne alone. Mr. Winton introduces first of all an old man, a life-size figure, that lifts its right arm quite naturally, while a little fluffy dog on the right occasionally interrupts in comical style. But Mr. Winton relies for his humorous effects chiefly upon McGinty, the title he has given a figure which is taken from a box, and presents a quaintly grotesque appearance, with expressive features and curious straggling hair. The most striking, and, at the same time, amusing, characteristic of McGinty is his aggressive impudence, for which he is punished by being relegated in no very gentle fashion to his place of confinement. McGinty's half-stifled expostulations during the progress of this apparently difficult operation are laughable in the extreme, and the difference in the sound of the voice when the lid of the box is open and when it is shut is very cleverly indicated. Finally the "bad boy" escapes from his wooden prison-house and climbs a rope, bringing the act to an effective conclusion. Mr. Winton voices his figures very cleverly, introducing the ditty, "It's the man behind the gun that does the work." He also gives a song in three distinct voices.

Amongst the items in this week's programme that deserve special notice is Lindon's Vaudevilles, in a musical mélange, entitled *Monks at Play*. Three monastic occupants of a monastery are seen engaged in the harmless pastime of fishing; they are also melodious souls, ready to join heartily in a chorus. Then there suddenly appears a pretty little pierrette, and the good fathers' heads are quite turned. They don pierrot costume, and make love to the fair being who has invaded their domain. Then the monastery bell is heard, and the monks cast off their gay attire, and become once more sober, sane sons of Mother Church. This slight musical sketch is admirably rendered and well received. Mr. George Mozart scores with his clever and highly amusing burlesque of the leading characters in a sensational melodrama, the quick changes being very cleverly managed. Miss Daisy Jerome is a smart little comedienne, whose song, "A little bit of butter on the floor," is rendered with delightful piquancy. She also scores with a song in which she cleverly imitates a Dutch girl, a French girl, &c. Mendel, the blind pianist, furnishes evidence of his wonderful ability by playing a melody that he has only heard once. Bonnie Goodwin and her piccaninnies give a lively and diverting entertainment, which is well received. Dale and O'Malley, comedians, score both with their cross-talk and duets. Mr. Will Evans, in his sketch, *Building a Chicken House*, in which he has an efficient assistant, causes roars of laughter; and other turns who meet with the full approval of the audience include the Six Idols, high kickers and dancers; Thos. E. Finglas, coon delineator; Les Frolics, Parisian dancers and tumblers; the Eight Sunrays, vocalists and dancers; Pat Rafferty, Irish comedian; and the Kentucky Four, including Topsy, coloured vocal artists. The Imperial Bioscope depicts "The Motorist," an amusing trick film.

THE EMPRESS.

A well-varied and most interesting programme is being presented here this week, with the result that the holding capacity of the hall is taxed to its utmost limits. At the top of the bill is Hackenschmidt, the well-known wrestler, who is making one of his periodical visits, and, judging by his reception, still retains all his old popularity. On the evening of our visit a couple of very interesting bouts took place. The first was with a soldier from the Guards, who showed himself to be a very slippery customer. He was, however, no match for the Russian, who was never once on the defensive. The second was with James Strong, the well-known 18st. Cumberland wrestler. This contest proved far more interesting, as in this instance Hackenschmidt did not have it all his own way. However, after about five minutes' wrestling the Russian gained a very neat fall.

A turn quite unique in its way is that of the Abdullah Arabs. Twelve in number, they enter into their performance in no half-hearted manner, and give many interesting tumbling feats, which are executed with an ease that is surprising. As pyramid-builders they are certainly quite in the front rank. The applause which is bestowed upon them is certainly not more than they deserve. Nash and Noel, two comedians, have a clever song, entitled "The man behind," which they precede with some clever amusing cross-talk. They bring their turn to a conclusion with some neat dancing. Vesta Victoria, a real Brixton favourite, is again delighting everyone with her songs, and to judge by the tremendous applause that greets her, she is adding largely to her legion of admirers. She has a couple of capital numbers which she renders in her well-known inimitable manner. In that popular favourite, "Waiting at the church," which is being whistled in New York as well as in London, the chorus is taken up very heartily, and at the conclusion the comedienne has to listen to deafening applause.

The Six Brothers Luck, with their pantomimical absurdity *The Lightning Fire Brigade*, provide one long continuous roar of laughter during their stay. Edie King, a charming comedienne, dressed in Georgian costume, sings "Lady Teazle," and appears to great advantage as the young wife of *The School for Scandal*. In her second, "Let me show you," she introduces various styles of dancing, being quite an adept in the terpsichorean art. On concluding she is the recipient of much applause. The Sisters Morgan, one of whom appears as a boy, sing and dance very prettily; Naline and May, a couple of clowns, have a very entertaining turn, and seem to be able to extract music from anything. The Two Whites (or, shall we say, Black and White?) are a couple of exceptionally neat and clever dancers; amusing patter is also a feature of this turn.

A sketch, entitled *Feeding the Bird*, is being presented by Lilian Marew and company. The scene is a workman's living-room, and the sketch is very funny in parts. Other items in the programme are Montgomery and Walker, Harry Lawson, Katie Marsh, and an "extra turn." A most enjoyable evening is brought to a conclusion with some up-to-date pictures on the Bioscope, including the South Africans' victory at Northampton. Under the baton of Mr. Robert Allington, the orchestra plays artistically. Mr. Nelson Francis, the popular manager, receives every assistance from his able lieutenant, Mr. Francis Winchcombe.

QUITE as an experiment Mr. J. H. Graham has decided to open Tynemouth Palace-by-the-Sea for two weeks on Dec. 24. Mr. Lindon Travers, the manager, is doing the bookings for Christmas, and also the season in 1907.

THE HOUSE OF WITMARK.

CHAT WITH MR. CHAS. WARREN.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

On matters affecting the music-publishing trade Mr. Charles Warren, the London manager of the house of Witmark, is a mine of information. In fact, if interviewers were paid on that scale of princely liberality with which the investing public reward the ingenious efforts of bogus company promoters, Mr. Warren would, indeed, be a valuable asset to gentlemen who write "chats." He has always something of interest to say with regard to the business with which he has so successfully associated himself, and one has scarcely taken a seat in his office before he enters upon serious conversation.

"We are extremely pleased," he says at the offset, "with the outlook for the future. We have been handicapped so long by the operations of the pirates that we are now beginning to feel the advantages of Mr. O'Connor's efforts on our behalf. I think the new Act will be found efficacious in every way. The one question left is, are those who are supposed to administer justice going to help us? So far as London is concerned, I do not think we have cause for complaint in that direction, but I have had to-day a letter from my traveller in Leeds who tells me that the magistrates in that city are not affording the assistance which might reasonably be expected of them. However, we are in hopes that before long even they will fall into line, and support the carrying out of the Act. The entire trade has suffered more than the public can realise. It has not merely been a matter of the sale of copyright music by the pirates, but the trade in itself has lost a good deal of confidence, and the evil practices complained of have upset the traditions as to the manner in which music should be introduced to the public. In the past the system of the trade taking up new songs and instrumental pieces that we produced led to their becoming popular with their customers, and by that means of introduction we began a general sale. Since this piracy has been so rampant, the dealer naturally would take no chances in investing in new things, and in consequence only confined his attention to those numbers that were in actual demand."

Mr. Warren went on to state that so far as his firm's Christmas productions were concerned, they had a very formidable list ready, as will be seen on reference to an advertisement on another page. "Many of our Christmas successes," remarked the

Photo by Karoly.

MR. CHARLES WARREN.

interviewee, "have been held back on account of the piracy. During the year everything that looked to me like a popular success I put away to await the time that we could safely place it on the market without any fear of its being stolen from us before we got our benefit from it. We have several very big numbers. One especially, called 'Moon, dear,' was originally sung at the Hippodrome in New York, and created a great deal of enthusiasm at the time. It was sung over here in the Empire Revue by Miss Sybil Arundale, but beyond that it has not been heard, as we have been holding it up as a special pantomime number."

Asked as to what he considered was the trend of the public taste in regard to songs at the present moment, Mr. Warren stated that the ballad song, or what was known as the home song, was coming back into popular favour. The public appeared to have got tired of the coon or ragtime type of song, and now preferred the kind of song that was so much favoured with the early Christy Minstrels—the little home or "heart" ballads that were so easy to sing, and were so tuneful. The coon music business, according to Mr. Warren, is rapidly passing away, "but," he adds, "I only give that as an opinion based upon the sales of the different numbers."

Another song which Messrs. Witmark will publish at the festive season, and of which Mr. Warren holds out great hopes, bears the title, "Will you love me in December as you did in May?" He tells us that it has an exceptionally pretty melody, and should become popular in the family circle. The firm will also shortly publish a march song, "I could learn to love a soldier." Songs with a military theme are always welcomed by members of the fair sex, "who seem"—on Mr. Warren's expert authority—"to be possessed of an innate desire to admire, and to sing about the gentleman in uniform."

"Of course," continues Mr. Warren, "the trade has been upset by the cheap editions issued by various publishers, but there is every prospect of the songs returning to their ordinary prices. A new song is something in the nature of a luxury, and if people want it, it matters not whether the price is one-and-four or sixpence. There has been a lot of talk about a large public for cheap music. My experience is that the question at issue is not so much the price as the value of the song to the individual purchaser. In this connection I may mention that a few days ago I received from a man who deals in cheap music a small order. It was written on the back of one of his circulars, which contained an advertisement beginning 'Why pay 1s. 4d. and 2s. for music?' and then proceeded to give a list of publications of various music firms which he said he could supply at seven for 2s. But, curiously enough, this man wants a copy of 'The cosy-corner girl,' and encloses 1s. 6d. for us to send it to him."

The history of the House of Witmark from its foundation reminds one of the old saw, "Great oaks from little acorns grow." One of the three brothers Witmark was presented while at school with a small printing press. With this the Witmarks printed cards for their neighbours, and when the profits had accumulated a large press was bought. Later still, the idea of publishing music occurred to the trio, and the result to-day is that the House of Witmark is world-famous—or, as Mr. Witmark expressively puts it, "our firm completes the circuit of the globe. We are able to take a popular song, and literally chase it round the world."

CHELSEA PALACE.

We are often told in all sorts and conditions of newspapers that the entertainments at the halls are now on a higher plane of refinement than they were before the L.C.C. came into existence, growing patronage of the middle classes, who have made of the modern Empires and Palaces family resorts. It is quite possible, however, to make these people's entertainments attain a loftier level than is quite palatable to the many-headed public, and to soar into regions of art that are above their heads. Antidotes to this high falutin' are found in such comic singers as Mr. Sam Mayo, who is touching the springs of laughter at the Chelsea Palace in his Chinaman song. In the verses of this one discovers highly-coloured descriptions of domestic and matrimonial improbabilities. What, for instance, can be more frankly humorous than the "immobile one's" description of a wooden-legged wife, whose two stumps would have been utilised for a cricket match had there been any possibility of solving the difficulty of where and how to "place the bails"?

A farcical duologue entitled *Beauty and the Bounders*, produced by Mr. Wilton Heriot, provides an interlude of mirth that is very highly appreciated by the Chelsonians. Beauty is chief barmaid at the Hotel de Luxe, and among those who come to purchase liquid refreshment at her counter are an actor of the legitimate, who garnishes his conversation with "Prithee, wench," and similar Elizabethan phrases; a coster, who gives his impressions of a performance of *Hamlet*; a snobbish Israelite, who arrives in a motor; and a scion of the aristocracy who proposes marriage to the Hebe of the bar. The trifle opens with a prologue sung before the curtain by the representative of the barmaid—Miss Frances Manners, who plays the part with both sprightliness and grace. Mr. Wilton Heriot is particularly good in his series of character sketches, and he has garnished the parts with many smart things. The sketch will play closer after a night or two, and it should be welcome as a piece of comedy relief wherever it is played.

Miss Eva Kelland, pretty of face and lithe of form, sings with much expression a song addressed to a pretty little pony. This is something of a modern edition of the Hon. Mrs. Norton's ballad, "The Arab's Farewell to His Steed." The pain of parting from the intelligent and affectionate quadruped is avoided, and the final verses close on a joyous note. Miss Kelland, who is apparently from Australia, makes a comely maid of the bush in her scarlet jersey, brown skirt, and high boots. Doody and Wright revel in absurdities that fetch the house, the uproarious comedy of the mere male of the pair being most mirth-provoking. Mr. Russell Wallett talks to the ladies of the audience in a vein of banter that makes the philosophy of the "lady in black" highly diverting, and the song with a sneezing accompaniment is exceedingly clever.

A special attraction is Miss Irma Lorraine, who poses in various pictures, the prettiest of which is "Spring"; and other turns billed include the Raies, a couple of clever lady ballet dancers; Lee and Kingston, who revel in "practical joking"; Jack Lane, the "Yorkshire rustic"; and the Sisters Pine, who display hereditary ability in their character duets. Mr. J. Norman Berlin is the popular acting-manager here, and Mr. Angelo Asher's orchestra has an enviable reputation, due in no small measure to the artistic aims of its conductor.

PARAGON.

It is a pleasure to listen to a genuine comedian like Mr. George Bastow, who does not for his humour depend upon such insipid twaddle as we frequently get on the subject of "booze" and "ma-in-law," or puerile hogwash concerning Cupid in his various aspects. Mr. Bastow's comedy is clean and it is funny. Whether as an old rustic who has passed the allotted span, and advises younger people to "keep on keeping on" in spite of the little worries and inconveniences of life, or as an elderly major who is a gay old stager, and can never forget the days when he used to bump up and down on his charger, Mr. Bastow presents a possible, and, at the same time, very amusing, character. There is excellent quality and quantity in the rest of this week's Paragon programme. Happy Fanny Fields, the quaint American-Dutch girl, is making for merriment with all her irresponsible sayings and doings, her bright mannerisms, and her own infectious, bubbling merriment. Mr. J. P. Ling, in his mimetic monologue, has caught on too. Last week his act proved so acceptable to the Mile End-roadites that his services were retained. His imitation of a ballad vocalist singing "Bonnie Mary of Argyle," but omitting the high notes, is most effective from a mirth-provoking point of view, and the same may be said of his impersonation of a soprano, in which he not only copies the feminine tones, with certain variations, but also mimics the attitudes of a lady artist and her little attentions to her dress. Miss Florrie Gallimore quite takes the fancy of her audiences with her verses about one, Caroline, but she causes still greater delight to the gentlemen who have paid threepence for admission when she sings, "It isn't always money that makes a gentleman." On such an hypothesis every mother's son in the gallery knows that he is a perfect gentleman, and when, a few minutes later, Miss Kitty Wager tells them—most charmingly, we must admit—"When you are feeling very blue, and haven't got a sou, everybody gives you good advice," the features of the "gods" afford evidence of extreme gratification. In her other ditty, "The penny bazaar," Miss Wager is bright and lively and entertaining.

Is it not enough to make the heart of the average cockney throb furiously with joyous excitement when he hears a most engaging American lady beg, in accents sweet and tender, to be allowed to remain in London? So when Miss Victoria Monks sings "Take me back to London town," the sentiment receives hearty endorsement from her hearers. No one, we are sure, wishes that she should be farther from London than the "tupp'ny tube" could take her. The melody—like the lady who gives expression to it—is of the enchanting order, Miss Monks's distinctive style of delivery being such that one does not easily forget it. She is also singing "I'm leaving home," a most agreeable coon refrain. The Melroses submit an extremely agreeable singing and dancing act; and Mr. Charles Whittle contrives to be exceedingly diverting in his own particular line. The King's College Boys are heard to advantage in excerpts from operas; and Mlle. Rossitter furnishes a turn which is attractive from beginning to end. Messrs. Brown, Le Clerq, and company are uproariously hilarious with their sketch, *Black Justice*, which seems to become even more popular the oftener it is seen. Mr. T. E. Dunville tenders a host of absurd notions in his story about a Channel swim, and the anecdotes he tells of his progress during the great attempt to emulate Captain Cook are irresistibly laughable. Miss Mabel Thorne shines as a low-comedy artist, and her song, "Oh, Mr. Brown," as well as the other one moralising on the stupidity of sitting on a newly-painted seat, is rendered with a due appreciation of its humorous qualities. Mr. Fred Conquest and Mr. Leon Dubois appear in the dramatic sketch, *The Freak's Revenge*, the first-named gentleman as the freak and the latter as the gorilla act in an amazingly clever manner. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, with a splendid series of pictures, concludes the programme.

MISS RUBY BIJOU'S artistic barefoot dance has been very successful. On Monday Miss Bijou returns to the Empire, Portsmouth, with new dances and some lovely frocks, all made by herself.

"GIPSY DICK."

Sketch, in One Scene, by J. P. Harrington and E. Herman, with Music by James Tate, Produced, for the First Time, at the Grand Palace, Clapham Junction, on Monday, Oct. 22.

Black Pete .....MR. EDWARD SORLEY
Zara .....MISS EVA FAIRLEIGH
Dick .....MISS NEMO

Melody and melodrama are effectively associated in the latest addition to the playlets which form the staple dishes of the modern bill-of-fare. A tale of sisterly devotion is unfolded in the little piece, to which a number of well-sung songs gives pleasing variety. The strains of music accompany the opening scene, which represents a Romany camp wherein Zara, the Queen, sings of the "Gipsy caravan." She has entire command of the encampment, for Black Pete, the King, loves her to distraction, and is even jealous of the youngster Dick, whom he cruelly ill-treats. Zara is not a real gipsy, but joined the band in order to find her sister, who had been stolen. She uses her powerful influence to protect Dick, who is in reality a girl, and was abducted many years ago by Black Pete. The child has dim memories of the night she was taken away, and her suspicions are confirmed when she overhears Pete declare that she is the daughter of a nobleman, on whom he desired to revenge himself. "Dick" secures a bundle of papers, which prove her identity and reveal the fact that she is Zara's long-lost sister. When Black Pete reappears, "Dick" emerges from the tent apparently asleep, and re-enacts the terrible scene of her abduction, when Pete killed the servants of the Hall in order to steal the child. Pete is so overcome by the recital that he admits his crime, and is bidden to depart, but in desperation he draws his dagger and stabs himself to death.

The story of the little piece, which had to be compressed owing to the exigencies of a long programme, is put in a most interesting form, and is presented in a telling manner by the members of the cast. Miss Eva Fairleigh makes a commanding figure of Zara, looking every inch a Queen, and delivering her lines with the proper imperious gesture. She sings in cultivated style, her powerful contralto voice being heard agreeably in the song of "The Gipsy Caravan," as well as that of "A Romany Lass." Picturesque acting is supplied by Mr. Edward Sorley, who, it will be remembered, gave an excellent account of himself in the part of the villainous Lord James Stuart in Mrs. Brown-Potter's recent production of *Mary Queen of Scots*. He impersonates the swarthy Pete to perfection, and colours the delivery of his lines with many varied shades, expressive of hatred, passion, and malignancy. The difficult rôle of Dick is sustained with care and finish by Miss Nemo, who acts the boy so realistically that the secret of the story is kept intact, and the sympathy of the audience is throughout enlisted. She has a voice of excellent quality, and her song with the refrain, "It takes a bit of doing," well accords with popular sentiment, while her "sleep-walking" scene is rendered very impressive. *Gipsy Dick* is prettily mounted, and kept the audience thoroughly engrossed from beginning to end.

"I'VE BOUGHT A RICKSHAW FOR YOU" is the title of a new scena by Fred Elton and Percy Edgar. This number will shortly be produced by Miss Mabel Thorne, and is published by Messrs. Francis and Day. The chorus is particularly catchy. Pantomime producers should at once apply for permits.

MR. HARRY MARTE, who is just now on the Stoll tour, is scoring heavily with Will Hyde's tuneful chorus song, "My Little Houseboat Queen." The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co. are receiving applications every post for it. It is free for pantomime and the halls also.

MR. A. E. SIDNEY DAVIS writes:—"Will you allow me to say a few words about 'The Scarecrow'? I was not at all surprised to read that Mr. Chas. Carte had written a song on this idea, but I cannot say whether the two songs clash, as I have never had the pleasure of witnessing his play, *Great Temptations*, or of hearing his song. All I can do is to bear out what Miss Bessie Butt has already claimed—that her song and the manner in which she sings it and her accompanying dance are absolutely original, and certainly not cribbed from any source." Mr. W. Gourlay, we may add, has been singing for some years a "scarecrow" song at the London Pavilion.

MR. HARRY BEDFORD has made a great impression on Australian audiences, and the Sydney Press is loud in his praises. Among the London successes of his greatly in favour with Antipodeans are "Live a day at a time," "Doo-dah!" and "The secondhand aristocrat."

MR. T. E. DUNVILLE is producing on Monday next a skit song on the Soap Trust, entitled "Soap, soap, soap," by A. Ellerton.

THE enlarged and well-equipped premises in Denmark-street, Charing Cross-road, from which Messrs. Francis and Day will henceforth issue their "Sixpenny Pops," will be open for the use of "the trade" on Monday. Manager John Smith, who has been sadly hampered for want of space owing to the oyster growing too tight a fit for its shell, will now, as he sententiously expresses it, "have elbow room for his knees," and is adding to the extensive catalogue over which he is viceroy the following pieces:—"Billy Muggins," "I want you to notice my leggings," "Rosy's cosy bungalow," and the "Enchantress Waltz," which may be described as the "novelty dance" of 1906-7, seeing that that past master in the art of dance inventing, Mr. James Finnigan, has transmogrified the waltz into a new and delightful "creation," which is easily learned from a perusal of the simple rules laid down. Of a surety, Mr. John Smith's "Pop-py-land can in no wise be described just now as a "Garden of Sleep."

WARWICK WILLIAMS'S "Record Lancers" are on the point of being placed on the market by Messrs. Francis and Day, and many a theatrical chef d'orchestre with pantomime worries ahead, or musical director of variety places with eager holiday audiences looming in his mind's eye, will heave a sigh of relief when he glances down the titles of the links in the chain of popular melodies so deftly welded together by the burly and genial Bohemian who has for many years been "master of the musick" to Father Christmas where lancers are concerned. The "Record Lancers" will embody the following favourite melodies of the day:—"In the shade of the old apple tree," "Waiting at the church" (My wife won't let me), "We parted on the shore," "Float me, Charlie!" "Good-night, Mr. Brown, I'm out!" "Molly, I love you!" "Cheyenne" (Shy Ann), "Boy Blue," "The galloping major," "Ain't yer g'wine to say 'How do?'" "It's a different girl again" (Hello! hello! hello!), "Wire in, my lads," "Come and make love to me," "There's a man in Manitoba," "Put a little bit away for a rainy day," "I love a lassie," "Hi! Johnny, who's your tailor?" and "How'd you like to spoon with me?"

THAT pretty ditty, "Rosy's cosy bungalow," which has been made so popular by Miss Alice Lloyd, and which, if we mistake not, is by the ubiquitous Mills and Scott, is now free for pantomime. It is published by Messrs. Francis, Day and Hunter.

MR. PAT CARRY starts on a Moss and Stoll tour on Monday next, 29th inst., for five months, commencing at the Empire, Sheffield.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' RAILWAY ASSOCIATION.

The tenth annual general meeting of the members of this association was held on Tuesday afternoon at the Empire, Camberwell. Mr. Fred Neiman presided, and the members present, including the committee, who occupied seats on the stage, numbered about eighty.

Mr. C. Douglas Stuart, the secretary, having read the notice convening the meeting, Mr. F. Harrison and Mr. Chas. Mildare were appointed tellers, and Messrs. Ben Woodger, Joe Lavender, Bob Venola, and H. E. High scrutineers.

The secretary then read the annual report of the committee, as follows:—

In presenting to the members this, the ninth annual report for the past twelve months, the executive committee has great pleasure in announcing that the Association has continued its unvarying success, the membership roll having increased and the financial position being eminently satisfactory, a much larger amount being in hand than ever before. The current account at the bankers is £298 19s. 2d., also there is a deposit balance at the Birkbeck Bank of £500, as well as the reserve fund, which, including the interest derived during the year, amounts to £365 7s., and petty cash £20, making a total in all of £1,184 6s. 2d.

The committee propose that the surplus of receipts over expenditure should be disbursed in the following manner—the sum of 100 guineas to be donated to each of the following charities: The Railway Benevolent Institution, the Railway Servants' Orphanage, the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and the Music Hall Home Fund; that a sum of 100 guineas be also donated to the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, and a similar amount to other railway charities to be decided by the committee, making in all 600 guineas, also that a sum of £150 be added to the present reserve fund, and the remainder be carried over to next year's account.

The past year has been one of uninterrupted success, and no element of discord has occurred to mar the smooth and harmonious internal working of the Association. The principal event of the year was the holding at the offices during the months of January and February of a series of conferences, attended by delegates from each of the principal music hall societies. The outcome of the deliberations resulted in the formation of the present successful Variety Artists' Federation, it being decided that no trade union could be legitimately formed through the M.H.A.R.A., as that association was entirely for the one purpose of obtaining railway and kindred concessions.

The committee decided not to hold the annual dinner and dance, owing to the loss thereon the year previous.

In placing a larger sum than in other years to the reserve fund the committee has in view the establishment of branch offices of the Association at certain of the principal provincial centres, the business at the agencies thereat having so increased that this step is deemed expedient, and it is believed will be cordially approved of by all members as facilitating the smoother working of the business of the Association.

The committee deeply regrets the deaths, during the past year, of two of its members, Mr. Charles Edgar, of the Bros. Edgar (who was one of the original committee), and Mr. Frank Coyne, both of whom for many years worked most assiduously on behalf of the Association.

Sincere thanks are due to the theatrical representatives of the various railway companies for the many courtesies and kindnesses extended by them to members of the Association during the year; also to the hon. medical officers, and the hon. officers of the Association, including the hon. treasurer, hon. trustees, and hon. solicitor, whose gratuitous and generous assistance has, as in the past, contributed in no small degree to the welfare and prosperity of the Association. The committee also desire to record their gratitude to the provincial agents throughout Great Britain, who have performed their duties most energetically and efficiently, and against whom the complaints received from members have, with one or two exceptions, been very few.

With reference to the insurance of the members through the Ocean Accident Co., owing to the small amount of claims paid from October to the end of May, the committee obtained a reduction on the premium for the current year of over £23. Since June the number of claims received has been considerably larger, and compensation for the same to a greater amount has been obtained.

At the 477th meeting the following propositions were proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously: "That Mr. W. H. Clemart be given a presentation by the Association for his work and services last year." "That the presentation should take the form of a typewriter, suitably inscribed, the cost to be up to ten guineas."

The committee would like to draw the attention of the members to the question of refunds. The railway companies are kindly willing to grant refunds, although entailing a great amount of labour and trouble, and it is believed that in many cases the applications received are caused by the neglect and thoughtlessness of members, and therefore the committee appeal to them to lessen the number of the above by more strictly adhering to the rules of the Association, particularly as to meeting at the provincial agencies on Saturdays at 12.30, and then arranging with the other members travelling as to the line they wish to travel by, and the day and time.

In concluding this report of the year's working the committee wish to thank the members for their co-operation and support in working together to benefit and assist one another, and trust that the same may continue in an even greater degree, and that by united effort to further the interests of the entire profession increased benefits, even more than those already existing, may be secured, and thus the Association will be able to continue on its triumphal path towards the zenith of prosperity and popularity.

The summary of receipts and payments for the year ended Sept. 30, 1906, was as follows:—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance at Sept. 29, 1905..		305 9 11
,, Subscriptions — including £10 received in advance from 48 members		
273 at 2s. 6d.	34 2 6	
5,805 at 5s.	1,451 5 0	
6,078	1,485 7 6	
,, Entrance Fees (1,943 at 5s.)	485 15 0	
		1,971 2 6
,, Fines (591 at 2s.)	59 2 0	
,, Lost Cards (148 at 1s.) ..	7 8 0	
,, Badges Sold (137 at 1s.) ..	6 17 0	
,, Refunds Recovered	96 12 1	
,, Insurance Claims Received (*see contra*)	173 16 0	
,, Interest on Consols.....	9 6 0	
,, Donation (per Mr. Wm. Beer)	1 1 0	
		354 2 1
Total Funds of the Association—		
Reserve Account £365 7 0		
Deposit Account 500 0 0		
Current Account 296 6 2		
Cash in Hand .. 20 0 0		
Ditto for Subscriptions .. 2 13 0		
£1,184 6 2		
		£2,630 14 6
By Insurance Premiums	400 0 0	
,, Charities	164 2 0	
,, Badges Purchased	12 13 8	
,, Office Furniture	31 15 10	
,, Transfer to Reserve Account	10 7 0	
,, Refunds paid out	114 2 11	
,, Funeral Expenses	10 4 0	
,, Insurance Claims paid out (*see contra*)	173 16 0	
		917 1 5
,, Printing and Stationery ..	72 17 6	
,, Advertising	72 15 6	
,, Postages	50 4 3	
,, Telegrams	11 9 10	
,, Telephone	18 10 0	
,, Expenses of General Meeting	27 13 0	
,, Election of Committee	48 11 3	
,, Miscellaneous Expenses	67 11 6	
,, Bank Charges	0 6 1	
		369 18 11
By Salaries of Secretary and Staff	439 15 0	
,, Honorarium to C. D. Stuart	10 0 0	
,, Rent of Offices to Sept. 29..	75 0 0	
		524 15 0
Balance—		
Deposit Account	500 0 0	
Current Account.....	296 6 2	
Cash in Hand	20 0 0	
Cash received for Subscriptions since paid into Bank	2 13 0	
		818 19 2
		£2,630 14 6

We have examined the above statement with the books and vouchers of the Association, and certify it to be correct. We have verified the investment and the balances at bank and in hand.

Jackson, Pixley, Browning, Husey, and Co., Chartered Accountants, Auditors.

Oct. 20, 1906.

The chairman then addressed the meeting. He said that the Association was now on a sound business basis. He had not had the pleasure of serving the whole of the year, as he succeeded a gentleman who could not attend the meetings regularly, and therefore resigned. In the near future it was the intention of the committee to again approach the railway companies, and endeavour to obtain some further concessions. It was not his intention to make a long speech, and he appealed to the members present to assist him in conducting the proceedings in accordance with the rules by which public meetings were usually controlled. He held that the discussions ought to be confined to railway matters pure and simple, and he hoped they would support his ruling on this point. Owing to the length of the agenda paper, the proposer of a resolution or an amendment would be allowed ten minutes for his speech, and the seconder or supporter five minutes. If they would all loyally assist him in carrying through the business of the meeting, he believed that they would get on very well.

Mr. Albert Voyce, in moving the adoption of the annual report in the place of Mr. W. H. Clemart, explained that that gentleman having been presented with a typewriter for his work and services to the Association, as stated in the report just read, requested that he should be excused from moving its adoption. Therefore the task had devolved upon him; and he was very pleased to point out in the first place that the Association had experienced a most successful year financially. This was, he believed, due to the fact that the committee was composed of men who had sound commercial instincts. They knew how the business should be conducted, and the value of money; they knew how to run a commercial enterprise, and it was, he thought, entirely due to these gentlemen that the present prosperous condition of the Association was due. Instead of granting the sum of fifty guineas to each of the railway and music hall charities, they were able to grant one hundred guineas. That in itself was a sign of progress and success, and must be pleasant for every member of the Association to hear. In addition to the contributions to the Railway Benevolent Institution, the Railway Servants' Orphanage, the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and the Music Hall Home Fund, a sum of one hundred guineas would also be donated to the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, and a similar amount to other railway charities, making a total of six hundred guineas. This was a great advance on the amount given in aid of charities last year. He understood that some of the members present were opposed to the grant to the newly-formed Ladies' Guild, and he hoped he would have an opportunity of replying to any adverse remarks that might be made on this proposal. If the objects of the Guild were as stated, it would be a crying shame not to grant it a contribution, such as they had granted to other charitable organisations. They ought not in such matters to be governed by individual prejudices. A well-known writer had said that the best principles, if carried to extremes, eventually became fatal vices; and he believed that this question affecting the Guild would be dealt with in a broad-minded, charitable manner. He thought that the Guild was well deserving of support. An offshoot of the Association was the Variety Artists' Federation, and it must be pleasing to them all to know that their work had been followed by such great results. A larger sum would also be added to the reserve fund this year, the committee considering that the time was ripe for the establishment of branch offices of the Association in Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Glasgow, and other large provincial towns. But to carry this out they must have the necessary funds. This was a proposal of Mr. Gray's, and he (the speaker) thought it an excellent one. They all regretted the death of two good members of the Association, Mr. Charles Edgar and Mr. Frank Coyne. Their sincere thanks were due to the theatrical representatives of the various railway companies, and he would like to see these gentlemen supported and courteously treated by the members of the Association. Their agents, he might say in passing, were not always treated as nicely as they ought to be. It should be borne in mind that they were all working together for one object—the benefit of the Association. Next referring to Mr. Clemart, the speaker said he was one of the hardest workers in the Association. He was one of the main movers in the reform of the office work, and probably no one would ever really know the amount of time and work he had put in for the benefit of the Association. If any member deserved some recognition for his services, it was Mr. Clemart, for he had worked night and day for the Association. Another point in the report was with regard to the question of refunds, and he desired to impress upon members the importance of serious attention to this matter. In conclusion, Mr. Voyce expressed a hope that the report would be dealt with in a broad-minded, business-like, unselfish and unprejudiced spirit, and that they would work in unity for the good of the Association.

Mr. Albert Brady seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Certain alterations in the rules, as recommended by the Executive Committee, were submitted for adoption. One of the rules was that the number of hon. vice-presidents should not exceed ten.

Mr. Voyce said he did not think that the position of vice-president should be open to everyone. It should only be open to those who had done something to entitle them to the honour. He moved as an amendment that the number should not exceed five.

Mr. Walter Hast seconded.

Mr. Harry Blake thought there should be some qualification for the position of vice-president, and he should remain in office for at least three years. It should be considered a special honour.

Mr. Hast did not think it was necessary to go outside the Association for vice-presidents.

Mr. Atlas expressed a similar opinion.

Mr. Millis pointed out that Sir James Bailey had done a great deal for the Association when they first approached the railway companies.

Mr. Frank Gerald also said that Sir James Bailey had done valuable service in the past, and Mr. John Sanger represented the circus artists. It was important that they should be represented on the Association. Other vice-presidents had done good work for the Association, and he did not think that the number was too great.

Mr. Harry Mountford said he did not seek any honour or glory in being one of the vice-presidents, and when his year of office had expired, he should retire in favour of other members of the Association who were also working for its good.

The amendment on being put was lost.

Following on a suggestion made by Mr. Blake, Mr. Clemart proposed that no committee of less than ten members shall settle an important matter unless such committee be unanimous; if not, such matter be sent out to ballot by the whole committee.

Mr. Millis seconded the proposal, which was carried.

On the motion of Mr. Mountford, seconded by Mr. Schaffer, it was agreed that any member who is in London and neglects to attend a committee meeting for one month shall be considered to have resigned.

A long discussion took place as to whether an Association advertisement should be inserted in a contemporary, the representative of which had been excluded from the meeting. This question was also debated, Mr. Mountford and Mr. Voyce contending that the reporter ought to have been admitted. The meeting, however, by a large majority, expressed approval of the action of the committee.

Other new rules and amendment of rules having been agreed to, Mr. Douglas White (hon. treasurer) presented the revenue account for the past year.

Mr. Blake moved the adoption of the account, remarking that the Association was in such a flourishing condition that he thought the least said the better.

Mr. John Alexander seconded the proposal, which was carried.

Mr. Pat Carey moved that the annual dinner be again held, the place to be decided by the majority of members present. He also suggested that the dinner should again take place at the Horns, Kennington. In reply to Mr. Clemart, he said that if there was any loss on the dinner, he was in favour of it being defrayed out of the funds of the Association.

Mr. Millis seconded, and the proposition was carried, it being also agreed that the place and date should be arranged by the committee.

Mr. Harry Mountford then moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting instructs the incoming committee to immediately take the necessary steps to find such premises as are fit for the offices of the M.H.A.R.A. at its present state of growth, such premises to be called the Music Hall Exchange, and to be sufficiently large to accommodate all the various music hall societies, so that all such societies may be under one roof. And this meeting further instructs the trustees to pay on demand by the Executive Committee such sum from the reserve funds as shall be necessary to carry out this proposition." He said his proposal was that the building they rented should include reading and writing rooms, a post-office bureau, a bureau de change, a room for the holding of committee meetings of the Association, the Music Hall Home Fund, the Music Hall Sick Fund, the Ladies' Guild, the International Artists' Lodge, and the Variety Artists' Federation. The music hall profession had grown to such importance, and so many interests were involved, that he considered a central place of meeting was urgently needed in London. It would mean a great saving of time, and the various societies would be called

Photo by Charles and Russell.

FRED NEIMAN,
Chairman of M.H.A.R.A.

upon to contribute to the rent of the premises. If they had a variety artists' bureau connected with the various halls, a manager could always be supplied with the names of artists ready to fill up an unexpected vacancy in a bill, and work would thus be found for members of the Association. Branches could also be established throughout the country, so that provincial performers could not say that they were overlooked. There were times of stress and trouble looming ahead for the variety profession, and they knew not from whence the next attack would come. A circular had recently been issued purporting to come from an association of managers, and this had been sent round to most of the railway companies' directors, asking them to do away with the three-quarters fare concession for artists, the object being to smash up the Railway Association. He did not believe that any reputable managers had anything to do with this communication. He denied that his scheme was, as some had alleged, an Utopian one, but if they gave the necessary powers to the committee, the Music Hall Exchange might speedily become a reality.

Mr. Schafer seconded.

Mr. Brady thought the suggestion an excellent one. The Association were paying an exorbitant rent for their offices in Wellington-street.

Mr. Mountford: Of course, if the committee found that the rent of a suitable building was too heavy, the proposal would fall through.

Mr. Clemart asked who would be held responsible for the payment of the cost. It might possibly be found necessary to make a levy upon all the members of the Association. Would the societies mentioned by Mr. Mountford all become tenants? That was an important question. He was, however, prepared to support the reference of the whole matter to the committee.

Mr. Douglas White said they had had a considerable difficulty in securing their present offices, and were called upon to pay the rent in advance for three years.

Mr. Pat Carey, speaking as the president of the Music Hall Sick Fund, said he considered the idea was a splendid one; but it was necessary to be very careful how they went to work in the matter.

Mr. Harrison said that the Association at present occupied nearly the whole of the premises in Wellington-street.

Mr. Hast supported the proposal, and after further discussion Mr. Mountford said he objected to his scheme being condemned with faint praise.

Mr. Gerald spoke in support of the proposal, which was carried unanimously.

In the absence of Mr. George Gray, Mr. Hast moved the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this meeting it is expedient that the M.H.A.R.A. be affiliated and federated with the V.A.F., and that the accumulated and accumulating funds of both institutions be conjointly devoted to the objects, attainments, and benevolent principles of the said institutions, and that one governing and administrative body shall preside over such affiliated and federated Associations."

Mr. Hast read a communication received from Mr. Gray, who apologised for his unavoidable absence, being engaged at Newcastle. Mr. Gray, in his statement, said:—In placing before you this resolution it is necessary to become a little retrospective and call your attention to resolutions of the last general meeting. It is necessary because the voice of the association upon such resolutions has made itself clearly and unanimously heard upon the subject of reform. Last year I humbly and respectfully submitted to the members of the association a scheme of reform. It embraced objects of beneficial interest and benevolence, and proposals that would tend to place our profession upon the same strong basis as other commercial industries, removing the prejudicial stigma that hitherto had been cast upon us, and raise us to the same level of other honourable professions. Voting postcards were sent out to the members. Some, unfortunately, failed to read them, but the response was very gratifying. The question asked on such postcards was: "Are you in favour of this scheme or not?" Six hundred replies came in. Three said "No"; five said "Yes" with certain qualifications, and 592 emphatically said "Yes." The appointed committee debated and discussed the same, and ultimately came to the conclusion that it would be better, in the first instance, to form a new and separate association, and afterwards to affiliate with other associations. Personally, I was doubtful as to the possibility of success, but I was wrong. I am delighted to say it—I was wrong. The V.A.F. was formed, and is an unqualified success, and promises to become a gigantic and powerful institution. It is now affiliated with the great Continental institution, the I.A.L., and also the White Rats of America. The great majority of the members of the M.H.A.R.A. (children and assistants excepted) are members of the V.A.F. Many members of the former are, and have been, under the impression that both associations were already affiliated with some of the forms of the V.A.F. The affiliation of these two bodies, which really now are one, will in no way interfere with any professional joining the M.H.A.R.A. (railway concession branch) alone. There will be no alteration of the procedure or rules governing that body, but the consolidation of the funds and objects of both bodies will strengthen, unite, and dignify both bodies as a whole. I may mention that in promoting the last year's scheme I did say that years back the M.H.A.R.A. enlarged its objects to legal protection, and endeavoured to obtain a unanimous contract with managers and the modification of the barring clause, but as committees came and went they varied in strength of purpose, enterprise, and wisdom. Times change, and there is now unanimity of enthusiasm and determination. I believe you have, or will have, before you to-day a resolution by Bro. Mountford, one of the most enthusiastic and ardent workers in the cause of freedom—a resolution that I am in perfect harmony with, and which should obtain unanimous support—in fact, I would like to see the resolutions embodied together, for they both spell reform, protection, and emancipation. What has already been achieved is but the preliminary of further achievements. Three of the greatest aims that should help to strengthen that are the modification of barring clauses, equitable contracts, and the foundation of branch institutions in the large provincial cities, where the business of the M.H.A.R.A. and the V.A.F. could jointly be carried on. This only can be accomplished by the aid of funds, and the passing of the foregoing resolution is, I venture to think, a comprehensive way of successfully accomplishing such undertakings. I respectfully suggest, in conclusion, that if this meeting does not consider that its voice alone should be conclusive, the vote of the majority of the members of the M.H.A.R.A. should be taken in the country, and to remove the expense of sending out voting papers it be taken at the eighty odd meetings that are held weekly in the provinces by the V.A.F., who are all, with few, if any, exceptions, members of the M.H.A.R.A. I can only add, if it is necessary, that this resolution before you is only actuated by feelings of regard for the welfare of brother and sister professionals, and the furtherance of the motto that has always guided me, and always will—"The greatest good to the greatest number."

The Chairman ruled that the resolution was out of order.

Mr. Hast also moved on behalf of Mr. George Gray the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this meeting, with a view to a greater facility for thousands of members attending general meetings, who are at present precluded by provincial engagements from so attending, it is deemed advisable that in future the general meetings be held on Sundays, or upon such day upon which few (if any) entertainments are given."

Mr. Borelli seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. Millis asked why his name was erased from the books as vice-president?

It was pointed out that this had happened through an error, and it was agreed that the name of Mr. Millis should be added to the list of vice-presidents.

On a show of hands, Mr. W. H. Clemart was elected hon. president in place of Mr. Harry Randall.

The hon. vice-presidents appointed were Sir Sir James Bailey, Messrs. Charles Coborn, George Gilbert, George Gray, Albert Le Fre, W. J. P. Monckton, Harry Mountford, John Sanger, and F. W. Millis. Mr. Douglas White was re-elected hon. treasurer; and Messrs. Jackson, Pixley, Browning, Husey and Co., were reappointed chartered accountants.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Press, also to Messrs. Jesse Sparrow and Harry Bawn for the use of the theatre.

The meeting, which lasted four hours and a half, concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

The following representatives of the railway companies were present:—Messrs. A. H. Hoyle (L. and South-Western), Frank Lunnon (Great Northern), W. Simpson (Great Western), W. Barton (Great Central), and F. Stenning (Great Eastern).

Mr. Joe May, who has severed his connection from the King's, Gateshead, was the recipient of a bumper benefit on Friday evening, the 19th.

Increasing business necessitates the extension of Mr. Fred Neiman's offices. He will therefore transfer his well-known agency, on Monday, Nov. 5, to larger and more centrally-situated offices at 103, Strand, W.C., where a cordial welcome will await his many clients and friends.

The negotiations that were opened up by the L.C.C. with a syndicate with the object of letting a lease of the central portion of the crescent site in the Strand, at a rent of £55,000 a year (the scheme including the erection of a theatre), have fallen through, and the site is still to let.

Mr. Joe Lyons, who is certainly one of the most practical temperance reformers of his era, has propounded a scheme for building new music halls, with winter gardens next door to each one of them. No liquor licences will be required either for halls or gardens. The popular Joe proposes to construct the winter gardens so that they will be exactly suited for any season of the year. When the ordinary music halls have a difficulty in holding their own, he hopes to secure a clientèle that will find pleasure in having their light refreshments, with music included, amid garden-like surroundings, and a reasonable percentage may be expected to patronise the adjoining music hall. No intoxicants will be sold. That the project is a money-losing one is the thought of every practical man.

"AN IRISH HONEYMOON."

A Musical Sketch, Libretto by C. H. Aguzzi, Music by Frank Corrie and E. W. Eaton, produced at Collins's Music Hall, Islington, on Monday, Oct. 22.

Spinks .....Mr. E. E. Giles, jun.
The Count .....Mr. C. H. Aguzzi
Lord Bellvelle .....Mr. Brian Desmond
Prof. Moggs .....Mr. Henry Shaw
Molly .....Miss Elsie Millward
Kitty .....Miss Vera Granville

The sketch, presented for the first time at Collins's on Monday is a condensation of a three-act play, with the same plot, which has been on tour for three years with considerable success, and many theatre-goers have regarded the piece with great favour. As a sketch, *An Irish Honeymoon* forms a lively, amusing, and tuneful trifle, and evidence as to its acceptability by a variety audience has not been lacking at Islington this week. By the time these lines are in print, the company will have got thoroughly into the swing of their work, and what alterations it may have been deemed advisable to make will have been attended to. On that assumption the piece should become a valuable portion of any music-hall programme. The story may be lightly touched upon. Professor Moggs, an elderly individual, with a scheming turn of mind, wishes to marry his ward, Molly, to his nephew. There is someone else, however, who appears to be in love with Molly, and that is Lord Bellvelle. It appears that the professor has never seen the nephew for whom he is endeavouring to negotiate such an advantageous marriage contract, and toward the end of the piece Lord Bellvelle succeeds in palming himself off as the relative in whom the professor takes such a deal of fatherly interest. Before this happy climax is brought about, many amusing incidents occur, not the least laughable of which is a duel between Spinks, Lord Belvelle's valet, and a German count. Bellvelle, receiving a challenge to mortal conflict from the bellicose count, arranges that Spinks shall personate him, and that he (Bellvelle) shall be the valet for the time being. Mr. E. E. Giles as Spinks is intensely comical, and his antics create uproarious merriment. Mr. Chas. H. Aguzzi is seen and heard to advantage in the rôle of the irascible Count; and Mr. Brian Desmond is good as the lover-like, but somewhat larkish, Lord Bellvelle. Mr. Henry Shaw, too, gives us a capital character-sketch of the old professor, upon whom so much deception is practised. As to the ladies, Miss Elsie Millward is graceful and engaging in the part of Molly. She dances and sings sweetly, and her duet ("Would you care if I should leave you?") with Mr. Desmond, as well as the chorus song, "Put it in your répertoire," with which the sketch opens, proves a delightfully catchy number. Miss Vera Granville sings, acts, and dances in attractive fashion as the gay and sprightly Kitty, who is amorously inclined towards Spinks, and between the two there are some funny passages. Miss Granville is heard to good effect in a couple of bright chorus ditties, namely, "The girl who leads the band" and "The Moon." The choruses, under the direction of Mr. Edward P. Delevanti, are admirably rendered, and the *tout ensemble* is excellent. Mr. Charles Phillips may be congratulated on his work as the producer. Both the mounting and the dresses of the playlet are pretty and picturesque.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

The programme submitted here this week by Mr. Arthur J. Barclay may be fitly described as being one of high average merit, with the accompanying attractive power. A distinct success is achieved by that popular artist, Miss Lottie Collins, who, making her first appearance here, is received with something approaching enthusiasm. Bright and vivacious as of yore, Miss Collins brings to bear upon her efforts all that grace and finish that have stood her in good stead in many lands. The Three Sisters Silcott, who are no strangers here, sing with good effect, "Good-bye, sweet Dinah" and "I'll buy a little baby by and by," doing also a short, but well-executed, dance. Mr. Harry Maxam, a comedian with a quaintly-humorous manner, is loudly applauded, firstly in "I do know where to find 'em," and afterwards in "They're just beginning to sprout." Of Parks's Eton Boys it is impossible to say more than that the troupe maintain their high reputation for a singularly neat and elegant turn. The various soloists of the company give a good account of the songs allotted to them, while the lads throw a little more acting into their entertainment than formerly, thereby greatly enhancing the pleasure of their audience. Miss Venie Clements, another singer who has made herself popular here on more than one occasion, gives several imitations of various styles of singing very cleverly, followed by her amusing impersonation of a baby with a wonderful doll, and finishing with a spirited dance. Mr. Johnny Dwyer has a big reception in his amusing song, "I wouldn't let it upset me," and for his pathetic singing of his favourite "Home, Sweet Home," song, in which he impersonates a British workman to the life. The sketch for the week is supplied by that popular actor, Mr. Fred Eustace, who, with his talented company, appears with the greatest success in *Our Jack; or, A Sister's Love*. This is a miniature melodrama of a robust, not to say full-blooded, description, in which an interesting, if not especially novel, story, is told in a succession of well-conceived scenes punctuated with strong situations, never forced, but arising naturally out of the action. Miss Mary Eustace makes an admirable impression as the twin sisters, Grace and Lizzette Armitage, whose joys and woes form the pivot on which the plot revolves. Naturally Miss Eustace finds most scope for her powerful acting in the part of the much-wronged outcast sister Lizzette, which she plays with no inconsiderable intensity, while her picture of the good Grace is interesting. Mr. Fred Eustace is a fine, manly, and spirited hero as Lieutenant Jack Seymour, the actor's well-known hearty manner being exactly suited to a part that fits him like a glove, and insures the popularity of the handsome young sailor every moment he is on the stage. For an uncompromising villain recommend us to the Captain Hamilton of Mr. Charles Gordon, the only surprise being that a man who apparently delights in evil-doing "knuckles down" so quickly and quietly at the first piece of evidence adduced against him. But as his unconditional surrender is necessary for the somewhat hurried *dénouement*, it is impossible for him to offer any prolonged defiance. Mr. Walter Graham gives a good account of Captain Martyn, whose somewhat hazy character seems to be that of "second murderer" to his chief, Hamilton. A boyish middy is found in the Bertie Derwent of Mr. Leonard Acland. Mr. David Collins is good as the bluff admiral, Sir John Trevor, who, however, is invariably addressed as "my lord" in the last scene. Probably the gallant commander was raised to the peerage during the course of the "front cloth" scene. Mr. John Miller is a fine, outspoken Inspector Wilding; and Miss Adeline Lester does well all that is required of her as Lady Trevor. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope finishes a programme which is agreeably opened by a delightful rendering of the overture to Auber's *Masaniello* by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. H. Petersen. The elaborate stage-management of the whole evening is attended to by Mr. John Grant with his customary skill.

The Hippodrome at Lowestoft will be reopened for the season on Monday.

THE CHELSEA LODGE.

The closing meeting of the session for the current year of the Chelsea Lodge of Freemasons, of which Mr. Albert Le Fre is the reigning Master, was held at the Chelsea Town Hall on Friday, the 19th inst. Mr. James W. Mathews was in the chair. Messrs. T. Serpentello, S.W.; Douglas White, J.W.; Wolfe S. Lyon, treasurer; C. J. Doughty, secretary; Walter H. Hitch, S.D.; Harry Bawn, J.D.; W. F. K. Wallon, I.G.; Angelo Asher, organist; Fred Clay, D.C.; Geo. H. Dyball, L. G. Sharpe, and Ernest Lester, stewards. The other brethren present were Messrs. Frank Hardie, F. H. Pedgrift, Fred Neiman, J. B. Helm, H. C. Radford, Geo. Gilbey, H. Heriot Hill, Geo. Grahame, T. S. Burnetti, Edwin Brett, G. H. Hill, Fred Farren, W. Permane, Ernest Rees, W. C. Jeapes, J. H. Ellis, W. Scott Adaeker, J. W. Woodward, Robert Duce, James Prior, H. Kay Ramsden, and S. Goodman. The following were the visitors; J. D. Murray, T. Rumble, D. M. Trytel, Fred Kitchen, Jesse Sparrow, H. G. Jellard, Herbert Chenery, Fred C. Collins, Geo. Everard, and R. H. Willis.

During the afternoon Mr. J. W. Mathews vacated the chair in favour of Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon and Mr. Chenery, who assisted in the day's work, Mr. Solomon Goodman, proprietor of the Criterion Theatre, Worksop, was received into Freemasonry. At the conclusion of the business a photo group, which we reproduce, was taken of the founders and members of the Lodge.

This Lodge, we believe, owes its existence to the accident of fortune. During the time that Mr. Wolfe S. Lyon filled the senior offices in the Earl's Court Lodge, he introduced into Freemasonry many members of the musical and dramatic profession, and finding from the fact that the Lodge being held in the evening his friends were prevented from accepting any office that might be offered to them, conceived the idea of having a Lodge that could be held in the afternoon exclusively for the benefit of the allied professions. He therefore approached Mr. Henri Gros and asked his permission to use the board rooms of the Chelsea Palace (from which the Lodge takes its name) for that purpose. Mr. Gros immediately granted permission, and also expressed his pleasure at becoming one of the founders. The concession having been obtained, Mr. James W. Mathews, of the Duke of York's Theatre, consented to become the first Master, and the ball having thus been set rolling, a petition (recommended by the Master and Wardens of the Drury Lane Lodge), with no less than thirty-four signatures, was presented to Grand Lodge. The charter was granted, and the consecration by Sir Edward Letchworth, assisted by the late Rev. Sir Borrodaile Savory, Bart., Messrs. Harry Nicholls, Henry G. Neville, Percy Fitzgerald, Frank Richardson, and Henry Sadler, was celebrated at Frascati's Restaurant on May 19, 1905.

In the first year of its existence the Lodge gave 25 guineas to the Masonic charities, and a similar amount to their own benevolent fund, paid the whole of its expenses, and closed the year with a balance of £50.

The usefulness of the Lodge may be gathered from the fact that, having started with thirty-four founders, during the first year it more than doubled its numbers, and, as it is continually increasing, it was found necessary to remove with much regret from the home so kindly placed at its disposal. It is therefore now held in the Lodge rooms of the Chelsea Town Hall, immediately opposite to the old home.

It must be very encouraging to the founders and all concerned to know that its usefulness and good reputation for its working is greatly commented upon among the professional Lodges throughout the country, as well as in the United States of America, many of whose Lodges some of the members have visited. We wish it every success, and can only express the hope that it will long continue to enjoy the reputation it has so well earned during the time that may still be termed its infancy.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

The recent decorations to the interior add greatly to the comfort and attractiveness of this variety theatre, which, under Mr. T. S. Mayne's assiduous management continues to travel the path of prosperity. A feature of last week's bill was *The Chauffeur*, a musical comedy-sketch by Edward Marris, which serves as an excellent vehicle to exploit the talent of Frank Danby on the variety stage. The scene is laid in the American bar of the Centreland Hotel, wherein figure a bevy of pretty girls, bar-tenders, and others. Enter the spruce little chauffeur, Jim, who, in song and dance, tells of his driving prowess, and makes free with all and sundry. Jim has a brother Jack, a bar-tender at the hotel, and he now agrees to let Jack take his motor while he dons Jack's coat and goes behind the bar. The amusing situations which ensue between Jim and Lady Kitty, the Major, and the inane dude, Archie, are provocative of much mirth, and when the curtain descends on the return of Jack with the broken car and the exposure of Jim there are very hearty rounds of applause for the principal character in the sketch. Mr. Danby is well supported by Mr. E. Freshwater, Mr. Tom Graves, Mr. Edmund Russon, Miss Ethel Bryant, and Miss Esme Edwardes.

Ludwig Amann possesses a wonderful command of facial expression, and his presentment of past and present statesmen and rulers are remarkably true portraits. No slight sense of humour enters into the turn, for much amusement is caused when silk-hatted John Burns is presented to the strains of "Where did you get that hat?" and the performer considers it quite superfluous to announce it beforehand when he presents the unmistakable features of Joe Chamberlain. The Five Bogannys are in high favour with their Risley and tumbling act. So adept are they that their movements appear quite bewildering, and their performance is carried through with a zest and briskness pleasing to witness. Roy and Fenton provide some amusing moments. The gent of the duo shows versatility as a pianist, reciter, and dancer, and his jokes at the expense of his well-proportioned partner are much relished. Miss José Collins created a very favourable impression when she sings "Firefly," a very taking rag-time melody, and was equally successful in her second song, "Mexicano."

Florence and Lillian contributed a musical act which is one of the most enjoyable items on the programme. These prepossessing young ladies show considerable skill on numerous wind and string instruments. One of the twain is a vocalist of no mean order, and there is always an air of charm and refinement about their turn. Victor Travers appeared in scanty and grotesque attire, and aroused plenty of laughter with his coon-song skit, and his humorous patter and clever "taking-off" of a previous performer won much favour. Amy Russell received hearty applause for her vocal efforts; and the Avrignys displayed considerable ability as jugglers and equilibrists. The Bioscope pictures are always very popular, and the series provided for the week were watched with the closest interest and loudly applauded. Early comers were regaled with the selection, "La Mascotte," finely rendered by the orchestra, who have an alert and able director in Mr. Augustus Greco.

TERRIER ARTHUR SIMMONS entertained a large party on Thursday, Oct. 18, to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of his youngest daughter Beatrice. There were upwards of one hundred guests.

THE NEW EMPIRE, COVENTRY.

The high expectations formed of Mr. George Dance's new Empire, Coventry, were fully realised on Monday, when the theatre was opened to a crowded audience, which included the Mayor and Mayoress. The theatre is handsomely appointed, the comfort of its patrons being studied in every particular.

The seats are steeply raked, and a clear view of the stage is obtained from every quarter. Pleasing harmonies of crimson, terra cotta, biscuit colour, and gold are effected in the decoration. The square frame of the proscenium is flanked by fluted Ionic pilasters, Ionic pillars and rococo ornamentation are conspicuous in the treatment of the private boxes, and above the centre of the stage opening, supported by allegorical figures in bas-relief, is the representation of the city arms, leading up to the gracefully panelled ceiling, with its scintillant centre sun lights. The curtains, carpets, and upholstery are of crimson, and the interior presents a very pretty picture.

Proceedings were begun by the singing of the National Anthem, in which the audience joined vociferously. The opening piece was the popular musical comedy, *The Catch of the Season*, and at the end of the first act Mr. J. Alban Newton, the resident-manager, stepped forward and announced that Mr. Dance would say a few words.

A hearty greeting awaited Mr. Dance, who said: Ladies and gentlemen, I have ben told by a few of my friends of Coventry that I should interrupt your amusement of this evening to make a little personal explanation. First, I must apologise for the unfinished state of this theatre. I have heard several times during this week there is an idea that this theatre has been what is known as a "rushed job," which means that it has been hurried forward unduly. Now, I can assure you that that is not true on my part. I entered into contract with various tradesmen to have this building finished ready for opening last Monday. Last Monday evening we were supposed to have opened. You saw the state of the place last Monday—I need say no more. A transformation has been effected during the last few days, thanks mainly to my excellent staff, whom I have called from all parts of the country. They have worked heart and soul almost day and night during the past week, and we have succeeded in opening to-night in some fashion or other. I can assure you that within the next few weeks the place will be as perfect as I had originally intended it should be. Now I will pass to something more pleasant. It is my intention here to give a varied entertainment. My experience has proved, and it has been a rather extensive one, that there are not sufficient theatrical companies to go round in the year. Therefore to keep the entertainment of sufficient variety it is necessary to combine the two. That is my experience. This week we are a theatre. It is my own company, therefore I cannot say much about it, but I hope it has pleased. (Applause.) Next week we start variety, and I have pleasure in announcing that at the head of the bill will figure the brightest star in the variety firmament, Miss Vesta Tilley. (Applause.) Miss Vesta Tilley is usually supposed to be a native of Birmingham, but she told me last week that she fancied—only fancied—that she was born in Coventry. (Laughter.) I reminded her that Miss Ellen Terry was born in Coventry. (Applause.) Miss Vesta Tilley said that Miss Ellen Terry was credited with two birthplaces in Coventry. I said, "Of course." She said, "I propose Miss Terry and I toss; she to keep the one and I to take the other." Now one word in regard to varieties. Please don't be afraid of that word varieties. It does not necessarily mean vulgar pot-house amusements. The variety house of the future and of the present day that is conducted on up-to-date lines provides a refined and yet a funny entertainment. This house, I hope, will ring with laughter on many, many occasions, but you will find nothing vulgar here. You may bring your wives and you may send your children, and I assure you while I have the honour to manage this house you will find nothing that you will be ashamed of. I am proposing to give during the season a certain number of theatrical matinées. I am told that Coventry people are too busy to go to matinées. The professional man—yes. The artisan—yes. But they have wives and daughters who have left school, and they will come to the matinée. I have arranged to bring companies from Birmingham and from London, because they could not possibly come to Coventry for the week; Coventry is not so big as Birmingham or London; but they will come to matinées. I can bring you the finest stars—and I hope to do so—in the theatrical world, and I trust they will prove successful. And now, ladies and gentlemen, before I retire let me say a few words to thank the very good friends I have met during my stay in Coventry, and who have been so good in their efforts to assist me in the terrible chaos which we have passed through during the past week. I must also thank those who have sent telegrams—there are many here; at every turning I met a telegraph boy. There are many kind friends all over the country who have wished me success. Believe me, my success is your success. This is my house, and you are my guests. I will provide you with good fare. Do not stay away. I hope there will be very few vacant chairs in the Empire Theatre, Coventry.

THE presentation to Mr. W. E. Higgett, the retiring assistant-manager of the Hackney Empire, at that house on Saturday evening, took the form of a companion solid silver cigarette case and match-box, in case, bearing his monogram and the following inscription:—"Presented to W. E. Higgett, Esq., by the staff of the Hackney Empire, 20th Oct., 1906." The gift was presented after the second performance by Mr. John Christie, the popular manager. The recipient thanked one and all most heartily.

DEATH OF JOSEPH POOLE.

It is with great regret we have to record the death of Mr. Joseph Poole, the senior brother of the well-known firm of Messrs. Poole Bros., the famous producers of myrioramas, whose entertainments have proved attractive, interesting, and instructive in every town and city in the kingdom. Born at Malmesbury in 1847, Joseph Poole left home, when quite a boy, to join his uncles, Messrs. G. W. and Charles Poole, who had been interested in the panorama business since 1837. Joseph Poole's youthful ability and industry were applied to the learning of his business, in which he became an expert. His famous pictorial and mechanical productions and realisations of the various wars of modern times and scenes and places of interest the world over will long be remembered by young and old.

Myrioramas and varieties have not been the only form of entertainment exploited by this well-known entrepreneur, for in the late sixties and early seventies he toured English opera, producing all the well-known operas. Later he vastly improved and brought up to date by his mechanical ingenuity Professor Pepper's Ghost. Then followed the myrioramas, with which his name is so closely allied, and the partnership with his brothers in the various theatres at Gloucester, Porth, Treherbert, and Maesteg.

After a long and active career on the road, he eventually retired from the show business, and

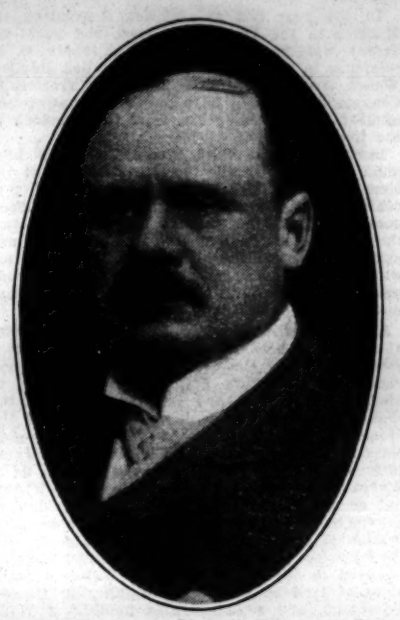

Photo by Elliott and Fry

THE LATE MR. JOSEPH POOLE.

built himself a house adjoining his studio in his native town. When the town became incorporated he was elected Alderman, a position he held until the time of his death. He was chosen as Mayor of the ancient borough twice in succession, in 1890 and 1891, and was also elected County Councillor of Wiltshire, a position he held for years, until failing health compelled him to resign.

An agriculturist born, the old instinct asserted itself on his retirement from the road, and farming, his one hobby, became predominant. This he followed with great zeal and success, especially as a breeder of cattle, as the many trophies that adorned his sideboards testified. In fact, in the local markets his name in connection with the rearing of cattle was the hall-mark of excellence. The late Mr. Poole was a man endowed with a wonderfully keen foresight, and there will be many connected with the profession who will greatly miss him.

The deceased gentleman leaves a widow, one son, and four daughters to mourn his loss. He had been in failing health for some time, but no immediate fatal result was anticipated until late on Saturday night, when it became evident the end was near, and he ultimately breathed his last in the presence of his wife and son, Mr. J. Wolseley Poole.

In his home life he was a kind husband and an indulgent father. He will be sorely missed in his native town, where he was held in the highest esteem, his cheery manner and many kindly actions having left a lasting impression.

THE FUNERAL

was a most impressive one. The cortège left the deceased's residence at 3.30 on Wednesday. The chief mourners were Mr. J. Wolseley Poole (son), Mr. George Poole, Mr. Harry Poole, Mr. Charles W. Poole, and Mr. Fred Poole (brothers), Mr. Percy B. Milsom (son-in-law), Mr. W. Rich (son-in-law), Mr. Fred Mayer (brother-in-law), Mr. J. G. Stafford, Mr. J. E. Penzer, Mr. Sidney Milsom, and Mr. J. Grey. Then followed the police force, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Town Council, and numerous friends who had come to pay their last tribute of respect.

The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. G. Windsor Tucker (vicar), assisted by the curate, the Rev. Charles F. Bellot.

The coffin was composed of an inner shell of elm and an outer enclosure of polished oak, with massive brass fittings. It bore the inscription:—

JOSEPH POOLE.
Born May 27, 1847,
Died Oct. 21, 1906.

Many were moved to tears as the mortal remains of the deceased were lowered into the family vault. Probably never before in the history of the pretty little cemetery has there been such a magnificent floral display. Among the many beautiful offerings were the following:—Harp, with broken string, "With deepest grief and in ever loving memory, from his sorrowing wife"; wreath, "In affectionate remembrance of a dear father from his sorrowing son and daughter, Wolseley and Clara"; wreath, "In ever loving memory of dear father from Ada, and deepest sympathy from Percy"; wreath, "With deepest sorrow and loving memory from Florrie and Clem"; wreath, "In ever loving memory from Auntie Brocklehurst"; wreath, "With great sorrow and ever loving memory from Minnie and Bill"; wreath, "In affectionate remembrance from Mrs. Milsom and family"; wreath, "In loving memory from Annie"; heart, from brother Fred; broken lyre, from young Charlie; wreath, "With deepest sympathy from Charles W. and Mrs. Poole"; wreath, "In loving memory of dear Uncle Joe from Jack"; harp, "With heartfelt grief and loving memory from Fred and Nell Mayer"; bunch of flowers, "To grandpa from little Percy"; wreath, "With the Earl and Countess of Suffolk's sympathy"; harp, "With deepest sympathy from No. 1 Company"; wreath, "With deepest sympathy from an old frined, J. G. Stafford"; wreath, "With deepest sympathy from T. W. Stevenson"; wreath, "In loving memory from Mrs. J. E. Ponting and family"; wreath, "With loving sympathy from the members of No. 2 Company"; wreath, "With sincere sympathy and deep regret from A. C. Rogers, S.A.A."; wreath, "A tribute of sincere sympathy from Mr. and Mrs. John Alexander"; wreath, "With kindest remembrance from Mr. and Mrs. Horace Livermore"; wreath, "With loving sympathy from Mr. and Mrs. Felix Somers"; wreath, "With much sympathy from Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Upton"; wreath, "With heartfelt sympathy from Councillor and Mrs. J. E. Penzer"; wreath, "With deepest sympathy from Mr. and Mrs. W. Alexander"; wreath, "With deepest sympathy from Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Fisher"; wreath, "With kind remembrances from Mr. and Mrs. David Crombie"; wreath, "With sincere regret, Mr. and Mrs. E. Shenton"; wreath, "With deepest respect, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Rogers"; wreath, "From Mr. and Mrs. Harry Stewart and family with sincere regrets"; wreath, "Deepest sympathy from Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Gannon"; cross, "From the members of C. W. Poole's Royal Myriorama, St. Austell"; and wreath, "A token of respect and esteem from the band and staff, Palace, Porth, S. Wales."

MUSIC HALL LADIES' GUILD.

The M.H.A.R.A. has voted unanimously the sum of £100 to the funds of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, and the committee of this newest charitable organisation in connection with the variety profession desires to express its gratitude for such a liberal donation. It has been reported that the amount of cash at present in the hands of the Guild is £400, exclusive of the £100 mentioned above. The exact amount is £33, so that assistance is still most urgently needed. The first case was a maternity case, which cost the Guild just over £1, not £10 10s. as has been reported. Four cases have also been dealt with out of the pockets of the founders—Lily Burnand, Mrs. Fred Ginnett, Mrs. Butler, and Mrs. Egerton—who will not require the return of their expenditure. It has also been stated that the Guild has no rules and no banking account. It possesses both. The following are the rules:—

1.—Every member to pay 2s. 6d. yearly, and to contribute 2s. 6d. or material to that value.

2.—Ladies wishing to join the Guild be proposed by members of the Guild; if the qualification for the candidates are accepted and passed by the executive committee their election will follow in due course.

3.—Candidates for election as executive or general committee members must be members of the music hall profession only. Executive and general committee members must pay a yearly subscription of £1 1s.

4.—The executive committee shall have power to elect the president.

5.—The executive committee to be elected in the November of each year by all music hall members of the Guild, the new committee taking office the following January.

6.—A sewing bee will be held every Wednesday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the offices of the Guild.

Photo by Graphic Cinematograph Company.

CHELSEA LODGE OF FREEMASONS, OCTOBER 19, 1906.

7.—Ladies not connected with the music hall profession can be elected as honorary members of the Guild on payment of a donation of not less than 2s. 6d., and may attend the weekly sewing bee, the annual general meeting, and all social functions, but have no voting powers whatever.

8.—All subscriptions of members and honorary members to be paid during the month of November in each year; if after the first Friday of December the subscription remains unpaid, a fine of 3d. per month will be charged and placed to the good of the Guild.

9.—All members are required to send their permanent address to the secretary.

10.—A vacation of one month in each year during August will take place. The offices will be closed on Bank Holidays.

11.—The usual general meeting will take place in October of every year.

Applications for help should be made on forms that may be obtained from the Secretary, 69, Primrose Mansions, Battersea Park, S.W.

MR. G. D. BRADBURY, the popular assistant-manager of the Palace, Southampton, has been deservedly promoted to the post of resident-manager of the Palace, Lincoln, by his chief, Mr. Frank Macnaghten. Mr. Bradbury was installed at the Palace during Mr. Graydon's control in 1903, and continued under the Macnaghten management. During his three years' sojourn in the southern seaport, he has become exceedingly popular, and although his promotion is naturally a matter for congratulation, his departure is greatly regretted.

THE EDEN THEATRE AT HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

In order to bring our readers up to date with regard to the portable theatre licensing question at Hemel Hempstead (which we reported fully last week), it is only now necessary to give the supplementary news to hand. Mr. Whitmee's application for a six months' dramatic licence was refused, although it was backed by a petition signed by the majority of the adult population of the town. We understand that the main reason that decided the magistrates was a letter from certain members of the Town Council, who met *in camera*, at the close of their open meeting, and that the letter strongly deprecated the continuance of a portable theatre in the town. They urged that to licence such a structure would remove it out of the jurisdiction of the authorities, both with reference to questions of public safety and public health. This letter of the Corporation to the Bench, although it was an entirely ex parte and prejudiced statement, appears to have been the deciding element in the mind of the magistrates. It was fully proved by evidence submitted by Mr. Whitmee's solicitor at the time of the application that it was a perfectly sanitary structure, and that as regards public safety the building was admirably constructed, and that it could be cleared of its audience under two minutes.

Mr. Whitmee's portable theatre has no fewer than eight exits, and it must be evident to any impartial mind such a temporary structure is even safer for the public in the event of a panic than a permanent building. The sides of a portable theatre are made of long sections of wooden shutters, and it must be obvious that in the event of fire or panic from any cause whatever, the pressure of the crowd upon such a temporary edifice would at once effect emergency exits at every point of attack. It was, therefore, a mere subterfuge on the part of the enemies of the theatre, and the spoilers of the people's popular amusments, to raise the bogey of public danger. The solicitor who opposed Mr. Whitmee's application did not dare to impugn (either by submitting witnesses or even by definite statement to the Bench) the personal character of Mr. Whitmee, his ability or fitness to manage a theatre, nor was it seriously attempted to call in question the character of the entertainment provided.

The plays produced were admittedly the standard dramas of the British stage, and Mr. Whitmee produced the testimony of influential patrons of his theatre in support of his contention that the theatre was good, well conducted, and the plays of the best type.

We very much fear that the Bench and a section of the Corporation have been overborne by the persistence of a bitterly-minded and puritanical section of the community, who have been ceaseless in their endeavour to clear the town of entertainments above the level of a chapel concert, school anniversary, or pleasant Sunday afternoons for men. We cannot pass away from this glaring example of "Justices' justice" without again emphasising the parlous condition under which the providers of popular amusements of a portable character are compelled to carry on their business and enterprise. In a town like Hemel Hempstead, destitute of either theatre or music hall of a permanent character, the people are absolutely at the mercy of the prevailing authority for the time being, as to the nature or extent of amusement and relaxation permitted them, and it is manifestly unfair to handicap without any show of justice, reason, or common-sense, men like Mr. Whitmee, who provide for these small centres of human life wholesome entertainment and necessary amusement, after hard-won toil.

We who dwell in great cities, and have a choice of entertainment sometimes perplexing in its wealth of supply, can hardly realise the deadly dulness of small country-places, where the only opportunity for the people to have an evening's enjoyment is that provided by the travelling shows and theatres of a character and completeness of that of Mr. Whitmee's. It is a veritable godsend to such a town to have for a season the opportunity of attending a portable theatre, and we contend that Mr. Whitmee, instead of being harassed and prevented in his business by the local authorities, ought to be encouraged and supported in a liberal spirit and generous manner.

To revert to the judicial farce at Hemel Hempstead—what does it all amount to? It means that Mr. Whitmee is refused a licence for a portable theatre (in every way a model portable theatre) because *it is not what it has never pretended to be*—a permanent structure. If Mr. Whitmee had been such an idiot as to go before the Bench and ask them to licence his booth as an erection of brick or stone, there might have been some sense in the finding of the local Bench. We are not far out when we say that the decision of the magistrates to refuse the licence was the result of the persistent clamour of an influential and prejudiced section of the community, who hold that entertainments of any kind whatever for the common people are prejudicial to their moral and temporal well-being.

We, who know human life better than these poor demented faddists, have to recognise that, though we have reached the twentieth century of Christianity, there yet remains in our midst people who persist in holding the narrow-minded and uncharitable views that have been so actively at work and so successful at Hemel Hempstead.

Of this, one thing we are well assured—that when Mr. Whitmee removes his theatre to another town, he will carry with him the good wishes and gratitude of the people of Hemel Hempstead, whose hard labouring life he has tempered by his admirable theatre.

WORLD'S FAIR, Market-yard, West Hartlepool.—William Murphy, racing motors; Alfred Testo, grand show; Beaumont, roundabouts, swings, shooting galleries, Emmas, football, are here this week.

HENRY SILVANI'S circus concludes to-day a most successful tenting season through the "Emerald Isle."

ADDITIONAL particulars are to hand with regard to the parts played by the late Constance Loseby. She was Polly Peachum in *The Beggars' Opera*, Fleuretta in an English version of *Barbe Bleue*, Cesarine in *Malala*, and Morgiana in Reece's burlesque *Ali Baba*. As Lionel, an operatic mystery, in a burlesque version of *Martha*, she created something of a sensation by her singing of Shield's ballad "The Thorn." She appeared in *Snae Fell*, a fantastic concoction which the late George Conquest introduced to the West-end, and she was also seen in burlesque of *Guy Fawkes*, and in *The Island of Bachelors*, produced in 1874, in which year she left the Gaiety. After this she was chiefly engaged at the Alhambra, where she took leading singing parts in *Geneviève de Brabant*, *Poule aux Œufs d'Or*, *Rothemago*, *Venice*, *Black Crook*, and *Babil and Bijou*. She was in *The Golden Ring*, with which the house was reopened in 1883, after the fire, and shortly after she retired from the stage. The deceased actress, who appeared with success at music-halls before going to the Gaiety, was, by the way, the wife of the late Mr. John Caulfield (not Coulfield), who was for years deputy conductor at the old Gaiety. It was not, moreover, Gilbert's *Pygmalion and Galatea* in which she appeared in 1873, but an operetta by Suppé, entitled *Ganymede and Galatea*, founded on the same subject.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR NOVEMBER.

ENGLAND.

Nov. 1. Bishop Auckland (12,000)
Nov. 1. Coventry (70,000)
Nov. 1. Pontefract (13,400)
Nov. 1. Poole (19,500)
Nov. 2. Mansfield (Statutes) (21,441)
Nov. 3. Clipstone (546)
Nov. 3. Disley (2,827)
Nov. 3. Halifax Fair (104,933)
Nov. 3. Mansfield (Woodhouse) (21,441)
Nov. 3. Rowsley (639)
Nov. 3. Skegby (3,897)
Nov. 5. Beverley (13,200)
Nov. 5. Eastwood (16,423)
Nov. 5. Kirkby Stephen (2,000)
Nov. 5. Plymouth (107,509)
Nov. 5. Portland (15,300)
Nov. 5. Rotherham (60,000)
Nov. 5. Scarcliffe (2,525)
Nov. 6. Penistone (3,071)
Nov. 7. Heckmondwike Feast (9,459)
Nov. 7. Morpeth (6,158)
Nov. 7. South Shields (97,300)
Nov. 7. Swaffham (3,400)
Nov. 8. Alford (2,500)
Nov. 8. Alston (Cumb.) (3,300)
Nov 8. Biggleswade (5,000)
Nov. 8. Hertford (9,300)
Nov. 8. Loughborough (21,600)
Nov. 8. Leeds Winter Fair (428,935)
Nov. 8. Romsey (4,200)
Nov 9. Biddenden (1,300)
Nov. 9. Easingwold (2,000)
Nov. 9. Thornaby (16,000)
Nov. 10. Bakewell (2,850)
Nov. 10. Brackley (2,500)
Nov. 10. Bulwell (14,767)
Nov. 10. Cambourne (8,200)
Nov. 10. Carlisle (25,500)
Nov. 10. Carlmel (400)
Nov. 10. Egremont (Cumb.) (8,000)
Nov. 10. Farnham (6,124)
Nov. 10. Hucknall (15,250)
Nov. 10. Kendal (14,200)
Nov. 10. Lancaster (40,300)
Nov. 10. Melton Mowbray (7,500)
Nov. 10. Sutton-in-Ashfield (14,862)
Nov. 10. Wakefield Fair (41,544)
Nov. 10. Wetherby Fair (2,212)
Nov. 12. Chelmsford (12,000)
Nov. 12. Maryport (12,000)
Nov. 13. Cockermouth (6,400)
Nov. 13. Epping (2,732)
Nov. 13. Kingston-on-Thames (34,400)
Nov. 13. Penrith (9,200)
Nov. 13. Stamfordham (900)
Nov. 13. Stockton-on-Tees (51,476)
Nov. 14. Brampton (2,708)
Nov. 14. Chesham (7,300)
Nov. 15. Ulverston (10,064)
Nov. 15. Warkworth (1,195)
Nov. 16. St. Colomb (60 846)
Nov 17. Andover (6,500)
Nov. 17. Horsham (9,500)
Nov. 17. Malton (4,800)
Nov. 17. Richmond (Yorks.) (4 000)
Nov. 17. Shaftesbury (3,000)
Nov. 17. Yeovil (10,000)
Nov. 19. Darlington (44,500)
Nov. 19. Pickering (3,500)
Nov. 19. Rugby (17,000)
Nov. 22. Dover (41,800)
Nov. 22. Fakenham (200)
Nov. 22. Guildford (15,937)
Nov. 22. Haltwhistle (12,000)
Nov. 22. Martin Town (900)
Nov. 23. Crowle (2,800)
Nov. 23. Louth (9,500)
Nov. 23. Newark (14,985)
Nov. 23. Ripon (8,200)
Nov. 23. York (77,794)
Nov. 24. Chesterfield (27,185)
Nov. 24. Gloucester (48,000)
Nov. 26. York (77,793)
Nov. 27. Hartlepool (22,800)
Nov. 28. Frome (11,000)
Nov. 28. Ilminster (2,300)
Nov. 30. Ludford (714)
Nov. 30. Milborne St. Andrews (1,000)

SCOTLAND.

Nov. 3. Berwick-on-Tweed (13 500)
Nov 3. Biggar (1,925)
Nov. 6. Alyth (3,521)
Nov. 6. Jedburgh (4,662)
Nov. 8. Paisley (68,427)
Nov. 15. Dumbarton (17,800)
Nov. 16. Govan (111,000)
Nov. 20. Airdrie (20,500)
Nov. 21. Langholm (3,976)
Nov. 23. Inverness (25,000)

WALES.

Nov. 2. Brecon (6,520)
Nov. 6. Llangefeloch
Nov. 7. Penygroes (2,517)
Nov. 8. Lydney (3,000)
Nov. 10. Penmorfa (1,486)
Nov. 15. Llandovery (2,234)
Nov. 19. Aberystwith (8,500)

The principal agricultural shows and cattle fairs for next month are:—Newark, Northampton, Alston (Cumb.), Armagh, Chester, Doncaster, Ripon, and Beverley, on the 1st; Richmond Moor, Moy, and Oakham, on the 2nd; Halifax and Saffron Walden, on the 3rd; Appleshaw and Middleton Moor on the 5th; Preston, Doune Tryst, and Thurles, on the 6th; Clonmel, Keighley, and Swaffham, on the 7th; Alford, Blackwater, Blandford, Hertford, Romsey, Loughborough, and Leeds, on the 8th; Stamford, on the 9th; Darlington and Farnham, on the 10th; Macclesfield, Uttoxeter, Chelmsford, and Rugby, on the 12th; Leek, Lynn, Drogheda, Dunstable, and East Ilsley, on the 14th; Lincoln and Yeovil, on the 16th; Andover, West Malling, and Ballybay, on the 17th; Boston, on the 19th; East Witton, Edinburgh, and Durham, on the 20th; Battle and Congleton, on the 22nd; Louth, Marlborough, and Ripon on the 23rd; Chesterfield, on the 26th; Uttoxeter, on the 27th; Northampton, Doune Tryst, and Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 28th; Ashbourne, Chester, Clones, and Warrington, on the 29th.

A petition against the abolition of Writtle Fair has been drawn up by the Executive officials of the Showmen's Guild, and has been duly forwarded to the Home Office. It is worded as follows:—

To the Right Honourable H. J. Gladstone, His Majesty's Secretary of State for Home Affairs.

Sir,—In the interests of the travelling showmen and local traders taking the fairs in the Counties of Essex, Middlesex, Surrey, and Kent, we humbly submit that the proposed abolition of the Whitsun Fair at Writtle, near Chelmsford, would be a serious trade loss and a deprivation of their business facilities. The Showmen's Guild, representing the organised amusement caterers and fairground traders of the United Kingdom, most respectfully but most strongly object to the proposed abolition of Writtle Fair. They further object to the action of local authorities in striving to abolish fairs, when in all likelihood the necessities of the case would be met by removing the venue of the fair. Showmen recognise that in many instances it is no longer desirable to continue fairs in the open squares and streets of towns, and they have repeatedly shown their willingness to co-operate with public bodies in order to obtain the removal of the fair to a convenient site where all danger from the congestion of traffic is avoided. We venture, therefore, Sir, to ask that in the exercise of your authority you will not grant the petition for the abolition of the fair, that you will either refuse it or suggest to the local authorities that a new fairground be provided and the fair continued.

We also venture to lay before you the people's side of this important question. Whitsuntide is a national holiday, and an occasion most suitable for open-air amusement such as our popular fairs provide, and independent of the serious trade loss that the abolition of local fairs involves, there is also the deprivation of popular and wholesome amusement for the people.

Signed on behalf of the Showmen's Guild—

GEORGE SANGER, President.
F. H. PEDGRIFT, Honorary Treasurer.
T. HORNE, Honorary Chaplain.

The Guild Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

We believe that a number of local gentlemen interested in maintaining the fair have also sent a petition to the Home Secretary, and it would be a great help if individual showmen and stallholders taking Writtle Fair on their round supported the efforts of their friends by sending in letters of protest to the Home Secretary. There is no difficulty about the matter; anyone may write who has a trade or personal interest, and all that he need do is to state the fact that he would be a sufferer in his business by the abolition of the fair. It will be remembered that last week we gave the official notice of the proposal of the local authorities to abolish the fair, and that the Home Secretary expressed his willingness to receive representations for or against the proposal, and that he would come to a decision after hearing both sides of the case on Dec. 1 next. The petition of the Showmen's Guild and the petition of the residents of Writtle who do not wish their fair to be abolished would be very materially strengthened by letters sent to the Home Office by showmen and stallholders taking the fair. Now is the time to do it: let there be no delay!

The Hippodrome, Norwich, celebrated its third anniversary on Friday (yesterday), and Messrs. Bostock and Fitt deserve every praise for the excellent catering for public amusement during their proprietorship. Notwithstanding the two houses nightly and the dull times in this agricultural district, each performance in the past has been well patronised, testifying to the ability of the excellent management and talent provided. The highest to the lowest in Norwich have numbered themselves amongst its patrons, and nothing could exceed the urbanity and kindly courtesy extended to all by Mr. Councillor and Mrs. Fitt, which has been cordially appreciated. A compliment must also be extended to each of the staff under them. The proceeds of Friday evening's performance are to be devoted to local charities.

Aylesbury is once more aroused by the question as to whether showmen shall be permitted into its public squares on days other than fair days. At the last meeting of the Urban Council a memorial was received from thirty-five tradesmen, three of whom have withdrawn, protesting against the letting of these squares. A counter-petition containing hundreds of names is now about to be presented to the local Council, which meets on Nov. 10.

Caistor hirings had for its pleasure side the well-known entertainments of Messrs. Smith and Warren, and included steam circus, rifle saloons, and throwing games, with stalls, &c., by local caterers.

From Clitheroe we have news of the back-end fair, beginning on the 26th and lasting to the end of the month. The principal shows are—J. Norman's cinematograph theatre and empire of varieties; Professor Haydn, with temple of occultism and second-sight demonstrations; and W. Shaw's fine art gallery. Mrs. Holden provided two sets of roundabouts—the ostriches and steam yachts; and W. H. Taylor exhibited a steam circus, Winchester range, and fairground varieties; John Starkie provided a rifle gallery and high-fliers. The other caterers included Messrs. Makin Bros., A. Slater, W. Shorrocks, J. Gallagher, T. Broughton, J. Freer, J. Ingham, and Mrs. Larenzo.

Redditch is a growing and prosperous town in Worcestershire. It is thirteen miles from Birmingham, fifteen from Stratford-on-Avon, six from Bromsgrove, and sixteen from Evesham. It has a station on the Midland Railway. The principal industries are the manufacture of needles, fishing-tackle, cycles, &c. Large cycle works are now being erected to employ about 1,000 hands. The fairground for shows, &c., is situated right in the centre of the town—the Royal Hotel Yard. An helter-skelter lighthouse ought to do well here. Population 13,493. Increase in ten years of 2,199.

At the Royal Hotel Yard, Redditch, this week, are Wadbrook's electrograph and palace of varieties; E. Clarke and J. Wright with shooting saloons, &c.; cokernut sheets, pitching games, bottle smashers, swing boats, and other attractions. Mr. Waller Jeff's New Century pictures are paying a return visit this week to the Public Hall, Redditch.

The attractions at Shipston-on-Stour Bull-roast included Purchase's menagerie, Chipperfield's cinematograph, Clarke's motor-cars, Strickland's gallopers and motor-cars. A side show caught fire during the progress of the fair, and did damage amounting to about £12.

The annual fair was held at Ilkeston on the 18th and two following days, the chief attractions being Collins's helter-skelter and airship, Buff Bill's menagerie, Holland's, Crichton's, and Arthur Twigdon's cinematographs, and Proctor's laughterland, &c.

Salisbury annual pleasure fair was held the first three days of this week, and attracted a larger number of leading shows, &c., than has been seen here for many years. The weather conditions were perfect. The principal shows included Anderton and Rowland's grand show, R. Dooner and Sons' superb cinematograph, W. Taylor's living pictures, Biddall Bros.' American electrograph, the boxing saloons of W. Taylor and Alf Wright, H. Bailey's art exhibition, giant lady by Professor Barber, Kaffir performers by Reader, and sundry smaller shows. Wm. Symonds (of Gloucester) displayed his switchback and galloping horses; I. Heal brought galloping horses, motor-cars, and ostriches; White's slipping-the-slope tower and two sets of juvenile motor-cars; and an extra large number of swings, shooting galleries, shies, and the usual stalls, &c.

Reynold's Exhibition is still going strong in Liverpool. The proprietor, ever on the look-out for novelties, has arranged a remarkable competition to commence on Monday next. He has engaged Harry Burton, the champion Australian club swinger, who makes his first appearance in England, to undergo a six days' club manipulation of eight continuous hours daily. The wager of £50 offered by Burton has been taken up by a well-known sportsman, who declares his disbelief in the task being possible. The clubs are to weigh not less than five pounds each.

Undoubtedly the biggest sensation that ever visited Hamilton Fair was the Dahomey Warriors, led by Princess Gooma and Chieftain Lobogolo. Tom Brown, the enterprising director for sixteen years of this remarkable troupe of warriors, was greatly in evidence. They visit Wishaw this week, and return to Glasgow for a five weeks' pantomime engagement.

Smethwick Wakes was well maintained by P. Collins's No. 1 cinematograph theatre; H. Cullis's school of boxers; Cooper's abnormals; P. Collins's wheely-whirly, twin yachts, and slipping the slope; varieties and stalls by Messrs. Ford, Dobson, Hughes, Cooper, and others on this round.

ANSWERS TO SHOWMEN.

Carl Villiers.—*We strongly advise you to get into communication with some of the principal showmen and lessees of grounds on the Metropolitan round. A good time to do this would be at the annual meeting of the Guild at the World's Fair, which will be duly advertised in "The Era." It is always better to follow a round under the management of some well-known caterer, than to venture forth for the first time upon your own initiative. If you do not gain experience by working with men of expert knowledge, you will find yourself paying for experience that will be a tremendous loss and disappointment to you. Write us again, and we will send you the names of half-a-dozen prominent London showmen, whose acquaintance you might make with every possible advantage for your enterprise.*

J. B. (Stepney Green).—*We have carried our inquiries with regard to George Foottit as far as we feel justified in pursuing the quest.*

H. W. H. P. (Beckenham).—*You may call at "The Era" offices between 11 and 12 any morning next week, and ask to see us. Judging by the tenour of your letter, we are at a loss to see how we can help in the matter; perhaps an interview would clear the ground.*

Sutton (Gloucester).—*Write us again and more fully. We do not understand the brief message of your post-card.*

SHALL BURSLEM WAKES BE ABOLISHED?

No popular fair on the Midland Round has undergone more vicissitudes than old Burslem Wakes. The determination of the people of the Potteries to maintain their old local fairs and wakes has been sorely tried during the past thirty years, and the record at Burslem is that upon every occasion the will of the people freely and constitutionally expressed has prevailed. Elections have been fought and won upon this question—the continuance of the people's fair, and it is well within the memory of Midland showmen that Burslem and its people have gained many victories against the narrow-minded and the prejudiced few, who assume that they know better what the people should have by way of amusement and entertainment than the people themselves.

The position of the old Wakes and its legal status forms an interesting chapter in the history of popular fairs. It is held on the first Saturday after June 24 in each year, and on the following Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and coincides with the Feast of the Patron Saint of the Parish Church of St. John. There is no evidence of a charter ever having been granted to hold a fair in Burslem, but it has been held with only one break for many generations, and has as good a prescriptive right as any other old-time fair that cannot be traced back to the grant by Royal Charter.

In the year 1825 an Act for Regulating the Markets in the Town of Burslem and parts adjacent was passed, and although there is no reference in this Act to the Fair called Burslem Wakes, it is provided that the Market Trustees or Commissioner should have power to appoint any number, not exceeding six, fairs to be holden in the town annually.

During the last thirty years there has been much discussion in the town, particularly at the time the Wakes is held, as to the advisability of continuing it. Shortly after the town was incorporated in 1878, the question was brought before the Town Council, and as a result a resolution was carried that steps should be taken in conjunction with the neighbouring authorities to establish one uniform Wakes for the whole of the Pottery district.

After much discussion, the Town Council resolved, at a meeting held on March 5, 1879, to present a memorial to the Home Secretary, under the provisions of the Fairs Act, 1871, asking him to abolish the Wakes, and in May following the Wakes was duly abolished, and the Order of the Home Secretary published in the *London Gazette*. No Wakes was held in Burslem in June, 1879. The Town Council were prepared to fix a Wakes to be held at the same date as Stoke Wakes, but no applications were made by stallholders or showmen, and consequently there was no celebration of this kind in Burslem that year. In the following year a number of the inhabitants who objected to the abolition of the Wakes hired a piece of land at Longport belonging to Messrs. Davenport, and a considerable number of stalls and shows were placed upon it, and a Wakes was held there, and attended by large crowds of people. An attempt has been made to take land from Messrs. Wood which was more centrally situate, but they refused to let their land for the purpose, as they wished to support the Town Council in the action they had taken. Immediately afterwards there was an agitation in the town for a re-establishment of the Old Wakes, which was largely supported by many of the more influential inhabitants who did not wish to see the people deprived of their annual holiday, and who, it must be admitted, were perfectly disinterested in their action.

A crowded meeting was held in the Covered Market in July, 1880, and a resolution was passed by a very large majority calling upon the Town Council to re-establish the Old Wakes. At a meeting of the Town Council in August, Councillor Emery gave notice of motion for the rescinding of the resolution passed by the Town Council, and that the Wakes be held at the old time. At the same meeting, a memorial signed by nearly 700 ratepayers was presented to the Town Council, strongly protesting against any attempt to alter the arrangement made for the establishment of a general holiday throughout the Potteries, the memorialists contending that the public meeting did not fairly represent the feeling of the town, and requesting that a ballot should be taken. At the municipal elections in November, this question was warmly discussed, and the "Old Wakes" *v.* the "New Wakes" decided the fate of the candidates. In the East Ward, Mr. J. Wilcox Edge was defeated, and in the South Ward Dr. Hales headed the poll, getting 100 votes more than Mr. Woodall, M.P. There was no contest in the North Ward. The effect of this election was soon shown in the Council Chamber, and it was decided to appeal to the ratepayers by a ballot on the question. The poll took place on Nov. 22, when 1,560 votes were given in favour of re-establishing the Old Wakes, and 727 against. The Council met on Dec. 1, when the result of the poll was reported, and a long discussion took place, but ultimately the Council passed the following resolution:—"That this Council, in deference to the wishes of the majority of the burgesses who voted at the recent Wakes ballot, consider it advisable to establish a Fair to commence on the first Saturday after June 24 in each year, and to extend over the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in the following week, and to be called the Burslem Wakes Fair, and that this Fair is accordingly hereby appointed." On being put to the vote, 13 members of the Council voted for the motion; Mr. Woodall, M.P., and Alderman W. Leigh voted against it, and five members did not vote. This resolution was apparently passed in pursuance of the power contained in the local Act to establish not more than six Fairs annually, and it came into effect in the following June, when the Fair was held as usual.

At a recent meeting of the Corporation of Burslem the report of the General Purposes Committee included a resolution to the effect that no booths, shows, or stalls be allowed to occupy any ground in the public streets, main roads, or squares in the centre of the town during Burslem Wakes week; and that the toll collector should be instructed not to let or enter into any contract to let any land in the centre of the town or in the main thoroughfares, to be occupied by booths, shows, or stalls, during the last week in June or the first week in July.

Alderman Bratt said he had heard some complaints in the town as to the action of the General Purposes Committee in recommending the abolition of the Wakes Fair. He moved as an amendment that the consideration of the subject should be deferred until a petition had been signed by the ratepayers either for or against the continuance of the Fair.

This amendment was seconded by Mr. Sargeant.

Mr. Brodie declared that the matter had been thoroughly thrashed out in committee, and he saw no reason why the minute should be referred back. If, when the Council was about to take an important step, it was to be compelled to consult the ratepayers and send a petition round, it looked as though the responsibility for action was being shirked. If, after that resolution was passed, they had done wrong, the ratepayers would soon tell them so. The Wakes shows had always been a nuisance. They were a relic of the day when amusements were not so easily obtained as to-day, and there was no legitimate demand now for them. Further, all the tradesmen in the centre of the town were opposed to the continuance of the Fair, and he had yet to learn that any benefit was gained by anyone in the town. If the shows were really wanted they could be placed in a field outside.

Alderman Cartlidge objected to the Wakes shows on sanitary grounds alone. It was impossible to calculate the harm done to health through the visit of the showpeople to the very centre of the town. If a manufacturer or ordinary individual gave rise to such abominable nuisances as were caused—without punishment—by the showpeople they would soon be at the mercy of the law.

Alderman Malkin felt that it was simply folly to spend such large sums of money yearly in trying to improve the health of the town if at the same time they allowed a condition of things to prevail as did prevail at the Wakes. As guardians of the public health, they were not justified in spending the money they did unless they tried to put the shows outside the town. The onus of proving that the Wakes was a benefit to the community should lie on those who suggested that the recommendation should go back to the committee.

The amendment was put to the meeting and lost, the whole of the above minutes being adopted as they stood. The voting was as follows:—For the amendment, Alderman Bratt and Councillor Sargeant; for the minutes, Aldermen Cartlidge, T. Edwardes, and Malkin, Councillors Averill, Brodie, Ford, Porter, Simpson, Green, Chadwick, Jackson, and Willett; neutral, Councillors Mitchell and Robinson.

The challenge thus thrown down by the City Fathers to the people of Burslem has been at once accepted, and a petition—a copy of which is subjoined, is now being very extensively signed, protesting against the action of the Borough Council, and asking for the rescinding of the adverse resolution.

To His Worship the Mayor of Burslem.

Whereas the Festival of St. John, or otherwise known as "the Burslem Wakes Fair," has for many years past been held in the last week in June or the first week in July for the amusement and entertainment of the ratepayers of the Borough of Burslem, in the County of Stafford. And whereas at a meeting of the Council of the said Borough of Burslem held on the eighth day of October, 1906, a resolution was passed abolishing the said Wakes Fair and refusing to grant the town lands and thoroughfares for the purpose of the said Wakes Fair without having ascertained the views of the general body of Ratepayers of the said Borough. And we believe that the Council have not, in passing such resolution, acted in the best interest of the Borough or the general body of Ratepayers and Owners. And we, the undersigned Ratepayers of the Town, DO HEREBY REQUEST the Mayor of Burslem to call a meeting of the general body of Ratepayers to ascertain if it is the general wish that the Wakes Fair should be continued or abolished in pursuance of the said resolution, and to submit the following resolutions:—

"RESOLVED—That the Council be requested to rescind the Resolution passed on the eigth day of October, 1906, prohibiting the Burslem Wakes Fair being held, and that such fair be held at the usual time and place, and that they instruct their Toll Collector to let the Town lands and thoroughfares for the purpose of the said fair as heretofore."

It is necessary for us in the interests of our showman readers to set out in detail what is the real legal position governing the threatened wakes. It will be seen from what we have already written that under the Abolition of Fairs Act, 1871, the fair was legally abolished; that under the statutory powers of the Home Secretary the order was made to abolish the fair, and that for one year at least there was no Burslem Wakes in the legal sense. This, of course, all took place a long time before the Showmen's Guild came into existence to safeguard and defend the interests of fairground traders. The point is, however, clear, the old Wakes was properly abolished; but now comes the interesting and important fact that under the powers of a Burslem Markets and Fairs Act a new fair, to be called by the old name and to take place upon the old dates, with an extension of an additional day, was set up under proper legal authority by the Corporation, acting in compliance with the constitutionally expressed wish of the people of Burslem.

The present position therefore is: that the fair is a legal fair, and cannot be abolished without the consent of the people and the authority of the Home Secretary acting for the Crown. That is the position. Showmen have in this instance a clear title until the people of Burslem desire otherwise, and use the proper means provided by Statute Law to abolish the fair. The only value of the resolution of the Borough Council is that it gives the townspeople of Burslem, who are the real masters in the matter, and the showmen whose business the proposed abolition threatens, sufficient warning to take all necessary steps to express both the sovereign will of the people and the trade rights of travelling showmen. In spite of all that was said to the contrary when the question was before the General Purposes Committee, we have no doubt that the people when once aroused to the necessity of defending their much-loved annual wakes, will do again as they did when their fair was abolished without their consent—that is to say, they will send men to represent them on the Borough Council that will understand and voice the wishes of the majority, and not become the mere tools of a narrow, noisy, and fanatical section of the community.

The executive officials of the Showmen's Guild, in the interests of the whole body of travelling showpeople, are taking up this question with all the vigour and power they possess, and are heartily co-operating with the local committee now conducting the movement for the rescinding of the adverse resolution passed by the Borough Council.

Mr. Tom Norman has been meeting with great success these last weeks on tour with his Dahomey Warriors, who are causing great excitement both at their daily parades and performances, their Sunday sacred concerts being also thoroughly appreciated. An act of friendly rivalry occurred on Wednesday last week. On arriving in Wellingborough Mr. Norman found the Corn Exchange, which he had anticipated taking, in possession of Col. Harrison's Pygmies. Mr. Norman had, therefore, to build up his large tent on the market-place adjoining, and on the waggons and warriors entering the town the inhabitants thought that they were the Pygmies, and the excitement was great when it was known that there were two different tribes in the neighbourhood. The large tent was packed at both afternoon and evening performances. Mr. Osmond, the courteous manager and lecturer for Col. Harrison, took the situation in true business-like style, and at the termination of his evening performance took his very interesting troupe into Mr. Norman's tent and introduced them to the Dahomeys, also mounting the platform and speaking a few words that were much appreciated by the large audience.

The Monckтons (Fred and Lily) will produce at the Hastings Hippodrome on Nov. 5 a new farcical musical sketch, entitled, *Are Wives Dummies?* written by Mr. E. C. Matthews.

Mr. Ernie Myers, comedian, is the latest to join the Terriers' Association, being initiated into the mysteries of the order on Sunday, when Mr. F. W. Millis, the popular ventriloquist, was in the chair.

A grand matinée will be given at the Oxford on Thursday next, by permission of the directors, in aid of the funds of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum, to which excellent institution the entire proceeds will be devoted.

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Nov. 5, Liverpool.
,, 12, Shepherd's Bush.
,, 19, Edinburgh.
,, 26, Newcastle.
Dec. 3, Manchester.
,, 10, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
,, 17, ,, ,, ,,
,, 24, ,, ,, ,,
,, 31, ,, ,, ,,
1907.
Jan. 7, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
,, 14, ,, ,, ,,
,, 21, ,, ,, ,,
,, 28, ,, ,, ,,
Feb. 4, Opera House, Cork.
,, 11, ,, ,, ,,
,, 18,
,, 25,
Mar. 4, Dublin.
,, 11, Birmingham.
,, 18, Walsall.

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Dec. 10, 17,
Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Feb. 4, 18, 25, March 4, 18, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Dec. 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, 11, 25, April 29, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Feb. 4, 25, March 4, 11, 18, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 4, 25, April 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
March 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
Nov. 12 (three nights), Nov. 26, Jan. 7, Feb. 18, 25, March 11, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Dalston, Dec. 10, 17;
Wolverhampton, Nov. 26 and Dec. 3, 10;
Leamington, Nov. 12 (three nights), 26, Jan. 7, Feb. 18, on.
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

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GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Nov. 26, March 18, May 6.
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Dec. 24, March 4, 11, April 22, May 6.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
Dec. 10, 17, 31, Jan. 7, onwards.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Nov. 12, Dec. 10, 17, 24, Jan. 7, 14, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL CANTERBURY,
Nov. 22, 29, Dec. 5, 13, and Xmas.

Add., E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Company, Nov. 12.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 3, 17, and Jan. 7.
Apply, Manager,
CHARLES TRENCHARD.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Nov. 19 (three nights),
Dec. 17.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
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only dates this year.
E. H. PAGE.

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WANTED, Nov. 19, Dec. 31, First-class Attractions only. FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

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WANTED, Sound Attraction, Nov. 8, 9, 10, good business. Apply,
CHAS. CHAPLIN, Sea View, Colwyn Bay.

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WANTED, First-class Companies Only, Musical Shows preferred,
Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, onwards,
seating 2,000. Holds £70. Electric throughout.
Good Pantomimes for Jan. and Feb.
CHARLES ELDERTON.

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.

WANTED, Theatre Vacant, for Good Strong Attractions, Dec. 3, 17, Feb. 4, on, to Whit.

R. ADDISON, LIMITED.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Dec. 17, Feb. 25, March 4, 25, April 15, 29, and onwards.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH-BY-SEA.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, for Dec. 17, '06, Musical Comedy preferred.
The above is the only Vacant Date until April 15, '07.
A. C. MOODY, Lessee and Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT, and THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Companies, for Dec. 10 and 17.
Address, CHARLES REVELL, Stockport.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, and few intermediate onwards; good Panto. Write. Address, G. HARDING.

THEATRE ROYAL, WEST BROMWICH.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Musical Comedies, Pantos., &c., Dec. 17, Jan. 28, Feb. 11 and 25, on. H. VERE.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-Class Companies, for Nov. 26 and Dec. 17. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

ILFRACOMBE.
RUNNACLEAVE T. AND OPERA HOUSE.
The Most Comfortable Playhouse in the District, used exclusively for Amusement Purposes. Everything well done. Open all the year round.
WANTED, Attractions, between now and Xmas, with exceptions, also a Good Panto.
JULIUS PHILLIPS, Opera House, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, Good Attractions, for Various Spring Dates, also Autumn, 1907, musical preferred. SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Musical Plays and Important Attractions, for Grand T., West Hartlepool, Vacant Nov. 19, 26, Jan. 14. F. GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 13, Jan. 3 (3 nights), March 4 (?), April 22 (Easter Week), May 20, Aug. 5, on. Address, FRANK RICE.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED. First-Class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Dec. 3, Jan. 28, onward (with exceptions).

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant Dec. 10, April 22, onward (with exceptions).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBORO'.
Vacant Nov. 5, 22, onward (with exceptions),
(Last three nights of each week).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Dec. 3, 10, onward (with exceptions).

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Nov. 12, Dec. 3, 10, onward (with exceptions).

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Nov. 26, Dec. 3, onward (with exceptions).

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Dec. 24, 31, onward (with exceptions).

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
Vacant Nov. 26, Jan. 14, onward (with exceptions).

"CINDERELLA."
Vacant Feb. 11, onward (with exceptions).

To Let, on Royalty, "THE PRAIRIE FLOWER" and "OUR BRITISH EMPIRE."
Excellent plants printing.

All Communications,
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S THEATRES.
ANTED. First-Class Companies,

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE,
Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 18, and various onwards.

CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND,
Nov. 29, 30, Dec. 1.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
March 4, 18, and various onwards.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE,
Dec. 3, and onwards, with exceptions.

WILLIAM MARTIN,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.
Nov. 19 vacant.
WANTED, a First-Class Attraction for the above date.
Apply, FRED FREDERICKS.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through disappointment,
First-class Musical Attraction,
First-class Musical Attraction,
for week of Dec. 10.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions for QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
Nov. 19, Jan. 7 (?), Feb. 4 (?), March 11, 18.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Dec. 24 (?), 31 (?), Jan. 7 (?), March 4, 11, 18.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, for the above Theatre, high-class Attractions,
Nov. 12, 19, 26, onwards.
L. CARSON, Keighley.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Attraction,
Four Weeks' Tour,
commencing Nov. 12.
Wire. Wire. Wire.
R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
WANTED First-class Attraction
(Musical preferred),
for Nov. 26 (unexpectedly vacant).
Address, LAWSON LAMBERT,
as above.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
for Nov. 12, 19, and 26,
and Dec. 3 and 10.
Apply to Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, WEST BROMWICH.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS;
General-Manager, Mr. HERBERT VERE.
WANTED, Comic Opera, Musical Comedies, Dec. 17, 31; Jan. 28, Drama; Feb. 11, Drama; 25, Panto.; March 11, Panto.. Managers please note.—The above Theatre is now under the management of Mr. Harding Thomas who has taken over Mr. J. P. Moore's interest in same, together with all Contracts made by him. Address, H. VERE.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Jan. 28, Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, 1907.
All dates filled 1906.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

WANTED, Known, a First-Class New Theatre will be rebuilt at the Spa, Bridlington. Applications for first-class season's (1907) attractions may be made to Mr. H. HAGUE, Spa Gardens, Bridlington.

THE PIER,
EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Dec. 17, Jan. 14, 28, and various dates onwards.
Apply, G. HAYES, Manager.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, through disappointment, First-Class Panto., for Xmas.
Apply to Mr. GEORGE CONQUEST.

VICTORIA THEATRE, WEST STANLEY.
Proprietor, Mr. T. C. RAWES.
Manager, Mr. JOHN CASSIDY.
WANTED, good Companies, Combinations, or anything good that can play twice nightly. Money refused every night.
Refer to Mr. Colin or Miss Daisy De Roy.
Vacant Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 17, Jan. 14, 21.
Address, JOHN CASSIDY.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions,
Dec. 10, 17,
Feb. 11, 25.
JAMES BELL.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Manager and Licensee, Mr. L. F. A. ROGERS.
WANTED, Cos., Nov. 29, 30, and Dec. 1 (for three nights only), best three nights of the week; Jan. 7, 1907, onwards.

WANTED, through Breach of Contract, Nov. 8 (3 nights), Dec. 3, Jan. 10 (3 nights), 21, 28. FRANK PAYNE, Avenue Theatre, Kettering.

WANTED, Attractions, for Theatre Royal, Chatham. Vacant Jan. 7 and 21. No. 1 Companies only entertained. BARNARD, Chislett-road, N.W.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED Good Pantomime for Christmas week, for two or three weeks. Good Show can do well. Good terms. Send full particulars to MORGAN, Aquarium.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Co's., Musical preferred. Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, on, with exceptions. Address, W. B. PORTE.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Inverness. Attractions, for Xmas and New Year Weeks. Few vacant dates Nov., Dec., and Feb. CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Magnificent New Town Hall, moderate rental, permanent stage, excellent accommodation. F. W. WESTERN, Sandy, Beds.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Peckham Public Hall, Rye-lane, S.E. Licensed for Music and Dancing by L.C.C. For vacant dates, apply PROPRIETOR.

COMPANIES WANTED.

FOLKESTONE and HASTINGS.
WANTED, First-Class Companies,
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS,
Dec. 3, 17;
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE,
Dec. 31.
Vacant Spring Dates at each Theatre.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for three nights,
Nov. 12, 15, Dec. 3, and onwards.
Mr. F. W. Purcell has taken a long lease of the above Theatre, which is now undergoing renovation, thorough cleaning throughout, and a number of improvements. Will be pleased to hear from good companies. Permanent stage staff, electric light, &c. Address, F. W. PURCELL, Lingwood, Yerbury-road, Tufnell Park, London, N.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatre, Nov. 26.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 24, 31
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

Grand Autumn Production.
"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 28, Feb. 18, March 11.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

Grand Autumn Production,
"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatre, Feb. 11.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 10, 31, Jan. 28, April 1. FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 10, 31, Jan. 21, on.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, and onward. FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 3, 10, 24, 31.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 31, Jan. 14, 21. TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 18.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Jan. 21 and March 11.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of Dec. 3 and 17,
Scala Production.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 19, Christmas, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 26, on, Christmas.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.,
in the Romantic Irish Musical Play,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Autumn, 1907, Grand Production, "Rollicking Rory." CHALMERS MACKEY, Oct. 29, T. R., Seaham Harbour (6 nights).

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Dec. 10
Jan. 7.
Address, J. W. CORDINER.
Oct. 29, P. O. W. Theatre, Mexborough.

Messrs. GLENISTER and WOOD-INGRAM'S CO.
in
"ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 26, and Spring Dates.
Apply, J. W. WOOD-INGRAM,
Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone.
See Company's Column.

GRANVILLE and THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-Class Attraction, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 21, and Feb. 4, on, with exceptions.
FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, Dec. 3.
Wire, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company. Wire, LEONARD DALRYMPLE, Grand, Luton; next week, Theatre Royal, Batley.

A. HAMILTON WARDEN'S No. 1 COMPANY.
"A WOMAN'S PAST."
Miss Maisie Hanbury as Bersie.

WANTED, Theatres, Xmas and New Year Weeks. Wire or write,
A. HAMILTON WARDEN,
114, Caunce-street, Blackpool.

"A HEART'S DESIRE," by Frank Adair. Great Success of above Magnificent Original Play at Altrincham this week. Complimented by all.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 19, various, onwards.
H. ELLIMAN, 5, Vernon-street, Dublin.

"SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART."
WANTED, for above Successful Musical Play (including W. H. Kirby), Nov. 12 (North) and Nov. 19 (?); doing excellent business. EDWARD MARRIS, County Theatre, Kingston.

WANTED, for "Her Lost Self," by Nita Rae, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore, Nov. 12, 19, 26, Xmas, New Year. Wire to-day, FRANCES DELAVAL, Metropole T., Glasgow. Next week, Kirkcaldy (3), Motherwell (3).

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO'S.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Nov. 19, for this Great Play, band of drums, fifes, and bugles for parade, now doing bigger business than ever. Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY, Scotland's, Wolverhampton.

E. H. KNIGHT AND GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Xmas, New Year's Weeks, Jan. 7, 14, and 21 (North).
GEORGE DENHAM, Opera House, St. Helens.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for the above Great Novelty Drama, Vacant Feb. 18 (South), March 16. Now booking Autumn, '07. Vacant Sept. 2, on, with exceptions. Rhyl, T. R., Scarborough; Gaiety, Burnley (return).

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, Good Theatres,
Nov. 26, Dec. 3, and New Year.
Heavy Scene and Property Carried.
Refer First Frederick, T. R., Stratford.
HARRY FOXWELL, Boro' Theatre, Holyhead.

THEATRES WANTED.

DAN THOMAS AND FRED CLEMENTS.
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DAN THOMAS AND FRED CLEMENTS.

Gorgeous and Up-to-date Pantomime,
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
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"DICK WHITTINGTON."

An Entire New Production,
Everything Carried.

Forty Performers.

Book and Lyrics by D. Thomas.
Music by Carl Hamlin.

Scenery by Leveson Linton.

Dresses by Clarkson, Alias, and May.

The Whole Production Guaranteed to be
One of the Finest on the Road.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Wanted, First-class Theatres,
Wanted, First-class Theatres,
Wanted, First-class Theatres,
Wanted, First-class Theatres,
Wanted, First-class Theatres,
Wanted, First-class Theatres,
Open Dec. 24 and 31;
must be Theatres capable of Holding Money.
Also Vacant Jan. 21
(between Liverpool and Bristol),
and Feb. 4, on.

Last Season
Dan Thomas's "Aladdin"
Ran Fourteen Weeks, making Three Return Visits,
and Broke All Records,
and Broke All Records,
and Broke All Records,
and Broke All Records,
in London,
Eastbourne,
Brighton,
and Birkenhead.

At Camden Town, London,
Played to More Money
in Five Nights,
Xmas Week,
than had ever been taken in the Theatre
in Six Nights.
I returned after three weeks' absence,
and took over £600 on the week.
Refer to P. Lucas, Esq.

At Birkenhead, followed John Tillers,
and did such Good Business that
Mr. D. Clarke
Presented me with £10
on top of my money.

At Brighton (under Royal Patronage),
was Booked on the Opening Night
to Produce this Year
Same Panto., "Aladdin,"
for two weeks, by J. L. Graydon.

This Panto. can be Played Twice Nightly.

Only Vacant Dates, March 4,
onward.
Now Booking 1908.

All Communications re above Pantos. to
DAN THOMAS,
Hippo., Ipswich.

Bankers: Nat. Prov. Bank of England
(Birmingham Branch),
Stamford, Spalding, and Boston Bank.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "HER LUCK IN LONDON."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Nov. 12, between Middlesbrough and Junction, Manchester (return). Only open dates this year. Managers with good Spring and Autumn Vacancies, 1907, are invited to forward Dates to CHARLES A. LEICESTER,
this, Sea View, Colwyn Bay;
next, T. R., Middlesbrough.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "JUDY."
WANTED, Nov. 12, 12, 12 (London or Midlands).
CHARLES A. LEICESTER,
this, Sea View, Colwyn Bay;
next, T. R., Middlesbrough.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
WANTED, First-class Theatres only.
Only Vacant Date this Year,
Nov. 19.
Spring Entirely Filled, except March 4 (between Avenue, Sunderland, and Royalty, Glasgow) and April 1 (to follow Tyne, Newcastle).
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.

R. GRAHAM-FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Cardiff Pantomime; all new scenery, painted especially for this production.
SAMUEL JAMES,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Croydon Pantomime. All new scenery, painted especially for this production.
SAMUEL JAMES,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

"SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART."
WANTED, for above Successful Musical Play (including W. H. Kirby), Nov. 12 (North) and Nov. 19 (?); doing excellent business. EDWARD MARRIS, County Theatre, Kingston.

"THE PRINCE OF PILSEN,"
Latest American Musical Comedy.
WANTED, March 4. Wanted, First-class Theatre (North), only Vacant Date in 1907. The Smartest Production Touring. CHARLES THORSURN, Empire, Oldham.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY,
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, Jan. 7, 21, on, for
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
The Novelty Drama.
Everything carried.
Tour starts T. R., Macclesfield, Xmas week.
STUART CLEVELAND, 15, Lawson-road, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Jan. 7, Feb. 4, 11, 18, for "Cinderella."
H. A. JORDISON, S. James' Hall, Manchester.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
WANTED, the Weeks of Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 31, various, onwards, for this remarkable attraction. J. H. CLYNDES, Carlton, Birmingham.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY AND MR. M. V. LEVEAUX'S COMPANY, in
"THE FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, near London, for Nov. 12 (three nights).
Address, Mr. SILVANUS DAUNCEY, 8, Hill-road, N.W.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14.
FRED BULMER, Metropole T., Birmingham.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Xmas and Easter.
FRED BULMER, Metropole T., Birmingham.

"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
FRED BULMER, Metropole T., Birmingham.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Nov. 5, Nov. 5, Nov. 5,
FRED BULMER, Metropole T., Birmingham.

"KITTY GREY."
WANTED, Jan. 14 and 28, First-Class Theatres only. GEORGE CHAMPION, Lyceum, Govan.

THEATRES WANTED.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly note that all the following Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, Nov. 19, 26. I can guarantee good business at any theatre. Add., L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production which will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully Selected Artists.
WANTED, Feb. 11 and 18. Can only entertain First-class Theatres for this Undoubted Success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
Managers wishing to make money should book this excellent Production.
WANTED, Dates, Dec. 10, 31, and various Spring Dates.
L. CARSON, Keighley.

Messrs. SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Theatres, with Big Holding Capacity, for this First-class Production,
Xmas! Xmas!
Xmas! Xmas!
Xmas! Xmas!
Also a few Spring Dates Vacant.
A Brilliant Cast.
All new Scenery by Roberts, Manchester, and Hancock, London.
Huge plant of printing.
Smart and up-to-date uniforms.
Guaranteed to be one of the Finest Dramatic Attractions Travelling.
All communications to JOHN B. SHINTON,
Theatre Royal, South Shields (return).

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
By G. R. Sims.
WANTED, Nov. 12 and 26 (Midlands preferred), for this never-failing Attraction;
also Xmas.
Wire,
H. HOLLISTER, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham.
Monday, Rotunda, Liverpool.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, First-Class Theatre,
Nov. 12.
Success greater than ever everywhere.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.

Wire for Nov. 12, Wire.
JAMES BELL, T. R., Darlington.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
By Frank Lindo.

The greatest Dramatic Attraction since "East Lynne."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 26 and Dec. 3, only vacant dates this year.
Fast filling 1907.

Return dates offered everywhere.

Address,
FRANK LINDO,
Grand Theatre, Nelson (return).

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Sixty-first week of present tour.
Booked and re-booked into Oct., 1907.
Cast, printing, and scenery A1.
WANTED, Whit Week, Midlands,
March 25 (follow Jarrow), April 8.
FRANK AYRTON Prince's Theatre, Norwich.

MADGE McINTOSH and LUMSDEN HARE'S CO.
"MOLLENTRAVE ON WOMEN,"
by ALFRED SUTRO,
Author of "The Walls of Jericho," &c.
WANTED, Nov. 19 (three nights, to precede Oxford), Nov. 26 (week).
Cast includes Miss May Pardoe, Mr. Athole Stewart, Miss Eva Hamblin, Mr. Herbert Grimwood, Mr. Harry Kendal. Attractive Printing. Charming Scenery. G. F. REYNOLDS, 10, King-st., Covent Garden.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Best Theatres, for this Strong Attraction, Vacant Nov. 12, 26, Dec. 25, 31, Jan. 28, and Feb. 11.
Met., Glasgow, Oct. 29.

"NO MAN'S LAND."
WANTED, Nov. 19 (North preferred). HENRY HERNE (to-day), Opera House Workington; after, Empire Theatre, Dundee.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company. Wire, LEONARD DALRYMPLE, Grand, Luton; next week, Theatre Royal, Batley.

WANTED, Dates, "Aladdin" Panto. (Fit-up), Dec. 26, on; excellent company; Specialities, Dancers, &c. Success guaranteed. KLOOF-FIELDS, 54?, High-street, Bloomsbury, London.

"THE TRAITOR," E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 24.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, T. R., Smethwick.

"LUCKY LIZA."
WANTED, Dec. 3 and 17, Jan. 7 and 14, Feb. 4, for this Funny Show. DICKIE CLARE, Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, Christmas Week, also Jan. 28, Feb. 4.
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
Wire for Nov. 5; also 19th vacant.
EUGENE BERTRAM, Grand T., Blackpool.

"SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Sound Attraction, Good Theatres, Nov. 12, 19, and 26. Apply, C. and F. RENAD, New Prince's Theatre, Poplar, E.

WANTED, First-class Theatres. "Mr. Hopkinson," Nov. 5, Dec. 3, Xmas; "Mr. Popple," Nov. 19, 26; Two Musical Comedies Vacant Xmas, four nights. CHAS. MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-av., W.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, for Witty Wattie Walton and Company. Wire, LEONARD DALRYMPLE, Grand, Luton; next week, Theatre Royal, Batley.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Nov. 12, 19, various, on, till Xmas, Feb. 26, precede Dudley; March 11, precede Sunderland; April 1, follow Sheffield. MILLER, St. James's, Manchester.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S
"BLUEBEARD" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Dec. 31, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, March 11 and 18.
WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

"SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART."
WANTED, for above Successful Musical Play (including W. H. Kirby), Nov. 12 (North) and Nov. 19 (?); doing excellent business. EDWARD MARRIS, County Theatre, Kingston.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Enormous Success.
Miss V. ST. LAWRENCE as FIEND.
WANTED, Nov. 19, Xmas, New Year, Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 18, 25, March 18, April 15, 22, 29, June 3, 10, 17 (?), July 1, 22, 29, Aug. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25, on.
MONTAGUE BEAUDIN,
next, Royal, Macclesfield.

WANTED, for "An Actor's Romance," Nov. 12, 19, and Xmas. Address,
CHARLES DURIE, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
WANTED, Theatres, for Nov. 19, Dec. 31, "For Better or Worse," beautifully mounted, splendidly played. Wire, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Dates for
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
A Great Money Drawer.
Quite distinct from anything Touring.
A play in ten thousand.—Bristol Press.
Mrs. Morton Powell as Helena Byars.
Mr. Cyril Austin Lee as Rev. Basil Gortre.
Mr. Geo. H. Pitt as Constantine Schaube.
and
Miss Eva Moss as Gertrude Hunt.
Supported by one of the strongest Casts in the Country.
Vacant,
Dec. 3 (?), Dec. 24 (?), 31, Jan. 7, 21, Feb. 18.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES"
WANTED, Dates for
this Brilliant Production. Managers' Mascot.
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
wins golden opinions on all sides.
"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES"
draws gold to the pay-box.
Vacant,
Nov. 5, Nov. 5, Nov. 5,
Nov. 5, Nov. 5, Nov. 5,
Dec. 10, 24 (?), 31 (?), Jan. 7, 21, April 1.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates for
this fine Domestic Play. Vacant,
Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, 24, 31, Jan. 7.
Morton Powell, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres,
"FLORODORA,"
Feb. 4 and 11, Feb. 4 and 11.

"OLIVER TWIST,"
Jan. 7, 21, 28, Feb. 4, and Easter.

"THE SILVER KING,"
(by arrangement with Messrs. Polini and Melford).
Nov. 19 (three nights).

William Martin,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPAN
"THE FOUR JUST MEN,"
by arrangement with H. A. Saintsbury.
WANTED, Nov. 26 (?), Dec. 3.
Address, Cecil Barth,
The Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Colossal Gorgeous Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Jan. 21, Feb. 4, and onwards.
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
Vacant Feb. 18, Lancs. or Yorks.
"ALADDIN,"
"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Feb. 18, Midlands.
Address,
James Kiddie, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Jan. 14, 28.
Mr. Samuel James's Company,
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
A perfect production. A brilliant company.
Address,
F. S. Jennings, Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Nov. 5, Nov. 5, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 17,
Mr. Samuel James's Company,
"WHY WOMAN SINS."
Entirely new scenery.
Entirely new uniforms.
First-Class Company.
Five Suburban Theatres booked for this Autumn.
Address,
F. S. Jennings, Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

CLAUDE GINNETT'S "DICK TURPIN'S RIDE TO YORK" and "REJECTED REMOUNTS."
WANTED, Theatres for the above with First-class Variety Company (once or twice nightly); splendid pictorials. Share or certainty. Vacant Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4, onwards. Wire or write, Claude Ginnett, jun., Hippo., St. Helens.

WANTED, Theatres or Town Hall, Dec. 24 and Dec. 31, for E. G. Cumberland's Fine Xmas Variety Company. Wire or write,
Oct. 22, Empire, Stockport;
Oct. 29, Hippo., Leeds.
Nov. 5, Hippo., Wigan;
Nov. 12, Albert Hall, Southport.
Also Wanted, Bioscope, with Good and Up-to-date Films. Also other turns write.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

HENRY SWINERD'S COMPANY.
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

WANTED, for above, First-class Principal Comedian, for Silas Crump; must sing and dance well, and used to musical comedy, to rehearse on or before Nov. 25. Twelve months' engagement to suitable man. Photos. and full particulars in first letter; if working, state where can be seen for the next four weeks, to J. W. Cordiner, P. O. W. Theatre, Mexborough.

"A WOMAN'S PAST."
WANTED, to Complete Cast, tall juvenile gentleman (to combine S.M.), first-class heavy lady and gent., both tall, also smart young lady (short), for light comedy. All must be thoroughly experienced, and dress parts exceptionally well. Age, actual height, photos. (stamped envelope), references, and lowest terms,
A. Hamilton Warden,
114, Caunce-street, Blackpool.

SIDNEY BACON'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Immediately, Comedy Old Man; also vacancies shortly for musical comedy artists, in various lines; all must be able to go through Xmas. Height, photos., references, and lowest terms, to Melville Bickford, to-day, Palace, Attercliffe; next week, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, for Special Week, Theatre Royal, South Shields, Dec. 17, Ladies and Gentlemen to complete cast in Society Play; rehearse week previous. Replies must state terms. Miss Maud May, Clervaux, Croft, Darlington.

WANTED, Character Old Woman, stout, to play Nurse in Fairy Play, West-end Theatre at Xmas; 10 weeks certain. Write, with photo. (which will be returned), stating lowest terms, M. D., c/o D. Gosden and Co., 11, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

"THE FRENCH SPY" CO.
WANTED, First-class Leading Lady, and Juvenile Leading Gentleman. Age, height, photo., references, terms, Fred Benton, West London Theatre.

"THE LONDON FIREMAN."
WANTED, Lady, for Grace Curtis, strong emotional part. State height, experience, photo., and lowest terms, Garside and Knowles, Queen's Theatre, Gateshead.

"THE HOUR OF HER TRIUMPH."
WANTED, to rehearse Xmas, good Heavy emotional Actress, tall, capable light and shade, look young and dress well; Juvenile Lady, fair, to look eighteen; Juvenile Gentleman, tall, good appearance; Aristocratic Old Man, tall and military-looking; Char. Comedian, tall, for old actor part and S. M. Photos, height, references, and terms, to Fred J. Webb, Grand Theatre, Radcliffe, Lancs.

WANTED, immediately, Juvenile Gentleman and Lady, for Old Women, "East Lynne" and Rép. Wire or write lowest terms. Acting-Manager, Town Hall, Emsworth, Hants.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, to walk on and play small parts. Norman V. Norman, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

WANTED, at Once, Lady or Gentleman, play Small Part in Drama now Touring. Apply, S. P., c/o Douglas Norman, Esq., Solicitor, Lincoln's Inn.

WANTED, Ladies and Gents, to augment Company. Lowest terms, refs., to Neville, Saturday, Burslem; then Kettering.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"THE LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE."
WANTED, rehearse at once, First-Class Heavy Lady, tall, young, dress well. Photos. (essential), refs., terms, full particulars, G. Carlton Wallace, Prince's T., Accrington.

LINGFORD CARSON'S CO.
WANTED, First-class Heavy Man, for Curzola, in "The Power of the Cross," capable of Strong Char. Old Man (disguise). Photos. (imperative), terms, refs., &c., to Geo. A. De Gray, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Leading Man, tall and commanding appearance, for Star Part; age about 40. Call between 12 and 1, Saturday or Monday.
George Kirk,
Palace, Walthamstow.

WANTED, for Special Week, First-class Gentlemanly Character Actor, rehearse Tuesday. Madge Morley, His Majesty's, Walsall.

WANTED, for "Throne of Terror," Aristocratic Gent., Comedienne (must have "go.") Lowest terms, photos., W. J. Miller, St. James's Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Romantic Juvenile Actor, to play Lord Cardew in Sutro's "The Perfect Lover." H. V. Neilson, 61, Willowfield-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, short stout Comedian, for Bambo, Xmas and long Tour, "Man and Wife" Co. Photos., full particulars to T. E. Ward, Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.

F. B. WOULFE REPERTOIRE CO.
WANTED, Good Responsible Gentleman; also useful Amateur, willing to learn, for Utility Parts. F. B. Woulfe,
Metropole Theatre, Abertillery.

WANTED, for well-known Vaudeville Entertainment, Soprano, Mezzo-Soprano, Baritone, Tenor, and Baritone Comedian; young and of good appearance. Long Engagement at Best Variety Theatres. Apply, Box 3,898, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady with Voice, to travel with Violinist; good appearance; experience not necessary. Long engagement. Box 3,901, "Era" Office.

WANTED, immediately, Refined Young Lady, of good appearance, to join Troupe producing Burlesques, on sharing terms; good dancer and pianist essential. Call or write (photo.), C., 8, Carlisle-street, Soho.

WANTED, Experienced Lady Dancers, for Immediate Engagement. Call Monday and Tuesday, 12 o'clock, 14, Panton-street, Haymarket.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

WANTED, Known, Pupils wanted to Prepare for the Stage. All branches taught. Children a Speciality. Write or call, Laurie's Academy, 15, Kenbury-mansions, Kenbury-st., Camberwell Green.

WANTED, Known, a Gentleman (real thing), with experience of concerted work, and possessed with a thoroughly good all-round bass-baritone voice and a resolve to turn it to account, would like to hear from any manager or other Gentleman who requires such an individual; can accompany self or others. Write or call, M., Lindley, Brighton-road, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Miss Florence and Little Doris Graham, Machume and Joseph, "Sapho," resign second engagement. Thanks to Miss Bell. Offers invited. Little Doris, huge success everywhere, Queen's, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by A. Smith, Tenor Vocalist, late Fred Karno's Co., "Moses and Sons." Best reference. 8, Moulton-street, Bury New-road, Manchester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send Photos., terms, and particulars to Brooke's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Pair of Clever Comedians, for Chinese Policemen in "Aladdin."
Also Principal Girl for "Whittington."
Miss Leah Laurie please write.
Address, James Kiddie,
Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

WANTED, a few First-class Chorus Ladies, for Bradford. State exact height, and enclose photo., in tights.
Francis Laidler,
Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Good Singing Fairy Godmother, also tall chorus ladies. Photos., references, and absolute lowest terms, Harry Fischer, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, to be forwarded.

WANTED, First-Class Comedians, for Ruffians-Baron ("Babes"), Ali Baba and Cogia ("Forty Thieves"); tall, handsome Chorus. Fred Granville, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, a Giant, for Christmas; long engagement. Full particulars and lowest, Geo. Aytoun, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, "Aladdin" Panto. Fit-up, Knockabouts, Lady Dancers, &c., Agent, Baggage. Kloof-Fields, 54f, High-street, Bloomsbury, London.

WANTED, Ladies for Chorus, First-class Touring Pantomimes. Letters only. Photo., if any. Barrett, 4, Lower Kennington-lane, London, S.E.

WANTED, young Acrobat, to play Cat in Pantomime. Send last two references, age, and lowest terms, Arthur Carlton, T. Royal, Worcester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Louie Hurman, at Liberty Principal Boy. Last year, West London Theatre. Permanent, 7, Canonbury-avenue, Highbury, London, N.

WANTED, Panto. by Eva Travis, Ballad Vocalist, and James Mackenzie, International Dancer; Fairy Queen and Speciality. Coms., Public Hall, Baldock.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Miss Daisy Morell, the Popular Principal Boy.
Monday, Palace, Halifax.

WANTED, Known, Little Elsie Videau returns from Brussels in Dec., Dis. for Panto.; good offers invited; Musician, Vocalist, and Clever Child Actress and Dancer. C/o Station Master, S.E.C.R. Station, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Bathurst, Duettists, Toe Boot, and Sand Dancers, Liberty Panto., Second Boy and Girl. Coms., Drew Bayley, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Leonzi, Sensational Contortionist, in Novel and Refined Act. Lib. Panto., Animal Part, and Speciality. Add., 80, Northfield-road, Crooke, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Charles Harvey, Panto., Page preferred. Finish to-night Middlesex; or 43, St. Paul's-road, Kennington Park, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Acrobatic Pantomimist, Animal Impersonator (Cat, Monkey Donkey, &c.); age 22, height 5ft. 4in.; and smart Continental Ballet Dancer (7 years with Tiller Co.), age 21, height 5ft. 4in. Liberty for Panto. Morel, 7, Inkerman-street, Collyhurst-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Barrett and Knowles. Disengaged for Panto., have reasons for being so. Last year, Theatre Royal, Glasgow; year previous, Alex., Birmingham. Refer to Fred Wyndham, Esq., or Lester Collingwood, Esq. Tivoli, Grimsby.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Panto., by The Carls, Comic Trampoline Speciality, Speaking and Animal Parts, Speciality. Big Novelty for Palace, Forest, or Kitchen Scene. At present Cirque Variété, Rotterdam. Add., 76, Willes-road, London, N.W., for terms, lithos., &c.

WANTED, Known, Frank Keegan and Co., Funniest Knockabout Act on the Road, at Liberty for Panto., Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21. Com., 8, Somerleyton-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Pantomime Engagement, for Quartette, Premiere Dancer (Second Girl), Char. Comedian, Stage-Man., or Production. Royston, Victoria Hall, Rhyl.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, First-Class Scenic Artist (probably permanent), must be smart, steady, and all-round man. Terms, references (which will be applied for), to Edward Marris, County Theatre, Kingston. No interviews.

WANTED, First-class Scenic Artist, for two weeks, with own brushes. Write lowest terms, first letter, Israel Price, Empire, Merthyr.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram open to accept Contract or Salary. Arrangements complete at present. Address, c/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, High-class Work and Best Materials at reasonable prices. Large and well appointed Studio. Charles J. Sayer, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, Mr. K. J. McLennan, Scenic Artist, can arrange for Special Scenery and Contract. Address, Box 3,899, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Manager, for Amusements Park, near Wakefield, Yorks.
Applicants must have had experience of Parks where amusement devices are installed, or must have thorough knowledge of the Showman World, and be capable of influencing amusement caterers. Write, stating age, salary required, and giving full particulars, to
Light Railway Company, Wakefield.

WANTED, Capable Pantomime Stage-Manager, for First-class Production.
Address,
Box 3,919, "The Era."

EDWARD MARRIS'S TOURS.
WANTED, Smart Manager and Advance Men, for Fit-up work. Price no object for competent men and workers. Applications (no interviews), Edward Marris, County T., Kingston.

WANTED, Assistant Manager, for a London Music Hall, at once; provincial man, and one used to bill inspecting, preferred. Apply, with references, salary, &c., Box 3,922, "The Era."

WANTED, for a Provincial Music Hall, a competent Manager; must have had previous experience. Apply, stating all particulars, salary expected, &c., to Box 3,906, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Stage Manager, used to lightning programme, well up in all his duties.
Apply, enclosing references, salary, &c., to
Box 3,923, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Young Man, one thoroughly competent, to take full responsibility of Films Industry Photographing, Copying, Reproducing, &c., for Continent.

State age, Salary, last Situation, and when Disengaged,
Box 3,888, "The Era."

WANTED, Small Capitalist (lady or gentleman) to Finance a good Modern Up-to-date Drama (tested); short cast, easy scenic effect; author would undertake entire management. Address, L. J. M., 5, Walton-park, Liverpool.

WANTED, Experienced Electrician, for large London Music Hall. Apply, stating salary and when disengaged, with copies of testimonials, to Box 3,895, "The Era."

WANTED, Property Man, for First-class Theatre; must be practical, sober, and painstaking. Address, stating age, experience, and lowest terms. All applicants should send copies of latest refs. R. C. Buchanan, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Billposter, one able to take charge of small Midland town; wages 25s. per week, and house, coal and gas; must be married man, and able to furnish good references; another man kept. Apply, Rockley's, Limited, Upper Charles-street, Leicester.

WANTED, First-Class Wardrobe Mistress, to take entire charge of extensive Wardrobe; must be able to cut out and make. Permanency and top terms to thoroughly capable woman.
Edward Marris, County Theatre, Kingston.

WANTED, by Experienced Manager of Music Halls and Theatres, Re-engagement, 30 years' practical knowledge in every branch, such as Stage, Bars, and everything necessary. Cash security up to £500. X., 5, St. George's-mansions, Theobald's-road, W.C.

WANTED, by Manager, Re-engagement in Music Hall; used to two performances nightly; excellent references. Box 3,908, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Author having three really good original one-act Plays would like to meet Manager or Actor likely to influence production. Box 3,889, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Mr. R. Bradshaw, Advance-Manager, open to boom good show, ten years' experience Theatres and Fit-ups; A1 refs. Address, 9, Thorncliffe-grove, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by Gentleman's son (aged 19), position in Music Publisher's Firm, where knowledge of music is required; can play piano and compose dance music. Box 3,909, "The Era."

WANTED, Situation, Property Master, 20 years' experience; model and make any props.; used to Panto. work; references; abstainer. Jones, 187, Cannon-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Engagement, Resident, by practical Carpenter, Theatre or Music Hall; own tools; bench hand; good refs. Offers invited. Box 3,925, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Billposter or Bill Inspector; good Window-biller; good refs; state wage. Key, 73, Bridge-street, Gainsborough.

WANTED, Billposter, Young Man, 25 to 30, steady good workman. Send reference and wage required, Billposting Co., Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, 5/- bonus paid to anyone obtaining advertiser immediate engagement as Theatre Attendant; experienced, age 24, height 5ft. 9in. Box 3,912, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

EDWARD MARRIS'S COMPANIES.

WANTED, Several First-Class Musical Directors (must be brilliant Pianists); small town tours and Pantomime. References, &c., where not known, to
Edward Marris, County Theatre, Kingston.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, Wardrobe Mistress (resident), who can cut and make, resident Carpenter (with own tools), Electrician. Age, references, lowest terms, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor-Leader, First Violin, Oboe, Flute, 'Cello, Bass, Solo Cornet. Letters only, Orchestra, 391D, Mile End-rd., E.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM, LTD.
WANTED, First-Class Violinist. State terms and references.
George Burnley, Conductor, Lyceum, Edinburgh.

WANTED, a First and a Second Violin, for London. Apply, giving names and addresses for reference, and stating salary required, to W. Collins, Empire, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, at Once, First-class Violinist and 'Cellist, for Ladies' Quartette. Reply, stating age, terms, &c., Box 3926, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Cornet, commence Nov. 5. Refs., &c. Apply, Musical Director, Broadway Theatre, New Cross, S.E.

NEW THEATRE, ABERDARE.
WANTED, Good Solo Cornet, Open Monday next. Apply, lowest terms and refs., Z., Andrews, Theatre, Aberdare.

Piccolo and Cornet Players
WANTED; both must be good performers, and young men, to enlist in a very fine Regimental Band.
Apply to
P. S., c/o Hawkes and Son,
Denman-street, Piccadilly, London, W.

WANTED, at once, experienced Orchestral Pianist (lady), for Hotel, permanent engagement. State terms, references, and age. Musical-Director, 43, Woodbine-street, South Shields.

WANTED, Piano, combine Violin or Viola, to open Oct. 29, Opera House, St. Helens. Terms, wire, J. Duxbury, Musical Director.

Guitarists.
WANTED, a Gentleman at once, who plays Guitar and reads music.
Apply, Musick, 1, Paulet-road, S.E.

Mandolinists.
WANTED, Young Lady, who can play well, for a First-Class Engagement. Box 3,916, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Drummer in Shop, to Change with Drummer on Mail Boat for eight or nine weeks, Music Hall pref. Particulars, A. Morgan, 14, Herne-place, Herne Hill.

MARCH.
FOURTH TRIENNIAL TRADES, INDUSTRIAL, and ART EXHIBITION,
Opening Easter Tuesday, April 2 to April 10, 1907.
An established success; locally organised.
WANTED, First-Class Ladies' Orchestra, Lady Palmist, Side Shows, Artists for Stage Entertainments, and Novelty Exhibits of every kind. Old patrons are again booking Spaces for the fourth time. A few excellent positions still available. R. F. Bertolle, Secretary, March.

WANTED, at Once, for the English Imperial Scotch Orchestra, touring in Germany, Concerts only, First Violin, First Cornet, Good Trombone, Other Instruments write. Age not over 20 years. Age, height, and photo, Musical Director, Scotch Orchestra, Heinzelmännchen Hohephorte, Cologne.

WANTED, at once, for the English Imperial Scotch Orchestra, touring in Germany, Concerts only, First Violin, First Cornet, Good Trombone, Clarionet, other Instruments write. Age not over 20 years. Age, height, and photo, Musical Director, Scotch Orchestra, Heinzelmännchen Hohephorte, Cologne.

WANTED, First-class Musicians. Two Solo Violinists, Bandmaster, Pianist, Four 'Cellists, Four Double Basses, Flautist, Solo Cornettists. Musical duties only. State age, experience, C. Black, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

COUNTY ASYLUM,
WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, First Violin and Viola, not over 30 years of age; must be single; none but competent players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalments up to £45, and according to promotion to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Apply to the Medical Superintendent.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, Full Band for above, commence Monday, Nov. 5. State terms and references to Auguste Denton, Mus. Dir., 86, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Musicians; Stewards (Pianists and Violinists), for West African Service. Cropper, 20/19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists, for Orchestra Letters only, stating instrument and qualifications, to R. C., 67a, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

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To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
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"Re Advertisement
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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A Grateful Musician.'"

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"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, Philip Germann, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, now Disengaged; Panto. or Tour; Composer, Arranger, Violinist. Address, 54, Casewick-road, West Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Jules Guitton, Musical Director, Composer, and Arranger, Disengaged, Pantos. arranged. 51, Fairland-road, West Ham, E.

WANTED, Known, T. C. Poyser, late Musical-Director, Grand Theatre, Leeds. Disengaged. Address, 98, Gordon-hill, Enfield, Middlesex.

WANTED, by First-class Musical Director, in a London Music Hall, Engagement, Music Hall or Theatre. Highest references. Box 3,900, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by H. Tulley, Conductor-Pianist, compose and arrange; good refs. 70, Albert-street, London, N.W.

WANTED, by good Violinist (Leader or First Violin), Engagement in Variety or other business. Violinist, 266, Liverpool-street, Salford.

WANTED, Engagement as Violin or Viola. Write or wire, Kirkman, Orchestra, Tower, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, any Business. Good references.
Apply, Sim Yates, 165, Edmund-street, Rochdale.

WANTED, by Lady Violinist, Engagement in Ladies' Orchestra; good experience in solo and orchestral work; has toured Continent. Violinist, 24, Robert-street, Hampstead-road, N.W.

WANTED, by Good Violinist (young), Engagement, used to Variety; excellent refs. Disengaged now. Violinist, 82, Clifton-st., Finsbury, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Lady Violin (Leader), at Liberty Monday next, on; also Accompanist. Terms, &c., E. Henderson, 139, Park-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, an Engagement, Competent Violinist, any Business. Address, A. B., 9, Sharsted-street, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, immediate Re-engagement, by Violinist, good young répétiteur, Theatre or Hall, London or Suburbs preferred. Violinist, 86, Colvestone-crescent, Dalston, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady Violinist, Soloist and Orchestral, tour or permanent; good appearance; refs. Box 3,920, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Cornet, any Business; thoroughly experienced and reliable; highest refs. Albert Jones, Station Hotel, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement for Cornet, steady and reliable; permanency preferred. G. H. Wright, 14, Bargate, Lincoln.

WANTED, by Good Reliable Cornet, well up in Theatre or Varieties; good references. Apply, A. Launder, 6, Wharton-road, Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Reliable First or Second Cornet; can join at once. Address, Cornet, 12, Cooper's-road, Old Kent-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Solo Cornet (comb. Viola), theatre or music hall; good references. Add., E. Fritz, 80, Rosslyn-crescent, Wealdstone, Harrow.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Clarionet, five years Solo Clarionet Empire, Dublin, competent and reliable; excellent refs. Address, Charles Mantle, 12, Windermere-st., Everton, Liverpool.

WANTED, by late Solo Clarionet, Hyde Park Band, Engagement, any Business; good refs. Sheehan, 11, Pelham-st., South Kensington, S.W.

WANTED, by Clarionet, capable, steady, experienced, Engagement or Deputising, London or Suburbs. H. Austing, 35, Northcote-rd., Clapham Junction.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, Orchestral or Military, Town or Suburbs preferred; good refs., &c. Kelly, 293, Munster-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, First-class and reliable, any Business, London Theatre, &c., preferred. Box 3,917, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, disengaged Nov. 3, any business, reliable and good references. C/o Quigley, 8, New Smithhills, Paisley.

WANTED, by experienced Double Bass Player, Theatre or Variety, near London preferred; good references. Box 3,873, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Bassoonist, either Theatre or Music Hall, or Deputising; experienced. Address, Russell, 50, Eglinton-road, Plumstead, Kent.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as First-class Double Bass, experiences theatre and variety. Highest refs. Lucas, 31, St. Mary's-ter., Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone or Euphonium, immediate. John Cotton, 73, Barnsbury-street, Islington, London.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, Theatre or Music Hall; good references; would deputise. Hurst, 105, Culford-road, Dalston, N.

WANTED, by Experienced Euphonium, Engagement, any business, at Liberty Nov. 5. Charles Grice, Sanger's Circus, Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. Casselle, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by experienced Lady 'Cellist, Evening Engagement in London, Sundays excepted. References on application. 'Cellist, 118, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class 'Cellist (Solos). Highest references and experience. P. S., 78, Palatine-road, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Oboe, thoroughly experienced and reliable; can open immediately; good refs. Address, Oboist, 28, St. Paul's-road, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Known Æneas Gibson, First-class Harpist and Pianist, immediate Rengagement; young; travel abroad if preferred; reliable, sober. Music Seller, Ilkley.

WANTED, Engagement, by N. Robinson, Pianist, exper. Var., Dram. bus., good Reader, Orchestra or self; excel. refs.; steady, reliable. 227, Bowling Back-lane, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Lady desires Engagements as Accompanist (Piano), Vocalists, Dances, &c. Reply to A. B., Palmerston House, Old Broad-street, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement, Smart Young Pianist, combine Second Violin, just finished Herne Bay Theatre; good refs. Barnard, 58, Ham Park-road, Stratford

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, Good Sight-reader, Transposer; young, experienced, London or suburbs. E., 36, King's-road, Willesden Green.

WANTED, by Professional Pianist, immediate Re-engagement, any Business, Sight-reader, Transposer; young. Wire, Campbell, 45, Edward-street, Bury.

WANTED, at Once, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, who also plays Clarionet well; thoroughly experienced, Opera, Musical Comedy, Variety, &c. 21, St. Sidwells-avenue, Exeter.

WANTED, by Pianist (Lady), Engagement, experienced accompanist, good sight reader. 39, Chelsham-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Pianist or Trombone, any Business. Nellie Kent, 35, Claybrook-road, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Orchestral Pianist, thoroughly experienced in music hall and theatre business, young, and of prepossessing appearance. Pianist, 75, St. John's-hill, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced. Variety preferred; London or provinces. References. A. Lille, 93, Queen's-road, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Shop as Double Drums, any business, at Liberty Nov. 5. A. Eason, 16, Stonebridge-road, South Tottenham, London.

WANTED, Known, C. Hards (Tympani and Double Drums), Disengaged, any business. Address, 114, Marmont-rd, Peckham.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums, Tympani, 12 years' London experience, good refs., reliable. 54, Wendell-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Known, the Blue Austrian String Band (conductor Leoniska Litz), just returned to England, after a successful three years' tour on the Continent, are open for engagements in first-class hotels, cafés, piers, and hydros. Summer offers invited. For terms, &c., c/o "The Era."

WANTED the Shakespearean Ladies' Orchestra (Viennese), copyright registered Stationers' Hall, twenty-two (or less) performers, magnificent costumes; highest criticisms. Conductor, Miss Gascoyne Old, 238, Edgware-road, London.

To Pier Managers, Corporations, &c.
WANTED, Known, a First-Class Italian Orchestra or Military Band, at Liberty for next summer season; best picked soloists; smart uniforms; répertoire includes all the latest English selections. Musical-Director, Box 3,765, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands, apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to Dec. Quartet now Disengaged.

WANTED, Engagement, by Instrumental Quintette (including Harp and Cymbalom), Hotel, Restaurant, Town, Country; just concluded two years' Engagement, big London Hotel. Particulars, Quintette, 5, Ashington-rd., Hurlingham.

WANTED, Known, First-class Artist Band (German Hungarian). Five Soloists, Two Violins, 'Cello, Double Bass, Piano. Open Nov. 15, or later. Fritz Preiscke, Bandmaster Primas, Café Savoy, Hamburg. I have been over two years Bandmaster in the Carlton Hotel, Edinburgh.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, The Bohemians, Bijou Orchestra, Vocalists (Soprano, Baritone), and High-class Entertainer, after Successful Tour, open to Engagements, private or public. Apply to 101, Bolingbroke-grove, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Miss Kate Eri has one of her small ladies' orchestras at liberty. Just concluded three years' engagement at high-class café. Apply, 5, Ocklynge-avenue, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Tour, by the Marvellous Days, Second Sight Act; also Lady Pianist, Sight Reader; and Gentleman, Baritone. 102, Euston-rd., Morecambe.

WANTED, Known, the Orchestral Association is prepared to provide Managers and Conductors with Professional Players, from Single Performers to Complete Orchestras, for First-class London or Provincial Theatres, Concerts, or Balls, &c.; or Military Bands of any number, including Conductor if required. None but bonâ fide professional musicians are admitted to membership. For particulars, apply SECRETARY, 28, Gerrard-street London, W. Telephone, 4459 Central. Telegrams, "Harmonists, London."

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

WANTED, for this Successful Show, Big Star Turns, Great Sensations, and Startling Novelties, new to the above town. Money no object to the Artists with drawing powers.

NOTE.—Great success of the opening. Everybody surprised, everybody delighted. The Press and Public declare that this is the best Circus ever seen in the town. More people turned away than ever visited any other Circus at Barrow-in-Furness. Every act cheered to the echo. Address, KING OHMY, Ohmy's Grand Circus, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, two good smart Male Bareback Circus Riders, that can talk good, and be funny, to open in America about Dec., long and good engagement for suitable Artists.
Will Jackaway write?
Sea passage paid.
Address, CLIFFE BERZAC,
C/o Marinelli, Holland-buildings,
Broadway, New York, America.

WANTED, Oct. 29, onwards, Gentlemen Riders, with or without own horses, circus acts, all lines. T. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, a good Acrobat, about 8st, used to Shoulder-work, and able to play a Funny Part. All details, Box 3,897, "The Era."

WANTED, by a First-class Acrobatic Troupe, smart boy about 15. Send photo. and particulars, Box 3927, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Smart Groom, for Two Small Ponies and Dogs; must understand grooming; own uniform preferred. Lowest terms, C. H., 11, Richmond-st., New Brighton. A. Hall apply.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, to inform Managers and Agents, Miss Ella's Educated Lion Show has returned from Spain, and is vacant Nov. 26, onwards. Note.—Only Lion Show in England. Com. Oct. 29, for week,
Royal Albert Music Hall, Canning Town, London, E.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors, Managers, and Agents, Jackles and his Savage Brutes, One of the Best Acts of its Kind in the Business; New and Novel; 12 months in South Africa, and Re-engaged for Australian Tour with Bostock and Wombwell's Great Shows. For dates, address, JACKLES, Bostock and Wombwell's, c/o J. J. Miller, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia; or 77, North-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Tudor's Four Champion Trick Ponies, Five Acts, Liberty, with or without Riding Goat and Turpin Mare. Hippodrome, Blyth.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Dec., onwards, for winter season, the refined John Scott Family of Male and Female Equestrians, &c., including Poor Billy, the King of the Ring; all are specially invited to witness our numbers.
Address,
12, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Yelding and O'Brien, Double Jockeys, Lightning Bar Acts, Scene Acts, causing Big Success, King Ohmy's Circus. All the latest jumps, not being accomplished by any others. Can be seen at Ohmy's Circus, Barrow. Liberty Nov. 5.

WANTED, Known, Miss Pinder, with her Bareback Stage Equestrian Turn, including her Highly Trained Horse Riding Collie Dog and Flight of Pigeons. Miss Pinder is the only Lady doing this turn on any Stage. Will be at Liberty Nov. 5. Agent, HARRY LEMAR, 157, Strand, London.

WANTED, Known, Bros. Austin, Talking, Tumbling, Knockabout Clowns, with Good Entrées, also Comic Pyramid of Chairs, and Foot Equilibrist. Conclude to-night a most successful comfortable season with E. Hanneford, Esq., Ireland. At Liberty Nov. 5. Address, Post Office, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Happy Armstrong, Knockabout Clown, Musical Act, Comic Entrées, on Tour, Liberty shortly. Letters, 40, Aspinall-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, the Maros, Comedy Bar Performers, Liberty 29th and Nov. 5. Address 126, Porter-street, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Zampo and Clown, Bar, Trampoline Act.
Sanger's Hippodrome.

WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, 19, by the Steckels, refined Double Gymnastic Speciality. Com., STEBBINGS, or 12, Seymour-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lo Lo, Charming Lady Gymnast, Graceful Trapeze and Teeth Speciality Artist; also Little May, graceful contortionist and dancer, just concluded one week, Pier Pavilion, Southport. Next week, King Ohmy's Circus, Barrow-in-Furness. Liberty Nov. 5. Private address, 127, Aughton-road, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Tom Hall and Family, acrobats, wire walkers, gymnasts, dogs, and monkeys; Robert Davies, all-round equestrian, with own two horses, Liberty Xmas, supply full show, rent or share. Address, TOM HALL, Circus, Prudhoe, Northumberland.

WANTED, Known, Linton, the Greatest Acrobatic Bounding Wire Performer now before the Public. Vacant Oct. 29, Nov. 5. Wire, Hippo., Margate, wire.

WANTED, Immediate Employment, for Young Girl Acrobat, been with Fredricks Troupe, lost everything in San Francisco disaster. Work of any kind will be accepted. Apply to Sec., Music Hall Ladies' Guild, 69, Primrose-mansions, Prince of Wales's-road, Battersea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Smart Acrobat; would join First-class Troupe, Second Mounter, can Tumble. At Liberty. Apply to F. L., c/o G.P.O., Longton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.

WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Nothing too big. Send full particulars, with lithos. (if any), to MORGAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artist, in all Lines, Serios, Sisters, Doubles doing Singles, Funny Comedians, &c. MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,

DALTON'S AGENCY. Always send
DALTON'S AGENCY. House Address as well
DALTON'S AGENCY. as Theatre.
DALTON'S AGENCY. A feature in connection
DALTON'S AGENCY. with this Agency will be
DALTON'S AGENCY. Artists Vacant "Monday
DALTON'S AGENCY. next," also "Artists Vacant
DALTON'S AGENCY. Immediate Dates," and Ar-
DALTON'S AGENCY. tists are requested to post
DALTON'S AGENCY. me if open Monday next,
DALTON'S AGENCY. and mention at same time
DALTON'S AGENCY. any immediate vacancies;
DALTON'S AGENCY. but "Monday next" being
DALTON'S AGENCY. a feature in the future, a
DALTON'S AGENCY. penny stamp may mean a
DALTON'S AGENCY. shop. Please note to always
DALTON'S AGENCY. send private address where
DALTON'S AGENCY staying in the respective
DALTON'S AGENCY. towns for early delivery of
DALTON'S AGENCY. telegrams. Tele., "Granbeste Withington," Telephone, 193 Didsbury. 29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Nov. 5, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, who are on my book to notify any new Bookings. MCASKILL, Penrhyn Hall, Bangor.

WANTED, Good Variety Artists and Novelties, immediately. Wire, SECRETARY, Hippodrome, Winter Gardens, Plymouth.

WANTED, Variety Artists. Wanted, Troupe Eight Lady Acrobatic Dancers, for Paris; 2 months' engagement, and fare. Acts of all kinds for the Continent.
Acts of all kinds for England.
Must see all. Recommendations useless.
RICHARD CASS'S Agency, 30, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Variety Artists (Manchester district) to appear Frank Mundill's Benefit, Stalybridge, Nov. 3. Write, MUNDILL, 117, Stock's-lane, Stalybridge.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Nov. 5, onward. Address, HURMAN, 18, Conway-mount, Leeds

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists for Glasgow Concerts. Lowest terms and permanent address to the SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Saturday evenings, commencing Nov. 10, and onwards. Nothing too big. Write, VICTOR W. ROWE, 28, Herbert-road, Stockwell, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Artists wishing to be booked for First-Class Music Hall Engagements please communicate with BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Nov. 5, 12, and 19.
CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, to Artists coming North. Write vacant dates and lowest possible, as hall is small. LOMAS, Empire, Shildon, Durham.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Palace, Lancaster.
J. FELL, Proprietor.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, open to-night, three nights. Terms low; no best offers. Wire, KENDALL, St. John's Rooms, Winchester, Hants.

EMPIRE, GREENOCK.
General-Manager, H. L. SKIVINGTON.

WANTED, Star Artists in all Lines. Nothing too big.
Salary or Share.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now, onwards. Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, all Kinds of Artists, for Xmas week. Prinellas, please write. Terms and lithos. to GOULDER HAMILTON Entertainer, Rotherham.

WANTED, Artists to do Show Turn at Special Matinée at Britannia Theatre, with view to Engagement, if suitable, on large circuit.
Description of Act and Shortest Time taken to be communicated at once to
MANAGER, Sadler's Wells, E.C.,
with stamped addressed envelope for reply.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Nov. 5, and on, Big Sensational Act for Stage, New Year's Week. Clients keep me posted weekly, not daily. 'Phone, Nat. 234Y5 Tron. DREW BAYLEY, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, also Big Star Comedian and Comedienne, Nov. 19. Address, ONDA, Kenwyn, Penwortham, Preston.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Nov. 12, on. GEO. SAPHRINI, Palace, Boston.
Also two or three good turns Monday next. Wire.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, open Reading, Nov. 5, and onwards. Lowest terms to BAKER, Hippodrome, Kintbury, Berks.

WANTED, Artists for Empire Palace, Dover, Lessees, The Vaudeville Syndicate. Artists communicate FRED DURHAM'S Agency.

WANTED, Artists, Nov. 5, 19, onwards; also good Combinations.
Write, T. PRICHARD, Palace, Oldbury.

Wires, "Benbrick, London." 'Phone, 8148 Gerrard.
BLANCHARD'S
AMUSEMENT ASSOCIATION,
49, Charing Cross-mans., Charing Cross-rd., W.C.
Under the sole control of BENBRICK BLANCHARD.
WANTED, Artists of Every Description in want of Concert, Theatrical, Pantomime, or Variety Engagements to communicate with BLANCHARD'S Amusement Association (Professional Employment Department; Manager, Mr. HARRY BISHOP), as above.

WANTED, Song and Dance Artist, one that can play the piano a little. Box 3,921, "The Era."

PALACE, KILMARNOCK.
WANTED, Known, Call, Monday, Oct. 29, 1 o'clock: Chas. Vandyke and Co., in "Nicodemus," Florence Hill, Arthur Bright, Animated Pictures, Sheila M'Neill, The Lamberts, Alskarno Trio. Full Orchestra and General Staff, as engaged. No excuse. (Signed) J. CUMMINGS.

WANTED, the Cream of the Profession to send lithos., memos., bookings, vacant dates, and lowest terms.
Address, BILLY HENDERSON,
30, Handforth-road, Brixton-road, London.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, for Nov. 5, 12, and 19,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Big Variety Stars, Comedians, Acrobats, Gymnasts, &c., Nov. 5, onwards. State lowest terms, bookings. Jansons send address. EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. 'Phone 09261. Wires, "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BARNARD'S AGENCY, 24, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, Stars and Specialities, Nothing too Big. Telephone 1114.

WANTED, Stars, Big Tops, anything big, anything that can draw, for Oct. 29, Nov. 12 and 19, Wire. I can fixe you; big numbers only. Full up for small turns at present.
JESS VERNO'S Agency 16, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool.

Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
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Big Variety Turns.

Something New and Up-to-Date.
Something New and Up-to-Date.
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Something New and Up-to-Date.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.

For Immediate and Future Dates.

Send at once, Terms, Dates, and Lithos.
Those having a Good Act can rely on Immediate Work
I can give you nine months' solid work.
Also Wanted, Big Acts of all Kinds for the Coming Season for the Seaside.
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Manchester.

Telephone 09144
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

WANTED, Star Turns, for Nov. 12 and 19. Vacancies through releasing. Artists going abroad. Apply, WORSWICK, Grand Hippodrome, Wigan.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock, for The Montis, Dan Noble, Marie Yorke, Vernon's Bioscope, Chas. Cassell, Lizzette Troupe, Salida and Vone, Elsie Rubina.

WANTED, Variety Talent. Share or salary. Letters, SMITH and Co., Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

ALHAMBRA VARIETIES,
EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Talent, all Lines, Nov. 5, onward.
Apply, JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

STAFFORD.—NEW EMPIRE OF VARIETIES.
Lessee and Manager, JAMES ELPHINSTONE.
Grand Opening, Nov. 19, 1906.
WANTED, for the above Theatre, First-class Talent, nothing too big, for immediate dates, and onward, direct or through agents. Apply, with dates and lowest terms, to JACK MORRIS, Sole and Exclusive Agent for above Theatre, Hippo., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, and 17, Jan. 7, on,
Big Specialities.
Big Specialities.
Big Specialities.

Say where can be seen, and
Quote lowest terms first letter.

GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
GEO ZALVA'S Agency,
Hippodrome,
Hippodrome,
Scarboro',
Scarboro'.
Telephone 280.
Telegrams, "Zalva."

PALACE THEATRE,
CORK.
Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.

WANTED, Nov. 19, 26, onward, Big Specialities, Jugglers, Animal Shows, Star Comedians, Cycle Acts, &c.

Must be refined, or useless.

Call Monday, Oct. 29:—
George Gilbey.
Kiota.
Fred Dunlop.
Barrington.
Sisters Bright.
Claude Tomlin.
Leslie and Rayer.
Yank Hoe.
Bertha Stuart.

WANTED, Specialities and Acts in all Lines. MARTINO'S Agency,
Hippodrome, Dartford.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester. Address, Saturday and Sunday, G. P. O., Carlisle.

W. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.
WANTED, to Commence Dec. 31, Big Star Novelties (gymnastic and acrobatic excepted); must be original, and a sure draw. Lowest terms, Coliseum, Leeds.

WANTED, those known to me Send List of Vacancies, Lithos.,
Photos., and Terms.
I Know Salaries.
The Bigger the Act the Better.
but useful numbers will receive attention.
JACK MUNRO, Empire, Leeds.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, the Biggest Acts on Earth, especially Comic, for England and the Continent, Nov. 5, onwards. Price no object; talent counts. Artists who have written before, kindly write again.

WANTED, KNOWN, any Star Acts who have odd weeks vacant should send list of vacancies to FRANK LYNNE, Empire, Birmingham. (AYTOUN'S Agency.)

WANTED, Four Good Acts, Specialities, Comedians, with good Chorus Songs. Monday next, wire lowest net, ZALVA, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Nov. 5, onwards, for South Wales, West, Bristol, Sunderland, star acts and specialities, all lines. T. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

PALACE, KILMARNOCK.
Lessee and Manager, J. CUMMINGS.
WANTED, Star Acts, all Lines, absolute lowest, once nightly.

WANTED, High-class Comedy Entertainers, for Tynemouth Palace,
6 nights, Dec. 24 and 31, April 1, and May 20 to Sept. 23. Write to J. H. GRAHAM, Esq., Proprietor, 1, St. Andrews-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Manager, LINDON TRAVERS.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

ROYAL
HIPPODROME,
BELFAST.
Now in course of erection,
and
when
finished
will
be
the
largest
and
Handsomest
Building
in
Ireland.

WANTED, February, onward,
all
the
Finest
Acts
in
the
World.
Price no object
New
and
Novel
Turns
of
every
Variety.
The above is booked
in conjunction with
TIVOLI THEATRE,
DUBLIN.

WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Stars, Stars, Stars,
and Variety Artists of every description,
for
London,
Manchester,
Liverpool,
Leeds.
Southampton
Boscombe,
Portsmouth,
Margate.
Dublin,
Belfast,
Edinburgh,
Newcastle.
Brighton,
Wolverhampton,
Colchester.
And Leading London Halls.
Communicate, with lowest terms and full particulars to
DE FRECE'S Agency,
Imperial-mansions,
Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, now and onwards, the Biggest Acts in the Variety Profession, also Good Comedians, Serios, and Speciality Performers. Nothing too big for Pandy. One house nightly. Address, D. TAYLOR, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

GUILDHALL, CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, Xmas Week, First-class Variety Combination, with Big Top and Bottom; must be refined, and have fit-up complete, or able to work on open stage. No aërial turns. GEO. S. KING, Theatre Metropole, Devonport.

WANTED, Nov. 5 (3 nights), Complete Company (pictures or otherwise), on share. J. ROLMAZ, Empire, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Attractions for Amusements Park, situated midway between Leeds and Wakefield. This Park has been purchased, and is being laid out by the Wakefield and District Light Railway Company, who intend sparing no expense to make it successful. Very favourable terms offered to persons willing to put up and run up-to-date first-class amusement devices. Write, GENERAL-MANAGER, Light Railway Company, Wakefield.

WANTED, for Bert Coote's Special Production of the Great "Children's Scene" of "The Fatal Wedding" at the Holborn Empire, Nov. 26, '06, Children (girls preferred), ages from 10 to 14; must be Attractive, and have good idea of Singing and Dancing.
Also Special Children, for Solos, Dancing, and Leading various Numbers.
Apply in person, or by letter (submitting photographs), to
BERT COOTE,
150, Oxford-street, W.

WANTED, Doubles, doing Single Turns, for Opening of Hippodrome, Reading, Nov. 5, new to Reading preferred. GEORGE BAKER, Hippodrome, Theale, Berks.

WANTED, immediately, Several All-round Dancers for First-class Troupes, 12 months' engagement to suitable girls. Full particulars, 44, Prince's-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, three Young Gentlemen and two Young Ladies, of smart appearance, for Dramatic Sketch. Box 3,872, "The Era."

WANTED, Monday next, Pair Sisters, and Good Speciality; must be cheap.
Wire, SAPHRINI, Palace, Boston.

WANTED, Young Lady Coon Singer and Dancer, Long Engagement if suitable.
Box 3,913, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady Pianist, able to do Turn, for sixteen weeks' Tour, commence Dec. 26. Lowest terms, fares paid, also open to buy good films. Send particulars and lowest for cash. W. ROZE, 14, Cross Flatts-parade, Beeston, Leeds.

WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, Star Comedians, Comediennes, &c. AYTOUN'S AGENCY, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.

WANTED, Comedian, original, with good Tenor Voice, Quartet, abstainer, £3 weekly, expenses, Engagements fulfilled. Send capabilities. RICHARDS, 24A, Cleveland-gardens, Bayswater.

WANTED, Smart Man, for Character Dame, in sketch, capable lines and smart at leaps. Apply, Empire, Camberwell, Saturday, 2 to 3 o'clock.

WANTED, a good refined Ventriloquist, two performances daily. Salary and other particulars. Box 3,915, "The Era."

WANTED, to Join at Once, for Comedy Trio, Middle Man, can do little comedy. Wire, A. C., 65, Gem-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, at Once, a First-class Really Funny Knockabout that can also do a little tumbling. JOHN SMITH, 50, Howland-street (second floor), Fitzroy-square.

WANTED, good straight Tumbler, must be able to talk on Stage. Call, 16, Landor-road, near Clapham-road Station.

WANTED, at Once, Up-to-date Picture Show, good picture town. Terms, shares. MANAGER, Victoria Hall, Rhyl.

WANTED, a First-Class Bioscope, with up-to-date Pictures, for Basingstoke, Nov. 5; Tour if suitable. Wire, SANGER, Corn Ex., Basingstoke.

WANTED, at Once, Bioscope Operator and Electrician (combined). State experience, references, and salary to GRAHAM, Hippodrome, Hull.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Nov. 12, 19, 26, by Empress Lady Houdini, the only Act of its Kind on the Variety Stage. Don't want the earth, though I am a draw. Oct. 22 and 29, Pavilion, Greenock; Nov. 5, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Known, the Astor Trio, Vocalists and Acrobatic Dancers, wish to thank R. Graham, Esq., for contract; also managers, for offers. Panto. with L. Carson, Esq. Disengaged for a few weeks. Also Louie Astor thanks J. Kiddie. 13, Euston-grove, Morecambe.

WANTED, by the Two Singing Mill Hands, Nov. 5, 12. Enormous success, Hippo., Hounslow. 29th, Empire, Shildon, Durham.

WANTED, Nov. 5, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey, a real Sensational Novelty, concluding three months' tour with W. F. Frame. Re-engaged for next year; thanks to Rosen and Bliss, also E. H. Bostock, Esq., for contracts. Managers requiring something original, address, 59, Urquhart-road, Aberdeen.

WANTED, by Cento, the Man in the Monkey's Skin, for his Speciality, The Cycling Monkey, Oct. 29, to follow Hippodrome, Dartford. All coms. to Hippodrome, Dartford.

WANTED, Known, Leoni, Anatomical Marvel, in Novel and Refined Act, Lib. Oct. 29, onwards. Add., 80, Northfield-road, Crookes, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Ventom Swift, Swell Comedian, Eccentric Dancer, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, Palace, Plymouth, to follow. Next week, Pavilion, Greenock.

WANTED, Nov. 5, 26, Dec. 3 and 10, by A. P. Boswell, the great comedy act, "The Furniture Remover," original. Next, Hippo., Dartford.

WANTED, Monday next, by Fred Casburn, Versatile Comedian in Dramatic Song Scena, "An Actor's Reverie." Wire, Palace, Lancaster; after, Dudley-st., Shipley.

WANTED, Monday next, and Nov. 5, Horace Sade, Comedy Dancer. Wire, 18, Medlar-st., Camberwell, London.

WANTED, Known, Albert Kail, Comedian and Acrobatic Dancer, vacant Monday next, through misunderstanding. Big success, Hippodrome, Wakefield. Wire.

WANTED, Monday next, Robb Gilmore, a really humorous Comedian.—Oswald Stoll, Esq. Big hit this week, Hippodrome, Brighton. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Dan Ashton, Empire's Stump Orator, also Original Collier's Song Scena, founded on fact, the Wingate Colliery Explosion, Durham. Photo. blocks for day bills. Vacant Monday, onwards; offers. 2, Marshall-st., Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, by Chas. Lestree, Juggler, Monday next (29th), Nov. 12. Booked Broadhead tour after doing trial. Wire, 7, Clifford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, the Russian Lion's Marvellous Little Wrestling Pupil. Pose Artist, and Clever Draw. Vacant Nov. 12, 19, 26. Representative, the Original GODFREY YATES, 29, Newington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next, Oct. 29. Wire, Palace, Boston. The Great Original Kyoto, comedy Japanese contortionist, &c.; also May Geraldine, comedienne and dancer; two distinct acts. After Sat., 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Ted Young and Ada Twibell, at Liberty Monday next. Wire, one or both, Empire, Stockport, until Saturday. After, 264, Liverpool-street, Salford.

WANTED, Nov. 5, 19, on, Trick and Trixie, Comedy Musical Artists, big success everywhere. Conclude Emp., Wolverhampton. Next T. R., Woolwich.

WANTED, Known, that after Oct. 1, 1906, Alec Aubrey and Mlle. Devena will be known as The Garellys. Address, Parisienne, Copenhagen.

WANTED, Known, Charley Dixon, Eccentric Comedian, Dancer; also Kate Lynd, Comedienne; two distinct turns. Success, P. H., Barnsley.

WANTED, Nov. 5, by Ella Rose, Vocalist and Soubrette; Harry Harcourt, Comedian; single or joint. Hippodrome, Plymouth.

WANTED, by The Monckton (Fred and Lillie), Dec. 31, Jan. 14, in screamingly funny musical comedy duologues. Next, Hippodrome, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by George Brentwood, Comedian, Sing, Dance, Knockabout and Mandolinist; also Dora Hargreaves (Mrs. G. B.), Chic Chambermaid; joint; excellent refs. Open for anything. 67, Strand-road, Bootle.

WANTED, Monday next 29th, The Dunvilles, Britain's Premier Comedy Instrumentalists, Vocal and Patter Artists, Gorgeous Stage Set. Wire, Sat., till 6 o'clock, P.O., Glasgow; after, Palace, N. Shields.

WANTED, Monday next, also Nov. 5, 12, for Duncan and Brasque's Refined Musical Dramatic Duologue, written by Harry Pleon. Wire, Hippodrome, Sheerness-on-Sea.

WANTED, Dec. 3, 10, also Panto, by Mac and Hill, Comedians, &c. Offers. Monday, Hippo., Liverpool. Nov. 5, Hippo., Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday, also Nov. 12, 19, precede or follow Ton-y-Pandy, Chant and Chant, Refined Comedy Vocalists, Patterers. Wire, 87, Wollaton-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, Oct. 29, in their new and most successful comedy act. Wire, Palace, Lancaster.

WANTED, Known, Sword and Robb, Captain and Idiotic Sailor. This, Palace, Gloucester; next, Palace, Porth; Vacant Nov. 5, also 12.

WANTED, Monday, also Pantomime, Turle and Turle, Comedy Gymnasts, two Acts. Terms or Shares. Wire, 28, Upper Gough-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, Oct. 29, by "The Two Daniels," most novel and laughable Negro Comedians. Wire, 18, Hardres-street, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Oct. 29 and Nov. 5, by Gravetta and Parr, Clay Modeller, Impersonators, Conjurers, &c., &c. Wire, Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, Known, The Reliable Two, in their Screaming Duologue, Gags, and Duets, Liberty 27, Nov. 3. LEAMAN, 19, Dryden-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, by Sphinx and Sphinx, in their Illusional Act, "Le Chambre des Mysteries." Nov. 12, follow Empire, Dudley. Address, Pavilion, Greenock.

WANTED, Known, Le Brun, Irene and Edie, Thank J. R. Poole, Esq., for six months' Contract, commence Dec. 3. Next week, Hippo., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, Seven Zerbinis, in Musical Act, "The Enchanted Glen." Own scenery. Vacant Nov. 5. Topping, Pal., Cork; next, Pal., Belfast.

WANTED, Monday next also Nov. 5, by Billy Ross and Co., Cleverest Comedy Act on the Stage. Starring, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Known, Star Turn at Palace, Gloucester, this week is Seven Wulfrunas, Comedy Acrobats; no bluff. Coms., Palace, Porth, S. Wales.

WANTED, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, by Gulliver's Ventriloquial Liliputians. Thanks Messrs. Worswick, Stebbings, and Redfern for Contracts last week. Conclude to-night, C. H., Sheffield. Monday, H., Wigan.

WANTED, Monday next, by King Leo, Smart Ventriloquist. Success guaranteed. Wire, Hippo., Hull; after Saturday, 29, Mytton-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, to thank W. F. Frame, Esq. (the Man You Know) for seventeen weeks' comfortable engagement. (Signed) T. Hulbert.

WANTED, Nov. 5 and 12, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist, two smart acts. Monday, Alhambra, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Monday next, by Gilroy (Vent.) and Boston (Bioscope), two sure draws. Wire at once to 55, Effingham-street, Rotherham.

WANTED, by Herr Blumenfeld's Troupe of Performing and Champion High and Long Leaping Collie Dogs, the Talk of Every Town, Nov. 5, 12, or later dates, for Panto. Address this week, Hippodrome, Wakefield; next, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Nov. 5, by Chard's Dogs, Hippodrome, Dartford.
Two other great acts, together or separately.

WANTED, Known, Devereux Famous Troupe of Dogs, the Dogs with Human Brains. The Act that causes more laughter than any other animal show. Liberty Nov. 5. Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, by Good Juggler, Engagement with Travelling Variety, Circus, or Animated Photo Co. E. B., 19, Clifden-road, Brentford.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Princess Gooma and her Dahomey Warriors (Director, Tom Brown), 16th year. Terrific Success, 5 weeks' Panto.; Glasgow to follow. Packed houses, Ayr, Kilmarnock, Irvine, Paisley. Letters, Bert Miles, Box 3,893, "The Era."

WANTED, by Pantomimist, Equilibrist, and Comedy Tumbler, Engagement, with Good Comedy Act; good references. Address, B. C., 1, Reed-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, a young Trick and Knock-about Comedy Cyclist will join any Comedy business, with or without own machines. Box 3,896, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Man, Situation as Assistant to Musical Turn, steady, musical, handy with own tools; can knock tunes out of anything. Casgarina, 23, Bridport-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagements, Brandon Medland's Vitascope, Finest Films; also Mystic Kettle, Genuine Liquid Air Show. 44, Lorrimore-rd., Kennington, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements, public or private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Dates for the Lingwood Bioscope, change of Films weekly; electric or Limelight. Lingwood, 31, Watcombe-road, S. Norwood.

WANTED, Bioscope, Engagements, twenty minutes' show, £3 per week. References given and expected, or salary in advance. Morris, 18, Tweed-street, Liverpool.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Electrical, Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture four and six pole Showmen's Dynamos (improved pattern), also new Flame Arc Lamps, geared motors, for driving organs and roundabouts, large stocks, cable, carbons, globes, incandescents, all classes of repairs; new line, direct coupled portable electric plants, driven by paraffin.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

WANTED, Known.—A Word to the Wise is Sufficient. A Client writing June 25, 1906, says:—Bag puncher took £300 in a little over three months. For price, write Sole Agents to the Makers, viz., the Mills Novelty Co. Minerva Automatic Co., 120, York-rd., King's Cross, London, N. Largest Variety of Automatic Machines in the trade. No Junk. Don't buy worn-out machines of old pattern; get a genuine Mills 1906 pattern.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know. Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is going ahead with up-to-date Lines in Field Glasses, Fancy Goods, Clocks, Jewellery, &c. Send for Special Xmas Supplement. There is no cheaper house for you.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, wings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129 London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Showman's Letter Cloths made and attractively painted in fancy colours. Roche, Artist, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, S.E.

WANTED, Known, to Rifle Saloons, Showmen, &c., Stacey and Co., Settles-st., London, E., for all requirements, specialities, ammunition, targets, glass balls, also everything for the fair.

WANTED, good Side Shows of every description for some of the best Shops in London and Suburbs. Those who wrote before please write again; letters mislaid. Three good Shows can open Monday, month or six weeks certain. Money sure and fares advanced if required. All communications to be addressed to Johnson, Manager, Exhibition, 38 High-street, Putney. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, Good Side Shows, Stalls, &c., Share or Rental, for Hippodrome, Plymouth, for Season. Address, Secretary Hippodrome Plymouth.

WANTED, two good Living Freaks or Novelties, to open Dec. 24, eight or ten weeks. Frdk. Stewart, 124, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, Open at Once, sale of books and post-cards allowed, in addition to salary. Terms, Charles A. James, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, for a Shop in a Busy Thoroughfare (London), up-to-date novelties, as side shows, good illusions, magic well, &c.; also a good clairvoyant and palmist; sharing terms. Apply by letter, Pandemonium, 25, Rostrevor-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Novelties or any good Show for Waxwork Exhibition, for Monday and onwards. Wire, Thompson, Manager, 78, Castle-st., Bristol.

WANTED, Good Novelties and Other Shows, for large shop in best position in Liverpool. Manager, Exhibition, 34, Scotland-place, Liverpool.

WANTED, Quick-showing Novelties, with good flash, at once. Tom Wortley write. Frank Marwood, Private Address, 30, Southill-st., Poplar.

WANTED, Living Novelties of every description, also Cinématograph and Marionettes, for large Shop. Fred Durland, Exhibition, Kirkgate, Leith.

WANTED, very tall Gentleman (Giant), for small part in Xmas Production. Full particulars, photo., height, references. Fred Karno, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, a good refined Marionette Entertainment, two shows daily. Give particulars, salary, &c. Box 3,914, "The Era."

WANTED, to open immediately, Lady Character Delineator, for Tom Norman's Dahomey Exhibition, exhibiting in Halls, Tents, Fairs, &c. Will those ladies who have served me before wire? Temperance Hall, Kettering.

WANTED, Smart Lady Character Delineator, plenty of Confidence, and good Personality. State salary. Biggs, c/o Homer, 98, Hill-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Lady Character Delineator. Manager, Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Parading Show, Lady Dancers, long, comfortable engagement. Photos. (returnable), experience, T. R. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Respectable Young Woman, Parade on Show and to help in Living Van. Apply, Mrs. Chas. Thurston, Original Royal Show, Wellingboro'.

WANTED, Pianist and Comedian (Funny Man), to open Monday. Apply, Bert Hall, Auction Mart, Pudsey, near Leeds.

WANTED, Good Comedian and Planksman, worker and shouter required. Bloom, Royal Mart, Preston.

WANTED, good All-round Auctioneer, used to Swag, for a first-class Shop in Bristol, 10 per cent. given to good man. 45, High-st., Bristol.

WANTED, for Bloom's No. 1 Mart, good steady Auctioneer, used to Marts. Apply, Bloom, Auction Mart, Preston.

PUNCH AND JUDY.

WANTED, to Engage, for the Christmas Season, to end of January, a Good Punch and Judy Show, especially for Evening and Children's Parties. Apply, giving particulars, terms, &c., to Lawrence and Son, 5, 6, and 7, Upper Sackville-street, Dublin.

WANTED, at Once, Competent Watch Maker, able to play piano; good wage to suitable man; sobriety indispensable; for Travelling Auction Pavilion. Apply, Box 3,904, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Flo, Tattooed Lady and Ydac's Cabinet Act, at Liberty Nov. 12, onward. Cady, Stewart's Waxworks, Edinburgh.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

"THE QUEEN OF THE OCEAN."
Extraordinary Phenomenon.

WANTED, Known.—This woman was born at Paris, having from birth two lobster claws in place of hands, and two pinchers of a crab instead of feet. Added to this Great Attraction is that of seeing her do all sorts of work with her lobster claws. She desires engagement in a Museum or Panopticon Freak Show for the month of December. Apply, with conditions, to Paul Babault, Impresario, en faire à Liége, Belgique.

For the First Time.

WANTED, Known, the Human Tiger. This man, who is twenty-four years of age, is a native of Kostroma, in Russia, and presents a strange anomaly. Of a robust constitution, the upper part of his body is covered with long, fine silky hair, the skin under the shaggy parts is black, like that of an animal, the legs are spotted and striped like those of a tiger, leopard, or panther, the eyes being of a pale blue, give him a cat-like look, which produces a sensation, giving, with the appearance of the body, the impression of being in the presence of a veritable wild animal of the feline tribe.
Open to accept engagements in Freak or similar Shows at the end of November next.
Apply to, M. J. Gallon, Impresario, Boulevard d'Avroy, Liege.

WANTED, Monday next, Nov. 5, through misunderstanding, by Veno, Rubber-faced Man. Thanking Mr. Humber for comfortable engagement, also Mr. Burnett and Mr. James for offers. Wire or write, 112, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, James Smith will be at Liberty shortly, Comedian, Knockabout, and Pantomimist, for Fair Business. Great Success Everywhere. All communications to James Smith, c/o Twigdon's Electrograph, Ripley, Sat., Oct. 26; Kirkby-in-Ashfield to follow.

WANTED, Known, Wire Worker, own Stock, share or otherwise, open Bolton Exhibition for two weeks. Next Saturday, Ancell, Busy Bee, Southport.

WANTED, by a competent Showman's Operator, Situation; well used to Fair Business, work any machine; also useful as all-round handy man; painting, &c.; not afraid of work; abstainer, age 28. Box 3,903, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Stallholders, Amusement Caterers, &c.,
P. COLLINS,
GONDOLA WORKS, WALSALL,
has secured a Grand Covered Building in one of the best positions in Liverpool, where he is holding a Monster World's Fair,
commencing
the Third Week in November, and running over the Christmas and New Year.
A Few Spaces to Let,
for clean, smart, and up-to-date concerns.
Rents will be reasonable.
Special English and Continental Novelties and Performances Engaged to give Free Shows.
This Gigantic Show will be well Boomed both by Press and Posters, and everything done to ensure success, and is well worth the attention of amusement caterers and stallholders wanting a good winter season.
Also Spaces to Let, for Christmas, New Year, and Winter Season, at our well-known Sheltered Fairgrounds,
Birmingham, London,
Liverpool, and Birkenhead.
For terms and particulars address as above.
Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall." Tel., 80 Walsall.

WANTED, Known, Grand Industrial Trades Exhibition will be held on Nov. 19 to 23 at the Town Hall, Stratford, London. To be opened by the present Mayor of West Ham. Spaces to Let for Working Exhibits, Novelties, &c. Apply, Secretary, Trades Exhibition, 26, Great Eastern-road, Stratford. The Exhibition will be extensively advertised. 5,000 to 10,000 visitors daily anticipated.

PROVINCIAL MOTOR EXHIBITION.

WANTED, to Let, good Space, for First-Class Side Shows.
Rent or Shares.
Apply,
Box 3,911, "The Era."

XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CARNIVAL, DRILL HALL, DUNDEE, Dec. 15 till Jan. 12; 220ft. by 80ft. under cover, 248ft. by 80ft. outside.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces, for Razzle Dazzle, Motor Cars, Side-shows; outside, Cocoanut, Stalls, &c. Add., F. H. Hobbs.

TOURING EXHIBITION, Nov. 13 to 24, Yarmouth; Nov. 27 to Dec. 8, King's Lynn; Dec. 11 to 15, Wisbech.
WANTED, to Let, a few Spaces Vacant. Apply, Manager, Industrial Exhibition, Norwich.

ROTHERHAM STATUTES FAIR.
WANTED to Let,
in Central Position in Rotherham,
Splendid Fair Ground,
4½ acres in extent.
Formerly occupied by Peter Collins and Co.
Possession may be had for Statutes Fair, which commences on Saturday next, Nov. 3.
Good terms.
Apply, Aizlewood,
Lime Kilns, Rawmarsh-road, Rotherham.

MANCHESTER EXHIBITION,
AT LEWIS'S.
WANTED, to Let,
Permanent Stalls for Novelties.
Apply at once to
W. H. Williams,
Exhibition,
Lewis's, Manchester.

WANTED, to Let, Booths, for Novelties; also Spaces to Let, for Shows, &c., for Christmas and New Year. Apply, J. Beaumont, Market Yard, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, Room to Let; good opening for Massage Business. Visited by the Elite. Charles A. James, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, and 102A, Houndsditch, has Special Departments for 9ct. Rings, Secondhand Watches, Unredeemed Pledges, and Cheap Jewellery. Send for Special Xmas Supplement. All up-to-date Lines.

WANTED, to Sell, 1 Shuttered Booth, 70ft. back, 35ft. wide; 2 Black Tilts, 1 Half, new last summer; Pit, and all fittings, in good order. No reasonable offer refused. And 1 set of Four-abreast Galloping Horses. For price and particulars, apply to W. C. S. Hancock, Winter Gardens, Plymouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. Maurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Fortune Machines, Money-takers, one to six drawers, cheap. Catalogue; samples free. Maurice, 39, Argyle-square, London.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.

"The Era" Annual, 1906, is welcome as containing carefully compiled lists of the pieces produced during the past year in London, the suburbs, and the provinces, in Paris, and in Berlin. The rest of it is curious and entertaining reading. There is the almanack with its "memorabilia of theatrical events occurrences, &c." There are besides a score of stories and other articles contributed by theatricals a very good one being Miss Louie Freear's set of verses, "'Boy Bob' at Sea," which has humour, feeling, and swing. The book contains many theatrical portraits. As a book of reference the Annual is of great use and value, and while some of its contents doubtless appeal more keenly to the professional than to the outsider, any thoughtful person may derive from its study much amusement and no little insight into the conditions, the magnitude, and the complexity of the English theatre of to-day.—*Morning Post*, Jan. 22.

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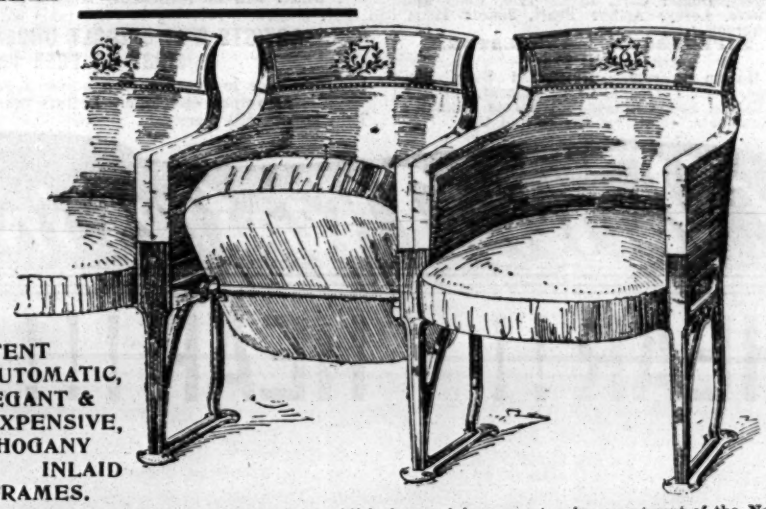

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With the best wishes, believe me,
Sincerely yours,
(Signed) SERVAL LE ROY.

Reply of the Theatre Royal Management.

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20th October, 1905.

Dear Mr. LE ROY,

Your favour of even date duly received, for which I thank you, and appreciate the remarks contained therein. It certainly proves the reports false that unthinking people seem to delight in spreading when an unsatisfactory week is experienced. It possibly never appears to them that it may be the fault of the show occasionally. No! the Theatre is always held responsible. However, the following figures for three weeks, taken out of one month's receipts, may prove that good business can be done when the attraction is worthy of support, £258, £209, £228, the last two being consecutive weeks. Single nights' takings taken from the foregoing weeks, £87, £70, £82. I quote these figures as you were led to understand that the holding capacity was about £40.

Yours truly,
L. F. A. ROGERS.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

EARLY TRAINS.

The Railway Companies are despatching many morning trains earlier than hitherto. This will enable subscribers and advertisers in the provincial towns to get copies of "The Era" in time for the breakfast table. Advertisers are requested to forward their advertisements as early in the week as possible, and not later than 7 p.m. on Thursday.

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2. MAGNIFICENT ALBERT HALL, SOUTHPORT.—900 Tip-up Chairs, and Seating for 3,000 People.
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10. NEW TIVOLI PALACE, DUBLIN.—New Tip-up Chairs.
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14. NEW HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.—Re-furnishing.
15. NEW EMPIRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.—Tip-up Chairs, &c.
16. NEW HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.—Furnishing.
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18. THISTLE THEATRE, MOFFAT, N.B. — Patent Pit Seating.
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Wires: "Twigsome, London"

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"The Earthquake," Busch's Dwarf Horse and Agouste, Two Butterflies, Kellinos, De Wynne Brothers, Techow's Cats, Kitafukas, Boccaccios, Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, Gordon Highlanders, Bioscope, Lavater Lee, "Daily Mirror" Boy Army.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
Carl Hertz, Bros. Horne, Eight of Hearts, Mezzettis, May Henderson, Rio Bros., Whit Cunliffe, Millie Hylton, Welsh Wanderers, Bioscope, Walter King.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Fred Storey and Co., in "Shylock," Corbin's Dogs, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart, Alf Gibson, Three Onettis, Fancourt and Rubie, Bioscope, Hamid Alexander, Ed. Laurie and Co., Frank Sylvo.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Julia Kent and Co., in "Where's Aubrey?" Eugen Joly, Cosgrave and Burns, Frank Elliston, Ernest Ball, Henri Taylor Trio, Philip Sefton, Bioscope, Burley and Burley, "A Bolt from the Blue."

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Kennedy Allen, The Haytors, Stanley and Greenop, Barney Armstrong, The Maples, Bioscope, Three Prestons, Dick and Dorothy, Boswell's Circus, Mrs. Brown Potter and Co.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
R. A. Roberts, G. H. Elliott, Bros. Obo, Lena Brunton, Selbinis, Two Tees, Minnie Cunningham, Vivian Vaudeville Co., Ryder Slone, Boy Glen.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Bella and Bijou, Johnny Gilmore, Les Voces, The Clarkes, Glenroy Troupe, Bioscope, Ben Albert, Gracie Moore, Hughes and Elliott, Griffiths Bros.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
The Boissetts, Harry Hayton, Frank Maura, Jessie Burnett, Fielding and Hull, Bioscope, Lambeth and Robertson, Clarice Netta, Mabel Bright and Co.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"The Orange Girl" Co., Will Cornish, Naynon's Birds, Picquays, Tribune Trio, Bioscope, R. H. Douglass, Phil Hermann, Lady Mansel and Juveniles.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Chung Ling Soo, Pat Carey, Spry and Austin, Beatrice Willey, Lora, Chas. J. Johnson, Ambrose Thorne, Bioscope, Kremos.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"High Jinks," Alroy, Violi, Albert Le Fre, Scottish Meisters, Frank Lynne, Carlton, Bioscope, Dutch Daly, Boris Lensky.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Charles Carte and Co., Albertine Melisch, Debreans, Monte Myro Troupe, Lucia and Viata, Smythson Co., Bioscope, Ian Colquhoun.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Louie Freear and Co., Bob Hamilton, Bioscope, Prof. Dunning, Kahn and Kahn, Terry and Lambert, Ella Shields, Mlle. De Dio, Norman and Saxon, Ten Loonies.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Mad Minstrels," Wyndham and Kitty, Bros. Redmond, De Paci Bros., Marion Scott, Bioscope, Winifred Hare.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Cot and Colibri, Wotpert Trio, Albertus and Millar, Herr Fritz, Strolling Players, Harry Lawson, Lily Tiso, Millie Payne, Annie Abbott, Bob Hutt and Co.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Wilkie Bard, Nellie Stratton, Aurora Troupe, James Stewart, Amoros Werner Troupe, The Dandies, Jimmy Shields, Arif Hemet, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Kate Carney and Co., Arthur Reece, Amy Sullivan, Stein Eretto Troupe, Barton and Ashley, Ted and May Hopkins, Daisy O'Malley, Bioscope, Chas. Whittle, Mezetti and Mora.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
"A Trip to Coontown," The Althoffs, Los Granadas, Maudie Ford, Hale and Francis, Cliff Ryland, Frank Bernard and Co., Master Clifford, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
The Harmony Four, Paulinetti and Piquo, Clemart, Lil Hawthorne, Will Mitcham, Maud Ross, Lilian Warren, "Casey Court," Bioscope, Frank Darwin, Gertrude Bradshaw.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Will Evans, Ludwig Amann, Victor Travers, Florence and Lilian, Avrigny Troupe, Amy Russell, Five Bogannys, Roy and Fenton, Lena Willard, Bioscope.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, ST. MARY-STREET, CARDIFF.
Cinématograph Exhibition, Curio Halls, Roller Skating, Phonograph, Waxworks, Galatea, Magic Maze, Shooting Ranges.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Alexandre and Hughes, Ray Wallace, Brett and Orford, New Macs, Sisters Dorrell, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, George Brooks, Lizzie Daniels, Imperial Russian Troupe.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, Leslie Bros., Sisters Caselli, Preston and Balmaine, Selkirk and Co., Albert Christian, Katie Cohen, Nora Emerald.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Karno's Co., Dan Crawley, Lilian Bishop, Jack Charman, Silent Tait, Katie Butler, Molasso Quartette, Three Dumonds, Lillian Lea, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
Isabel Derry and Co., George Formby, Three Amaranths, Little Ganty, Madge May, Howard and St. Clair, Mark Melford and Co., Ancillotti and Dog, Bioscope, Jimmy Springthorpe.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Rogues of the Turf," Bioscope, Die Obersteirers, Bugler Carr, Lyons Trio, Kelly and Gillette, Levey, Arthur Pearl, Sisters Hope, Tschernoff.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Harum Scarum," Illustrated Song, Bioscope, Vernon Troupe, Chas. Vincent, Dorothy L. Clarke, Selma Braatz, Scarlateers, Ginnett's "Remounts," Matthew Brodie and Co.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

CLOSED.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Darnley's "Muscles," Wedburns, Leo Tell, Pictures, W. J. Ashcroft, Hillman and Russell, George Newburn, J. H. Milburn, Ella Retford.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Hetty King, Rita and Roma, Will Vokes, Woodhouse and Wells, Three Sisters Sprightly, Beatrice Renée, Lillian Lowe, Phillips and Terry.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Melody Makers, Fred Clements, Maxwell and Francis, E. J. Sheldon, Sisters Finney, Pictures, Walter Curtis, Syd May.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Chas. Dare's "Minstrels," Dot Irving, Meir and Mora, "Cauliflower Joe," Pictures, Rumbo Austin's Nippers, Maudie Francis, Lieut. Albini, J. C. Morris.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Barowsky Trio, Harry Marte, Four Jumels, Bioscope Madge Morley and Co., Harry Coates, Ray Maskell, Fred Russell.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Esther Phillips and Co., H. G. Prosper, Horace Wheatley, Jack Lane, G. W. Hunter, Jack Lorimer, Arthur Rigby, Alice Maple, Maud Vera, Twin Andersons, Nell Gwynne, Gertie Gitana, Harrison Bros., Forest and King, Robbins and Collier, Pictures, Sylvia Du Barry.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
First Performance: Bioscope, Lily Lena, Pat Rafferty, Three Sisters Silcott, Collins and Rice, Athos Troupe, Harry Nelson, Clara Sefton, Goggin and Davis, Tennyson and Wallis, Mason and Keeler, "The Mystery of the Cliff."
Second Performance: Mason, Keeler, and Co., Bioscope, Lily Lena, Pat Rafferty, Three Sisters Silcott, Collins and Rice, Athos Troupe, Jack Lane, Verno and Voyce, Barton and Franklyn, Sylvia Du Barry, George Bastow, "The Mystery of the Cliff."

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Vesta Tilley, Bioscope, Bessie Butt, Will Van Allen, Nat Clifford, Karno Four, Culpitt, Rosalie Jacobs, Conway and Leland.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).

Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for those engaged at the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagement cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.

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Florrie Forde's Latest Chorus Craze.

"MY CASTLE IN SPAIN."
Lil Hawthorne's Latest Success.

"ALL THAT GLITTERS ISN'T GOLD."
Sung with great success by Miss Dora Lyric.

"I WANT MOLLY, AND SHE WANTS ME."
A great Chorus Song, Sung by Miss May Mars.

"COME BACK TO BORNEO."
A real hit. Sung by Miss Amy Clevere and Miss Gladys Mavius.

"HENNY KLEIN."
Dutch Character Song. For Principal Girl or Speciality.

"ALL GIRLS ARE BEAUTIFUL."
A catchy Chorus Song. Sung by Miss Crissie Cross.

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Sung by Miss Enid Alexander.

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ARTHUR REECE Sing

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RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS

All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not re-booked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously

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Frank and Jen Latona, Charles Denton, Paragon Trio, Lily Sharplin, J. W. Hall, Galetti, Hallam and Stanton, Great Scott, Edna Latonne, Pictures, Leo Dryden.

HIPPODROME, LEEDS.
Fred. Wright, jun., W. B. Raby, Fred Herbert, Gus Garrick, The 2 Bees, Five Whiteleys, Jenny Johns, Cumberland Troupe, Marie Wilton, Bros. Curran, Pictures, Lottie Lennox.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Ada Reeve, Mac and Hill, Leah Arden, James de Voye, Downes and Langford, Johnny Holland and Co., The Mackinnons, Harry Herbert, Pictures, Austin Rudd.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Phil Ray, Mabel Kessler, Gracie Taylor, The Alma's, Hodgson and Lowther, Herbert La Martine, 3 Pirmans, Richardson Taylor, Harris and Worth, Jack Rae, Pictures, Charles Prelle.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
Yukio Tani, Dick Williams, 5 Bon Bons, Bros. Wilfords, The Albanos, Sammy Shields, Manchester Mites, Elton and Elma, Flo Cecil, Pictures, Fanny Wentworth.

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
Comencing Nov. 7, 1906.
George Adams, Mdlle. Haydee, Lucette de Verley, Rebla, Roma and Romani, Boxing Midgets, La Valls, Les Nairds, Ricardo and Salving, Tiny Arnold, Recco, Pictures, Gus Barra, Three Seldoms, Raku.

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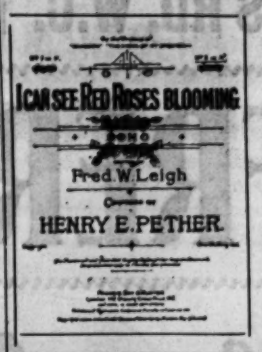

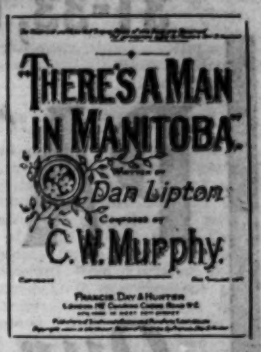

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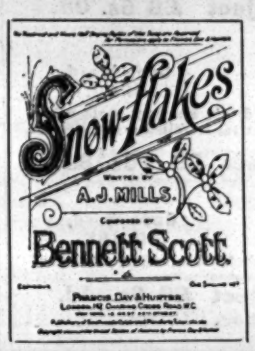

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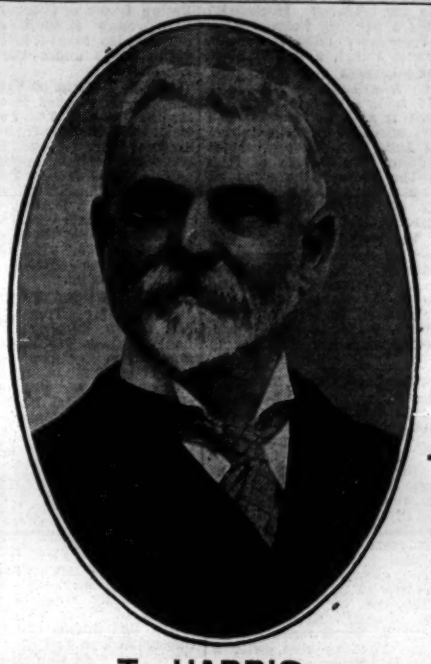

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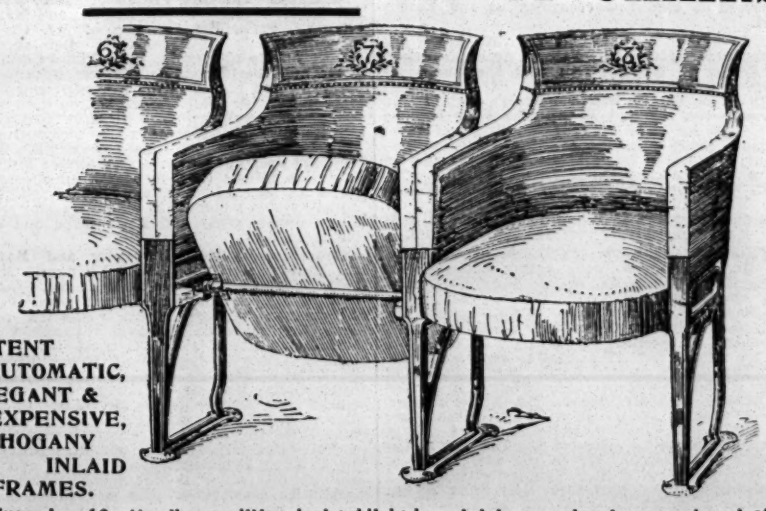

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
The thirty-ninth issue of "The Era" Annual has just appeared, and once more it supplies a useful record of the theatrical year. An editorial note reminds us that among the contributors to the first number, that of 1868, were E. L. Blanchard (its editor), Charles Mathews, T. W. Robertson, Andrew Halliday, H. J. Byron, Watts Phillips, and Dion Boucicault—a brilliant band indeed. The contributors to the present issue are almost exclusively actors rather than literary men, but upon the whole they make a very fair show; while the lists of plays produced in London and the provinces, and in Paris and Berlin during the twelve months under review are distinctly useful. There are a number of photographs including an exceedingly fine one of the late Sir Henry Irving.—Pall Mall Gazette, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual is published from the offices of the old-established organ of the theatrical profession, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. As usual, it is a carefully-compiled record of notable events of the year 1905. A pleasing feature is the selection of short stories, after recounting strange experiences, by "stars" of the dramatic and music-hall professions, these being in every case accompanied by photographs of the writers.—Newcastle Daily Journal, Jan. 27, 1906.

"DIE DREI ROLANDSKNAPPEN."

Fairy Opera, in Three Acts, by Albert Lortzing, Produced at the Theatre des Westens, Berlin, on Oct. 27.

König Garsius ..... HERR STAMMER
Isalda ..... FRAULEIN SACCUR
Audiol ..... FRAULEIN HAGEN
Amarin ..... HERR VON HUMALDA
Sarron ..... HERR GREIMIN
Tutato ..... HERR ROGG
Königin der Berge ..... FRAULEIN EBERHARD
Jaeger ..... HERR WERNHAHN
Page ..... FRAULEIN VON FIRLITZ

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This was the first "première" under the new management, and it may be written down a distinct success in every way. Herr Arthur Below, the new director, is to be congratulated not only upon the well-rounded performance and brilliant mounting, but upon the unearthing of one of the most charming of comic operas which have ever fallen into temporary forgetfulness. The music is—as may be expected from Lortzing—melodious and sound throughout; it has dramatic passages and exquisite harmonies, and fits the fabulous-romantic plot round which it is written like a glove. There is not the slightest doubt that an opera company of any nationality would achieve a success with this work—the last production of the ill-fated composer, whose fame was only established after his earthly struggle was ended. The book is drawn from the fairy tale of the same name by—if my memory serves me—Musaeus. Lortzing calls it a romantic opera. The action passes in Spain in the year 814 A.D., the final scene alone being laid in French Switzerland. A very fine overture opens the work, leading up to an unmistakable thunderstorm, and when the curtain rises we dimly see the three "Knappen" (esquires of the Knight Roland) sheltering among the rocks and bewailing their fate. They have been sent out to find the Saracens' whereabouts, and have wandered far from their native heath. Audiol, the youngest, cheers the others with his natural wit, and help comes swiftly. The rocks in the background fall asunder, disclosing the Queen of the Mountains, who gives each a talisman which will lead him to fortune. The three friends are to separate for a time, but will meet again when their luck is assured. A draught of wine presented by the Queen's attendants sends the men into a deep sleep. They awake to find themselves in the depths of a beautiful forest, and little by little their situation dawns upon them. Audiol's talisman is a cap that, rightly put on, renders him invisible; Amarin has an unfailing bag of gold; and Sarron a tablecloth which produces at will the most delicate dishes and the choicest wines. Overjoyed at their luck, the friends separate, and presently King Garsius, surnamed the Wise, makes his appearance with his hunting party. All are hungry and thirsty, and Sarron, who is still on the spot, spreads his magic table all about the forest glades, to the delight of King and courtiers alike. The music here is particularly bright. Sarron is persuaded by promises of great honour and a big salary to take service with the King in the capacity of major-domo, and Tutato—a learned Prince of China, who enjoys the special favour of Garsius—is proportionately jealous.

The next act shows us the King's palace. His only daughter, Isalda, has fallen into melancholy, and all the pretty songs and dances of her playmates fail to provoke a smile. The King has found a witty young fellow—our merry Audiol—who he thinks may amuse her, and Audiol is engaged as Court Jester. Garsius, by the way, is very hard up for money, and he has invited a knight of fabulous wealth to come and woo his daughter, much to Isalda's disgust, for she has seen in her dreams the only man she can ever love. Her mourning is changed into joy at the sight of a brilliantly-equipped knight, who is ushered in with much pomp and ceremony. It is no other than the man of her girlish dreams, and our friend Amarin, and thus the three faithful comrades are once more united. Amarin has fallen deeply in love with Isalda, and all would doubtless have gone smoothly but for the envious and treacherous Chinaman. He owes a special grudge to Audiol, who is always—in his invisible form—teasing him, and he succeeds finally in stealing the three talismans and denouncing the friends to the King as swindlers. All three are now in jeopardy, but Audiol, by his ready wit, contrives to save them all, to recover the fairy's gifts, and to elope with Isalda into the bargain. All meet again in the rocky fastnesses, but are overtaken by the King and his men. It would have gone hard with the three comrades and the lovers had not the Mountain Queen appeared in the nick of time. She drives away the pursuers and speaks encouragement to the pursued. The scene again changes. We see a pretty sunlit hamlet amid the snow-clad mountains of Switzerland, and here the three "Knappen" are welcomed home. The lovers receive the parents' blessing, and to the strains of a joyful chorus the curtain descends. Fräulein Mary Hagen carried off the chief laurels for her admirable rendering of Audiol, and she was well supported. Herr Stammer was suffering from a cold, but managed satisfactorily under the circumstances; and Herr von Humalda's fine tenor was heard to good advantage as Amarin. Kapellmeister Sahrger conducted in his customary excellent manner, and the audience applauded him and the artists and director with equal cordiality. The scenery was new for the occasion, and unusually effective.

HOCKEY.

MR. F. R. BENSON'S COMPANY v. GREEN PARK (BATH).
Played on Thursday, Oct. 4, resulting, after a good game, in a draw. Score:—Mr. Benson's Company, 2 goals; Green Park, 2 goals.
A match was played on the Aldrington Marine Park, Hove, on Friday, the 5th, between the Aldrington Hockey Club and the Norman V. Norman Hockey Club. The latter team won by 6 goals to 5, the goals being scored by Bruce (4) and Ashley (2). A return match at St. Leonard's is being arranged.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES' XI. v. MISS WINIFRED BRADLEY'S XI.
Played near Bristol on Saturday, Oct. 6. The following were the teams:—
Miss Fowler's XI.—Miss Ethel Bowman, goal; Miss Lilla Carter and Miss May Dudley, backs; Miss Fowler, Miss Lillie Belding, and Miss Gertrude Thomas, half backs; Miss Minnie Leonard, Miss Gracie Leonard, Miss Trixie Maynard, Miss Nellie Stephens, and Miss Rosie Davies, forwards.
Miss Bradley's XI.—Miss May Fisher, goal; Miss Aline Gibbs and Miss Irene Bradley, backs; Miss Edie Lawrence, Miss Florrie Courtney, and Miss Nellie Lawrence, half backs; Miss Bradley (captain), Miss Maudie Burgess, Miss Minnie Hamilton, Miss Kit Montgomery, and Miss Alice Mitchell, forwards.
Result: Miss Fowler's XI., 3 goals; Miss Bradley's XI., 2 goals. Misses Dudley, Gracie Leonard, Minnie Leonard, Winifred Bradley, and Irene Bradley scored for their respective sides. After the match an enjoyable orchestral and vocal concert was arranged.

A FEATURE of *Alice in Wonderland*, which is to be given at matinées at the Apollo Theatre next month, will be an intermezzo composed by Miss Marjory Slaughter, daughter of the talented composer of the play, and dedicated to Mr. Seymour Hicks's daughter, Betty. In addition, the management will offer prizes amounting to fifty pounds to be competed for by two pupils of each school entering for the best performances on the piano of the composition in question.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—Mr. W. H. Canby's company has met with a hearty welcome in *The Prince Chap*. The title part is taken by Mr. H. R. Roberts, who plays with remarkable skill and artistic mastery of the character, and a splendid portraiture of Claudia is produced by the united efforts at various stages in the play of Misses Betty Green, Geraldine Wilson, and Lorna Lawrence. Mr. George Shelton and Miss Marie Wilson represent a couple of servants' parts with consummate ability. *The Prince Chap* is preceded by the comedietta, *A Girl from Biarritz*, by Leonard Robson, which was staged for the first time on Monday.

Palace Theatre. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The Daunton-Shaw Troupe give a remarkably clever exhibition of their skill as daring and original trick cyclists; and Miss Alice Hollender, the Australian contralto, who appears here for the first time, uses her fine voice in such a way as to be enthusiastically encored. A most enjoyable turn is contributed by the Ten Dixie Girls, who excel both as dancers and singers. Mr. Carl Lynn is a capital mimic of animals; Miss Nelly Gannon's vocal efforts are as usual heartily appreciated; and Mr. Harry Wilson, comedian and extempore vocalist, has no reason to complain of lack of applause. Among the other artists who appear with success are Mr. Stanley Rose, comedian; Osborn and Brookes, comedians; and the Crowe Trio of Vocalists. Vernon's Bioscope shows an amusing new series of pictures, "A Slippery Visitor."

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Carlton Wallace's company opened here on Monday with *The Love that Women Desire*. Mr. Wallace gives a painstaking study of Richard Abingdon; Mr. J. O. Stewart submits a powerful performance as Squire Abingdon; Mr. John Hignett is an ideal Denis O'Rurke; Mr. Fred Lloyd must be complimented on a careful rendering of Philip Carnaby; Dr. Brandreth is a good embodiment by Mr. G. Brooke; Rev. A. Cathorne is well played by Mr. Hugh Wallace; Frank Hardy is a clever character sketch by Mr. Leonard Montgomery; Mr. Charles Frankling and E. Morris are good in their respective parts, Adam Frere and Amos Gibson; Miss Lalla Stanhope gives a highly satisfactory reading of Sybil Thornburn; and praise must be given to Miss Alice Livesey, who appears as Madge Abingdon; Pattie Swift is well acted by Miss Nita Imeson; Miss Violet Haye gives an artistic rendering of Molly; Miss N. Griffiths cleverly depicts Mariquininha.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Parsons.—A smart bill is provided here this week. Les Marsumas, "Comedians on the wheel," are quaint and clever; Lily Warren is a lady with a good voice; Morny Cash soon gets in touch with the audience by his funny songs and patter; Clifton and Gibson give an amusing show; the same may be said of Benson and Geoffrey, comedy sketch artists; Bert Gordon does well; a smart animal turn is given by Clown Barker and Miss Rozsika; and some good pictures are shown by the Hippo Bioscope.

ALDERSHOT.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—*In Holy (I) Russia*, an interesting and thrilling drama, with several passages of amusing comedy, is being played by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's capable company. Mr. and Mrs. Rice Cassidy themselves appear with capital results in prominent rôles. Others who help materially to the success of the performance are Messrs. F. Lloyd, Terence Nerry, Arthur Stratton, Frank Copeland, and Miss M. L. Anderson.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—*Sherlock Holmes* is revisiting here, Mr. Hamilton Stewart's company being responsible for its interpretation. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart's clever study of the detective is marked by quiet force; Mr. W. F. Stirling as Moriarty proves himself a resourceful actor; Miss Constance Leigh gives a winning and sympathetic interpretation of Alice Faulkner; Miss Lindsay Fincham is convincing as Madge Larrabee; and Misses Rosalie Notrelle, Grace Howard, and Dot Sellby do well in minor rôles. Mr. Stanley Lafan is a pleasing and self-possessed Dr. Watson; and Mr. Ernest Gray is a clever exponent of Larrabee.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The entertainment here is above the average in merit. The Brontes, in a comic duologue, *Saucy Maid*, create boisterous merriment; Billy Williams, comedian, sings and patters in voluble style; Johnson and Bert appear in a novel act, *A Queer Customer;* Walter Wade successfully appeals as a raconteur and mimic; the Saletos troupe give some marvellous expert head and hand balancing; and Lady Julia, "the ape with a human brain," is most intelligent; Evelyn Taylor is a charming variety comedienne, and Tom Hughes may claim to be a popular comedian, and Mary M. Glenn as "My Texas Queen" elicits applause. The Bioscope presents comic pictures.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—Picture entertainments are again the attraction here. There is a diversified and interesting selection of films, and several songs, finely illustrated, are agreeably interspersed.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—A programme of the usual standard of excellence is submitted here this week. Mr. Louis Hardt, who is described as "The Mighty Atom," playfully performs with heavy weights; the Ladderites give a pleasing performance; the Sisters Neilson are well received as expert dancers; a mirth-provoking exhibition on the triple bars is submitted by the Three Zaracs; Mr. E. C. Clayton's pictures include a most realistic film, "The Miner's Daughter"; Mme. Roma's Six Imire Juggling Girls give a speciality act; Mr. Johnny Danvers is a good comedian; and Miss Maud Kaye, coon vocalist, also entertains.

AYR.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—A dainty farcical comedy is *The 'Varsity Belle*, as interpreted by Mr. Henry E. Leigh's company. Mr. James Danvers, in the part of the Professor, is particularly happy and smart; Miss Nellie Beacon, the Professor's wife, sings well; Theocritus, the tragedian, is in the good care of Mr. Edward Chester, who makes the most of the part; Mr. Frank Lilliput as Runyard is responsible for a lot of the fun and comicalities, proving himself a smart little comedian; George Barker and Albert Perrin are acceptably played by Mr. Morrice Holmes and Mr. Roy Barraclough respectively; the Professor's mother-in-law is cleverly played by Miss Emma Rainbow; Maud Stoney is made appropriately sweet and innocent by Miss Beatrice Egerton; Miss Josephine Ellis is in the title-rôle, and makes a great impression by her really fine acting and graceful dancing.

BARNSLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Mr. Geo. Dance's company in *The Orchid* is paying a return visit here this week, and was accorded a good reception on Monday night. The part of Lady Violet Anstruther suits Miss Dorothy Firmin admirably; Mr. Bertie Wright evokes continual merriment in the humorous part of Meakin; Miss Desiree Desmond makes a charming Josephine Zaccary; Mr. Sinclair Holden and Mr. Louis du Cane as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour and Dr. Ronald Faussett respectively add much to the success of the play; as Caroline Vokins Miss Emily Stevens makes the most of her part; Miss Florence Wakeman is a pleasing Zelie Rombert; Mr. Stenson Liddard is capable as Aubrey Chesterton; Mr. Edward Nainby as Comte Raoul and Mr. John R. Val as Zaccary are successful.

Public Hall.—Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Hoey.—Mr. Jasper Redfern's entertainments continue to be a great attraction here. Mr. J. W. Rowley, the popular Yorkshire comedian, tops the bill; Mark Merry is also appreciated; Mlle. Lucretia is a clever dancer; other artists who appear are Ella Dean, contralto and double-voiced vocalist; Renee Grahame, character artist; Alex. Fox, ventriloquist; Fred Casburn, comedian; Nellie Nord, in a musical act; Phil Rabey, versatile artist. The Bioscope, with new films, is a pleasing feature.

BARNSTAPLE.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—*Wep-Ton-No-Mah* was presented here on Monday and Tuesday, the title-rôle being undertaken by Go-Won-Go Mohawk with striking effect. Colonel Stockton was placed with Mr. C. W. Charles, who handled the part with characteristic soldierly bearing, and Captain Franklin received justice at the hands of Mr. Ike Shawcross; Mr. Edward Leroy successfully delineated the villainous qualities of Spanish Joe, the realistic knife fight between the latter and the Indian being a special feature; plenty of fun was caused by the eccentricities of Sam White, a negro, and Carry Cullen, acted by Messrs. Guy D. Hackney and Dan Ryan; an admirable representation of the amorous housekeeper was given by Miss Jessie Hart, and Miss Minnie Goepel did well as Nellie Stockton.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. J. W. Turner's opera company is here, and opened with *Satanella*. Mr Turner appeared as Count Rupert, and sang and acted with all his old skill; Miss Kitty Brownless was an artistic and winning Satanella; Mr. Sidney Clifford's fine voice was heard to advantage as Arimones; Mr. Richard Cummings was an amusing Hortensio; and Miss Christine Gomez a winning Lelia. Other operas billed are *Il Trovatore*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *The Lily of Killarney*, *Faust*, and *Maritana*.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge. — Mr. John Gerant's company in *At Duty's Call* is here. As Harold Alison Mr. Gerant is a great success; and Mr. Harry Scott is a very effective Captain George Alison. General Gordon finds an ideal representative in Mr. Ernest St. John; the Salema of Miss Beatrice Western and the Nora Drummond of Miss Lily Crammonde are both charming; and Miss Eva Belle as Mary and Mr. Harry Ugar as Terry O'Halloran are good comedians.

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties. — Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi.—The Schenk Brothers, in a sensational equilibristic act, are very popular; and King and Delaine are amusing comedians. The Two Bostons give a laughable turn; and pleasing items are contributed by Jimmy Carr, comedian; Florence Esdaile, vocalist; Bert Campbell, comedian; and Yetta, with her "cake-walk on the wire."

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—The Moody-Manners B Company is paying its annual visit this week, opening on Monday in the ever-popular *Faust*. The young prima-donna, Miss Ethel Cadman, was the Marguerite, her pure soprano voice being heard to the utmost advantage in the Jewel Song; Siebel was undertaken by Miss Rosina Beynon, and this cultured cantatrice scored a big success in the part. Mr. George Neilson, in his familiar study of Mephistopheles, was as good as ever, his clear enunciation being quite an agreeable feature. Mr. Frederic Erle was an excellent Valentine. Faust, in the person of Mr. Maurice Paul, was new to Bathonians, and this gentleman came through his trying task with no small credit to himself. Mr. G. Gorst was the Wagner, and Miss M. Wood repeated her amusing study of Martha. Tuesday was quite a gala night, as Mlle. Zelie de Lussan appeared as Carmen, and the house was crowded to excess. This is the first time Mlle. de Lussan has sung the part of the gipsy heroine in Bath, and her performance was received with the utmost enthusiasm. For the remainder of the week *Cavalleria*, *Pagliacci*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *Lohengrin*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Maritana* have been performed. The orchestra and chorus are under the experienced directorship of Mr. Harrison Frewin.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Bernar's Marionettes are once again the means of giving great pleasure to large audiences this week. Another turn that is voted first class is that of Radford and Valentine, the jolly jesters; V. L. Granville scores in his character impersonations; Helen Martin, the favourite vocalist, has a capital medley of "South Down" melodies; Gladys Huxley, comedienne, finds numerous admirers; the Vocal Chameleon proves an interesting novelty; the Clive Trio, comediennes and dancers, are cordially welcomed; Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are always worth witnessing.

BATLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Whitty.—*As Midnight Chimes* is being well presented here by Mr. Leonard Dalrymple's company. Mr. Lewis Leslie is a sound exponent of the part of Dave Stannard; Mr. Herbert Belmore is a decided success as Ezra Gamble; Mr. Percy Maitland plays the conventional stage villain satisfactorily, and Wittie Wattie Walton livens things up considerably with his breezy comedy. A carefully handled part is that of Mary Stannard by Miss Mary Keighley; and Miss Madge Beresford is chic and charming as the French maid.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. H. Armitage and Mr. Arthur Leigh's company in Wilson Barrett's play, *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy as John Durham leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Robert Forsyth as Lord Mountfallon plays with precision and vigour; Mr. Arthur Leigh well sustains the humour of the piece as the Hon. Reginald Steighton; Mr. A. E. Walker admirably impersonates Mr. Vallerton; Miss Alice Esther Belmore charmingly depicts the character of Helen Vallerton; and Miss Elsie Mayne charmingly portrays Miss Premore.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company opened on Monday in the successful play, *The Walls of Jericho*. That sterling actor, Mr. A. E. Anson, in the rôle of Jack Frobisher, could not easily be excelled, his brilliant acting gaining the admiration of a capital audience; Miss May Taverner submitted a fine impersonation of Lady Alethea Frobisher. She deservedly shared the honours with Mr. Anson. Mr. Alfred S. Barber was seen to advantage as Hankey Bannister; and Mr. A. W. Tyrer's embodiment of Harry Dallas had much to commend it. The rôle of the Marquis of Steventon was in the safe hands of Mr. Cecil Warde; and Miss Marguerite Cellier was convincing as Lady Westerby. Miss Nona Wynne furnished a delightful rendering of Lady Lucy Derenham; and the same may be said of Miss Lilian Rogers's interpretation of Miss Mornington. Mr. Leslie Rea as Lord Drayton was all that could possibly be desired; and other rôles were admirably sustained by Messrs. Norman Aveling, R. M. Taylor, W. S. Lane, W. Newcombe, &c.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The chief feature of the programme this week is the capital musical comedy sketch, *Office Hours*, played by Corri and Derevex's company, which met with great success. Mlle. Von Ette performs some marvellous feats of illusion with dexterity; and the Seven Zerbinis stage *The Enchanted Glen*, a musical scena, in which is introduced, with startling effect, "Ora Pro Nobis"; the Sisters Brooks are delightful duettists and dancers; and a hit has been made by Kloof and Ramsey, comedy musical artists. Also appearing are Miss Rosie Barlow, comedienne; Mr. Herbert Rule, comedian; Stephens and Rennior; and the Palace pictures.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Mr. Lionel Vaughan's comedy sketch company heads the bill with their latest success, *Where's the Culprit; or, In Trouble*, which evokes roars of laughter; Miss Lillian Lowe's cultured voice has been heard to much advantage in several songs; and Phillips and Terry stage one of their mirth-provoking sketches. A hit of no small magnitude has been made by the Three Sisters Sprightly, whose character songs gain them a deserved success; Miss Beatrice Renée is a dainty comedienne; and also appearing are Rita and Roma, versatile entertainers; Mr. Will Yokes, comedian and sand dancer; and Woodhouse and Wells, eccentric comedians.

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—This week the Alhambra Dramatic Company stages *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* with gratifying results. Miss Nina Blake-Adams appears to advantage as May Edwards; Mr. Horace Denton furnishes an admirable impersonation of Bob Brierley; the villainies of Jim Dalton are luridly portrayed by Mr. Percy M. Stevenson; Mr. Cyril Grier deserves much praise for his fine conception of Hawkshaw; Mr. Tom H. Solly (who is also responsible for the stage-management) submits a fine character-sketch of Melter Moss; and Miss Effie Macintosh must be congratulated on her capital interpretation of Sam Willoughby. As the garrulous Mrs. Willoughby, Miss Alice Clarke is all that could be desired. This week the Alhambra Bioscope exhibits a fine series of pictures, entitled "Why Jones Signed the Pledge."

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Battersby.—*Bound to Win*, with Mr. F. G. Kimberley as Harry Lyndon, and Miss Lottie Addison as Gladys Orme, is here. With such experienced artists the piece is as attractive as ever. They are well backed up by another smart couple of performers in Mr. Charles Vivian and Miss Violet Langley.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. George Dance's company in *Lady Madcap* presents a most enjoyable entertainment, and deservedly commands extensive patronage. Mr. Harold Parkes scores heavily as Oroya Brown, the impersonation being brimful of humour; and Mr. Bay Russell is equally successful in the congenial rôle of Bill Stratford. The Count de St. Hubert is capitally played by Mr. J. Knox Orde; and Mr. James Graydon renders valuable assistance as his confederate, Posh Jenkins. Miss Isabelle Dillon gives a delightful and vivacious rendering of Lady Betty Claridge; Miss Gabrielle Leighton is an irreproachable Mrs. Layton; Mr. Emlyn Davis as Colonel Layton, Miss Maude Davis as Gwenny Holden, and Miss Ethel Beech as Susan, also accord most efficient service; and the orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Leonard Leslie.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—The Seven Savonas in their imposing instrumental act, *The Palace of Orpheus*, are on a welcome return visit, and appear with their usual success; Mr. George D'Albert, assisted by some competent artists, appear in an interesting sketch, entitled *'Tis Never Too Late to Mend*; and Mr. Walter Bellonini, in an expert juggling entertainment, is a leading feature. An excellent company also includes Mr. Will Musgrave, a clever comedian; Senorita Eloina, a graceful gymnast; Miss Florence, with illustrated songs; Carr and Rose, in some catchy vocal duets; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*The Spring Chicken*, which has certainly not moulted a feather of its early popularity, is appearing here in all the vigour of a second edition. Mr. George Gregory waxes more than ever popular as the mirth-provoking Girdle; Mr. John Brabourne acts as Gustave Babori with his customary ability; Miss Irene Verona gives a quaint distinction to the rôle of Mrs. Girdle; Miss Nancy Langtyre acts with "tone" and elegance as the Baroness Papouche; Miss Gertrude Gilliam appears in charming guise as Dulcie Babori; and Miss Nellie Lonnen as Emmy Lou, Miss Gertrude Glyn as Rosalie, Mr. Ernest Mahar as the waiter, Mr. William Spray as Stephen Henry, and Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., as Boniface, are all popular members of the cast.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*Olivia*, the famous version of "The Vicar of Wakefield," by H. G. Wills, has drawn the admirers of Miss Winifred Emery here in full throng. As Olivia Miss Emery often thrills as well as delights with her vivacious and withal touching and moving representation of the rôle; Mr. Brandon Thomas realises the clean-souled and noble-hearted old Vicar to perfection; Mr. Franklin Dyall makes a handsome and charmingly plausible Squire Thornhill; Mr. Eille Norwood personifies the clear, honest-spoken character of "Mr. Burchell" to admiration; Mr. Harry Ashford, as the blunt-speaking Farmer Flamborough, conveys an impression of genuine worth; Miss May Chevalier is bright and sympathetic as the character of Sophia occasions; Miss Keith Lytton does well with the rôle of the prim and starchy Mrs. Primrose; and Mr. H. Cannon George, Miss Maidee Andrews, Master Bobbie Andrews, Mr. M. A. Wetherell, and Miss Harriet French are all capable.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—*The Duchess of Dantzic* is here with Miss Kitty Gordon in the title-rôle, an impersonation which has won enthusiastic plaudits for its wealth of charm and ability. Mr. Frederick Moyes acts in a typically Napoleonic manner as the Emperor; Mr. H. C. Barry is responsible for much hilarity as Papillon; Mr. Albert Chapman acts the part of Lefebvre and sings the songs pertaining thereto in a highly successful manner; Miss Lily Edmund acts vivaciously as Lizette; Miss Nancy Herne is successful as Josephine; the Misses Josephine McCarthy and Doris Grenville appear as Napoleon's sisters; Miss Lilian Best scores as Rene de Saint Mezard; and Mr. T. C. Maxwell as Adhemar sings and acts in a creditable style, as do the remaining members of the company.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood.—Mr. Julian Malvern's company, under the direction of Mr. Chas. M. Julian, appears this week in the successful drama, *I Defy the World*. Miss Violet Crauford is clever and fascinating as Blanche Darville; Mr. Percy Ballard has the audience entirely with him as Leon Darville; Mr. Charles Wilton does well as Count de Beaullieu; Miss Rosalie Heath is a capable and charming Pauline Delaporte; Mr. Chas. Conway is a plausible Laroche; Mr. Arthur Chisholm does good service as Andrew; Mr. Chas. M. Julian infects the house with his own ardent spirits as Samuel Wozzle; Miss Maud Lilian proves an able helpmeet as Marie Wozzle; and the Misses Connie Gray and Rosie Dane and others contribute ably.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—The sensational drama, *Sentenced for Life*, is here this week. Mr. Edward E. Louis commands sympathy in his well-acted rôle of Lieut. Roy Stillwell; Mr. Ernest Vaughan shows considerable power as Capt. Paul Derrick; Mr. Howard Keane is effective as Henry Beckwith; Mr. Maurice Maud shines as the good Samaritan, Martin Orris; Miss Madge Douglas has a winning manner as Adele Grey; Mr. Jas. F. Firth achieves popularity with his humorous acts as Percy M'Gentle; Miss May Neilson is well received as Kate Rennell; and Messrs. R. Brancepeth Nevill, Hugh Faulkner, Arthur Keand, and Reginald Oldroyd shine in the piece, which is relieved with some clever song specialities, &c.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley. — General-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The engagement here of Mr. J. H. Clyndes and company in *A Royal Revenge* has met with gratifying support, and Mr. Clyndes, in his well-studied performance of the dual rôle of Estevan Alvarez and Pedro de Castro has evolved loud applause. Miss Aimee Gratton Clyndes affects the audience favourably with her artistic acting as Cora Casilda; Miss Enid Edoni is eminently satisfactory as Inez Alvarez; Miss Ethel Whiteley comports herself with admirable dignity as the Lady Superior; Mr. John Foxhill as the miser, Vargus, is duly realistic; Mr. George Foster as Manuel Mondega acts with commendable spirit; and much success attends the efforts of Mr. A. F. Dudley as Azan Ben Musid and Count Ulric Useda, two cleverly differentiated rôles; Mr. H. W. Bradford scores as the King of Spain, and comedy is well portrayed by Mr. Walter Kenion and Miss Emmeline Roselle as Michael Sancha and Paquita Marcella.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*Her Second Time on Earth* is attracting large audiences here. Mr. Frank R. Robertson secures a hearty reception with his manly portrayal of Jack Carlton; Mr. W. H. Porter is duly repellent as Guy Brand; Mr. Leonard Aardale invests the rôle of Beppo with much significance; Mr. John Nolan presents a fine study of Captain Norman; Mr. Cyril Vernon makes a pleasing charracter of Tom Norman; Miss Hilda Beverley acts with much *finesse* and power as Dora Grey; Miss D. Hildebrand gives a finished presentment of Laura Norman; Miss Polly Marsh assumes the attributes of Eliza Burk with rare fidelity; Mr. Will Corrie is diverting as Teddy Butterfly; and Miss Marie Kildare aids in the diversion as Kitty Rosebud.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Mr. John Tiller's burlesque company is the big turn this week in *High Jinks*. Dutch Daly, with his concertina selections, and Herren Boris Lensky, who is an expert violinist, are loudly applauded, as also are the Scottish Meisters, who are most popular; Atroy is a clever juggler; Frank Lynne, Carlton, and Albert Le Fre add to the mirth of the evening; Violi is a brilliant instrumentalist.

Gaiety Theatre. — General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Lelia Roze has had a hearty welcome from her admirers here, appearing in her musical sketch, *A Dressing Room Dream;* another good turn is Fisher's Operatic Trio; Harry Gold is a popular comedian; and Sandford and Lyons are an amusing pair. Other popular turns are: Lord, Murray, and Lord, the Sisters Lunelle, Oakdene, ventriloquist, Sibb and Sibb, trapeze artists, Rezene and Robini, Wee Mona, and J. A. Wilson.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Phil Ray is making a big hit this week; Hodgson and Lowther's company, in a sketch, *Barmaids*, is most amusing; Charles Prelle, with his dog act; the Three Pirmans, amusing and clever gymnasts; Mabel Kessler, Herbert La Martine, Harris and Worth, Gracie Taylor, Jack Rae, and the Almas all come in for a good share of applause.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Charles Carte is appearing here as Jerry the Tramp, in the melodramatic sketch, *A Noble Brother;* the Monte-Myro troupe are applauded for their clever tricks; a smart shadowgraph and juggling act is given by the Debreans; the Smithson's comedy company appears in an amusing sketch, *The Lie Alarm;* Ian Colquhoun, Albertine Melich, and Lucia and Viata are prominent turns.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Eden Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—The boards are occupied this week by Mr. Robert Perris's company in *A Fight for Millions*. Mr. John E. Carlyle undertakes the rôle of Tom Manley in a praiseworthy manner; a powerful representation of Richard Dudley, the remorseless villain, is given by Mr. Hugh Mewburn; Solomon Moses is well played by Mr. Karl H. Edwards; Mr. Robt. A. Earl is an able interpreter of Hudson Rivers; Miss Alwynne Ermon is effective in the rôle of Pearl Rivers; much sympathy is evoked by Miss Elma C. Turner as Helen Dudley and Miss Mabel Howe as Little Madge; Miss Nora Kingsley is successful as Mrs. Hudson River. The comic relief is ably provided by Mr. Harry Howe as Willie Neverwork.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone. — Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is still in possession here. That charming comedy, *Cousin Kate*, was played during the early part of this week with great success. Miss Lilias Earle assumed the name rôle, and won all hearts; Heath Desmond found an able exponent in Mr. Templer Powell, and Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox interpreted the rôle of the Rev. James Bartlett in exactly the right spirit, and Mr. S. Irwin Barrett made a good Bobby Spencer; Miss Hilda Honiss was a sweet and natural Amy Spencer, and Miss Amy Coleman was well suited to the part of Mrs. Spencer; Miss Margaret Marshall's Jane was also a very praiseworthy characterisation.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson. *The Breed of the Treshams*, played by Mr. Frank Bertram's company, is proving very attractive fare here this week. Lieut. Keresby is played by Mr. H. Tripp Edgar, and his efforts are warmly appreciated; Miss Celestine Bertram, who plays Batty, is also a great favourite; Miss Florence Tressilian gives a pleasing representation of the Hon. Margaret Hungerford, and capable work is done by Messrs. Oswald Lingard (Viscount Dorsington), Richard A. Greene (Clement Hungerford), George Traill (Sir Henry Carwen), and Cecil C. Klein (Francis Tresham).

Palace. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The programme here this week includes Joe Reichen, who submits a remarkable turn with a team of performing dogs; Mason and Bart contribute a clever and amusing gymnastic act; Marie Blythe is a pleasing vocalist; the Barrellis give their musical tit-bits; Hans and Lux find favour as argumentative comedians; Hettie Chattell shines as a burlesque actress; Tom N. Mills is an amusing comedian; Martinetti and Grossi give their American surprise act; and Gladys Mavius, the Canadian girl, is also well received.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Melvin.—A good reception was given to Mr. Baron H. Harriss's company on Monday, when *The Prince of Pilsen* was submitted to a Bolton audience, for the first time. The production is admirably staged, the scenery and dresses being most effective. The part of Hans Wagner is in the hands of Mr. Harry Kilburn, whose performance is eminently diverting; Mr. Frank Crimp, an ideal Prince of Pilsen, has a capital stage presence and a fine voice; Mr. Roy Sydney is smart and efficient as Lieut. Tom Wagner; Mr. Bernard Russell is most amusing as the Earl of Shrimpton; and Mr. Ernest Gifford is fully equal to the part of Francois. Miss Connie Leon is smart and chic as Sidonie, her singing and dancing gaining her much applause; Miss Dorothy Grasdorff is dainty and charming as Nellie Wagner; Miss Mollie Wynne is capital as Jimmie; Miss Florence Beech scores as Edith Adams; and Miss Sophie Harriss, who is well suited to the part of Mrs. Maddison Crocker, plays with great vivacity and abandon, her acting and singing being alike good.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Chief place in the programme here is filled by Eugene Stratton, the "Ideal Coon," whose reception has been very flattering; Beattie and Blanche, comediennes and dancers; Alec Leo, comedian; Ernesto, a smart juggler and equilibrist; Tom and Marie Motramo, in their amusing musical act *Do you Reverse?* Harry Clifford, comedian; Allis and Cassati, in singing, comedy, and dancing; Bliss and Bliss, comedians; the Elgars, refined vocal entertainers; Harry Tate's latest success, *Fishing*; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope are other attractions in a fine bill.

BOOTLE. — Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Young.—Mr. Lingford Carson's No. 1 répertoire company opened to a good house on Monday night with *A Modern Adventuress*. Miss Muriel Thompson was highly successful as the scheming adventuress, Violet Meredith; and she was ably assisted by Mr. Ernest J. Fare as Wallace Denton. Mr. Sydney C. Cranston was seen to advantage as Harry Delby; and Miss Marrie Robson portrayed the part of Vivette Delby in a pleasing manner. Mr. Charles Draycott gave a finished and powerful rendering of Pietro Donelli; and Mr. Morley Carroll did full justice to the character of William Delby. Mr. Dobson Clyde did well as Walter Beale; while Mr. Arthur Byron gave a true and characteristic rendering of John Crompton, a Yorkshireman. He was capitally partnered by Miss Daisy Norman as Sally Hodges. On Thursday night *The Heart of a Hero* was played, and Friday was set apart for a benefit to Mr. Charles Draycott, and a special programme was submitted in addition to the drama.

BOSTON.—Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. Saphrini.—The Royal Temples head the bill here this week; Mlle. Louise Gilbert, the Welsh soprano, is exceptionally good; La Belle Lilly and Albert are fine gymnasts; the Hackfords are special artists on the bouncing spring; Silly Billy Elliott, Yorkshire Comedian, is decidedly funny; and Alf Bishop, Rena and Rex, Wallie Gilbert, and the Two Wambas help to make up a strong programme.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company, under the direction of Mr. Peter Davey, opened on Monday with *Brigadier Gerard*. Mr. Loring Fernie delineates the title-character with rare skill, and receives strong support from Mr. George Mallett in a clever reading of Talleyrand, and Mr. Arthur Somers as Napoleon. The Mons. d'Albert of Mr. Penn Hamilton is quite good; Miss Maud Hoffman is successful as the Comtesse, more especially in her scene with Mr. Somers in the last act; and Miss Gertrude Beattie as Agnes is delightful.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—After an absence of twelve months, the gifted actress, Miss Olga Nethersole, reappeared here on Monday night as Fanny le Grand in *Sapho*, with which her name has so long been identified. There was a large audience, who were stirred visibly by Miss Nethersole's emotional acting, and the interest was intense, culminating in prolonged applause at the fall of the curtain. Mr. Frank Mills's fervour and convincing acting as Jean Gaussin enabled him to share largely in the honours; and Mr. William Clarke earned distinction by a humorous impersonation of Cesaire Gaussin; in fact, the support all round was admirable. Mr. John Nesbit as M. Dechelette, Mr. Julian Royce as Eugene Flamant, Miss Constance Raymond as Alice Dore, Miss Edith Clarke as Irene, Miss Mary Relph as Mme. Hettema and Miss Ina Goldsmith as Francina being particularly noticeable. Miss Agnes Tina displayed intelligence as the boy Joseph. On Wednesday evening Miss Nethersole appeared as Paula in *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, with Mr. Mills as Aubrey Tanqueray.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's excellent company is presenting Hall Caine's dramatised version of *The Christian* here this week, with that clever actress, Miss Grace Chalmers, in the exacting part of Glory Quayle; her acting is charming and at times intensely dramatic, and she has fine support from Mr. Frank Tennant, a manly and convincing John Storm. Mr. Frederick Scarth is effective in a self-possessed impersonation of Lord Robert Ure; and Mr. W. Brisco Owen's Drake. Mr. Edwin Ling's Father Lamplugh, and Mr. Charles Hill's Parson Quayle are amongst the more noticeable efforts.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Drama proper is a feature of the big programme here this week, *The Orange Girl*, a play in three effective scenes, affording the charming actress, Miss Dolly Elsworthy, fine scope for her powers as a comedienne in the character of Nell Gwynne. R. H. Douglass is excellent in his monologue, "Take-offs"; and as a dialect vocal comedian, Phil Hermann is very humorous. The Dean Tribune Trio introduce some boisterous fun into their laughable sketch, *Applicants;* Will Cornish is clever with the handbells; a clever and graceful equilibristic and acrobatic performance is submitted by the Two Picquays, with their wonderfully trained tropical birds, Rose Naynon and Clyde Phillips furnish a delightful entertainment; Lady Mansel reappears with her smart juvenile singers and dancers with much success; and some excellent films are shown by the American Bioscope.

Palace The

as Millie Mostyn; Miss Helene Rose made a vivacious Ninette; Miss Kathleen Courtney did well as Susie; and Miss Violet Crossley was sufficiently dignified as Lady Willoughby. General Sir Wilkie Willoughby had a capital exponent in Mr. J. F. McArdle, his quaint style causing no end of merriment; Mr. G. Davy Burnaby was decidedly funny as Viscount Gushington; Mr. Lionel Victor acted cleverly as Adolphus Dudd; Mr. Fred Allendale hit off the peculiarities of Monsieur Duval accurately; the two waiters had humorous exponents in Mr. George Barrett and Mr. A. E. E. Edwardes; and Mr. Ernest W. Laceby made a good character-part of the German commissionaire, Rudolph.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—Mr. Fred Melville's company is here with the interesting and well-staged drama, *Her Forbidden Marriage*. A real motor-car, several horses—one a buck-jumper—and a carriage and pair, add considerably to the effect of the staging. Mr. Henry Lonsdale acts excellently as George Madison; Mr. Louis Hector is consistent and effective as Charles Devereux; Miss Nellie Bonser is pleasing and expressive as Lucy; and the comic parts of Timothy Tuttutt and Patty Lovejoy are capitally taken by Mr. Fred de Vere and Miss Denny Fitzherbert. Other important parts have competent and careful exponents in Mr. Beresford Whitcomb, Miss Octavia Noel, and Miss Barbara Gott.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—Albert Wyndham and company are appearing here with success in a round of Shakespearean sketches, both the staging and acting being satisfactory. Darc's Marionettes are appreciated, the puppets representing leading variety artists, who appear in song and dance; Griff, assisted by Alpha, amuses with patter and comic juggling; Otto and Olga, speciality comedy artists, obtain considerable applause; Yolande Noble, comedienne, is pleasing; Winnie Derson, comedienne, is also highly successful; and Harry Anderson, comedian, is evidently a favourite here. The performance concludes with a good display of Vernon's animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—John Lawson and company are appearing here in several popular sketches, all going well and obtaining full appreciation; Irma Lorraine presents a fine series of picture tableaux, representative of various seasons of the year, &c., all her poses being exceptionally graceful and artistic. Other artists include the Jackley Trio, in a clever acrobatic and whistling turn; Princess Pauline, a pleasing comedienne; Serpentello, the well-known contortionist; Bonetti and Corrie, smart jugglers and comedy artists; the Sisters Morgan, competent duettists and dancers; and George Prince, a comedian with good songs and quaint style. The performance concludes with interesting animated pictures.

BROMLEY.—LYRIC THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Purcell; Assistant-Manager, Mr. David Watson. — A three nights' visit is being paid by the Ian Maclaren Shakespearean and Classical Répertoire Company, and presented to a crowded house an excellent performance of *David Garrick* on the night of our visit. Mr. Ian Maclaren gave a really fine impersonation of David Garrick, his excellent acting and fine elocution produced a marked impression on the audience. A humorous impersonation of the Hon. Bob Fairly was given by Mr. Philip Gordon; Mr. Whitford Kane was good as Mr. Peters; Mr. Johnson had an excellent representative in Mr. Houston Meharry; a splendid performance of Alderman Brackson was given by Mr. Ed. Landor. A warm word of praise must be given to Miss Edith Coleman for an excellent study of Mabel Brackson; Miss Gertrude Littlewood caused amusement as Mrs. Peters; and Mrs. Henry Howard did well as Isabella Johnson. The comedy was preceded by a comedietta entitled *Delicate Ground*, with Mr. Ian Maclaren in his original character as performed at the Garrick Theatre.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Musical comedy is again presented in a creditable manner, and on Monday night Charles Macdona's company gave much satisfaction to a good house with *The Toreador*. Mr. Harold Batt shows much agility and skill as Pettifer; Mr. Walter Champney is a funny Sammy Gigg; a comical Sir Archibald Slackett is that of Mr. Ralph Lynn; Mr. Sidney Granville as Carajolo pleases much with his singing; Miss Marie Beresford as Nancy Staunton is charming; Miss Leah Howard as Susan and Miss Eliza Earle as Dora are clever and vivacious; Miss Beatrice Grosvenor is a satisfactory Mrs. Malton Hoppings; Donna Teresa is well presented by Miss Nina Carlton; Mr. George Austin does well as Augustus Trail.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The musical comedy *The Toreador* is being presented here this week by Mr. Mouillot's excellent company. Mr. Harry Buss keeps the audience in continual laughter as Sammy Gigg. Mr. Howard Cridland is an excellent Archie Slackett, and Mr. Atheling Farrar is good as Augustus Traill; Mr. H. M. White is deservedly encored for his able singing as Carajolo; Mr. Fred Fowler as Pettifer contributes some smart dancing, as also does Mr. Alfred H. Majilton as the Governor, and Mr. Alick Macmillan is good as Rinaldo. Miss Rose Helene as Nancy sings "The Language of Flowers" prettily; Miss Zoe Gilfillan is a captivating Dora, and Miss Katie May as Susan is charming; Miss Marie Adair is a dashing Donna Teresa, and Miss Florence Burdett scores as Mrs. Hoppings. The orchestra is under the able bâton of Mr. George Saker.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Sid Cotterell and company in *The Substitute* are here this week, and are well received; Zertho and his dogs are an acceptable turn, and Ruby Dahl, with his "Merry Mannikins," obtains a flattering reception; the Two Lauries are clever eccentric acrobats; Essman in a juggling performance creates much laughter; Jack Hylton is a funny comedian; the Brothers Bright are clever gymnasts; and Dot Hardy is a pleasing comedienne.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE (NEW HIPPODROME).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. G. Arkell.—A fresh array of talent is here this week, consisting of Flo Melville, charming burlesque artist; Kavados, a clever juggler and cannon ball king; Bert and Dora, comedy artists; Henderson, rightly named the blind genius; Harry Clyo and Rose Rochelle, in a funny comedy act; and Geo. Barron, the eccentric comedian; a picturesque show is given by Ara, Zebra, and Vora. The Raymond Bio-Tableaux, with the latest living pictures, is also in evidence.

BURY (Lancs.).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Messrs. E. Lockwood and R. Crossman's company is paying a return visit here with *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. T. A. Shale is capital as Crookie Scrubbs, laughter being continuous all the time he is on the stage; he has an able partner in Mr. E. Russell as Sergeant Brue; Miss Lily Lingard is a charming Lady Bickenhall; Miss Kitty Dale has a pleasing voice as Aurora Brue; and Miss Constance Berkeley is good as Daisy; Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy as Michael Brue, and Mr. Henry Chichester as Mr. Crank fill their parts well.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A good programme here this week includes two special turns by natives of Bury, Messrs. Binns and Binns, in their little comedy, entitled *Vagabonds*, and Mr. Michael Quinn, the principal baritone of the Amateur Operatic Society, who appears for the first time as a music-hall artist. Other turns include Vandinoff, a lightning painter; Alcide Capitaine, gymnast; the Bros. Babasio, in feats of strength; Maggie Rimmer, singer and dancer; Charles Craston, comedian; and Mulven and Miriam, comedians.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. W. Broadhead, jun.—The turns here include Ju Kuto, Japanese wrestler; the Four Keith-Mersons, in a laughable sketch, entitled *The Comic Huntsmen*; the Canary Family, in a novelty, which they call *The Flying Kitchen*; Edie Gray and her coons; Lachie Thomson's topweights; Kroney Bros. tumblers; Leon and Leoni, banjoists; and Kato's Komical Kidgets.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr. Edward Terry is ever welcome here, and on Monday met with a warm reception on appearing as William Todman in *Liberty Hall*. Miss Fyfe Alexander was quite at home as Blanche Chilworth; Miss Gertrude Tate made a sweet Amy; Mr. Allan Pollock appeared as Mr. Owen; Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., was seen to advatnage as Hon. Gerald Harringay; Mr. William Dexter as J. Briginshaw, Mr. E. W. Thomas (Mr. Pedrick), Mr. George Howard (Mr Hickson), and Miss Ella Dixon (Miss Hickson), were all particularly satisfactory, and Miss Eugenie Vernil gave an excellent study of Crafir. On Tuesday *The Magistrate* was played, and on Wednesday *Sweet Lavender*.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—*Veronique* is always well received in Cardiff, and its visit this week has drawn fine houses. Mr. George Dance's company is as strong as on previous visits. Miss Ruth Lincoln, in her interpretation of the title-rôle, displays her sweet voice with excellent effect; Mr. Roland Bottomley as Florestan makes a conspicuous success; Miss Lena Maitland as the Countess also displays vocal ability; and as Agatha, Miss Ethel Negretti evokes genuine applause. Mr. Leslie Holland is funnier than ever as Coquenard; Mr. Fred Lyne as Loustot is diverting; and Mr. Courtney Comber is effective as Seraphin. A delightful little Denise is Miss Gracie Sinclaire.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—*The Convict's Daughter*, the attraction at the King's this week, is presented by Mr. Frank Bertram's capable company. Mr. Bertram is conspicuous throughout the drama with his carefully studied delineations; Mr. G. Moreton-Williams proves a well-groomed and callous villain as Jasper Thorn; Mr. Herbert M. King as Trevalyen displays histrionic ability; and Mr. C. Nelson Wallace does well as Frederick Neville, the banker. In Miss Nellie Clyde as Edith Neville the piece has a delightful heroine; and Miss Rose Carew is at home in the part of Marian Thorn. The comedy parts are well filled.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—A strong and varied programme is put forward this week. Ludwig Amann never fails to entertain with his faithful facial reproductions of great men; the Five Bogannys fairly bring down the house with their wonderfully clever Risley performance; Victor Travers is a comedian with a fund of genuine humour; Florence and Lillian provide a refined musical act; and Lena Willard is a chic, fascinating comedienne. The Avrignys, jugglers and equilibrists; Amy Russell, a pleasing vocalist; and Roy and Fenton, in an absurdity entitled *The Grass-Widower*, are also prominent names on the programme. Will Evans causes much disappointment by his absence through indisposition; but the bioscope is to the fore with pictures of the Cardiff City Hall Opening.

CARLISLE.—H.M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—The first visit of Mr. F. Mouillot's principal company in *A Message from Mars* is creating considerable interest here. Mr. Herbert J. Bentley's Horace Parker is a fine performance, every trait of an interesting character being realised with ease and skill; Mr. William H. Brougham is a sonorous Messenger; a fine character sketch of the Tramp is contributed by Mr. Bruce Lindley; Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson makes the most of the American; as Minnie Templer Miss Joan Ellis is simply delightful; and Miss Flora Hastings gives a dignified impersonation of Miss Parker.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Limited; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The programme submitted here by the enterprising managing director this week is notable for its all-round excellence. The star turn is provided by the Delevines in their comedy act entitled *Flipp and Flopp*, which is genuinely funny. Winona and King, rifle experts, do some wonderful things in trick shooting; Agnes Molteno has a beautiful voice, which she uses with cultured skill in operatic selections and popular ballads; a really good class turn is contributed by Mount and Corelli in their musical duologue, *The Master and the Maid;* Charlie Williams is a successful big boot dancer; Illumino Statuo introduces a pretty and uncommon stage setting with brilliant lighting effects, the capable singing of the central figure adding greatly to the success, and a clever knockabout and horizontal bar act is given by Stelling and Revell.

CARMARTHEN. — ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Public Rooms Co.; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—Mr. Sidney Dench's company has appeared this week in the realistic drama *The Rich and Poor of London*. Miss Dorah Dench as May Braithwaite gave a realistic interpretation to her part, and Miss Emily Woodleigh as Auntie Scrimp was equally good; Miss V. Lesborough as Buby Redgrave was a success; as was also Miss Sibel Viney as Polly Phillpot; Miss Minnie Bedford as the heiress of Ravenswood was all that could be desired; while Master Bert Dench as Dixie, the waif, must be highly complimented on the way in which he portrayed the part; the Earl of Ravenswood was capitally interpreted by Mr. F. Dunmer; and Mark Stanning (his nephew) was ably embodied by Mr. Dennis Clyde; Mr. Henry Deane performed the part of Dr. Leonard Morton with much ability; and Matthew Grabbers, the rascally lawyer, found a capable and realistic exponent in Mr. Cole Aspinall; Mr. Arthur Jarvis in the rôle of Bill Binks, of Billingsgate, was a success; and Mr. Sidney Dench as Spider Jack evoked warm encomiums for his delineation of the part.

CASTLEFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J. E. Cardwell's company in the musical comedy, *Beauty and the Beast*, is here this week. Miss Dolly Dodds is a charming Beauty; Miss May Gibson a captivating Silver Star; Miss Beattie Townsend does good work as Evilheart; wee George Wood is exceptionally funny as Pip; as Baron Hardup Master Jack Harrison is a clever little comedian; Mr. Will Orston makes up and acts well as the Beast; the Brothers Armstrong create laughter as the Baron's daughters; and Messrs. Doyle and Gibson make a humorous pair as Flipp and Flopp; Miss Kitty Trewitt is good as Prince Charming; Will Scarlett finds a clever representative in Miss Daisy Fielder; the dancing of Miss Annie Brumby is graceful; and Miss Isa Gibson makes a pert and vivacious Maid Marion.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—Here we have *Beauty and the Barge* on a return visit. The chief honours rest with Mr. Blake Adams, whose Captain James Barley is an excellent piece of work; Miss May Fairclough is pleasing and natural as Ethel Smedley; Mr. Edward Coventry is a capital Lieut. Seton Boyne; Mr. Walter Pemperton sufficiently irascible in the rôle of Major Smedley; Tom Cod and John Dibbs are ably represented by Messrs. Fred Knight and Charles White respectively; Miss Ruby Wyndham is amusing as Mrs. Baldwin, and other characters are in good keeping.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Marie Kendall is on a welcome return visit, and is attracting big audiences; Lacey's Erascope finds new pictures, and the variety turns include the Keiths, in a musical act; George Hall, siffleur and vocalist; the Sisters Desmond, duettists; Ellis and Watts, comedians; and Steve McCarthy, the Irish Coon.

GAIETY PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. H. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank E. Donne.—Carrie Laurie has improved her Kindergarden act, and the juveniles appear to do better than ever; Arabella Allen is proving a strong attraction, her studies from Dickens gain every possible attention on the part of the audience; Boyd and Gilfain score every time, while others appearing are Daisy Lane, comedienne; Harry Carmen, vocalist; Syria Lamonte, ballad vocalist; Fred Alberto, comedian and dancer; and pictures by the Edisonograph.

CHELTENHAM. — OPERA HOUSE. — General Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. Mouillot's company is paying a return visit in the ever-welcome *San Toy*. Miss Bessie Alleyne is graceful and sings well in the title-rôle; Mr. Arthur Cartwright makes a capital Captain Bobby Preston, rendering "Motherland" with thrilling effect; Mr. Bert Edwards plays the part of Li with unflagging humour, being well supported in song and dance by Miss Lottie Sargeant as Dudley; Yen How is impersonated with comic dignity and the necessary unction by Mr. Hugh Webb; Fo Hop has a dramatic representative in Mr. Charles Rose; Mr. Wm. Jordan is a sly Emperor; Mr. Robert Rivers acts forcibly as the peppery Sir Bingo; Mr. Geo. Taylor plays and sings pleasantly as Lieut. Tucker; Miss Irene Lavington makes a charming Poppy; and Miss Maud Rundell gives a graceful and agile pas seul. Miss Winifred Howard is a handsome and clever leader of the Emperor's Amazons; Mr. Hubert Sullivan-Brooke is the capable conductor of a smart chorus and augmented orchestra.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. G. T. Sante; Manager, Mr. Arthur Hemingway.—Mr. and Mrs. W. Maclaren's company in *Proof* is here this week. Mr. Gerald Kennedy gives an excellent rendering of Pierre Lorance; the despicable character of Lazare is powerfully portrayed by Mr. W. J. Butler; Mr. Wilford Bailey infuses a considerable amount of broad humour into the part of Chamboran; Mr. Carl Beechey is well suited to the rôle of the Duke d'Aubeterre; Mr. Frank Hawkesbury does exceedingly well as Victor; Valentine is admirably delineated by Miss May Grimshaw; Miss Beatrice Shirley sustains cleverly the rôles of Madeline and Adrienne; and Miss Phena Powell as Madame Deprets and Miss Nita Ashley as Duchesse d'Aubeterre capably enact their representative parts.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Herbert J. Montague.—The attraction here this week is the popular drama, *On the Stroke of Twelve*, presented by Messrs. D'Arcy and Little's company. Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle depicts the hero Jack Rutledge in a manner worthy of high praise; Mr. H. Creagh Hunt gives a convincing rendition of the unscrupulous James Horton; Mr. Fred J. Little is highly successful as Jasper; and a smart character sketch of Moses Levi is given by Mr. Syd T. Russell. George Bainbridge is well acted by Mr. Fred Guinness; Mr. Fred Ferne does good work as Henry Rutledge; Mr. Will Bass finds favour as Pat; Miss Nellie Moore gives a careful reading of Jess; and Miss Beatrice Moore is a charming Doris Rutledge.

COATBRIDGE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Coatbridge Theatre Company; Managing-Directors, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Commins.—Mr. Samuel James's company is paying a first visit here this week, and on Monday evening opened with *As Good as Gold*. Mr. H. H. Barrington capably delineates Mark Williams; Mr. William Heilbronn makes much of the part of Lieut. Jack Stanton; Mr. Richard Ferris displays ability as Sir Richard Wharncliffe; and a typical portrayal of Horatio Spanker is given by Mr. Norman Hall. Miss Kate Froude is well cast as Kate D'Arvilie; Anna Nias is admirably undertaken by Miss Florence Lovell; Miss Edith Carr scores as Madge Merry; and as Nora Williams the equal of Miss Barbara Allison would be hard to find.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—On Monday, before a large audience, Mr. Fred. Mouillot's *Blue Moon* company opened a three-nights' engagement. In the title-rôle, Mlle. Marguerite Naudin was nicely placed, a like remark applying to Mr. Arthur Radcliff as Jack Ormsby, whilst the efforts of Miss Dorma Morgan as Evelyn Ormsby and Mr. Basil Mercer as Bobbie Scott were highly successful. Mr. Victor Wallace made a smart Major Callabon, and Mr. Fred Inwood a picturesque Prince of Kharikhar; Mr. Ainslie Burton was intensely droll as Moolraj; but perhaps the most popular parts were Private Tayor and Millicent Leroy, as delineated by Mr. Charles Stephenson and Miss May Audrey respectively, these two being vociferously applauded for their really smart dancing and singing. Miss Mary Glanbrane was an ideal Lady Brabasham, and the choruses left little to be desired.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter do Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Ben de Frece.—The star turn this week is Maxadler's thrilling spectacle entitled *Balaclava*. Cole and Rags, comedy jugglers, are a very entertaining pair; Arthur Slater scores as a siffleur, and Milner Verren sings sweetly. Daisy Silcott sings a couple of capital songs, and Jack Heath is a welcome comedian. As usual, the pictures conclude the bill.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. George Alexander's company opened a week's engagement here on Monday in *His House in Order*. Miss Jean Sterling MacKinlay, in the part of Nina proves that she is an actress of exceptional insight and intelligence, her impersonation being powerful and pleasing; Mr. Stephen F. Ewart as Hilary Jesson, displays both humour and dignity, as the part demands. The colourless Filmer Jesson is a character well filled by Mr. J. Edward Pearce; and Mr. George Fitzgerald as Sir Daniel Ridgeley, Mr. Ernest R. Holloway as Pryce Ridgeley, Miss Elaine Sleddal as Geraldine Ridgeley, and Miss Augusta Haviland as Lady Ridgeley all present clever studies; Miss Maisie Richardson as Derek is apt and intelligent.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The programme here is up to a very high standard. Bertha Stuart's singing of "Bonnie Mary of Argyle" and "Caller Herrin'" is charming; Barrington, musical expert, is clever; George Gilbey contributes some good songs; Leslie and Player are smart comedy artists; Kiota's balancing feats are sensational; and Fred Dunlop, Claude Tomlin, and Yank Hoe also entertain.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—On Monday night a hearty reception was accorded Mr. George Dancer's principal company in the *Cingalee*. Mr. Jack Crichton gives a pleasing rendering of Chambhuddy Ram, his clever dancing being much admired, and with Miss Gladys Guy as Peggy Sabine is repeatedly encored. Mr. Cyril Dane gives a capital account of himself as the Hon. Harry Vereker; Mr. Helier le Maistre makes an imposing Boobhamba; Mr. Grafton Williams gives an amusing rendering of Sir Peter Loftus; Mr. Ethelbert Edwards is responsible for Bobby Warren; Miss Georgina Middleton as Naneya makes a charming Cingalee Girl; and Miss Marjory Clark is good as Lady Patricia Vane.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, T. M. Sylvester.—Well filled houses witnessed on Monday night a varied and excellent programme, chief amongst the numerous artists being Datas, the Human Almanac; the Three Olympiers give a pleasing entertainment, entitled *Beauty in Bronze;* the Virginians, a troupe of coloured artists, are heartily received; Mr. Ernest Rees proves himself to be a first-class comedian; Okill is clever as a ventriloquist; Wallace Witney is a comedian; Beattie Foster and Lily Webb are well received; the Meynots give a good turn; and the usual Bioscope pictures conclude the performance.

THE EMPIRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance. — After a highly successful opening week the Empire is starting on what may be called a variety season, and on Monday night two packed houses witnessed an up-to-date programme. Miss Vesta Tilley was, of course, the chief star, and she had a hearty welcome; Bessie Bull scored a success as a comedienne and expert dancer; Will Van-Allen gave a capital entertainment on a variety of instruments; Conway and Leyland, the one-legged acrobats, are very clever; the Karno Four gave a pantomimic entertainment of a most amusing kind; Nat Clifford was well received; Cull Pitt is an expert juggler, also a clever facial artist; Miss Rosaline Jacobs is a talented vocalist.

CRADLEY HEATH. — EMPIRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—Mr. Howell Webb presents Miss Emily Huby's company in *The Price of Pleasure*. Mr. Howell Webb is a polished Sir James Featherstone; Miss Lilian B. Earle as Alice Rivers, alias "Madame La Reine," wins applause; Mr. Graham Arthurs submits a careful study as Gilbert D'Armand; Mr. Charles E. Howell makes a dignified Charles Mordaunt; Mr. Joe Bardsley as Tatters is very amusing, being ably assisted by Miss Kate Lever as Polly Wilson; Mr. J. E. Tomlinson deserves mention for his rendition of Sidney Roberts; Mr. C. Bennett makes a capital detective; Mr. Ben Fletcher is well chosen to represent John Blake; and Mr. Arthur Manville is a good Inspector of Police; Miss Madge Moore gives a winsome interpretation of Lilian, and Miss Alice Granville makes a first-rate Biddy O'Flanagan.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company presented *Two Little Vagabonds* here on Monday. Miss Valerie Crespin acts with the skill of an accomplished actress as Marion Thornton; and Miss Lillian Stewart gives an excellent rendering of Barbara Scarth. Miss Lucy Beaumont and Miss Gladys Vernon make two very clever little vagabonds; and Miss Violet Vivian as Biddy Mullins gives a characteristic study of gipsy life. Miss Lenna Vernon is well placed as Sister Randall. Mr. Douglas Vigors gives a powerful portrayal of George Thornton; Mr. Edward McLean as Captain Darville appears to advantage; Mr. Richard Hicks gives a creditable display as John Scarth; Mr. Lionel Ellis is thoroughly at home as Bill Mullins; and Mr. Frank Gordon as Dido Bounce and Mr. Gerald Valentine as The Cough Drop, do well.

CROOK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Wallace Davidson, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Wallace Davidson.—Messrs. F. J. Pitt and Charles Halling's company in *£1000 Reward* occupies the boards here this week. As Dick Springthorpe Mr. C. Rogers, jun., is very good, and Mr. J. N. Cowling does well in the character of Fred Ingleford; as Mme. Sanson Miss Daisy Halling deserves special mention for a capable rendering of an arduous part; Miss Crissie Francess is a lively Kitty; and Mr. J. B. Murry does full justice to the rôle of Gilbert Lisle.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Mr. James Welch and company are obtaining a cordial reception in *When Knights were Bold*. Mr. George F. Tully scores in the rôle of Wittle; Mr. Gordon Tomkins is adequate as Barker; Mr. Henry J. Ford makes a droll Charles Widdicombe; Mr. Arthur Grenville is capital as Isaac Isaacson; Mr. Arthur Chesney does well as the Rev. Peter Pottleberry; Mr. Edward Sass is seen to advantage as Sir Brian Ballymote; and Mr. James Welch keeps the fun at high pressure in the humorous part of Sir Guy de Vere. Miss Emma Gwynne makes an aristocratic Hon. Mrs. Woldegrave; Miss Daisy Cordell is a handsome Miss Isaacson; Miss Audrey Ford acts with charm and dignity as Rowma Eggington; Miss Annie Chippendale is a neat Alice Barker; and the Misses Estelle Winwood, Enid Sass, and Mabel Wentworth are bewitching in the rôles of Millicent Eggington, Marjorie Eggington, and Kate Pottleberry. In the first piece, *The Lady Burglar*, Mr. Henry J. Ford is excellent as Darcy Fitzherbert, and Miss Estelle Winwood hits off to a nicety the part of Honoria Macfarlane. Mr. Leonard Gautier's admirable orchestra is conducted with judgment and skill.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. Fredk. S. Jennings' company in *Why Woman Sins* is appearing here this week. Mr. Harry Culenford as Lieut. Harry Maxwell displays great ability; Mr. Jackson Hayes as Capt. Herbert Carlton is very powerful; Mr. Geo. Ellis is capital as Cecil Spencer; Mr. Geo. Claremont gives an excellent representation of Jim Rainbird; Mr. Will Skelton creates much merriment as Sam Spavin; Mr. Fred May does well as Orlando Whiffles; Mr. Edwin Wilde ably depicts Oliver Desmond; and Mr. W. Watkins is a good exponent of Capt. Algy Belton. Miss Bertie Baker is commendable as Jack Smith; Miss Gertrude Netterville as Ida Valetta is greatly appreciated; Miss Hilda Baynton is exceptionally good as Nell Desmond; Miss Winnie Conway is pleasing as Nelly Nibble; and the rôle of Lily De Vere is well acted by Miss Nellie Sheffield.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Dr. Walford Bodie heads the bill here, and is causing quite a sensation. His reception has been most cordial, and he has made a lasting impression in Croydon. Sybil Montague, ballad vocalist, is good; Herbert Clifton, mimic, has a remarkably fine coice; Zaro and Arno cause amusement in a comedy bar act; Keir and Kempton are soloists and duettists of ability; May Marton is a fascinating comedienne; the Bioscope pictures are worth seeing; and the powerful dramatic episode *Lulu* is well acted by Miss Sylvia Cavalho and company.

DARWEN. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robinson.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company is appearing here this week in a capital drama, entitled *A Traitor Prince*. The company is an excellent one, and includes Mr. Geo. M. Montanini, Mr. J. P. McBride, and Miss Rose Routledge, who are ably supported by Messrs. Edmund O'Grady, Lex Phillip, James Sherwin, and Austin H. Longford, Misses Kitty Thomas, Clara O'Grady, and Nesta Sanford.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Melodrama occupies the boards here this week in the shape of *Cripple Creek*, presented by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. The part of Joe Mayfield is well played by Mr. Stanley Bedwell; and Miss Agnes Verity gives a capital sketch of Dynamite Ann. Miss Lily Beagle makes a charming Belle Gordon; and little Rosie Hopkins acts Tatto very smartly, her singing and dancing also being praiseworthy. Mr. A. D. Layland gives a good account of Wahketah, the faithful Indian; and Messrs. Chas. H. Lester and J. G. Maine merit special mention for the rendering of their respective characters. The comedy element is supplied by Miss Daisy Carlton and Mr. Will Hook as Maggie Mason and a Boston visitor respectively, and Mr. Sydney Benson also contributes humorously to the programme in a nigger part.

PALACE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor. — Mr. Sidney Bacon's company is back again with *The Maniac*. The principal part is powerfully impersonated by Mr. Melville Bickford, and he is ably assisted by Messrs. E. Turner, D. Lyndon, A. Prcotor, and Misses Hilda Merrilees and Dora Hilstrom. The Black and White Comedy Team, commanded by Miss Emma Don and Mr. Walter Munroe, provide a distinctly attractive turn; the Sisters Lynton are charming duettists; Dawson Dewick is a comedian of merit; Alice Maud gives excellent impersonations of popular music hall stars; and Marco is a smart prestidigitateur. The bioscope has an exceedingly entertaining film, depicting Snake Hunting in the Rockies.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King.—The melodrama entitled *Driven from Home* is being presented here by Mr. Andrew Melville's company. Miss Florence Creagh infuses much feeling into the part of Laura Raybrook; Mr. Felix Itt is a hard, stern parent as Antony Raybrook; Mr. Frederick Sandy is an accomplished villain as Geoffrey Waring; and Mr. Clement Wakefield and Miss Madge Muriel give creditable renderings of Walter Hatherleigh and Laura Raybrook respectively. Other members of the cast are Messrs. P. Danson and H. Cornwall and Miss F. Trevoir.

DEWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is presenting here *The Little Bread Winner*. Mr. Campbell, who is the author of the play, is his own business-manager. Mr. Eugene Santley gives a very acceptable portrait of the dour and austere Quaker, Lord William Dorrington; Mr. Matthew Boulton acquits himself admirably as Richard Lawrence; Little Emmie Thomas makes the most of Meg, the little bread winner, and touches the sympathies of the audience; the boyish sangfroid and assurance of the street gamin, Bobby Trott, is effectively realised by Miss Lissa Young; the character of Joseph Prior is well limned by Mr. Alfred Maurice; Mr. Stanley Leedham plays Charles Prior with much unction and skill; and Miss Mary Fulton scores in the emotional rôle of the harassed heroine.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon.—The Arley's combination excite interest and appreciation with their gymnastic pot-pourri. Other turns include Lack and Ford, the indiarubber man and the twister; Rodin, a trick and comic cyclist, who amazes and amuses; Lily Wright, character comedienne and dancer; Vera Mayne, a comedienne with vocal gifts and comedy talent; Lade Henderson, character vocalist; Miss Onda, in the silver-wire act; the Strads, musical sketch artists; L. B. Athol, character comedian; and the Bioscope.

DONCASTER.—NEW THEATRE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—The delightful play, *Mr. Smith*, was the bill of fare provided on Monday evening; Mr. Cecil Du Gue, in the titular rôle, gave a faithful portrayal of an English gentleman; Mr. Sidney Price, no stranger here, was as welcome as ever as the Earl of Otend; Mr. William Dunlop scored in his presentation of the Duke of Angleland; Mr. Austin Spencer did well as the Duke's friend; Mr. George F. Ross was successful in his assumption of Herr Deidrich Anhauser; Miss Mildred Cottell as the aristocrat with prejudices was suitably placed; Miss Phyllis Relph was charming as Ruth Anhauser; and Miss Daisy England as Mrs. Smith displayed pathos and humour.

DOVER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Much interest has been excited among Dover playgoers by the visit of Mr. Alfred J. West's animated photographs of "Our Navy and Our Army." Some fine films are shown and received with enthusiasm, particularly those which have a local interest. Mr. G. Howard Coveney, an excellent elocutionist, renders in splendid style Rudyard Kipling's "Ballad of the Camperdown," and a humorous poem of naval life; and Mr. Julian Fredericks is the efficient musical conductor.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. B. H. Harland; Secretary, Mr. Chas. R. Standfield.—A really charming turn is submitted this week by the Two Kays, dainty and refined artists, who win instant popularity by their pretty songs and pleasing manners; Master George Phillips, a clever vocalist and dancer, is well received; as are also the Cardiffs, smart comedy patter comedians. Miss Amy B. Ellis and Mr. J. H. Brownson appear in a dramatic sketch, entitled *The Harvest of Crime*, and are supported by a first-rate company; Nellie Chandos, burlesque artist, is a great favourite; and Hyram Travers also finds many admirers.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mrs. Michael Gunn is to be congratulated on being able to present to her patrons London's latest and most successful musical comedy, *The Belle of Mayfair*. Messrs. Gatti and Frohman's company is an exceptionally strong one. Miss Alice Russon is an artistic and pleasing Julia Chaldicott; Mr. Charles McNaughton is capital as Sir John Chaldicott; as the Earl of Mount Highgate Mr. Percy Yorke is particularly good, his military song being given in dashing style; Mr. Trueman Towers is a distinguished Bishop of Brighton; Mr. Wensley Russell sings and acts as Hugh Meredith remarkably well; and the Hon. Raymond Finchley is cleverly presented by Mr. Vernon Davidson. Miss Joan Keddie charmingly portrays the rôle of the

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—Mr. Russell Rosse's company commenced a second week's engagement here on Monday in *Caste*. Mr. David James played with excellent effect the part of Eccles; Miss Rachel De Travis creditably portrayed the rôle of the Marquise; Mr. J. Boyd Pearson well sustained the character of Hawtrey; Esther Eccles had a capable exponent in Miss Ida Phillips; and Mr. J. Gildred as D'Alroy and Mr. Norman Clark as Sam Gerridge ably filled those parts. Miss E. Nolan O'Connor was commendable as Polly Eccles.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*Florodora* is once more paying a welcome visit here. Mr. Alf. E. Passmore is exceedingly funny as Tweedlepunch; Cyrus Gilfain is in the capable hands of Mr. Stanley White; Mr. Alan Morris (an old favourite here) sings and acts well as Frank Abercoed; Mr. Herbert St. John gives an easy and artistic rendering of Captain Arthur Donegal; Miss Josephine Sullivan, the possessor of a fine figure and voice, plays Dolores perfectly; Miss Lily Gullick is a pretty and pleasing Angela; and Miss Kate Leicester is refreshing as the captivating Lady Holyrood. Mr. W. Collard is the courteous and capable acting-manager.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—*The Devil's Hand* heads the bill here this week, being rendered in a powerful manner by J. Wright, Aitken and company. Frankie, the juggling schoolboy, performs many novel tricks; the Sisters Duncan, duettists, are pleasing; Long Amos, comedian, is exceptionally amusing; Cissie Astbury is a good comedienne; and Juan and McQue prove themselves to be first-rate comedians and dancers.

DUMFRIES.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. E. Potts; Manager, Mr. Payne Seddon.—Messrs. Durward Lely and William Mollison's company appeared here for three nights with *The Bonnie Briar Bush*. Mr. William Mollison as Lachlan Campbell played with great power and pathos; Mr. A. W. Chappell impersonated Lord Hay in an able manner; Mr. W. A. Mackersey as Wm. MacClure, the Doctor, was very successful; Mr. Durward Lely as the Rev. John Carmichael was loudly applauded, both for singing and acting; Mr. Alec F. Thompson as Archibald McKittrick evoked much merriment; Miss Evelyn M'Nay played with rare feeling and charm the part of the heroine, Flora Campbell; Margaret Howe was sweetly portrayed by Josephine Woodward; Miss Jeannie Fitzgerald as Jeannie was very good; Miss Stewart and Miss Fitzgerald, the child-actresses, were very sweet and natural; Miss Alice Francis was well suited as Kate Carnegie.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. and Mrs. Kendal appeared here on Monday in *The Elder Miss Blossom*. Mrs. Kendal gave a finished portrayal of Dorothy Blossom; Miss Moore-Lane made a sweet and sympathetic Sophia Blossom; Mr. Kendal was successful in bringing out the light and shade of the part of Andrew Quick; Mr. Basset Roe gave a clever rendering of Major Twentyman; Mr. Ernest Hendrie acted the rôle of Christopher Blossom with much skill; Mr. Metcalf Wood as the quaint valet, Withers, and Mr. R. Burnett as Tyrel Jones, the Editor, were excellent in their respective parts. Mr. Maurice J. Toke scored as the Rev. Arthur Leacroft, Mrs. A. B. Tapping as Cooper, Miss Kate Bishop as Mrs. Wells, and Mr. W. M. Rutherford as Wells, all lent effective aid.

PALACE THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—Rousby's illuminated scenes, *Around Paris*, is very effective; the juggling Geraldos are smart in their Indian club manipulation; Spry and Monti score with their clever comedy act; Tony Iveson, "the ragman at the piano," is a firmly-established favourite here; the Lennards, song illustrators; Leon Ardo, conjurer; Mabel La Blanche, vocalist; Fred Dunstone, comedian; and Vernon's animated pictures complete the bill.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Mr. Williams's company is here in *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Mr. Michael Kemble is successful in the part of Gaspard; Miss Adela Harvey as Serpolette sings her numbers well; Miss Kathleen Emmet gives a good account of herself in the rôle of Germaine; Mr. Piercy Watson as the Marquis looks well; and the remaining parts are in excellent keeping.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The drama, entitled *No Man's Land*, is here, and some realistic stage-effects are introduced, including a tropical rainstorm, and a lake of real water, into which the heroine is thrown. Mr. V. L. Thomas scores in the character of Captain Norman Bathurst; Miss Ida Millais as Mary Bathurst, Miss Nancy Mitchell as Polly Poodle, and Mr. Henry Herne as Harry Oaklands, all do well.

DUNFERMLINE.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—Mr. George Dance's company opened here for three nights' engagement on Monday with *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Miss Blanche Lynd gives a praiseworthy rendering as the Duchess; Miss Lilly Hildroe is very sweet and attractive as Renee; Miss Lilian Drake is a stately Josephine; Miss Florance Smith and Miss Sophie Albutt acquit themselves equally well as Sisters of Napoleon; Miss Hettie Ludlow is a capable Lisette; Mr. Alfred Ibberson gives a good rendering of the part of Napoleon; Mr. Leonard F. Griffiths as Duke of Dantzic does full justice to the rôle, and sings with much feeling; Mr. Cecil W. Parke is good; and Mr. Arthur Ferriss as Papillon is very clever.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—This week a variation from the usual type of entertainment is given, and Mr. Eade Montéfiore's company is appearing in *The Streets of London*. As Badger Mr. William Rokeby keeps the house laughing; Mr. Riddell Robinson is a keen and strong Gideon Bloodgood; Mr. Reginald Palgrave is an appropriate Mark Livingstone; and Mr. Charles Kean an effective Paul. Mr. Joe Bracewell is happy in the part of Jonas Puffy; Mr. Clifford Armitage is a good Captain Fairweather; and Miss Florence Moore is a smart and bright Dan Puffy. Miss Winifred Ingham is a refined and appealing Lucy; Miss Dorothy Cacey does able and distinctive work as Alisa; and Miss Adelaide Gracey is a successful Mrs. Puffy. The drama is well staged and effective songs are introduced.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Harold V. Neilson and company are appearing here in *The Perfect Lover*. Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson gives a clever and thoughtful performance as Lilian Tremblett; Miss Dorothy Milne is a successful Martha; Miss Elizabeth Watson is a distinct and individual Susan Lesson; Miss Helene Forest and Miss Hilda Sims are excellent representatives of Mrs. Morphitt and Mrs. Baxter; Miss Margaret Fareleigh is a sympathetic May; and Miss Elsie Savile gives good help as Mrs. Bonham. Mr. W. Lemmon Warde is a clever and incisive William; Mr. H. N. Neilson an earnest Joseph; and Mr. Arthur Burne a polished Lord Cardew. Mr. John Detliv is a markedly clever John Collis; and smaller parts receive good attention at the hands of Mr. A. C. Bute, Mr. H. Nuttall, and Mr. Donald Gow, who is acting-manager for the company.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—Mr. Willie Gardner's extremely clever dancing is well received; Letine is a lifelike female impersonator, and dances well; the Boston Twins are a couple of clever, versatile, and popular comedians; Miss Lily Watson highly amuses with her patter and songs; the Moncktons have an amusing sketch, *Woman's Curiosity*; Mr. Charles Ridgwell provides much laughter as a comedian; and Miss Minnie Rayne sings popular songs well, and new pictures are added.

EDINBURGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—The revival of Mr. Charles Webb's dramatised version of "The Lady of the Lake" affords playgoers the opportunity of witnessing a production memorable in the annals of Messrs. Howard and Wyndham's management of Edinburgh theatres, and the piece was cordially received on Monday evening by a well-filled house. The cast is a good one, including as it does capable representatives of all the leading rôles and a well-drilled crowd of men-at-arms, Highlanders, dancers, peasants, and courtiers. Mr. Leo Stormont makes a sturdy and effective Roderick Dhu; Mr. Ernest E. Norris is a spirited Fitzjames; the Bothwell of Mr. George Barron is admirably done; and Mr. Frederick Harker is commendable in the part of Malcolm Graeme. Another small part deserving mention is the Red Murdoch of Mr. G. Hunter; while Brian and Allan Bane find efficient representatives in Mr. Ernest Lodge and Mr. Chris. Walker; and Mr. Tom Walker is a good John o' Brent. Among the ladies, Miss Dorothy Chard, a young actress who has made a remarkably rapid advance in her profession, portrays Blanche of Devan with touching pathos; Miss Ada Homer is a graceful Ellen Douglas; and Miss Evelyn Pascel does well as Lady Margaret. The spectacular element is artistically supplied by admirable scenery and panoramic effects; and appropriate music, with occasional songs and dances, add to the attractiveness and interest of a pleasing performance.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard Wyndham, Ltd.; General Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—A stage event of the first importance here has been the engagement of Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh in *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Bourchier has not been seen in Edinburgh for some years, and his appearance in Mr. Sutro's powerful play attracted a large and enthusiastic audience to the Lyceum on Monday evening. The character of Jack Frobisher is strongly drawn, and Mr. Bourchier acts it with simplicity, strength, and restraint, and real tenderness. Miss Violet Vanbrugh achieves a distinct triumph in her impersonation of Lady Alethea, which is a brilliant piece of acting, full of grace and of deep feeling. Miss Nora Greenlaw invests the part of Lady Westerby with sincerity and charm, and Miss Jean Harklow presents the smart Miss Mornington with much cleverness. Miss Pamela Gaythorne's Lady Lucy is a bright, well-studied performance, and Mrs. Nye Chart's Duchess of Skye is a neat bit of work. Mr. Charles Goodhart acts the simple, rough Hankey Bannister with humour; Mr. Arthur Whitby is painstaking as the Marquis of Steventon; Mr. H. Nye Chart is good as Dallas; and Mr. Walter Pearce, Mr. Alfred Bristowe, and Mr. Lawson Butt act with care in smaller parts. Mr. Bourchier and Miss Vanbrugh were recalled at the end of each act, and at the close of the piece Mr. Bourchier spoke a few words of thanks, and said he was glad that *The Walls of Jericho* had not fallen flat.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—The leading item in the Empire programme this week is provided by Mr. Carl Hertz, the noted illusionist, who presents, among other clever mysteries, his latest sensation *The Bridal Chamber*, which is greeted by the audience with uproarious applause. The Welsh Wanderers, a troupe of "Penillion" singers and a harpist, give a selection of most delightful part-songs, beautifully rendered. Millie Hylton's song scena, in which she is materially assisted by little Decima Brooks, is quite a superior performance. Whit Cunliffe, an artist new to Edinburgh, proves himself a smart comedian and effective singer; and May Henderson is a bright and amusing comedienne. As gymnasts the Rio Brothers show good work on the trapeze rings; the Mezettis do wonders on the triple bars, introducing, too, a good deal of the farcical element; a diverting turn is supplied by Walter King, the doleful comedian; while the Horne Brothers, in a pugilistic encounter, the Eight of Hearts, with songs and dances, and the American Bioscope complete an excellent bill.

COOKE'S CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. John Henry Cooke.—A delightful programme, fresh and interesting, is provided for the patrons of Cooke's Circus this week. The scenes in the arena abound with life and humour. Miss Iona Ginnett shows what patient training of the horse can accomplish by the graceful performance of her Arabian stallion, while the introduction of the clever horse Cleveland is an extremely pleasing turn. The Pickel Troupe, in a dashing Risley act, are loudly applauded; the Humels again evince their daring in a bareback riding act; and the skating performance by Verne and Verne is amusing and dexterous. Careful management is evidenced in the tasteful tableau, "Peace and War," and the many other acts display all the ingenuity in presenting an appetising entertainment in which Mr. Cooke excels.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville; Joint Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—*The Earl and the Girl* is being staged here this week by Mr. Wm. Greet's company. Mr. Alfred Donshoe portrays Jim Cheese in excellent style; Mr. Thomas Kennard does well as Dick Wargrave; Mr. Leslie Owen, as the Hon. Crewe Boodle, is smart and effective; Miss May Yates, as Elphin Haye, scores a hit; Miss Ida Stratham makes a vivacious Daisy; Miss Lina Hicks, as Liza Shoddam is all that can be desired; and Miss Kathleen Gerard ably sustains the part of Mrs. Shimmering Black. The orchestra is well directed by Mr. W. Stephenson.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—The attraction here for the week is the national drama of *Rob Roy*. The "stars" of the production are Mme. Alice Esty as Diana Vernon; and Mr. E. C. Hedmondt in the rôle of Francis Osbaldistone, whose singing was much admired. The douce, canny Scottish magistrate, Bailie Nicol Jarvie, found an excellent exponent in Mr. W. George Robb; while Mr. Nelson Ramsay, in the title-rôle, was a distinct success. The wild and affectionate nature of the Dugald Cratur was well delineated by Mr. Herbert Bentone; the part of Major Galbraith is one of which Mr. Alexander Hamilton has made a very successful study; the Melen MacGregor of Miss Marion Lind was cleverly undertaken; and Mr. W. E. Holloway made a crafty Rashleigh Osbaldistone. Mr. Robert Minster was a dignified Captain Thornton.

FARNWORTH.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, T. Morton Powell.—This week we are having a visit from Mr. James Willard's company in *A Woman's Pluck*. Miss Grace Lester, who plays the part of Grace Daremont charmingly, meets with well-merited applause; Miss Violet Carr as Jessie Pope gives a capital representation; Mr. Austin Mortimer is very good as Dick Darrell; and Mr. Harry T. Wood plays well as Winston Dale. Mr. John Campling as Sir John Daredevil gives a capital piece of character acting; and Mr. Fred Norburn is all that can be desired as Mark Scanton.

FLEETWOOD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Miss Rose Faith and her company are this week presenting *No Cross, No Crown*. Mr. W. Carriden gives an able portrayal of Sir Francis Luttrell; the villain of the piece, Austin Blake, is played in a capable manner by Mr. Herbert De Ville; Mr. Harrison Chapman makes a good Professor Neb; Mr. Fred Gresham does justice to Dr. Ashby; Mr. C. George impersonates Rawson Haines in good style; and Master Charley Wagg makes an admirable Plato. Miss Rose Faith as Clare (Lady Luttrell) is excellent; Miss Gwen Stewart ably represents Lady Margaret Luttrell; and Miss Rita Rosslyn is appropriately haughty as Dame Priscilla. Miss Corona L'Estrange is also good as Annabel Sylvester, and Miss Ada Clawson, in the part of Dorris Luttrell, is pathetic.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company was here the first part of the week with *The Four Just Men*. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury gave a finished depiction of Mr. Brown; Mr. Gordon Bailey handled the rôle of Mr. Knight skilfully; Mr. Hubert Willis was a powerful Mr. Selkirk, and Mr. E. T. Dobell was an excellent representative of Miguel Thery; Mr. H. Elliott Ball gave a fine portrayal of Sir Philip Ramon; Mr. Algernon J. Hicks was a very good General Trelovitch; Mr. Leonard Williams was a manly Manuel Garcia; John Blount was safe in the hands of Mr. Edward Russell; Mr. Legai Robinson scored a success as Billy Marks; Miss Alys Rees was charming as Mrs. Travers; and Miss Dorothea Desmond's rendition of Juanita was a realistic and graceful performance.

GAINSBOROUGH.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Arthur Carlton Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Stear.—Mr. Henry E. Leigh's company appeared here for three nights last week in *The 'Varsity Belle*. This farcical comedy was excellently played, Mr. James Danvers being particularly amusing as the Professor. Miss Josephine Elles was a charming exponent of the Belle; and Mr. E. Chesters gave a clever character-sketch of her injured father. The two undergraduates were well played by Mr. Morrice Holmes and Mr. Ray Barraclough; and the same remark may be applied to Miss Emma Rainbow, Miss B. Egerton, and Miss Nellie Beacon, who sustained the female parts. Mr. Frank Lilliput was funny as Runyard, the college scout. The comedy was preceded by a dramatic episode, entitled *The Last Hour*.

GATESHEAD.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. France.—Mr. William Greet's company, in *The Sign of the Cross*, has proved a strong attraction here. Chief honours go to Miss Marie Leonhard, a beautiful and talented Mercia; the highest praise can also be given to Mr. Frank E. Petley for a powerful Marcus; Mr. C. Yorke presents a careful study of Nero; and Messrs. Chas. Aldred and J. Weatherall as Tigellinus and Licinius respectively give excellent accounts of themselves. Very amusing are Mr. Frank Wood as Glabrio and Mr. Harry Jones as Philodemus. Mr. H. Thurston Harris (Servillius), Mr. Roy Cushing (Strabo), Mr. E. Yaldwin (Viturius), Mr. J. Newman (Dardanus), Mr. Walter Fleet (Favius), and Mr. George Stanton (Titus) give valuable assistance. Miss Effie Dane, in the part of Stephanus, is much admired; Miss Mary Newcombe makes a capital Poppæa; and the scheming Berenice receives excellent treatment at the hands of Miss Gertrude Price. A vivacious Dacia is presented by Miss Cissie Carlton.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Johnson; Licensee, Mr. Edward Johnson.—The top-liner here is Rosina Caselli, with a troupe of diminutive Mexican dogs, in a very clever performance, which is warmly praised; George French is a quaint comedian; an entertaining "turn" is that submitted by Ford and Barris; Les Sados present a juggling act which contains many laughable features; George Helm and Emmie Cozens, in an absurdity, *The Doctor and the Patient*, cause much amusement; Vanola, described as a "Mexican antipodiste," has numerous admirers; the Mozondos have an eccentric jumping and tumbling act; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope shows some admirable pictures.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Large audiences have welcomed Messrs. Garside and Knowle's company in *The London Fireman* here this week. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles makes an excellent Hal Curtis; Mr. Oliver Birrell portrays Viscount Fleming with skill; "Ratty" is capitally impersonated by Mr. Edward L. Garside; Mr. William Burgess gives satisfaction as Abel Fortnum; and Mr. Harry C. Momber is an amusing Nixey Stinger. Miss Nellie Shirley makes a sweet Ida Curtis; and Grace Curtis finds a capable exponent in Miss Florence M. Daly. Miss Nellie Waddington is successful as the Countess Fleming; and Miss Nellie Garside is a lively Polly Bramble.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—After a somewhat long absence, Mr. G. P. Huntley returns to delight his provincial admirers with the quaint humour of his style, in his part of Mr. Popple. A splendid house welcomed him most heartily. Able support is given by the other members of Mr. Charles Macdona's company, which includes that clever lady, Miss Millie Legarde, as La Bolero, an altogether charming performance, alike in acting and singing. Miss Nellie Hodson makes a sprightly and attractive Louise; Mr. C. M. Daly is an amusing Platt; Miss Kate Forster and Miss Ella Daincourt are an engaging couple of suspicious wives, and their peccant hubbies are cleverly acted by Mr. Sydney Young and Mr. Jas. Stevenson. Mr. Welchman is a smart Norman Popple; and Mr. Arthur Grover sings well as Jacques Kenyon. Mr. Maxwell Stewart cleverly hit off the part of the foreign head waiter at the Blitz Hotel; and an attractive chorus and troupe of dancers give life and vivacity to the various scenes.

KING'S, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane. —Mr. George Dance's company, in *A Country Girl*, is again here. Miss Maisie Gay is a charming Nan, and sings well, as also does Miss Nancy Rossiter as Marjory. The Princess Mehelanah of Miss Winnie O'Connor is another good performance, and her songs are given with most artistic effect. Mr. Percy Carr is a brisk and bright Geoffrey; and his faithful Barry is amusingly played by Mr. Charles Walenn. Mr. St. John Hamund gives a touch of dry humour to the part of the Rajah; Miss Addie Lennard is a versatile Mme. Sophie; Mr. J. C. Graves as Sir Joseph, Mr. Robert Corray as Douglas, and Mr. F. W. Pedgrift as Granfer Mummery ably assist.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—A special revival of *East Lynne* has been put on here, with Miss Dorothy Grimston in the rôle of Lady Isabel. She is a graceful, stately representative of the part, and had a flattering reception. Mr. Vincent Clives as Archibald Carlyle has made a good impression; Mr. Eric Mayne scores as Sir Francis; Mr. Eric Moxon as Dick Hare, Mr. Wilfrid Beckwith as the Lawyer, and Mr. Frank Liston as the Justice are also well suited. Miss Ella Thornton as Barbara Hare gives a sympathetic reading of the part; Miss Alice Inman as Cornelia is adequate; little Moti Hosali appears as Willie, and the clever acting of the youngster is notably appreciated.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross is paying a welcome return visit here with *The Manxman*, in which he sustains with marked ability the part of honest, simple, kind-hearted Pete. Miss Minnie Waterford gives a vivid impersonation of Kate Cregreen, ranging from light-hearted gaiety to pathetic tenderness; her hypocritical father, Cæsar Cregreen, is forcibly rendered by Mr. James Dillon; the erring Philip Christian finds an able exponent in Mr. Beresford Lovett; while the staid Miss Christian is represented with becoming dignity by Miss Mona Spearing. Nancy is played with great spirit by Miss Dorothy Duncan; Mr. Herbert Lett as Dr. Myereest has the genuine professional style; considerable fun is supplied by the three jolly dogs, Mr. Dudley Stuart as Ross Christian, Mr. Richard Hutton as Professor Mawley, and Mr. Edward Cartell as Monty Missitt. Phonograph items between the acts and animated pictures after the play make up a pleasing night's entertainment.

NEW GAIETY.—Lessee, Mr. B. M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Barker.—*The Two Orphan Girls*, presented here by the New Gaiety Dramatic Company, is a good version of the famous play. Miss Laura A. Pardy acted with much pathos as Henriette; and Miss Kate Perowne as Louise did excellent work. Pierre was performed in good style by Mr. H. Hesslegrave; and Jacques was well looked after by Mr. Alfred D. Adams. Mrs. Walter Barton was effective as La Frochard. Others worth mention are A. H. Clarke (Count de Linicre), Miss Marie de Roos (Countess de Linicre), and Mr. Horace Booth (Chevalier de Vaudry).

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Mussett.—The chief attraction here this week is the engagement of Fred Storey and company in a selection from *The Merchant of Venice*. As Shylock Mr. Storey gives a fine impersonation; while the rest of the company are all successful in their respective parts. Edward Lauri and May Beattie contribute a capital musical protean mélange, entitled *In Her Boudoir*; and the juggling of Frank Sylvo is amusing and clever. The other "turns" include Hanid Alexander, juvenile piano player; Alf. Gibson, the immobile comedian; Mr. and Mrs. Melville Stewart, comedy artists; Corbin's dogs; Fancourt and Rubie, in *Nursery Pets*; Three Onetti Sisters, trapeze act; and the American Bioscope.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Miss Alice Keith and company are the top turn here in a breezy, go-ahead musical piece, entitled *Where's Aubrey?* Eugene Joly is a clever cornet player; Burley and Burley are smart acrobats, and are humorous as well; in a stirring lifeboat song, Ernest Ball, actor-vocalist, is excellent; Cosgrove and Burns have a hearty recall at the close of their comedy interlude; and the balancing and juggling display by the Henri Taylor Trio is at once artistic, original, and clever. Much interest is displayed in the dramatic sketch, *A Bolt from the Blue*, Mr. Harry Trevanion appearing as the Anarchist. Perhaps one of the best items in the bill is *Aunt Matilda*, a comedy sketch, of which Frank Elliston and company are the sponsors. It excites hearty laughter. Philip Sefton, a comedian of ability, and good Bioscope pictures are well received.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Clark and Hamilton top the bill here, and their new songs, gags, and business help to make their visit more popular than ever; the Harvey Boys make a clever display at their old business, and were accorded a hearty reception; Katie Lawrence contributes several ditties with much acceptance; the Tokio Troupe of Japanese acrobats give a smart and daring display; the Spanish Goldinis again appear in their wonderful carpet-spinning and electrical speciality; Tatten Hall is a quaint comedian; Esme Gordon is well received; and the Bohemians, Three San Remo Girls, the Clarions, and Calile and Walker complete an attractive programme.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Mrs. Brown Potter makes a welcome visit here with *Mary Queen of Scots*, which is adequately presented. The hapless Sovereign is a fine character-study in the hands of the accomplished actress. Next in favour is Barney Armstrong, a comedian who is repeatedly recalled; Stanley and Greenop are past-masters of the banjo; a very comical chap is Kennedy Allen; and Alf. Hurley sings a sentimental song in good style. In *The Liftman's Rise* appear that clever trio, the Prestons; and dear to the juveniles' heart in particular is the pretty and pleasing display by Boswell's Stage Circus. The Maples, and Dick and Dorothy, divide honours in equally clever performances of the speciality song and dance order; once more we have the Haytors in their clever comedy turn. "A Trip to Rothesay" is enjoyed by large audiences nightly on the white screen.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—George Leyton is the principal attraction here, and introduces a new dramatic episode, entitled *The Wreck of the Birkenhead*, a sketch which gives ample scope for his vocal powers; the Six Æolians, vocalists and dancers, also give a capital display. The other members of a good company include Ethel Loftus, comedienne; Les Valdos, eccentric knockabouts; Frank Hemming and Marie Free, comedy artists; Lily Lonsdale, brilliant soprano; George Ripon, comedian; the Wallys, expert jugglers; Ernie Myers, patter comedian; and Babs Lloyd, comedienne and dancer.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr. Wm. Biggam.—Williams and Warden, cross-talk comedians, top the bill here; Mackenzie-Murdoch, the clever Scottish violinist, gives some excellent selections; the Brennans display their ability as clog dancers; the Dunvilles contribute a smart musical turn; Lindsay and Harte cause hearty laughter with their comedy sketch; and Shavo, the juggler; Flem Darroch, Carrol and Carlton, the Victoria Troupe of Dancers, and Miss E. Clare Buchanan (vocalist), complete a varied programme.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's company, in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, attracted large audiences the first three nights this week. Mr. Jas. Wilson sustained admirably the character of Hang Chow; Mr. Louis Ashmeade as Chippie Chop was entertaining; Mr. Edwin Sykes as Hi Lung deserved praise for capable work; Mr. C. F. Howard acted and sang with success as Tom Hatherton; Mr. Lindsay Harman as Mr. Pineapple was diverting; Miss Frances Olgar displayed charm and grace as Soo-Soo; Miss Florence Wilton as Mrs. Pineapple did exceedingly well; Miss Kitty Clayton as Fi-Fi kept the fun of the comedy going; and Miss Alma Bolton made a dignified Mrs. Brown. *The Silver King* was announced for Thursday.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE (late Theatre Royal).—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Rea.—The Davis and Gledhill Trio, in their cycling on rollers, contribute an interesting turn; a good reception is accorded Craig, Rose, and Craig in a gymnastic and dental athletic act; Miss Fanny Robina, who sings two songs in very taking style, leaves the audience demanding more; Les Trois Eitenas, billed as marvellous globe performers, fully sustain their title; Sam Shirley sings a capital policeman's song; the Three Panamas give an acrobatic display, in which the juvenile member especially shines; Ray and Miles, comedy jugglers, go well; Mr. E. tells some amusing tales; the Evalos are smart in spoof juggling and a flying ring act; and the bioscope is right up to date. Mr. Sydney Bach, Welsh comedian, supplements some excellent gags with trick piano playing; and Mr. Frank Coyle proves very entertaining.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John E. Tomlinson.—The United English Opera Co., under the direction of Mr. F. S. Gilbert, on Monday presented *Maritana* to a crowded house. Miss Elsa May figures conspicuously in the title-rôle; Miss Doris Gilbert is a distinct success as Lazarillo; Mr. F. S. Gilbert submits a fine rendering of Don Cesar de Bazan; Mr. H. Farrelly is seen to advantage as the King of Spain; Mr. J. Kneale Campbell is a dignified Don Jose; Miss Kate White is well placed as the Marchioness; and Mr. H. Blagrave is a capital Marquis. Mr. Evan Davies is highly successful as Captain of the Guard. *The Bohemian Girl* and *The Daughter of the Regiment* is included in the répertoire. The chorus is excellent, and Mr. H. Vickerman leads the augmented orchestra.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is here this week with the realistic drama, *In Sight of St. Paul's*. Mr. Arthur Armfield is very successful as Mr. H. Chichester, sen.; and Tom and Harry Chichester are capably represented by Mr. Ernest R. Allen and Mr. W. H. Domoney. Mr. George D. Dainer is earnest and forceful as John Gridston; Mr. Edward Valentine gives a powerful rendition of the rôle of Fretley Burside; and Mr. Herbert Sydney presents a clever character-study as Blidstein. Cynthia Dell is acted by Miss Lallah Davis with consummate skill; Miss Cissie Bellamy is easy and natural as Aileen Millar; and Becky Vetch, Beatrice Boreland, and Rose are well played by Miss Amy Randolph, Miss Louie Valentine, and Miss J. Hackness.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—A sensational cycle act is being given this week by Arthur Kenney; Hinton and Wooton's football game whilst mounted on bicycle evokes enthusiastic applause; Vernando's ventriloquial turn is well received; the Four Maisonas submit a humorous entertainment as musical clowns; Herr Addison's troupe of terriers give a capital show; Tiney and Novel prove themselves expert staircase artists; Doodles' eccentricities raise many a laugh; and the comicalities of the mock Spanish bullfight must be seen to be appreciated.

GREENOCK.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Messrs. Polini and Melford's company is here with *The Silver King*. Mr. Fred. D. Daviss plays the part of Wilfred Denver with great dramatic power and distinction; Miss Daisy Scudamore as Nellie Denver gives a pathetic study of the long-suffering mother; and the rôle of Little Cissy Denver is in the capable hands of Miss Flossie Hale Daviss. The Spider finds an able exponent in Mr. L. St. George Lowther; and his villainous associates are ably represented by Messrs. Arthur Wright, A. Hornby Warburton, and Warriss Lindon as Combe, Corket, and Cribbs respectively. Mr. Edward J. George acquits himself admirably as Daniel Jaikes; and Miss Dorothy Radford makes the most of her opportunities as Oliver Skinner.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The Society Quartette are at the top of the bill here, and supply a pleasing musical turn; Bennett and Martell, in the nautical absurdity, *The Shipwrecks*, prove very amusing; Albertus and Bartram give a clever club performance; and Abrahams and company, in their international boxing absurdity, entitled *Fun in a Pawnshop*, are responsible for much laughter. Other acceptable turns are the Nettas, in their vocal duets, and Charles Howard, quick-change artist. The Empire pictures complete the bill.

PAVILION THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—A varied and attractive programme is submitted here this week, the top-liner being Empress, a female handcuff expert, who is much applauded for her clever performance. Frank and Violet Payte, in an amusing sketch, entitled *Also Ran*, are well received; Mlle. Renée submits a skilful performance on various musical instruments. Other good turns are Ventom Swift, swell comedian and dancer; Cissie Curlette, mimetic vocalist; Ted Cowan, comedian; and Billy Hobbs coon comedian and dancer. An exhibition of the Paviscope is also given.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. J. Curry; Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—The Leopolds have again presented their amusing burlesque, *Frivolity*. The humour of the show is well sustained right through, Mr. Barry Lupino as the eccentric youth, Sammy, being especially prominent. Other amusing characters are Tickle, played by Mr. Will Leopold, and Oliver Buckwheat, Jules Vermiglio, and Professor Fumble, represented by Mr. Watson Hume, Mr. Wilfrid Vaughan, and Mr. Tom Leopold respectively. Mr. John Leopold, jun., is good as Daniel Teething; and Miss Cathleen Cavanagh as Mme. Cobweb, and Miss Amy Hall as Lucy Buckwheat also contribute to the success of the comedy. *Frivolity* is preceded by a sketch, *The Houseboat*.

CURRY'S TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—Great has been the merriment caused by the representation of *Casey's Court*. The efforts of the youngsters to imitate the stars of the variety stage are hugely entertaining. The American Comedy Four are a most eccentric quartette, but nevertheless score high musical honours; Ada Webb gives a capital aquatic performance in a tank; Venie Clements contributes charming baby impersonations; Frank Keegan and company are amusing in their speciality, "Everyday Cyclists"; Barrett and Knowles introduce an abundance of smart patter; George Reeves is successful as a comedian; and Mario displays skill as a juggler.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—Mr. F. V. St. Clair is always a welcome visitor here. His songs are up to date and invariably upon topical subjects. The Tennessee Guards give a smart display of military exercises, and their wall-scaling is accomplished with wonderful rapidity. Fioretti and Miss Elly give a unique spade-jumping performance; Henry Carlton is greatly amusing in *The Window Cleaner*; Bessie Travis proves a pleasing lady ventriloquist; Madge Daly, a burlesque actress, wins favour; and an abundance of merriment is provided by Johnny Worman, comedian; and Wake and Dean, patter artists.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Selwyn.—This place of amusement has been reopened this week under new management. It is now under the direction of Mr. Alfred Selwyn, of the Empire, Hull, and Hippodrome, Wakefield. For the

HEREFORD.—GARRICK THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. P. Barnsley.—A large audience on Monday witnessed the performance of Mr. Sebastian Smith and company in *The Night of the Party*. Mr. Smith as Crosbie was a distinct success; Lady Hampshire was admirably played by Miss Evelyn Howard; and Mr. Frank Denton was effective as Mr. Frank Fayne. Mr. Douglas Munro acted extremely well as Mr. Flambert, and Mr. Aiden Lovett was a suitable Sir Charles Hampshire. The other members of the company were all good, especially Miss Marion Lewis as Nannie Portland.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Grainger.—Under the new management a marvellous change has taken place, the house being packed each evening. This week Mr. Frank Ayrton's company, in *The Power of Gold*, is the attraction. Mr. Charles Whitlock plays Zambra, the Malay doctor, with great vigour; Mr. Richard Oliver, as Paul Judson, has a good part, and does full justice to it; Mr. Albert Sefton as Mark Harley, is capital; Mr. Frank Holyoake's impersonation of Marc Antony is extremely funny; Mr. W. Victor is a good Irish asylum warder; and Mr. W. O'Connor as Joe Skillets is fully capable; Mr. Frank Ayrton as Sammy Smudge creates roars of laughter, his songs and dances are both clever and eccentric, and his business with Miss Madge Seymour as Norah Donnelly, a lady's maid, is one of the leading features in the piece; their duets and dancing are loudly encored. Little Prudence makes Paddy Blake, a street arab, quite a philosopher; Miss Georgina V. France as Meg Judson, the persecuted heroine, submits a sympathetic rendering of the part; Miss Lilla Wilde as the so-called Lady Brandon gives an artistic finish to a cruel and repulsive character.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company is playing this week the strong drama *The Lion and the Mouse*. Mr. Leslie Carter has all the equipment necessary to a completely successful presentation of his part as John Burkett Ryder; Miss Christine Silver, as Shirley Rossmore, displays a fine appreciation of the great effect to be obtained by controlled intensity of feeling, the scenes between her and Mr. Carter being notable for their sustained interest; Mr. Stephen Wentworth plays with discretion as Jefferson Ryder; Miss Elspeth Dudgeon is to be congratulated on the thoroughness of her impersonation of the "nervy" Mrs. Ryder; Mr. J. W. Mackie is clever as Bagley; and Miss Dorrie Roberts attractive as Kate.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Good fare is provided by the Flying Eugenes in their clever gymnastic exhibition; Dan Paulton, comedian; Miss Rose Sylvester, comedienne; The Flocton Foster company, in the sketch entitled *Ferdie's Ma-in-law;* and Sid Bandon, descriptive vocalist. A merry, bustling sketch, *The Cuckoo*, is admirably done by Chas. Kitts, and Miss Rhoda Windrum and company. Thorpe and Coe, in their humorous duologue, *The Burglar;* Joe Almaiso, a clever juggler and no mean acrobat; and the Biograph are also included in the programme.

HULL.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.; Mr. George Morton, General-Manager. — The Moody-Manners company opened in this magnificent theatre on Monday evening, and met with the reception always accorded this operatic organisation when it visits the city. The initial performance was a praiseworthy representation of *Martha*, in which Mme. De Vere, who was in fine voice, earned additional laurels by her conception of Lady Henrietta. An interpolated song from *Les Perles de Brésil*, with flute obbligato, brought down the house, and the *cantatrice* met with a deserved ovation. A new and highly efficient Nancy appeared in the person of Miss Mildred Bryan, from whom great things may be henceforth expected. Mr. Chas. Magrath, in excellent trim, added much to the enjoyment of all present. Herr R. Eckhold used the baton effectively, chorus and orchestra alike assisting to promote the effectiveness of the representation. Mr. John Child met with a hearty reception, and so did Mr. Chas. Manners. On Tuesday evening *Romeo and Juliet* was the attraction, Mme. de Vere being a delightful Juliet and Mr. Joseph O'Mara a fine Romeo. The novelties of the present season are *Eugene Onegin* on Wednesday, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* on Friday.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The merits of Mr. G. R. Sims's realistic play, *For Life and After* are being thoroughly appreciated here this week as presented by Hawes and Von Leer's very capable company. Miss Grace Heywood is a pathetic Marion Grey; Miss Edith Barwell does good work as Tilda; the Dora of Miss Muriel Dean is characterised by many histrionic gifts; Loo Hexham, portrayed by Miss Roslyn Vayne, is a fine character study; Mr. Henry Hare fills the heavy part with conspicuous success, and the same remark applies to Mr. Vernon Sansbury's Richard Grey.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—The long-looked-for visit of *The Blue Moon* has at length taken place, and Hull playgoers derived pleasure from the sight of the sumptuous mounting and pleasing stage pictures. It brims over with fun, and with such artists as Bert Gilbert and Edward Lewis the audience would fain beg a pause in the side-splitting laughter their work evokes. Miss Florence Smithson, with indomitable courage and pluck, struggled with the rôle of Monday, but was at length forced to retire from the play, this talented lady's labours being brought to a premature close and her rôle taken up by her understudy. Miss Smithson appeared at the end of the play to receive their tribute of sympathy. The company selected is one worthy of Mr. Robert Courtneidge, who always sends the best available.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Milton Ray's company in a farcical episode, *The Cruise of the Calabar*, and Gus Harris are the principal turns here. Other artists include Tom Yorke, Fred Hallam, Foreman and Fannon, and the Three Transfields.

THE NEW EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Slingsby.—Dolly, Agnes, and Maud top the bill, in addition to an excellent all-round company.

THE PALACE.—Bella and Bijou, the clever duettists, and Griffiths Bros., a funny couple, are the two leading turns. Other artists include the Glenroy Troupe, Les Voces, Ben Albert, The Clarkes, Hughes and Elliott, Gracie Moore, and Johnny Gilmour.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather—A big attraction here this week is Messrs. Carpenter and Cooper's company in *The Spider and the Fly*. Mr. Stanley E. Gordon gives an earnest and convincing rendering of his lines as Cyril Girdlestone; Mr. Ellis J. Preston brings out very realistically the callous nature of Welby Girdlestone; Mr. Frederick Ross makes David Strong an exceedingly interesting character; and Mr. H. C. Lanceley furnishes an excellent sketch as the Rev. Mr. McAllister. A charming and graceful Edith McAllister is found in Miss Nina Vaughan; Miss Amy Venimore plays with dramatic force the rôle of Stella Gray; Miss Ada Palmer is well placed as Jane Ellen Scriver: and Miss Marjorie May does good service as Flipps. Messrs. Fred Terriss and Charles A. Preece, two clever comedians, create roars of laughter as Romulus Roe and Remus Roe; and Miss Lucy Murray as Molly Blake ably assists them.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—The drama, *Honour Thy Father*, is this week presented by Mr. T. Morton Powell's company. Miss Mabel Coleman figures conspicuously as Lilian Garth. Mr. Walter M. Cameron is excellently placed as Gabriel Garth, and as Gertrude Garth Miss Kate Mewton is in every way suited; Miss Winnie Donovan appears with effect as Mercy Merry, and Mr. Bertram Ross as Jack Halyard makes the most of his part; Mr. Claud Merton handles cleverly the double rôle of Job Merry and George Bloggs; Mr. W. H. Melrose is amusing as Ned Pennycumquick, and Miss Lizzie Morley scores as Poppy Cornleigh; Mr. W. R. Winning plays Duncan Bly, and Mr. Fred Rolls, as Mike Copplestone, assists him in a humorous way.

IPSWICH. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—Mr. R. C. Carton's clever farce, entitled *Mr. Hopkinson*, was played here on Monday evening by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. The part of Samuel Hopkinson was excellently portrayed by Mr. Frank Stanmore; Mr. Arnold Lacy was a fitting representative of the Duke of Braceborough; and Mr. Shirley Lea did full justice to the part of the irascible Earl of Addleton; Miss Marie Hassall proved herself an accomplished actress in the character of the Duchess of Braceborough; and the same may be said of Miss Gladys Gesson, as the haughty and contemptuous Lady Tyra Eggiesby; Miss Katherine M. Romsey acquitted herself well as Eliza Dibb. A curtain-raiser, called *A Love Game*, precedes, in which Mr. Charles M. Heslop and Miss Marjorie Chard appear.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock. — One of the chief items of the bill of fare here this week is the appearance of a troupe of Japanese named the Lukushimas, whose extraordinary baton tricks and acrobatic displays are really marvellous; Wishart, the Bottle King, executes some wonderful juggling with a bottle; and Monta's vagabonds contribute amusing dramatic imitations and good singing; Dolly Harmer's imitation of music-hall artists, &c., are cleverly given; the Howards vary the performance with their instrumental selection on bugles and cornets; the eccentricities of Grant and Allen and Dan Thomas, and the tricks of Devereux's dog are also enjoyable features of an excellent programme.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—Norman Macowan's company is appearing here this week in *A Soldier of Fortune*. The title-rôle is ably taken by Mr. Macowan, while Miss Violet Sterne is admirable as Lady Phyllis; Mr. Murray Nathorn, as the Earl of Annindale, makes an ideal patrician; Mr. Sydney Palfrey ably impersonates the treacherous Sir Stephen Cunningham; and Mr. Robert Entwistle is excellent as Dr. Thorn; the part of Capt. Steele is well taken by Mr. C. Hartopp, the landlord of the Three Keys; Jerry Dobbs is impersonated by Mr. Franc Storey; while Miss Emil Leslie figures as Grace.

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Carson.—*The Earl and the Girl* received here on Monday a hearty greeting. The comedy is cleverly played by Mr. William Greet's company. Mr. William Cromwell, as Jim Cheese, gives an excellent performance; Mr. Robert Hyett is a smart Dick Wargrave, and sings several popular numbers with telling effect; Mr. Stanley Harrison plays the part of the Hon. Crewe Boodle with energy and vivacity; Mr. A. E. Coleby is a prominent Bunker Bliss; Mr. Frank Cane is well placed as Downham; Mr. Arthur Cassidy, as Mr. Talk, is the embodiment of quiet drollery, and his stage management is also to be commended; Miss Gertrude Simpson is a pleasing Elphin Haye; Miss Nellie Grant is a vivacious Mrs. Shimmering Black; Miss Florence Wix is highly appreciated as Liza Shoddam. Others worthy of mention are Mr. Fred Pattrick as host of the Fallowfield Arms, Miss Eva Bevington's Daisy, and Miss Helen Langton as Miss Bliss.

KETTERING.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Payne.—Mr. F. H. Neville's company is here in *The Silent Witness*. Mr. Neville portrays the villainous nature of Jan Veddar in a forcible manner, and Miss Emily Lewis is acceptable as Estelle Meredith; Miss Janet Lawton, as Anita, appears to advantage, and contributes some clever dancing.

KIRKCALDY. — KING'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Burton.—Miss Frances Delaval presents her company here in *Her Lost Self*. Miss Delaval successfully interprets the villainy of Philippine; Mr. Herbert Cecil does good work as Wilfred Daventry; as Norman Esmond Mr. G. Osmond Tearle is effective; Mr. Leslie York is good as Paul Kimberley; and Mr. Fred Lillywhite is successful. The Dorothy of Miss Clare O'Sullivan is worthy of special mention; Mr. Jimmy Stewart and Miss Hetty Stewart are amusing as Tom and Bridget; and little Miss Johnston is a clever child actress.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's *A Country Girl* company occupied the boards the first three nights this week, and capital business was the result. Mr. Frank Weir is the centre of attraction as Barry, and keeps his audience in a bubble of merriment the whole of the time he is on the stage; Miss Madeline Du Val is a dashing Nan, her quaint humour and dialect being admirably depicted; as Marjory, Miss Violet Leslie is seen to the greatest advantage; whilst Miss Adelaide Clifton as the Princess looks charming, and sings with much taste. Mr. Bernard Vaughan as the Rajah invests the part with humour, and sings well; and the vocal efforts of Mr. Martin D. Pitts as Geoffrey Chaloner are highly appreciated. A petite and charming Madame Sophie is seen in Miss Madge Campbell; and Mr. W. D. Billington is a success as Sir Joseph Verity. Mr. W. Besley Beltran as Douglas Verity makes the most of his part; and the remaining characters are all commendable. The chorus is well balanced, the dresses and staging being all that could be desired. For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Mr. H. F. Maltby with his successful play, *The Youngest of Three*, is announced.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Porter and Fergusson.—Crowded houses nightly at this opera house testify to the capital programmes arranged. The Craggs, in a comedy acrobatic sketch, *Billy*, are responsible for a great deal of merriment. Madie Scott, comedienne, is recalled again and again; as also is Lily Morris, comedienne. Baroni and Kemp, in a quick-change act, are very smart; and Robert Gilbert's troupe of dogs win favour. Oliver Conroy, comedian; the Sisters Poole, duettists and dancers; and Walter Payne's animated pictures complete the bill.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and C. Fell; Manager, Mr. John Fell.—Miss Billie Barlow is the principal attraction here, and has nightly had a most flattering reception. Another capital turn is supplied by Fred and Maud Vypond, speciality entertainers; Laurier is a droll comedian; and the Cosmons dance very well. Sisters Florence; Wirson, equilibrist; Miss Bessie Willow, vocalist; and the Edison Swan animated pictures add to the enjoyment of the programme.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—*Blue-Bell in Fairyland* was for the first three nights this week performed here by Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon's company. Miss Lily Eyton gave a charming portrayal of the title-rôle; Dickie was interpreted by Mr. Lawrence Emery with decided ability; and Miss Vera Vivard as Blue-Bell's good fairy was also very fascinating, her excellent singing being a feature of the performance. As the two footmen Messrs. Harry Vernon and Will L. Clement made the most of their opportunities; and Mr. Frank Lennard appeared with success as the benevolent Mr. Joplin. Mr. Howard Cochran's company in *The Marriage of Kitty* was announced for Thursday.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—The Carl Rosa Opera Company opened their annual sojourn at the Grand on Monday with *Carmen*, to which fine opera a large and enthusiastic house accorded a gratifying reception. Miss Doris Woodall, in the name-part, evidenced the possession of a remarkably good voice, and was no less successful in her histrionic efforts. Mr. Edward Davies made an admirable José, revelling in the numerous vocal opportunities which fall to his lot; Mr. Charles Victor as Escamillo sang his numbers with rare power and an admirable restraint. Miss Elizabeth Burgess, Miss Ina Hill, Miss Dorothy Mayfield, Mr. F. Clindon, and Mr. Arthur Hyde each filled their respective parts exceedingly well. The work of the chorus and band, under the baton of Mr. Van Noorden, was beyond reproach. The week's répertoire includes *Lohengrin*, *Maritana*, *Il Trovatore*, *Tannhäuser*, *Faust*, and a revival of *Fidelio*.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—*The Power of the Cross* is being presented here by Mr. Lingford Carson's company. Baron Curzola is well handled by Mr. Hartwell J. Kirby; in the rôle of Rita Lascelles Miss Cissie St. Elmo shows ability; Mr. Harry C. Rutland renders excellent assistance in the part of Gerald Fairfax: the wronged woman has a sympathetic exponent in Miss Stanley Burt; and Mr. Richard E. Nugent finds opportunity for much humour in his portrayal of Timothy Dowd.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson and their powerful company, with the romantic new play by Messrs. Paul Kester and Charles Major, *Dorothy o' the Hall*, are filling the theatre to overflowing nightly. The part of Dorothy is well suited to Miss Neilson's temperament, and she gives an artistic impersonation of the part. Mr. Fred Terry subscribes a dashing study of the valiant Sir John Manners, a picturesque figure; Mr. J. Carter-Edwardes is good as Sir George Vernon; Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw enacts the despicable Sir Malcolm Vernon with conspicuous ability; Mr. Horace Hodges puts another big success to his name in the rôle of Jester; Miss Miriam Lewes makes a stately and effective Queen Elizabeth; and the rôle of Mary Stuart is a no less pleasing effort by Miss Lilias Waldegrave. Mr. Frederick Groves is well placed as the Earl of Rutland; and other prominent members of the cast are Mr. Malcolm Cherry and Miss Claire Pauncefort.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—The Boissets remain a second week here, and the laughable sketch, *A Trip to the Continent*, proves an excellent vehicle for their acrobatic humour; Mabel Bright and company submit a pretty sketch, *Girls will be Girls;* Lambeth and Robertson are most entertaining in their exposition of Scotch courtship; Fielding and Hull are a clever vocal comedy duo; Frank Maura is an expert barrel juggler; Harry Hayton possesses more than average ability as an eccentric comedian; the vocal contributions of Clarice Netta are much enjoyed; and Jessie Burnett is a pleasing comedienne. The animated pictures are interesting.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Claude Shayler and Mr. Chas. Weldon.—Fred Wright, jun., submits some amusing tit-bits from musical comedy; Lottie Lennox comes again with clever new items; Jenny Johns does clever work; the Five Whiteleys give a most finished performance; the Two Bees sustain a big local reputation; acrobatic and cycling feats by the Cumberland Troupe arouse the liveliest interest; Gus Garrick continues to hold his own as a favourite comedian; and in a similar line W. B. Raby is very successful. The Brothers Curran, in an original boxing speciality, and Marie Wilton, comedienne, also entertain.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—The Bank Clerks, who again top the bill here, secure much appreciation; Tray and Rich are responsible for eccentric comedy; Jack Pleasants has new items that are rendered in his best style; and further humorous entertainment is subscribed by Tom Shenton. Athas and Collins are popular with vocal comedy; Percy Hannam uses a fine baritone voice with judgment; and the Coolvilles, coon specialists, are doing a successful turn.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—A farewell visit is being paid here this week by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company in *Florodora*. As Tweedlepunch, Mr Daley Cooper is brimful of merriment; Mr. R. Courtier Dutton sings and acts well as Frank Abercoed; Mr. J. R. Tate is very good as Cyrus W. Gilfain; Mr. Harold Perry excellent as Arthur Donegal; and Mr. Edwin Oxlee picturesque as Leandro. Miss Edith Housley makes a vivacious Lady Holyrood; Miss Gladys Elvey a delightful Dolores; and Miss Nellie Bowman a successful Angela.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—Miss Maud Hildyard and company are here in *The Great Awakening*. As Lola Selby Miss Maud Hildyard makes a conspicuous success; Mr. Charles E. Linney plays with distinction as Guy Rogan; Mr. Martin Sands deserves high praise as James Selby; Mr. Bernard Copping, in the dual rôles of Sir Henry Merton and Jock Merton, is clever; Mr. Herbert Evelyn as Captain Harry Lambert is all that can be desired; Miss Doris Digby as Molly Merton enacts her part excellently; and both Mr. Willie Scott as Billy Brass and Miss Isa Bellington as Selina Worts are to be complimented on their amusing and popular portrayals. The play is well staged.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—The chief attraction here is an episode in four scenes, founded on Ouida's famous novel, "Under Two Flags," entitled *La Vivandiere*, by Dick Cruickshanks, in which Miss Isabel Derry as Cigarette, La Vivandiere, displays her histrionic talents with the greatest success. Laughter reigns supreme while Geo. Formby occupies the stage; Ancillotti presents his thought-reading dog, Pilu, which goes through a bewildering performance; Mark Melford and company create merriment with a mirth-provoking sketch; Howard and St. Clair are a versatile couple; the Three Amaranths are charming and clever girl acrobatic dancers; Little Ganty is well described as the "lump of fun"; Madge May is a capital comedienne; the American Bioscope is showing some entertaining films; and Jimmy Springthorpe, the collier tenor, hailing from Coalville, Leicestershire, renders his songs in a manner which deserve warm commendation.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—James Willard and company lead here this week with the farcical sketch, *The Little Wonder*. Miss Patey Trounsell and company are remaining over another week, and are presenting the sketch *True Irish Hearts*, in which Mr. J. P. Kennedy, Miss Patey Trounsell, and Mr. Jack Bigwood are seen to advantage. The Dancing Gilberts, in their novel act, are extremely smart; the Sisters Melba are vocalists of ability; Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope still remains a special feature. Other entertaining turns are contributed by Will Driscoll, comedian; the Lovelaces, song illustrators; and Harry Thurston, impersonator.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—Mr. Hilliard Vox and company are paying a visit here this week with the American drama *Alaska*. Mr. Hilliard Vox gives a striking and clever impersonation of Shookum Jim; Miss Cora Patey appears as the heroine, Jessie Dalton, to the best advantage; Miss C. Hastings Walton submits a fine embodiment of Alaska, the Indian girl; Mr. C. D. Pitt is successful as Ned Larson; Baptiste is capitally portrayed by Mr. H. Naylor Grimson; and Mr. Albert Rogers causes much amusement as Pompey Cæsar.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—*A Trip to the Highlands* has at last found its way to the Leith theatre, where it is staged this week for the first time, and met with a very cordial reception. It is well mounted, and some new songs are introduced. Mr. Wal Croft is still well to the fore as The MacMutchkin, and Mr. Joseph Montague continues his amusing impersonation of Timmins; Mr. Arthur Poole revels in his many disguises as Dexter, the detective; and Messrs. Walter Southern, Frank Barclay, and Gus Wheatman are successful in the parts of Lord Lackington, the Hon. Frederick, and Sir Septimus Brown-Windsor. The ladies, who act and sing with much acceptance, include Miss Maisie Ellinger and Miss Clara Moore as Araminta and Winnie Brown-Windsor, Miss Kitty Clinton a sprightly Fanny Flounce, the Misses Nan Dowling and Kathleen Naughton as Charley Chatterton and Lottie Langley, and Miss Lillian Kevill Davies as Mrs. MacMutchkin.

LICHFIELD.—ST. JAMES'S HALL.—On Monday night Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company appeared here in *Florodora*. Mr. Gus Danby was a most laughable Tweedlepunch, and Mr. Howard V. Cropton an excellent Frank Abercoed. Miss Dorothy Dance and Miss Rosa Sullivan distinguished themselves in the parts of Valleda and Lady Holyrood respectively.

LINCOLN.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank King.—*An Actor's Romance*, now presented by Miss Lillian Beezant's company, is meeting with just favour on a return visit. Mr. E. Eardley Howard as Harold Davenport and Miss Florence Nelson in the heavy lead are particularly successful. Miss Lillian Beezant scores greatly as Dot, and the support is excellent.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. G. D. Bradbury.—On Monday evening Mr. G. D. Bradbury, lately assistant-manager at the Palace, Southampton, took over the reins at this house, and is promptly winning many friends by his courtesy and urbanity. Two big houses demonstrated unqualified approval of the show. Nothing so effective and pretty as Maurin's Fountains has been staged at the Palace, and it is quite unique as a spectacle. Herbert Shelley's new protean sketch, *Dan the Outlaw*, elicited great applause; and Harry Weldon was cheered to the echo at the end of his very funny act. Grace Bard, the Rossis, Bros. Durrant, Lina Verdi, Mr. and Mrs. Finden, and Raymond's Bioscope were all highly successful.

LIVERPOOL.—SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—General satisfaction has been expressed over *The Shulamite*, which made its initial appearance in this city on Monday. Mr. William Greet sent a capital company to interpret the skilfully-contrived story, with the result that audiences were delighted. Miss Evelyn D'Alroy displayed high talent as the unfortunate Deborah, earning rounds of applause; Mr. Charles Weir was a robust Simeon Krillet, being a rough Boer farmer to the life; Mr. W. T. Lovell, as the adventurous Robert Waring, played with much effect; Miss Mary Griffiths was successful as Tante Anna; Mr. Reynolds Denniston did the utmost with Jan Vanderberg; and Miss Marcella Hudson proved capable in a minor part. *The Widow Woes*, in which Messrs. Denniston and Henry de Solla, Miss Griffiths, and Miss Hudson took part, was the curtain-raiser.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—*The Lights of London* has paid another visit to the popular north-end house. The company producing it is that of Mr. Herbert Hollister, who undertakes the part of Seth Preene. Mr. C. F. Collings makes an excellent Harold Armytage; Miss Jennie Burgoyne does credit to the rôle of Bess; Jarvis, Mrs. Jarvis, and Shakespeare are well interpreted by Mr. Herbert Lewis, Miss Violet Temple, and Miss Renee Douglas; Mr. Sydney N. Hallows is a dignified squire; as the lodge-keeper Marks Mr. F. V. Lloyd is well placed; and Mr. Raymond Thomas makes a sufficiently repulsive Clifford Armytage.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—Harry Roxbury, in the musical mélange entitled "The Prince of Monte Carlo," takes premier position in a very entertaining programme, and their efforts are deservedly applauded; a prominent turn is Jake Friedman, who is delightfully amusing; O'Malley and Brown, in the sketch *You're Still a Friend of Mine*, are entertaining; the Violas' second-sight item is mystifying; the Three McDonalds are good comedy musical experts; Adams and Ward are clever acrobats, besides being extremely amusing; the Sisters Cora are pleasing duettists; and Cardo is diverting in mystery and magic.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—A most attractive drama has drawn large audiences to the popular Star this week in the shape of Melville's *The Beast and the Beauty*. Jack Barrymore, a strongly-drawn character, was efficiently played by Mr. W. S. Hartford; Miss Violet Bowes was eminently successful as Violet; Mr. Eric Campbell filled to perfection the part of the fighting man Samson; Mr. William E. Passmore presented a good portrait of the Earl of Loman; Mr. Bernard Mervyn made an efficient Henry Denver; and Miss Daisy Gwynne gave every satisfaction in the heavy part of Delilah Vane. Some of the scenery was particularly fine, and the glove fight, near the close of the play, aroused excitement.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—Miss Annie Bell and her company paid a welcome return visit here this week with *Sapho*. Good business has been done. Miss Bell, in the title-rôle, played with her former intensity and care; Mr. Otto Meinster did every justice to the character of Jean Gausin; Mr. George Antley proved particularly amusing as Cesaire; Mr. P. Geo. Beresford acquitted himself well as Father Legrand; credit is due to Mr. H. Langford for his capital Eugene Flamant; a good Paul Dechelette was presented by Mr. Lawrence Kingsley; and Little Miss Doris E. Graham was efficient as the child Joseph. The scenery proved a strong feature of the production.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The unusual intimation, "Free list entirely suspended" appears on the programme here this week, consequent upon the important engagements that have been made. Principal is Miss Ada Reeve, who has countless admirers in the Mersey city, where a few years ago she made a great hit in pantomime. Her reception was a most enthusiastic one, the packed audiences demanding repeated encores of her popular songs. Austin Rudd, an able comedian, likewise earned the favour of his hearers; Downes and Langford were greatly to the fore with their laughable burlesque work and smart dancing; *The Millionaires*, a sketch which was thoroughly enjoyed, came from Johnny Holland and company; the MacKinnons, as Scottish entertainers, afforded much pleasure; the wonderfully educated horse "Billy," presented by James De Voy, was a source of much astonishment; Leah Arden had some sweetly-rendered ballads; constant laughter followed the efforts of Mac and Hill, patter comedians; and Harry Herbert, comedian, was also in the bill. "England's Naval Nursery" was shown on the Barrascope.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The "Royal" stock dramatic company is presenting this week Arthur Shirley's *Passion's Power*. The sketch has been well staged and much enjoyed. Mr. Percy Boucher created great laughter with his Felix; Mr. Harry Tresham made a convincing Prince Kandos; as Rudolph Laski Mr. Cecil Ravenswood displayed his high talents; Mr. Sydney Grant handled the rôle of the villainous Michael Laski with great effect; a capital Patrice came from Mr. Robert Wilton; and Mr. Leo Montgomery afforded satisfaction as Prosper. Of the ladies Miss Florence Palmer presented a sweet Zorah; Miss Beryl Ravenswood was a dignified Countess Delaunay; and Miss Sybil Hammersley helped greatly with the comedy as Lucie. The Royal Bioscope presented several capital pictures.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—This popular north-end hall continues to do well under the new management. A turn which is received with much satisfaction is that given by the Four Charles, acrobatic jugglers, who top the bill; Walker and May, coloured comedians and dancers, submit an acceptable performance; Mackintosh and Royal, lady and gentleman clog dancers, deserve the rounds of applause bestowed upon them; some excellent conjuring is executed by C. H. Charlton; Jackson is a novelty matchbox manipulator; the Bohemian Bros., coloured vocalists and dancers, acquit themselves capitally; and George Dachius is an able double-voiced vocalist and female impersonator.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—This big central place of amusement, with its two houses per night, maintains its hold on the public. At the top this week is the favourite Louie Freear as the slavey in *Snooks*, supported by an able company. It would be difficult to imagine a greater mirth-provoker than *Dotty*, played by the Ten Musical Loonies; the able Terry and Lambert, American duo, are as popular as ever; Ella Shields has some capital coon songs, well rendered; De Dio with her weird dance is watched with keen interest; a fine exhibition of ventriloquism is given by Professor Dunning; the operatic selections of Norman and Saxon are much appreciated; and the list also contains the names of Kahn and Kahn, necromancers, and Bob Hamilton, comedian. The American Bioscope shows fine moving pictures.

HAYMARKET.—Licensee, Mr. J. S. Childs.—Conway and Welsh, smart comedy artists, head the bill here; Butler Stanhope and company, including the able actor Mr. J. W. Evelyn, present a telling sketch, *Tracked to Death;* Maxwell Harvey, a clever equilibrist, introduces some wonderful feats of strength, assisted by Mlle. Lucille; some charming songs are rendered by Miss Lulu Egbert; R. C. Note gives several of his capital songs; Dainty Daisy Davenport dances and sings most agreeably; and Frank Goodwin performs daring feats on the rings.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Foremost here this week are the Waldrons, whose comedy work arouses endless laughter; the popular Barney Stuart presents some of his smart up-to-date sketches, including *The Miser;* a refined drawing-room entertainment is submitted by Rappo and Ella; as a juvenile coon vocalist and dancer Molly Manion is pleasing; Allsopp and Bekwith cause a deal of merriment with their *I'm Coming Unstairs;* and Andy Burn, comedian, also appears. The Roscommon Bioscope has some good pictures.

LLANELLY.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—*The Rich and Poor of London*, presented by Mr. Sidney Dench's company, occupies the boards here this week, the leading part, that of May Braithwaite, a hospital nurse, being extremely well taken by Miss Dora Dench, who plays most sympathetically and wins great applause. Mr. Sidney Dench as Spider Jack is also well received; Miss Minnie Bedford as Seadrift is charming; Mr. Henry Deane is good as Dr. Leonard; as are also Mr. Jack Sydney and Mr. Cole Aspinall, as Daniel Drake and Lawyer Grabbem respectively. Mr. Dennis Clyde is the villain of the piece, Mark Standing, deserves great praise.

NEW EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. W. A. Totten.—Duse Mohamed, the Egyptian actor-author, and his variety company, are here this week. The bill also includes the tragedy sketch, *The Jew's Revenge*, in which Miss Beatrice Pardo-Nash and Mr. Mohamed appear with great success. Mr. Parkie Roberts, a Welsh comedian, and Miss Rosalie Thorne, ballad vocalist, are well received. Staffo, the butcher's boy juggler; Miss Sadie Otero, descriptive vocalist; Crosby and Walker, knockabouts; the Sisters Bon-Bon, serios and dancers; and Eric Lingard, comedian; and a sketch, entitled *Jones's Yellow Lion*, are also in the programme.

LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon.—*The Eternal City* is being staged here this week by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. As the Baron, Mr. D. L. Mannering is very good; Rossi, by Mr. Henry Deas, is ably portrayed; Mr. J. Fortescue is a dignified and impressive Pope; Mr. E. Comberbatch plays Father Pifferi very well; as Roma, Miss S. de Groot is excellent; and makes a deep impression on the audience. Mr. W. O'Flynn as Bruno Rocco is good; and iMss Eva Stuart plays Bruno's wife capably.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Payne-Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—Mr. Charles Macdona this week presents *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Miss Kitty Clayton as Fi-Fi causes great amusement by her clever acting; Miss Frances Olgar in the part of Soo-Soo is particularly good; Mrs. Pineapple in the capable hands of Miss Florence Wilton leaves little to be desired; Miss Alma Bolton as Mrs. Brown is also excellent; Mr. Lindsay Harman in the character of Mr. Pineapple has plenty of scope for comedy, scoring a notable success; Mr. James Wilson is capital in the part of Hang Chow; Mr. Louis Ashmead as Chippie Chop and Mr. Edwin Sykes as Hi Lung do well in their respective parts.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—This week we have the first appearance locally of *The Midnight Wedding*, which is exceedingly well mounted and dressed. Mr. Alfred Paumier gives a finished rendering as Paul

duel scene in the forest; and the overture and incidental music, all very good, were conducted by the composer, Mr. Clemens Frankenstein. Mr. Harvey's repertoire for the week includes *Boy O'Carroll*, of which a capital performance was given on Wednesday; *Hamlet*, *The Only Way*, *A Cigarette-Maker's Romance*, and (on Friday) a new play called *The Spell*, by Rosamund Langbridge, of which a full notice will appear next week.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee. — Mr. George Edwardes' company is here again this week in *The Little Michus*, repeating to the full its previous success. Miss Iris Holly and Miss Thelma Raye give a pretty rendering of the central parts; the General Des Ifs of Mr. Eric Thorne is, of course, a highly amusing impersonation; some admirable singing is given by Mr. Leonard Mackay as Aristide Vert and Mr. W. Tailleur Andrews as Gaston Rigaud; and pleasing light humour is added by the clever impersonations of Mr. Jack Cannot as Bagnolet, Mr. George Miller as Pierre Michu, and Mr. Willie Warde, jun., as the market man; while others who do well are Miss Florence Parfrey as Madame Michu, Miss Elsie Brocklebank as Ernestine, and Miss Vivian Tailleur as Mlle. St. Cyr. Chorus and orchestra add greatly to the effect.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred C. Somerton present here this week *A Beautiful Criminal*, a drama of absorbing interest. Miss Dagmar is prominently successful as Elinor d'Arville, the title-rôle; and Mr. Fred C. Somerton gives a fine character study as Will Maynard. Mr. Roy Fortesque adds excellent work in the dual rôle of Cyril and Geoffrey Langdon; Mr. Alec Findlater presents a manly idea of Harold Kingston; Mr. Willie Barrett and Miss Molly Monaghan are good as Peter and Janet Miles; and others worthy of note are Mr. T. G. Vane, Miss Clara Santley, and Miss Lallah Shelton. The staging is well done.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—An admirable programme here this week comprises David Poole, a very clever ventriloquist; Haig and Novel, comedy artists; J. H. Hawtrey, an effective actor-vocalist; the Smarte Bros., in an acrobatic speciality; Little Ada Merry, an excellent comedienne; Mme. de Roze, the lady Foli, a really enjoyable singer; Selby and Myers, lively comedians; Lilian Herol, pleasing ballad vocalist; Hardie Parm, comedian; and Jas. Alston, a comedian who is distinctly amusing.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —Mr. W. Reuben Payne presents here this week Arthur Jefferson's drama, *The World's Verdict*. The play is very well handled by the company, among whom Mr. Albert Guyon gives a fine rendering of Jasper Woodleigh; Mr. Eric Hudson is particularly strong as Nathan Black, the maniac; Miss May Axon is excellent as Nellie Ashford; Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh is equally successful as Florence Woodleigh; and Mr. Harry Stuart looks and moves well as George Ashford; while Mr. W. G. Wesley gets plenty out of his part as Sam Carrot; Miss Anena Walton as Sally Jenkins adds to the entertainment; Miss Lily Roselle presents an acceptable rendering of Cora Cassilis, Jasper's supposed wife; and a clever depiction of Sir Geoffrey Woodleigh is given by Mr. Cecil R. Thompson.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A version of John F. Preston's drama, *Rogues of the Turf*, in which the author appears, supported by a clever company, is the principal item here this week. Tschernoff's animal novelty is a remarkable act, showing wonderful training of horses and dogs; and entertaining business is added by Die Obersteirers, accomplished Tyrolean singers; Carlotta Levey, the popular comedienne; Kelly and Gillette, in their funny billiard-table act; Arthur Pearl, in *The Schoolboy*; the Lyons trio of pantomimists and dancers; the Sisters Hope, clever burlesque comediennes and dancers; and Bugler Carr, the musical puzzle. The pictures on the Bioscope depict scenes in Canada.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Fred Karno's highly-amusing sketch, *Saturday to Monday*, is the attraction here this week. Harry Champion makes a hit in his usual lively style; Harry Edson introduces his cleverly-trained dogs; Arthur Aldridge is a good tenor vocalist; Rosie Archer, mimic, is pleasing; and Harry Taft is a capital whistling comedian. Other good turns are Los Rupertos, novelty equilibrists; Little Zola, comedian; Carden and Price, vocal entertainers; and Cyclo, trick cyclist. The Palace Pictures are up-to-date.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—A first-rate item here this week is an episode in the life of Napoleon, entitled *A Drummer of the 76th*, excellently played by Matthew Brodie and company. Hengler's comedy sketch, *Harum Scarum*, remains from last week; and Fred Ginnett and company are seen again in their funny sketch, *The Rejected Remounts*. Very entertaining are the Scarleteers in their pot-pourri act. Excellent turns are also those of Charles Vincent, comedian; the Vernon troupe of xylophone players; Dorothy L. Clarke, comedienne; and Selma Braatz, girl juggler. Two vocal items by the choir and some enjoyable bioscope pictures complete the bill.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Sidney Bacon's company is here this week in that bright and tuneful comedy, *The Duchess of Tooting*. Madge Grey, comedienne, contributes an excellent turn; and Marie Jones, in her quick-change act, *The Way to Win a Bet*, is well received. Stanley and Vandyke cause much merriment with their grotesque make-up in an amusing comedy, *A Broken Promise;* the Edwards Trio are clever equilibrists and jugglers; the Sisters Volbecque are entertaining duettists; and Annie Cohen is a good descriptive vocalist. "The Gentleman Burglar" on the bioscope is followed with interest.

HIPPODROME, HULME.—Manager, Mr. W. B Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Smart Set of vocal entertainers top the bill here this week, and render some delightful songs and dances in a highly-finished style; Carl Mysto, the "monarch of manacles," succeeds in escaping from handcuffs, &c., to the marvel of the audience. Tod Lowan, comedian, makes a great hit, his style being extremely funny; Rose Elliott, vocalist, is well received; Arthur Holland's singing meets with much approval; and Avon and Crest cause much laughter in their comedy act. Others who contribute smart turns are the Three Sisters Hayden, vocal comediennes; France and Francis, acrobatic comedians; and Lilybelle, a clever juvenile comedienne and dancer. "The Missing Legacy" is shown on the bioscope.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Captain Cecil Clayton; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray. Mr. S. Arthur Jones's company is presenting here *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Captain Harold Marston is in the capable hands of Mr. S. Arthur Jones; Miss Hazel Dent ably impersonates Doreen Rivers; Captain Rawlins is admirably played by Mr. Frank Thornton; Mr. W. D. Beck as Sergeant Bates and Mr. Edgar Morgan as Bob Tanner cause great amusement; Miss Mary Ainslie capably enacts the part of Fay Colbrooke.

HIPPODROME. — Lessees, Messrs. Darnley and Jennings; Manager, Mr. T. Jennings.—Miss Alice May, at the top of the bill here, provides an excellent turn with her sketch, *Tranquillity*, in which she takes seven distinct parts; the Paulo Bros. create roars of laughter in their absurdity; the Smalleys are appreciated in their feats on the triple bars; and Aldro Lukos, the man monkey, Charles Ashdowne, leg twister, and Nellie Duval are also successful. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope depicts up-to-date pictures.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. B. Michael; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austen Leigh.—The farcical comedy, *The Little Stranger*, was staged here on Wednesday evening for a four nights' visit. The juvenile comedian, Master Garrott, sustained the title-rôle very cleverly, and was supported by a capable company.

HIPPODROME. — Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Owing to the magistrates refusing to grant a licence for the appearance of Tiny Wilmot, a seven-year-old comedienne and dancer, the management had to secure at short notice Jenny Venton, who was a great success as a comedienne. Almon, the upside-down marvel, has proved an attractive addition to the programme, and Florence Deighton, the double-voiced songstress, has elicited hearty applause; Bert Woodward, the cycling coon, has made a hit with his eccentric performance; Fred Keeton, the peculiar comedian, has been exceedingly funny; and Fredrica's performing toy terriers, with Dot, the cake-walking pony, have furnished an entertaining finish to a well-arranged programme. The pictures, as usual, are excellent.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Sole Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. C. C. Evans.—Jury's animated pictures have been attracting large audiences here this week. The show is a remarkably good one, many of the films being splendidly coloured. Several vocal items add to the interest of the entertainment.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—Another good all-round company is appearing here this week. The Two Merry Tramps are a comical pair; Miss Josie Watson is a capital serio; Mr. Gus Daniels is well to the fore with comic and descriptive songs; Miss Topsy Leane makes a welcome reappearance after a long absence, and her singing and dancing are greatly admired; Mr. Harry Royde is a clever comedian; and the Paragon Sketch company concludes with a capital sketch, entitled *A Family Quarrel*.

MERTHYR TYDFIL. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Lewis Gilbert.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company, with *The Drama of Life*, is paying a welcome return visit this week. Mr. Edward M. Hamilton plays convincingly the part of the hero Harry Beech, and the heroine is acted with feeling and dramatic power by Miss Kate Hallam. Mr. Sydney Fenner as David Crane finds plenty of scope for the display of his ability. Mr. H. B. Foote plays with ease the part of the detective, Richard Brenton. There is excellent comedy relief given by Mr. Harwood Roberts as Sir Dobson Wilde and by Miss Florence French as Lady Jane Wilde. Miss Marie Pardy is particularly noticeable in the part of Master Beech, and Miss Nellie Birchenough is good as Betty Black.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE. —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Hy. Swinerd's company, under the direction of Mr. J. W. Cordiner, is this week presenting *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Miss Dolly Desmonde is delightfully bright and happy in the title-rôle; Miss Marie Vere is sprightly and pleasing as Ruth Montrose; Miss Nellie Harcourt is bright and vivacious as Judith; Mr. Walter Ashley plays in capital style as Capt. Fielding; the Captain Dudley of Mr. Henry C. Ward is a vigorous portraiture; Mr. Will Brereton (Silas Crump) and Mr. Dean Cliffe (Featherstone Haugh) provide abundant mirth. Clever specialities are submitted by Miss Dorothy Desmonde, Miss Nellie Harcourt, the Misses Mabel and Lillie Blake (acrobatic and speciality dancers), Miss Marie Vere, and Mr. Will Brereton.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Mr. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is again here, presenting for the first three nights of the week *Leah Kleschna*. Miss Bessie Rignold was very sympathetic in the title-rôle, whilst Mr. Paul Belmore as Monsieur Garnier was a decided success. Mr. Ronald Daniel as Valentine Faure and General Beaton was capital, whilst for the part of Raoul Beaton a clever representative was found in Mr. Hamilton Deane. Miss Edith Summers acted with great distinction as Charlotte, and Miss May Hammond was a charming Friede. Mr. Fred Bannerman was exceedingly good as Baptiste, and Miss Violet Thorold was piquant as Sophie.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—*My Sweetheart* is the attraction here this week. Miss Minnie Palmer is a pleasing Tina, and Mr. Robert Howard acts the part of Song with much distinction. Miss Elsie Forster imbues the rôle of Peek-a-boo with all the humour and charm that are possible to put into it, and Mr. Fred Leonard is amusing as Joe. Miss Iris Smith is exceedingly pleasing as Mrs. Fleeter, and Mr. Alfred J. May is a typical farmer Hatzell. Mr. John MacCallum is capital as Dudley Harcourt, and Mr. Henry Lesmere is good as Harry Bartlett. Mr. Hugh Seaton as Dr. Oliver leaves nothing to be desired.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—An excellent programme is provided here this week. The Tally-Ho Trio pay a return visit, and their harmony is of the best; an amusing sketch, entitled *The Man in Possession*, is provided by Gus Blake and Maud Granby; Grey and Welford are clever comedy artists; and Tate and Tate are smart acrobats. Will English scores a great success with his coon songs, and Johnny Walker, comedian, does well. Other turns are provided by Charles Lilburn, comedian; the Daleys, comedy artists; and the Bioscope.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf. Graham.—There is a capital company here this week, and Tom Foy is adding to his fame and popularity as a laughter-maker in his sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*. Inimitably droll. Fred Curran creates roars of laughter with his songs, as does also Harry Conlin, comedian. Foys, famous comedians, in the new speciality comedy production, *Jolly Tars in China*, meet with great success, and Rosie Coleman provides a clever dancing turn. The Stavordale Quintette provides an excellent musical turn, and George Edney, vocalist, does well.

MOTHERWELL. — NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Miss Elaine Verner's company has filled a three days' engagement here in *The Middleman* and *Saints and Sinners*, the first-mentioned being chosen for the opening night. Mr. Harding Thomas gave a convincing impersonation of Cyrus Blenkarn; Mr. Frank Lyndon did equally well as Joseph Chandler; Mr. Percy Brown made the most of his limited opportunities as Captain Chandler; and Batty Todd lost nothing in the able hands of Mr. Edward de Vere. Mr. Edgar Kent was an amusing Jesse Pegge; and Mr. Guy Dene looked and acted the part of the family solicitor to the life. Miss Elaine Vernier gave a deeply sympathetic rendering of Mary; Miss Ada Clark was an amusing Nancy; and Misses Ruby Roma and Maud Beard suitably sustained their respective rôles of Maud and Mrs. Chandler.

NELSON.—NEW GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. George E. Mudd.—This week celebrates the return visit of Mr. Frank Lindo and company in *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr. Frank Lindo, in the character of Stephen Armitage, plays admirably; Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle makes a realistic old fisherman of David Armitage; Captain Gerald Gambier gives a fine portrayal of the Duke of Ancaster; Mr. F. Miles Hodgson as Lucas Lyle plays to perfection; Mr. Jack Patrick ably sustains the part of the Hon. Percy; Mr. George Overs acts Dick Redmayne with force and ability; Mr. Ernest E. Owens as Lord Silvermore is quite successful; Miss Marion Wakeford is seen to advantage in the rôle of Joan; Miss May Rochefort is good as Sybil Fane; and Miss Daisy Rochfort very prettily takes the part of Dora, the child.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe. —*Raffles* is here this week. Mr. Leonard Boyne in the title-rôle gives a capital impersonation of the amateur cracksman; Mr. Arthur Willoughby makes an excellent Earl of Amersteth; Mr. Edward Breon's impersonation of Viscount Crowley is typical; and Mr. Clifford Brooke distinguishes himself as Curtis Bedford. Miss Madge Murray scores as Lady Ethel for her fine acting; Miss Hazel Thompson is worthy of praise as Gwendoline Coran; and Miss Amy Thomas sustains the part of Lady Melove in good style.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing - Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Tearle Lingham.—A capital company sent out by Mr. Frank Curzon is appearing here in *The White Chrysanthemum*. The title-rôle is filled in a charming manner by Miss Nora Grey; Miss Kate Vasey and Miss Daisy Le Hay act gracefully and charmingly as the American heiress and Betty Kenyon respectively; Messrs. W. H. Rawlins and Horace Mills, both sound comedians, are excellent as the Admiral and Lieutenant Chippendale Belmont respectively; Mr. O. E. Lennon as Sin Chong provides capital comedy; and Lieutenant Reggie Armitage is excellent played by Mr. F. Pope-Stamper. Responsible, too, for no small amount of fun is Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., as Private Perks.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. H. B. Clarke.—Mr. Bert Coote's principal company in *The Fatal Wedding* occupies the boards at the Palace this week. Howard Wilson is admirably portrayed by Mr. Ernest Owtrim; Mr. Herbert Humber makes a capital villain as Robert Curtis; whilst as Loto much fun and laughter are evoked by Mr. C. H. Hughes; Mr. Cyril Melton makes a good Schwartz. Miss Madge Haines wins much sympathy as Mabel, and Miss Gertrude Harrison has made a decided hit as Cora. Bridget is embodied in great spirit by Miss Julie Temple; Miss Marjorie Lawrence is a clever juvenile. A special chorus of trained children are well received.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sydney Bacon.—Mr. Augustus Van Biene, supported by a company of accomplished artists, is appearing here this week, and despite his frequent visits, gains a well-merited success, and is playing to full houses nightly.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—The premier position on the bill is held by R. A. Roberts, who on Monday night produced his clever sketch, *Dick Turpin*, and met with well-merited success. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, has had a good reception; the Selbinis perform many sensational feats on the wheel; the Vivians' Operatic and Comedy Co. in their playlet, *The Reverie*, sing and play in good style; the Irish comedienne, Minnie Cunningham, contributes some dainty songs; Boy Glen is a wonderfully clever juvenile raconteur; the Two Tees, musical grotesques, score heavily; Lena Brunton is a charming comedienne; and the Brothers Obo are good comedy artiste. Ryder Slone, in his vocal scena, completes the entertainment.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Yukio Tani, reputed to be the finest living exponent of ju-jitsu, is offering £100 to the first man who can defeat him. Sammy Shields scores a great success with his song; Fanny Wentworth is as interesting as ever with her clever performances at the piano; the Brothers Wifords give a fine exhibition of muscular development; the Albinos are a dainty musical turn; John Tiller's Manchester Mites are a clever troupe of singers and dancers; Flo Cecil, comedienne and dancer, has met with instantaneous success; and Elton and Elba perform well on the horizontal bars. Dick Williams plays catchy melodies on the banjo, and Five Bon Bons and the Barrascope make up a first-rate evening's entertainment.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—*The Traitor* is being presented here by Messrs. E. Hill Mitchelson and Harris Pineberg's company. As the chief of police Mr. Stephen E. Scanlon displays considerable power; and Mr. Beneley Evans is successful as Prince Rudolph. Mr. Cyril Maitland very impressively portrays the Speaker of the Hidden Council. Most of the other male characters are humorous, more or less. General Hertz (Mr. Arthur McCulloch) and Zoff (Mr. Edward Lowrie) are extremely farcical; Capt. Ross, R.A. (Mr. W. Hurst) is amusing; Jack Boult (Mr. Frank Sutherland) is intensely funny; and other well-played parts include Cen-Cen (Miss Maud Stuart) and Eliza Dafres (Miss Gwynne Warren); the Countess Zicka (Miss Katherine Vere), Zula (Miss Ruth Shepherd), and Little Nicholas (Miss Isabel Hunt).

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—*In Bonnie Scotland*, performed by a number of local children, trained by Professor Selkirk, forms a pleasing feature of the show this week. The Leslie Brothers present a really excellent musical turn; Preston and Balmaine give a couple of songs, illustrated by pictures; Kate Cohen is deservedly encored for a beautifully-rendered song, "Children's Home"; and the Caselli Sisters are smart with their dances. Nora Emerald, in dainty dresses, sings a couple of songs that are warmly applauded; Albert Christian is popular with his character songs; and Donaldson Brothers and Ardel have their popular sketch, *A Zoological Comedy*.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—This week Mr. Frank E. Burdett presents George Daventry's military play, *The Indian Mutiny*. Miss F. Melrose Millett is seen to advantage as Ghuz-nah, and is well supported by Mr. George Steel as Lieutenant Manley and Mr. Villiers Stanley as Nebu Singh. Mr. Cyril Harrison as Captain Manley, Mr. John Davidson as Major Ingleby, Mr. Cecil Morand as Terry O'Brien, Mr. J. S. Shedden as Abul Khan, and Mr. Charles Boult as Ra Goonga make the best of their respective parts.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Representative, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Pollo Jerome on the trapeze is first favourite in this week's programme; Amba Austa, eccentric comedienne, gives a turn of peculiar interest; Billie Burford is highly successful; Grace Merton has a sweet and powerful voice; Alf. Brookes is successful; a hit is made by Lawrence Barclay; the Two Wiltons are well appreciated for their song and dance; Clarke and Glenny appear in a sketch; Will Haines wins favour; and C. Vincent presents some funny pictures on the Biograph.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Fred L. Conynghame's company with the domestic drama, *A Mother's Love*. As Paul Wingate Mr. Arthur Mervyn is warmly applauded for his successful rendering of the character; and Mr. Arthur E. Pringle as Geoffrey Mannering contributes a clever performance. Mr. Fred I. Conynghame gives a capital impersonation of Mat Ruddock; Mr. Robert Lynne makes the most of Joe Jackson; and Mr. H. Clifton does well as Ralph Mervain. The part of Winnie Wingate is in the able hands of Mis Rose Mervyn; Miss M. Lavinia Ellis makes an interesting Ellaine Mervyn; Miss Dorothy Monkhouse gives a careful study of Mary Stuart; and Miss Hollie Hazlewood is well received as Marjorie Wingate.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Mr. Spearman Potts, a smart illusionist, is the star here, and is meeting with a hearty reception; Mr. George Belrose and Miss Maude De Velin, speciality duettists, provide an enjoyable turn; the Ringling Trio, American eccentrics, give a clever performance; Miss Beatrice Bonnie is a pleasing comedienne; Mr. Walter Styles, hoop manipulator and juggler, is smart; Messrs. Duncan and Morton, comedians and dancers, do well; Mr. Scatter, a local comedian, is popular; and the Bio-Photoscope meets with its usual success.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Morton Powell's company this week gives an excellent representation of *The Woman Who Gambles*. Miss Gertrude Hunt is much appreciated for her powerful acting as the Countess Steinbach, and Mr. James Duncan as Count Otto Steinbach is equally successful. Mr. Horatio Sinclair as Baron Cratzlaw deserves commendation, and Mr. Reginald Fox as Lieutenant Carl Czarteriski is well received. Miss Florrie Hatton deserves praise as Cora Gouldhart.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—But for one untoward incident an attractive programme is presented this week. The incident regretted is the non-appearance of Tom Grave, who has been unable to give his sensational cycling feat, having contracted a chill during his journey from Lancashire on Sunday. Among the others appearing are Letta and Minni, who give a clever exhibition of hand-balancing and musical performance; Minni also introduces her highly-trained dog and his clever tricks. Alma Obrey has a charming voice, and her songs are much appreciated; Shawlene is an expert effleur and mimic, and is very entertaining; Jessie Barley and Phil Smith are humorous in their episode entitled *A Rehearsal*, whilst Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright create much fun in their sketch entitled *Cockie*. Nina Gordon is a pleasing mimic, and Bob Baxter, comedian, is well received. The Hippo Bio is particularly good this week.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Little Cherub* is paying its first visit this week, and the excellent play is capitally acted by Mr. Geo. Edwardes' company. Miss Queenie Leighton is delightful as Molly Montrose. Singing spiritedly, and acting with a vivaciousness that is infectious, she wins continuous applause. The two daughters of the Earl of Sanctobury are taken by Miss Fanny Dango and Miss Valli Valli, and no more attractive couple could be desired, their singing and dancing being heartily appreciated; Mr. Robert Hale cleverly embodies Lord Congress; Mr. Lennox Pawle contributes a thoroughly amusing portraiture of the amorous old peer, the Earl of Sanctobury; Mr. Arthur Langley is successful in his portraiture of a society "dude"; and Mr. Colin Coop well depicts the peppery Alderman Briggs. Miss Hazel Saqui makes an engaging chambermaid; Miss Julita Dumas as Lady Agnes and Miss Nellie Johnston as Lady Rose earn distinction, and the fun is also maintained by Mr. Cranston Neville, Mr. Nelson Keys, and Mr. Fred Winn. The music of Mr. Ivan Caryll is charmingly rendered by an augmented orchestra under the direction of Mr. T. Sutton.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke. —A strong attraction is here this week in Mr. Walter Melville's stirring drama, *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Miss Beaumont Collins essays the rôle of Barbara Wade with highly commendable tact, showing the dipsomaniac in an effective manner, which gains her cordial applause. Miss Gibbons portrays Nellie Meadows with distinctive energy; and Miss Jessica Black is satisfactory as Constance Cornell. In the parts of Fay Dudley and Gertie Seemston, Misses Nellie Noble and Nannie Meade are well placed; Mr. Charles Fanmore gives a fine character-study of the genial old farmer, John Meadows; Mr. Wilson Gunning gains merited recognition in his assumption of Jack Livingstone; Mr. Gerald Jordan makes a success of Cuthbert Lumley; and the humorous element is capitally brought out by Miss Lena Delphine (Tilly Vane) and Mr. Fred Ingram (Toby Turvey).

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—Fred Karno's troupe of comedians appear in their amusing burlesque, *The Humming Birds*, to the accompaniment of the heartiest of laughter. The exuberant humour of Dan Crawley is well exemplified in several funny songs; and an item by Kate Butler, "It's a sad, sad story," is brimful of quaint drollery. As itinerant musicians, the Three Dumonds display admirable skill, one member playing the violin with wonderful effect; the vocalism of Lilian Lea quite captivates her audience in a scena, *My Bungalow in Borneo*; and Jack Charman is deservedly rewarded for his excellent singing. The Molasso Quartette give an attractive exhibition of cyclonic dancing; and the male impersonations of Lilian Bishop are tastefully rendered. Silent Tait gives an entertaining performance as an eccentric wizard; and the American Bioscope shows some up-to-date pictures.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company is presenting to enthusiastic audiences *The Temptress*. Mr. Claude Ashworth appears as Sir Oswald Fordyce; Mr. Wallace Campbell gives a meritorious interpretation of Philip Welford; Mr. Weedon Atherstone wins high praise for his excellent acting in the part of the unscrupulous Lucas Denbeigh; Mr. Fred H. Constable is good as Pedro Gonzales; Mr. C. Quinton Fulford scores as Austin Dale; Miss Violet Sims is in favour as Marion Fordyce; and Miss Effie Bartlett pathetically portrays the discarded wife, Madge Denbigh; while Miss Lydia Donovan ably depicts the scheming Stella, the temptress. Plenty of comedy is supplied by Messrs. W. P. Sheen, Allan Carruthers, Charles Reque, and Miss Ivy Chandos.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. George Musgrove's company is delighting large "houses" once again with the musical comedy, *The Prince of Pilsen*. Mr. Martin Adeson is exceedingly good as Hans Wagner; Mr. J. B. Fox, as Carl Otto, has a part that suits him, and he does full justice to it. Mr. G. Villiers Arnold is a manly Tom; and Mr. Lawrence Wensley makes an excellent Lord Shrimpton. Miss Millicent Marsden is good as Mrs. Madison Crocker; and Miss Isa Bowman is a charming Nellie Wagner. Miss Nell Emerald is a sprightly Sidonie, the French maid; Edith Adams is well played by Miss Nellie Barnwell; Jimmie is acted in a capital manner by Miss Meg Hamilton; Mr. Alfred Selby scores as François; Mr. Madison Rich makes a fine Cook's courier; and Mr. D. O. Uglas is good as Sergeant Brie. Miss Clara Stanton, as the Gibson Girl, is the hit of the piece. The chorus is a strong one, and the dresses and scenery are pretty.

COLOSSEUM. — Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mr. F. Melville's play, *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*, drew a large audience on Monday evening. Miss Beatrice Homer fills the title-rôle in capital style; Mr. Philip Darien is a manly Jack Merriman; Mr. L. Cancellor is good as Hubert Gold, and is ably assisted in his villainy by Miss Nell Oliver as Rose Courtney. Other accomplices are played by Mr. C. Barrett as Antonio, and Mr. W. Wallace-Acton as Raggles. Miss Nellie Jackson is excellent as Aggie Brown, as is Miss Margaret Watson as the Italian girl Merita. Mr. Allan Davenport scores as Tom Redvers; and Mr. Cecil de Lee is the purser, Griffiths. Mr. Leonard Thackeray plays Dr. Carr, and the remaining characters are done justice to.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Carter Livesey and Lillian Rosebery top the bill with *The Would-be Actors*, assisted by Mr. Albert Mason. The Cattaneos are a smart troupe of acrobats; and the Vasilescu Roumanian Company is excellent in an eccentric act on the bars. Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, a charming comedienne, has had a well-earned reception; whilst the Two Anartos, in a musical skit, are very good. Frank Cass, vocal comedian, also does well; and the Four Sherrys score in a comedy acrobatic act. Miss Minnie Mace, comedienne, and the Royal Dottoscope complete an excellent programme.

HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—Ike Scott and Son, versatile comedians, have had a good reception here; Will Dalton, comedian, has some funny songs; and Louie Lennard and Lazy Larry are successful duettists; and Fred Fyne and Johnny Hurley are amusing in a novel singing act. George Young, blind musician, is excellent in his solos on the concertina; the Athlones are a pair of refined athletes, in classical poses; and Bert Williams is a funny ventriloquist. The Dottoscope shows interesting pictures.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company is this week paying a visit with *The Blue Moon*. Mr. Alec Fraser scores in the part of Captain Ormesby; Mr. Alfred Clark is good as Major Callabone; Mr. A. W. Ashdowne makes an interesting Bobbie Scott; Mr. Arthur Soames is excellent as the Prince; Mr. Alfred Beers works hard and successfully as Moolraj; and Mr. R. Switz is humorous as Private Taylor; Miss Ethel Callanan is a fascinating Evelyn Ormsby; Miss Clarice Lockstone sings delightfully in the title-rôle; and Miss Florence Imeson is a winsome Millicent Leroy.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*Somebody's Sweetheart* is being staged here this week by Mr. Edward Marris's company. Mr. W. H. Kirby, who is the life and soul of the piece, assumes the rôle of Martin Blabbs in irresistible fashion; Mr. E. H. Bertram as Stanton Ashleigh sings with expression and puts in good work; Mr. Douglas B. Watson essays the gentlemanly villain, Stephen Leverton, with conspicuous success; Old Joe has an excellent representative in Mr. Reg. Hugh Hamber; Mr. J. Templar Ellis gives a good impersonation of Lem Lee; and Freddie Ashleigh is creditably sustained by Miss Millie Gordon; Miss Molly Hackett wins favour as Lulu, whilst her singing and dancing are full of vivacity; as Zora Miss Cordelia Knight is seen to advantage; and Miss Nora Melton's Mrs. Ainslie gives satisfaction; the clever dancing of Misses Rosie Chandler and Dolly Payne is worthy of special mention.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Wilson.—The bill here this week is a strikingly attractive one, including the Three Royal Dreadnoughts (Lillian, Vera, and Major Charles), who are vociferously applauded for their skilful rifle shooting; the Herald Comedy Four, in their harmonious singing and spirited dancing, receive hearty recognition. Other good turns are given by Williams and Warden, comedians, in a comedy act entitled *Mr. Dooley*; the Four Emilions, in their original and sensational acrobatic act; Penstone, prestidigitateur and illusionist, assisted by his China-town belle, Tsaou-ngo, marvellous lady sleight-of-hand exponent; Beattie Kent, comedienne; Kenneth and Kane, amusing comedy entertainers; and Tom Collins, a clever and versatile comedian. The Hippodrome Bioscope gives a fine selection of animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—This week the top of the bill is occupied by those clever comedians, Regan and Ryan; Patty Yole scores with her new songs and some old favourites; Helen Duncanson is a pleasing ballad vocalist; Archie Cameron, refined comedian, is successful: Annette Gray is an acceptable comedienne, and Ed. Stevens, comedian and dancer, is well received. The performance concludes with a good display of animated pictures by the Empire Animatograph.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Mr. Herbert Ralland is here this week with his principal company in the celebrated comic opera *La Poupée*, which is taking well. Mr. Arthur Cozens does full justice to the rôle of Lancelot, his vocal contributions being received with much acceptance; Mr. Walter Balfour's clever portrayal of Father Maxime is vociferously applauded; Mr. Arthur Dennis is seen to advantage as Loremois; as is Mr. Fuller Allen as Chanterelle; and Mr. Harry Brayne's clever impersonation of Hilarius is a fund of amusement in itself; Miss Edith Hunter is well adapted to the rôle of Madame Hilarius; Miss Dorris Dickens is a taking Henri; Misses Dora Dickens and Nita Cree create a favourable impression as First and Second Doll respectively; and Miss Mysie Devine's charming interpretation of the title-rôle deservedly wins for her unstinted approbation.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Charles Macdona on Monday introduced *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)* to a West-Country audience. As the unsophisticated countryman, Mr. Morris Harvey was responsible for much spontaneous merriment; Miss Maimie Brickwell is a fascinating La Bolero, her vocal efforts being greatly appreciated; Miss Lulu Louden is a vivacious Lou

smart representation of Harry Alford; and the acting of Miss Sadie Smith as Will Gunstock is clever. Miss Danvers Smith as Marie also adds to the success.

RAWTENSTALL. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur De Frece.—Mr. Vivian Grantham this week presents his company in *Held in Bondage*. Miss Florence Tyrrell was an exceptionally good Zara Dronski; as Ivan Dronski Mr. Charles Stirling was also clever; as Prince Mazaroff Mr. Richard Vase gave a powerful portrayal; and Mr. George Child was an effective Sir John Hawthorne. Miss Amy Rudd gave a delightful interpretation of the Princess; Miss Grace Baring made an excellent Leonie; and as Harry Dunn and Mrs. Dunn Mr. George Scully and Miss Maude Merrick were excellent, their comedy being fresh and entertaining.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Michael Dempsey.—Mr. George Dance's company is appearing this week in the favourite comic opera *Veronique*. Miss Nellie Wigley acts very effectively in the title-rôle; Mr. J. Warren-Foster is highly efficient in his impersonation of Florestan de Vallancourt. The "Swinging" duet by these two artists evokes enthusiastic applause. Miss Neste Laurel acts charmingly as Denise; Miss Agnes Tandy plays vivaciously as Agatha (Mme. Coquenard); Mr. Tom Seymour as the bailiff and Mr. Scott Cullen as Seraphin are both highly amusing; Mr. Ellis Holland is diverting as Monsieur Coquenard; Miss Edith Devonshire gives a clever impersonation of the Countess Champ d'Azur; Mr. Jack Kelly and Mr. Basil Reynolds act well as Octave and Felicien; Mr. Ben Barnes as Max, the waiter, and Mr. James Davies as the orderly are well placed. Mr. Clement Locknane is an efficient musical director.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague. —*The Geisha* is fulfilling a welcome engagement here this week, and attracted a good house on Monday evening. Miss Lydia Bland delights the audience as O Mimosa San, her cultured vocalism being much admired; Miss Edith Adeson makes a piquant Mollie Seymour, and her rendition of the "Parrot" song is generously applauded; Miss Winifred Knightley as the stately Lady Constance Wynn acts with becoming grace and dignity; Miss Doris Langdon is effective as O Juliette Dismante; Mr. Wilfred Heath makes a capital Reginald Fairfax, acting and singing with telling effect; Miss Emily Lovel is a pretty Tom Stanley; Mr. J. H. Booth as the pompous Marquis Imari is heard to great advantage; and Mr. Edward Kipling is highly amusing as Wun Hi.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Co. — The Brothers Montes, in *The Scotchman and the Driver*, treat the audiences here to some clever, novel, and amusing acrobatic feats; the Lizette troupe of lady acrobats submit some smart balancing and tumbling; and other turns are given by Marie Yorke, burlesque artist; Dan Noble, comedian and vocalist; Salida and Vone, ragtime dancers; Elsie Rubina, on the wire; Chas. Cassell, comedian and vocalist; and Vernon's Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Mr. Will Godwin scores heavily in *Repentance*; the Three Cape Girls are popular with their smartly executed long-boot dancing; the Cellos, musical speciality; Bert Weston, comedian, &c.; Julian Mack; James Shingleton, singing collier; Dorothy Dundas, vocalist; and the Empire Bioscope also contribute to the programme.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here with *The Gay Parisienne*. Miss Evelyn Hughes as Mlle. Julie Bon-Bon gives a delightful rendition; Mr. Will Harman is funny as Ebenezer Honeycombe; Mr. Horace Lingard amusing as Major Forsdyke; Miss Holford Beringer capital as Mrs. Honeycombe; Miss Ethel Ivimey pleasing as Norah; and Miss Madge Soutter is responsible for much laughter as Ruth. Mr. Clifford Seyler is a typical Frenchman as M. Pompier; and Mr. Edgar makes a successful Tom Everleigh. Mr. J. FitzJames is deserving of mention as Hans; and Mr. Dutton Nicholls scores as Algernon P. Ducie. Specialities are introduced by Miss Hughes, Mr. Cecil Lawrence, and the Original Imperial Glee Singers.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—On Monday Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company commenced a three-nights' engagement with *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. Frank Wilson as Dick Wargrave is excellent; Mr. J. Clegg is a humorous Jim Cheese; and Mr. D. Fitzgibbon a good Hon. Crewe Boodle. Miss Alice Nixon is a charming Elphin Haye; Miss Florence Brandon a piquant Daisy; Miss M. Maude a capital strong woman; and Mr. M. Cotter a duly aggressive A. Bunker Bliss. Mr. Godfrey as Downham, Mr. Burgess Barratt as Mr. Talk, Mr. Melville as Hazel, and Messrs. Franks and Scott as Rossiter and Charles are all good in their respective parts. Miss C. Dade as Eliza Shoddam causes much amusement. *Florodora* was given on Thursday.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. Augustine Knight is presenting this week Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's drama, *The Assassin*. As Prince Demetri, Mr. Augustine Knight was excellent; Miss Ella Vane was seen to advantage as Countess Wanda; Mr. Edward E. Ashley as the young soldier Ivan Ipanoff, was successful; a fine old Duke Carl was that presented by Mr. Theo. Balfour. Many amusing situations were contributed to by Mr. Cecil H. Raymond as the French Baron Alphonse. Mr. T. Taylor as Peter, Miss M. E. Robertson as Katrina, and Mr. Jack Smith as Evangie. Miss H. Senior as Connie Jonathan did good work; as also did Miss F. Waring as Nita. Mr. Chauncy Morres as General Nicol and Mr. E. Jenner as Capt. O'Neil, gave able support.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—W. J. Churchill, comedian, is a great favourite in this district; Marie San Toi and her company, in the musical scena, *In a Japanese Tea Garden*, give great pleasure with their dancing and singing; Hanvaar and Lee are amusing and clever in juggling and tumbling. The programme is nicely varied with other turns by Levarni, tight wire speciality; the Paolias, in classical physical culture pictures; Bert Brantford, comedian; Nelson's Newsboys, in solos, quartettes, and dances; the Jalvans, Oriental entertainers, including top-spinning; the Sisters Selhurst, vocal comediennes and dancers; and Hayman and Franklin, in a clever sketch, *A Matrimonial Agency*.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Some good dancing and singing are given by Dinah Morris and her company, in *The Lost Coon*; Derbyshire Dan is a good mimic; the Kimberley Boys are comical; Nancy Renshaw is evidently a favourite with her laughing negro songs and bone solos; Mephisto and Marie, in acrobatic drawing-room act, are a clever pair. The other turns include Smith and Johnson, in their drawing-room act; York, Mac, and York, in *The Widow's Worries*; Dick Thomas, with Welsh songs; and T. E. Johnstone, actor-vocalist.

SALISBURY.—COUNTY HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brimsmead.—Mr. George Dance's company has been paying a return visit in *The Cingalee*. Miss Edith Harmer gave a charming representation of Nanova; Miss Bertha Frey made a dignified Lady Patricia; Miss Minnie Muir a vivacious Peggy Sabine; Mr. Tom Payne, as Chambhuddy gave a most amusing representation; as Harry Vereker Mr. Charles Fagan sang and acted in manly style; Mr. Coone Edmonds as Sir Peter Loftus may be commended; and Mr. F. Sutton as Boobhamba and Mr. W. Austin as Bobby Warren did well.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt and company fill the bill here this week with *Two Little Sailor Boys*. Commander Noel Tregarthen is boldly delineated by Mr. Jerrold Heather; Captain Tom Yorke receives excellent treatment at the hands of Mr. W. H. Hallatt; Mr. Tom E. Sinclair causes mirth by his lively performance as Ben Baxter; Miss Blanche Steele deserves praise for her Lola Grey; and the two little sailor boys are adequately presented by Miss May Day and Miss Ethel Frances Greene. Jack Jolly is ably portrayed by Mr. Oscar Power and Jim Royston by Mr. Ambrose Horton. The Admiral is suitably depicted by Mr. J. Court Harvard; Lucy being prettily played by Miss Alice Defoe. Miss Dorothy Lennox gives much satisfaction as Mary Primrose; and Mr. Ellerslie Pyne as Lieutenant Redstone.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey and company are paying a return visit here this week, and on Monday presented *The Wearin' o' the Green* to a big house. By his rollicking and humorous portrayal of Barney O'Hea Mr. Mackey has established himself a warm favourite with Seaham audiences; Shamus is well played by Mr. Charles Homer; Mr. David M'Farlane is a satisfactory Connor Martin; Michael Kenny is made sufficiently villainous by Mr. Haughton Macaulay; and as Gerald Courtenay Mr. St. John Stuart is distinctly good. Nora M'Grath is skilfully impersonated by Mrs. Mackey; Miss Adele Liddon acts with sincerity as Mrs. M'Dermott; Biddy is vivaciously played by Miss Nana Flensberg. *The Colleen Bawn* and *Arrah-na-Pogue* are included in the week's repertory.

SHEERNESS.—THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—The bill this week is headed by E. Montefiore and company, in the sketch, *The Little Colonel*; Cecil Lidden and Elsie Hayward, in a bright little comedy act, are received with favour; George Keith contributes a couple of songs in a pleasing manner; the Knick-Knacks, comedy duettiste, are responsible for smart patter and clever dancing; Charles Russell, in a song scena "It's a wonder what music will do," is exceedingly popular; May Bass, in coon song and dance, and Ethel Buchanan, soprano vocalist, are also accorded a hearty welcome.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont. There was a large gathering of Dickens lovers at the Lyceum on Monday, and the fine performance of *Oliver Twist* by Mr. Beerbohm Tree's company was received with unqualified approbation. Mr. William Mackintosh realised the famous pictorial conceptions of Fagin, and his acting was replete with grotesque humour and weird intensity. Mr. Cecil A. Collins faithfully delineated the repulsive characteristics of Bill Sikes; Mr. Tom Macfarlane proved very successful in his impersonation of the amusing thief, the Artful Dodger; Mr. T. P. Haynes acted with his usual unctuous drollery and keen sense of humour as Mr. Grimwig; and other clever character sketches were Mr. Frederick Clive's Tom Chittling, Mr. Grose's Charlie Bates, Mr. Max Montsole's Barney, Mr. E. C. Buffem's Mr. Brownlow, Mr. C. H. Croker-King's Monks, and Mr. H. C. Jacobs's Mr. Bumble. Miss Marie Polini acted like a true artist, presenting with wonderful power and fidelity the conflicting passions and dog-like faithfulness of poor Nancy; Miss Maudie Ray was good as Oliver, and won the warm sympathy of the audience; and the parts of Mrs. Maylie and Rose were excellently played by Miss Elsie Carew and Miss Savile.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Charles Harrington and his strong company are appearing to large and enthusiastic houses this week in the stirring play, *The Sailors of the King*. Mr. Harrington as Admiral Drake makes a dignified and gallant naval commander, and the support is good all round.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The pathos and humour of Sims and Shirley's drama, *Two Little Vagabonds*, pleased a large audience here on Monday, when Hardie and Von Leer's company commenced a welcome visit. Miss May Hart as Dick and Miss Margaret Nybloc as Wally distinguished themselves by two highly meritorious impersonations. Mr. Henry Watson is good as Captain Darville, and the character of Mr. Thornton has a convincing and earnest representative in Mr. William Fazan; Mr. John F. Traynor's Bill Mullins is a clever and interesting study; Mr. Edward Cuthbert is successful as John Scarthe; the part of Marion Thornton is acted in sympathetic manner by Miss Laura Hansen; and Miss Mildred Hodson is an excellent Barbara Scarthe. Mr. Marston Moor and the other members of the company do loyal service.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—A capital array of talent is billed this week. Chung-Ling Soo, the marvellous illusionist, is again mystifying the Empire patrons by his extraordinary sleight of hand; the Kremos (four in number) are wonderfully expert and graceful tumblers and posturers; Mr. Pat Carey is a diverting comedian; and other popular favourites are Charles J. Johnson, in amusing coon songs; Miss Beatrice Willey, a sweet singer of old ballads; Mr. Ambrose Thorne, a refined and entertaining humorist; Mr. Spry and Miss Austin, in a new and laughable farcical entertainment; and "Lora." The programme concludes with "Scenes in Paris," by the American Bioscope. On Tuesday the 11th annual celebration of the opening of the Empire took place, and immense audiences were present at each "house." There was a special programme, including artists from other halls, in addition to local talent.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—The favourite character actor, Mr. Roy Cochrane, and his talented little company opened on Monday in a new and well-written sketch, and others who pleased a crowded house were Mr. George Hyam, vocal comedian; the Leotards, in a smart act; Mr. Will Johnson, patter vocalist and dancer; Miss Daisy Martell, serio-comic vocalist; Miss Nelly Rose, comedienne; Mons. Angelo, lightning picture painter; and Pallister, with his popular animated pictures.

SHREWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—The delightful and refreshingly original play, *Sunday*, is being performed here this week by Mr. Louis Calvert's talented company. Miss Emilie Polini, in the title-rôle, acts with rare grace; Mr. Leonard Pagden is a manly and capable Colonel Brinthorpe; Mr. G. Wallace Johnston merits praise as Arthur Brinthorpe; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas is well suited in the part of Tom Oxley; Mr. Wm. Lockhart is a picturesque Towzer; Mr. Cecil Yann a pathetic and interesting Lively; and Mr. Sidney Rennef as Davy acquits himself well. Mr. Arthur Vezin as Jacky plays the part with care. Miss M'Aimee shows refinement in the part of Mrs. Naresby; and Miss Muriel Pope makes a sweetly expressive Nun.

SMETHWICK.—THE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—The attraction here this week is the stirring military play, *The Death or Glory Boys*. Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson, the actor-author, fills the important rôle of Captain Glyn Ferrers with credit. Jack Malden has a capital exponent in Mr. Bonhote Wilson; Mr. Jerrold Ord gives an admirable interpretation to the part of Colonel Fergeson; Mr. Lancelot Usher submits an entertaining portrayal of Lieut. Duff; Mr. Francis Serle plays a useful part as Carn; Mr. J. Russell Bogue creates much merriment as Nat Wilks, and is ably assisted by Miss Marion Armitage as Jane; Miss Violet Carlyle is well placed as Nena Fergeson; and Miss Amy Ellam meets with success as Edith Malden. Other parts were in the capable hands of Messrs. Harold Wagner and Edward Jeffs.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—A great attraction is provided by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's admirable company in *The Freedom of Suzanne*. Miss Mabel Love is delightfully fascinating as Suzanne, and Mr. Percy Hutchison is very natural and convincing as her husband, Charles Trevor, the efforts of each artist being highly appreciated. Efficient support is given by the other members of the company, and the engagement is a most successful one.

PALACE. — Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—*The Casey Circus*, which supplies a street urchin's idea of producing a circus, is productive of loud laughter; Gwennie Hasto excels as a dancer, and Drew and Alders are a comical couple; Gus Hindell, comedian, the Eight Sunrays, Cabaret's dogs, Barney Vox, ventriloquist, and Horace Minto, all command hearty recognition.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—George Lashwood is starring here, and his chorus songs go admirably; Howard and Collinson, in *The Porter and the Parcel*, are very smart, and Addie Dorina is a clever protean artist; Frazer and Mac create great hilarity; Jeannie Hartley, dancer, Guy Rider, siffleur, and J. C. Crawley, mimic, also contribute to a capital programme.

PHILHARMONIC HALL.—The Eclipse Animatograph company are continuing their stay here, and doing record business. New films and fresh varieties are introduced, and the entertainment from start to finish is a most successful one.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE. — Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power. — Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Elliott provide this week's attraction, their capital company giving a most creditable presentation of the drama entitled *A City of Sin*. Mr. Conrad Heywood in his rôle of Paul Torraine shows masterly skill; Mr. Edwin Maurice handles the character of Mortain convincingly, and has a really clever accomplice in Mr. Wilfred Grahame, whose impersonation of Zip Barzon is one to be remembered. Messrs. C. W. Spencer and Val W. Gully as Bibi Lebœuf and Titi Culotte are capital humorists; Alice Bertrand is entrusted to Miss Edith Wallis, who gives a striking portrayal; Miss Jenny Watson is successful as Ilma; and the Misses Polly Denville and Elvira Stuart are worthy exponents of Zazotte and Chouette.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—A varied programme is being given here this week. A pleasing feature is the capital sets of pictures so clearly shown on the bioscope; Mr. Fred Allen possesses a rich baritone voice, whose renderings merit recognition; Miss Carrie Wood is capital as a coon singer, and dances well; Miss Kate Oxford appeals to all with her excellent ballads; the comic element is well provided by Mr. Mark Dale; the fantasies by the Living Marionettes and Fantoccios maintain last week's success. Each performance concludes nightly with a play, and on Monday a most delightful portrayal of the nautical sketch entitled *A Sailor's Love* was enacted by Messrs. F. Mantell, Mark Dale, Sydney Dalton, and Miss Edith Maynard.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. K. Singleton.—Musical comedy again forms the attraction here this week, *The Sweet Girl* being presented on Monday to a large audience by Miss Claudia Lasell and company. Miss Lasell depicts the part of Lola in an artistic and vivacious manner; Miss Alice Lethbridge submits an excellent impersonation of Fritzi Weyringer, her dances being cleverly executed; Mr. Fred Eastman is highly diverting as the Count Leibenberg; Mr. Leonard Russell is a commendable representative of Florian; and Mr. Algernon Newark a capital impersonator of Anthony Strauss. Miss Grace Hunter is a graceful exponent of the Countess Lizzi; and Mr. George De Lara and Mr. Lister Morrah as Prosper Plewney and Dick Kenyon respectively acted creditably.

PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Southport Pier Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Charles P. Johnson.—The Stelnway Quartette, in their successful song scena, "Songs of the Sea," head the bill here this week. The items submitted include Allan Hanbury, the new comedian; Mlle. Zelda, expert performer on musical novelties; Johnny Fuller, the great little cat on the wire; Violet Ashcroft, vocal comedienne; Wal Owen, the comedy man; Pietro, contortionist; A. G. Spry, comedian; and the Bio-Tableaux.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz. —The premier attraction at this popular variety hall is supplied this week by the engagement of Mendel, the famous blind pianist, who supplies an interesting and clever performance. The programme also embraces Rosa Rosetti, the musical girl; Lauri Wylie and his mimicking mannikin; Fatmah Diard, American prima donna; the Sisters Terry, baby mimics; Story and Trigg, burlesque eccentrics; Beau and Belle, operatic duettists; Andy Fagan, character comedian; Rosie Lloyd, comedienne; and the Bioscope, with the latest films.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—The boards here are occupied this week by Mr. John B. Shinton and Mr. Alexander Greenwood's company, in *The Price of Her Soul*. Mr. John B. Shinton as Lord Rolfe Mandeville displays considerable ability; another finished piece of acting is that of the heroine, Countess Inez Steinmetz, portrayed by Miss Ada M. Ryder; Miss Kate Walfred powerfully depicts the villainess, Olga; Major Skoboloff is ably accounted for by Mr. Annesley Hely; Miss G. Garside as Lady Jemima Fraser and Miss Ethel Rainforth as Polly Perkins cause much merriment; and a good comedy trio are Mr. Will Percy as Pat Murphy, Mr. Maurice Lesage as Alphonse Didot, and Mr. George Marriott, jun., as the Hon. Algy Fraser.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Mr. Syd May in his wonderful impersonations of Dan Leno, Harry Lauder, &c., received enthusiastic demonstrations of applause on Monday; Macdonald's Melody Makers, musicians and comedians, contribute a novel phantom scena, *The Burglar's Dream*; a clever swimming exhibition is given by the Sisters Finney; much merriment is caused by Walter Curtis; and other enjoyable items are Maxwell and Francis, comedy artists; Florence Watson, comedienne; E. J. Sheldon, the white coon; Fred Clements, comedian; and the bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. K. Hall and Jos. Sweeney; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—In place of the Zaros, who were billed, a good comedy sketch is presented by Ward and Davis, who are much appreciated; Thompson-Wood's juveniles are well received in *The Gipsy's Holiday*; a capital duologue, *A Game for Two*, is given by the Custances; *Dancing to Win* is a novelty presented by Pete and Juno; Joe Humphreys, actor vocalist, gains the favour of the audience; the Alex Victor Duo contribute a good vocal turn; and the Tivoli Bioscope completes the bill.

STAFFORD. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—The attraction here for the first three nights of the week was Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *The Silver King*. Mr. Horace E. Herbert gave a powerful and manly impersonation of Wilfred Denver; Miss B. Doyle acted with feeling the part of Nellie; Captain Skinner, in the able hands of Mr. Oswald Cray, was an ideal villain; Mr. Percy Foster submitted an admirable character-study of Jaikes; Mr. William Dempsey furnished a fine delineation of Elijah Coombe; and Mr. Ralph Leo as Henry Corker, and Mr. Seton Benard as Cripps rendered valuable assistance. *Bluebell in Fairyland* was billed on Thursday.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Louis Ellison; General-Manager, Mr. Eugene E. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. D. Oswald.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and L. Maitland's company is giving representations of *The Coal King*, which has a special interest in mining districts, the scene being laid in the town of Wigan. Much of the responsibility of the performance rests with Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, as the mine manager, and Miss Gertrude Valentine, as Grace Shirley, a schoolmistress. Effective impersonation is also given to prominent characters in the drama by Messrs. R. C. Smith, Escott Robson, Alfred Terris, Frank Dalton, John Coghlan, William Bennett, Harry Nelson, L. Fenwick, Louis Stanford, Fabian Lock, the Misses Evelyn North, Sinna St. Clair, Sybil Coghlan, &c.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Proprietors, the St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—This week we are having a return visit from Messrs. E. H. Knight and G. Denham's company with *The Grip of Iron*. Mr. Fred Powell is as vigorous as ever in his thrilling impersonation of the Strangler, a part he has played over 5000 times; Miss Rosabel Dodd earns distinction as Cora; and Mr. George Denham makes an excellent Loustalot.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—At the head of the bill here is Mr. Claude Ginnett and company in the equestrian spectacle, *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*, which is meeting with great success. Mr. Arthur Aiston is a clever ventriloquist; McCann's dogs display cleverness and sagacity in their feats; Miss Lillian is exceedingly good as a cyclist; the Dagodets cause hilarity with their comedy; Mr. W. H. Downs, ballad vocalist, is a success; the Brothers Dean are expert dancers; and the Barrascope is both entertaining and instructive.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Under Two Flags*, capably presented by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company, has provided a popular attraction here. Mr. Wellesley Draper acts with ability as Bertie Cecil Royellieu; Mr. Charles Pawl gives a satisfactory impersonation of Lord Rockingham; as Colonel Chauteroy Mr. Arthur Elwyn makes an excellent villain; and Mr. Fred Hilliard is praiseworthy as the Arab chief Abe-el-Kan. Miss Mary Thorne acts with power and feeling as Cigarette; and Miss Mabel Ormonde fills the character of Princess Venetia Corona commendably.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—The chief attraction here is Mlle. Lumière's Electric Fairy Grotto and fire-dances, which have been much appreciated. Among others appearing are the clever Onatis troupe of Algerian jugglers; Warden-Reed and company, in their laughable sketch, *Married or Photographed*; the Falcons, in a smart and amusing acrobatic act; Geo. Bendon styled the "white coon"; Martinengo, a pleasing baritone and 'cellist; Miss Omega, who displays talent on the slack wire; the Sisters Bartholomew, vivacious duettiste and dancers; and Percy Curry, comedian.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—Mr. Harry Pleon and company head the bill this week in a capital sketch, viz., *P.C. Pudden*; the Kurios, in their pantomimical business are diverting; the Three De Veres present a clever acrobatic performance; H. O. Wills, as usual, scores a huge success; Ben Harris's Nippers provide a bustling interlude; Ariel and Astarte, in a bar and trapeze act, are exceptionally good; Cyril Carle scores a success in the late Chas. Godfrey's song, "Dreams"; Grace Langley dances cleverly; and the pictures are capital.

STOURBRIDGE. — ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—Montague Beaudyn and Sydney Crowe's company, with the drama, *The Way of the World*, is here. Miss Sydney Crowe heads the company, and her powerful impersonation is most convincing; Miss Laurie Deering is a pleasing Marion Fanshaw; Miss Violette Vivienne a characteristic Polly Bell. Mr. Herbert Skardon plays with good effect the part of Cecil Montague; Mr. Victor Gordon is well suited as Captain Slade; and Mr. Clarence Temple gives a praiseworthy exposition of Matthew Malyon.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE. — Director and Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—Mr. George Dance's company is appearing here in the comic opera, *The Little Michus*. Mr. Foster Courtenay is highly amusing as General des Ifs; Mr. Wm. Everard is successful as Gaston Rigaud; Mr. Leon Simkins ably impersonates the part of Pierre Michu; Miss Alice Coverick and Miss Ethel Bryan charmingly portray the two "Little Michus"; Miss Florence Hylton enhances her reputation as Madame Michu; Mlle. Marjorie dances herself into the good graces of her audiences as Mlle. St. Cyr.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—A strong attraction is provided by Mr. Douglas Bruce's company in the interesting and stirring drama, *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*. Mr. Edwin J Collins submits an able rendition of the Rev. Robert Everton; Mr. C. W. Standing is quite satisfactory in the dual rôle of Jack England and Private Johnson; Mr. Frank Adair creditably sustains the part of Capt. Geoffrey Caversham; Miss Ethel Bracewell sweetly acts the rôle of the heroine Rose Seymour; in the name-part of Molly Vernon, Miss Marion Turner is fully equal to the demands made upon her histrionic abilities; Miss P. Oakley is amusing as the servant Lucy Vere.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and S. B. Stringer.—The bill is headed by the popular comedian, Mark Sheridan, who secures the usual flattering reception; Lieut. Travis provides an interesting turn; Lillie Langtry, comedienne; Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls' company, who submit a laughable sketch, entitled *The Battle of the Belles*; Raglus, tennis ball manipulator; Steely and Dowton, burlesque interluders; Little Rose Pink, vocalist and dancer; Diamond and Beatrice, saxophonists; and Vernon's pictures complete the bill

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Edward Gray.—*Mysteries of the Thames*, a melodrama from the pen of Mr. Brook Warren, is here this week, and the author's company did full justice to the piece, which was well received on Monday. Mr. Andrew Money as Dick Brandon gives a capable piece of acting; Mr. Brook Warren is good as Captain Denbigh, otherwise the "Hawk"; Mr. Sydney Vereker as Bill Bosco, the coster; and Miss Stephanie Baring, in the dual rôles of Helen Price, alias Flash Nell, and Grace Rochdale, also do good work.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—On Monday *San Toy*, despite the heavy downpour of rain, attracted a full house. This ever-popular piece is capitally performed by Mr. Robert Macdonald's company, under the business direction of Mr. Fuller Allen. A very pleasing San Toy is found in Miss Mora Hersee; and Miss Florence Cameron as Yung Shi is delightful. Miss Althea Hyde does extremely well as Poppy; and Miss Ethel Twitchen as Rose Tucker is deservedly applauded for her pretty dance in Act 2. Mr. Victor C. Huntley is particularly successful as Bobbie Preston; Mr. Harry Turner is seen to advantage as Sir Bingo; and Mr. Grahame Herington is capital as Yen How. A prominent feature of the piece is undoubtedly Mr. Bert Barton's versatility as Li, and Miss Mabel Carr's excellence as Dudley, their humorous work keeping the audience in roars of hearty laughter.

TON-Y-PANDY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ridgewood Barrie.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. Chas. Harrington's combination in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr. J Carr impersonates Uncle Tom with ability; Mr. J. H. Renny scores a success as Phineas Fletcher; Mr. J Henry Rogers is a callous Legree; as Mr. St. Clair Mr. Stanley Howard acts powerfully; Miss Hettie Johnson as Eliza Harris is effective; Miss Ethel Mildmay acts with expression as Cassy; and Little Minnie's Eva is convincing. Miss Annie Watson makes a sprightly Topsy.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—THE OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Manager, Mr. L. J. Gunnell.—Mr. Cyril Keightley's repertoire company is occupying the boards this week in Old English comedy, and on the occasion of our visit *She Stoops to Conquer* was successfully presented. Mr. Keightley himself gave a capital study of Young Marlow; while Miss Haidee Gunn made a charming Kate Hardcastle; and Mr. Iden Payne was humorous as Tony Lumpkin. Mr. Chas. Medwin was excellent as Sir Charles Marlow; and Mr. Henry Crocker was good as Squire Hardcastle; while Miss Alice Arden as Mrs. Hardcastle and Miss Ethel Dane as Miss Neville contributed their share to the success of the production. A word of cordial praise is also due to Mr. Baliol Holloway as Hastings; Mr. Sidney Burton as Stingo; Mr. B. A. Pittar as Diggary; and Mr. Basil Hearn as Tom Twist.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Miss Mary Austin and E. Vivian Edmonds' company occupies the stage this week in *The Golden Ladder*. Miss Mary Austin fills the rôle of Lillian Grant with taste and ability; Mr. W. Clayton is good as the Rev. Frank Thornhill; Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds created a good impression as Peranza; Mr. J. M. Taylor is admirable as Michael Severn; humour is well provided by Mr. I. Rowlands as Sam Peckaby; Miss Winifred Acton gives a pleasing impersonation of Victoria Alexandra; and Miss Nellie Graham is successful as Mrs. Peckaby. The parts of Jim Dixon and Mrs. Dixon are well represented by Mr. Fred Acton and Miss Teresa Haynes.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Gustave Fasola, Indian fakir, introduces some wonderfully clever illusions; Sabino gives a smart musical turn; Poole and Poole, comedy duettists and dancers, win applause; and Gus Granville, comedian, Phineas and Aida, equilibrists, Noel, versatile artist, and Miss Marie Leonard, comedienne, ably contribute

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—An attractive programme is being presented here this week. Topping the bill are the Barowsky Trio, in an incident of skill, "In the Woods"; May Maskell is an exceedingly smart comedienne and dancer; the Four Jumels present a packet of musical surprises; Madge Morley and company, in the comedy episode, *After the Races*, are much appreciated; Harry Coates, the singing navvy, is well received; Harry Marte, comedian, is highly successful; and Fred Russell, ventriloquist, and his companion, "Coster Joe," add greatly to the success of the programme. The American Bioscope displays some capital features.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Messrs. Chas. H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury's company is appearing here this week with *The Blind Foundling*. Mr. Chas. H. Phelps as Gerald Dalton is seen to advantage; Mr. Alfred G. Fry is well placed as Mark Medman; Mr. Bernard Webb is a capital Jasper Waterford; Mr. Harry Tilbury is amusing as Dick Dobbins, his songs being much appreciated; Miss Belle Tilbury is good in the part of Isabel; as Jaikes Momono, a gipsy, Miss Arline T. George is very smart; and Miss Mabel Hall as Fairy, displays great ability.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. Joseph Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—The habitués of this house are again well catered for this week, Mr. E. Lockwood's company opening to a large house on Monday evening with the musical comedy, *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. J. Harold Carson, as Sergeant Brue, portrays excellently the good-tempered policeman; and Mr. Maitland Dicker, as Crookie Scrubbs, is a finished comedian; Mr. Robert Selby

WISBECH.—Selwyn Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Charles Gates.—Mr. George Dance's company appeared here on Monday and Tuesday in *The Orchard*. Miss Poppy Wilkinson and Miss Trilby Collier were seen to advantage as Lady Violet Anstruther and Josephine Zaccary, the former's song, "Little Mary," being especially well received. Miss Hilda Vining was good as Caroline Vokins, and the Misses Sissie Brand and Clara Beck did well as Zelie Rumbert and Thisbe respectively. The parts of Guy Scrymgeour, Dr. Faussett, and Aubrey Chesterton were well taken by Messrs. Clifford Bing, Frank Manger, and Charles Seymour. A special word of praise is due to Mr. Harry Walsh as Meakin.

WOLVERHAMPTON. — Grand Theatre. — Lessees and Managers, Mr. E. H. Bull and Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Percival.—There has been an agreeable run of Mr. George Dance's companies here, and this week *The Duchess of Danzic* is being received with much approval. The part of Sans Gene is taken by Miss May Glenn, whose singing is excellent, and her acting is good; Miss Maggie White pleasingly portrays Renee de Sainte Mezard; and Miss Buena Bent is an attractive Lisette; the character of Napoleon is admirably depicted by Mr. Gilbert York; Mr. J. T. Bolesworth is a successful Marechal Lefebvre; Mr. Ernest Torrance does well as Vicomte de Bethune; and Mr. Steve Fitzgerald is a capital Papillon. Other parts are ably filled by Miss Ella Derwent, Miss Dulcie Garland, Miss Madge Elswick, and Mr. Ralph Forster. The chorus and staging were effective.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. W. H. Lennon.—This week's bill includes the Four Avocas, who give an original vocal entertainment; and Rose Harvey, who is heard to advantage in "The Boys' Brigade"; Grant and Grant, American octoroons, Burg, Haug, and Wise, in a comedy sketch; Francis and Alfred, jugglers, Carl Howard, conjurer, Charles Austin, eccentric comedian, and Goodfellow and Gregson also appear.

Hippodrome.—The principal attraction here is Harry Lauder, Scotch comedian, who is very popular. The programme also includes Frank Weston; Carina Sisters, instrumentalists; the Olgars, dancers; Hector and Paulos, acrobats) Adey Spencer; Fred Lincoln, comedian; and Kisbey, the comical call boy.

WORCESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. le Wards. — Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison are this week introducing a very funny farce to Worcester audiences, under the title of *Public Opinion*. Miss Nancy Beresford is an admirable exponent of the part of Pansy Bligh, a variety artist; as Lady Diana, Miss Emma Hutchison adds considerably to her reputation; and Mr. Percy Marshall's impersonation of the ubiquitous Horace Wigsby is irresistibly comical. The cast is an exceptionally strong one, and leading parts are admirably filled by Messrs. Chas. Harley, Fred Lewis, D. Hamilton, D. Greet, Ashton Pearse, and C. J. Barber, and Miss Connie Dene. *Public Opinion* is preceded by a curtain-raiser, entitled *The Stratagem*, of much more than average merit, in which Messrs. Douglas Hamilton and Ashton Pearse, and Miss Nancy Beresford, are seen to advantage.

WORKINGTON. — Opera House. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes; Musical-Director, Mr. John Millar.—On Monday night Mr. H. F. Housden's company presented *A Woman's Past*, which was well received by a large audience. Miss Dorothy Wallace as Bessie, the heroine, was very successful; whilst Miss Irene Carrington played with appropriate dignity as Clara Darel. The rôle of David Heath was ably sustained by Mr. J. Myron Howard; Mr. David Phillips was responsible for the humorous element as Frank Dellanney; and Mr. H. F. Housden was good as Clement Harper.

WORTHING. — Theatre Royal. — Manager, Herr C. Adolf Siebold.—Mr. Howard Cochran and company presented *The Marriage of Kitty* on Monday. Mr. Howard Cochran cleverly enacts the part of Sir Reginald Belsize; Mr. Cecil Wilford is excellent as John Travers; Mr. Colet Dare does well as Hampton; Mr. Langford Reed amusingly portrays a man-servant as Norbury; and is ably assisted by Miss Helen Kay-Robertson as Rosaline; Miss Betty Castle is everything to be desired as Mme. de Semiano; and Miss Aida Jenoure presents a fine character-study of Kitty. *His Lordship Intrudes* was the curtain-raiser. On Thursday Mr. Norman V. Norman presented *The Adventures of Lady Ursula*.

WREXHAM. — Empire Music Hall. — Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week a good all-round company has attracted good houses here. The Dunlops, in their knockabout bicycle and skating act, are clever; Cliffe and Keans, smart dancers, provide a pleasing turn; the Prinellas, in *A Country Courtship*, are amusing; Lillian Sivado, the "Aerial Queen," is particularly smart; Joe Gill sings acceptably; and the pictures are, as usual, entertaining.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*The Geisha* and *A Greek Slave* have been given during the week here with enormous success. In the former piece Miss Louie Collier was delightful as O Mimosa San; very satisfactory, too, was Miss Florrie Saunders as Molly Seymour; Miss Aubrey Ashton was particularly well suited to the rôle of Lady Constance Wynn; and Miss Violet Kenyon was picturesque as the French girl; Mr. Edward Carlton is entitled to special praise for his impersonation of Wun Hi; Mr. Cyril Thompson as Reginald Fairfax used his fine voice with great effect; and as Imari Mr. Lionel Braham was particularly amusing.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—This week we have here Lockhart's Elephants, a "big" attraction; Rose and Grayson never fail to amuse in their clever scena; Gracie Grahame sings catchy songs in a *chic* manner; Miss Ada Gatley is well received; Harry Rogerson's original sketch is uproariously funny; Dion Wade is a successful mimic; and Wee Jessie is a clever little dancer. Master May, boy vocalist, and the Bioscope complete a strong bill.

The King was present at the performance of *The Merveilleuses* at Daly's on Tuesday. The following evening his Majesty, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Victoria, similarly honoured the representation of *Peter's Mother* at Wyndham's.

The Guildford Dramatic Society produced *Lady Dedlock's Secret*, by J. Palgrave Simpson, in an admirable manner on the 23rd and 24th ult., at the County and Borough Halls. The Society were professionally assisted by Miss Maude Elliston, of whose ability in the title-rôle it is difficult to speak too highly. Her interpretation was the life and soul of the piece, and was in every way successful. Mr. Walter Harris, as Sir Leicester Dedlock, sustained the part with considerable skill; Mr. George S. Tanner, as Tulkinghorn, gave a very realistic personation; Mr. T. Harker acted admirably in the character of Guppy; Mr. Alf Lamacraft as Jo well merited the frequent applause with which he was rewarded; Mr. C. J. Careless gave a droll impersonation of Krook; Mr. Charles Shalders did very well as Buckett; Mr. George B. Goodchild as Jarndyce gave a quiet and essentially suitable rendering of the part; and the minor parts of Higginson and Scroggs were creditably filled by Mr. F. Lymposs and Mr. Ewart Allen. Miss Daisy Deane, who appeared for the first time, gave a simple and natural interpretation of the difficult part of Esther Summerson. The scenery, most of which was specially painted, was the work of the hon. secretary, Mr. G. S. Tanner.

Oscar Wilde's play, *Ein Idealer Gatte*, recently reached its 100th performance at the Kleines Theatre, Berlin, and is still maintaining a prominent place in the bill. *Triplepatte*, MM. Bernard and Godfernaux's amusing farce, has passed its twenty-fifth consecutive performance at the Residenz, and *Sherlock Holmes* is nearing its 100th anniversary at the Berliner. Berlin managers are gradually following London's lead in a one-piece repertory, although this is against the customary German taste. The Royal Schauspielhaus still continues to change its programme nightly, according to tradition.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The London branch of the Amalgamated Musicians' Union will open their club in Great Newport-street on Sunday evening, Nov. 11, with a dinner, at which several musical-directors connected with West-End theatres and orchestras, Members of Parliament and of the London County Council will be present, as well as representatives of kindred societies connected with the theatrical and music-hall professions. The tickets are limited, and have, practically, already been allotted.

Mr. A. E. Wood, the master carpenter with Mr. H. B. Irving's company in America, who had arranged to return to London at the end of the New York season, has been prevailed upon to continue to the end of the tour in January next. Mr. Wood is the secretary of the General Operatives' Sick and Benevolent Fund, and was desirous of returning earlier to attend to the affairs of that society and other business. Mr. Wood received a cordial welcome from the members of the New York Stage Employees Organisation.

Mr. T. Sheridan, electrician of the Waldorf Theatre, whose serious illness was recently referred to in this column, has been examined by the physician of the Royal National Hospital for Consumption and found to be unsuitable for that hospital. Mr. Sheridan's condition is more serious than was assumed to be the case, and efforts are being made to obtain his admission to some other hospital or sanatorium.

The meeting of members of the Theatrical Carpenters' Branch N.A.T.E., held on Sunday evening in the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's-lane, was well attended. The secretary gave a report of the concert arrangements, and several new members were elected.

The burglars who are busy just now in the Covent Garden district paid a visit to 29, Wellington-street, Strand, on Monday evening. The shop and offices in the building were ransacked. The office of the National Association Theatrical Employees seems to have had special attention, the safe being carried out of the front office on to the back landing of the stairway, but it successfully resisted attempts to open it. Desks and cupboards were forced, but with the exception of a few shillings and some silver and gift badges the men, who were evidently "amateur cracksmen," failed to get any booty worth taking away. Mr. C. Aubrey Smith's Relay Race Silver Challenge Cup was fortunately overlooked, and has now been removed to a safer place. Should members of the society find strangers attempting to dispose of the society's badges they are requested to notify the secretary.

A meeting of daymen connected with the various stage departments of the West-End theatres and music halls was held on Sunday evening at the Nag's Head, Hotel, Covent Garden, Mr. Ed. Keating, of the Court Theatre, presiding. The meeting had been called to consider a proposal to form a branch of the National Society, consisting exclusively of members of the day staff. Those present favoured the proposal, and resolved themselves into an organising committee to arrange a further meeting on Sunday evening, Nov. 11.

The secretary of the National Association of Theatrical Employees has received a letter from the general secretary of the American Alliance of Stage Employees containing the following particulars of assistance rendered by the American society to an unfortunate English fellow-craftsman. Mr. Lee M. Hart writes:—

"I desire to inform you that my Chicago Union and myself sent one Mr. Green, of Birmingham, England, who came over on Sir Henry Irving's last tour, was taken sick, had some money, and sent for his family, wife, son, and two daughters—had a stroke of hard luck, daughter and himself taken down with tuberculosis, and they were actually poverty-stricken when their case was called to my attention. I tried to interest the British Consul, but he ignored them and stood on his dignity. I had Green come to our meeting, and the boys gave him 14 dollars to go at once and buy food for the family, and also requested him to report to my office, which he did, and in two weeks' time I secured a rate for the five from Chicago to Liverpool, England, for 143 dollars, and I also put 30 dollars in cash in his pocket. He arrived safe in England and sent us a letter of thanks. He is known at the Prince of Wales's Theatre in Birmingham, and had a card of your National Union of that branch, and that was the only reason we went as far as we did. I personally gave 30 dollars and our Union 50 dollars; the rest our boys dug up out of their spending money. And so we will meet all brothers of the one great principle of unionism."

This splendid act of generosity on the part of the American Alliance is only one of many experienced by unfortunate theatrical employees from this country, but they do not all take the lesson to heart.

The tickets for the annual concert in aid of the Benevolent Funds of the Stage Employees Society are now available. The Duchess of Leeds, Sir Charles V. Stanford, Mr. and Mrs. Kendal (who have sent £1 1s. for tickets), the Alhambra Company, Ltd. (who have sent a donation of £2 2s.), and Miss Agnes Nicholls (£1 1s.) have added their names to the list of patrons, of which particulars were given in this column last week. Mme. Alice Esty, Mr. Charles Knowles, and Mr. Herbert Grover have promised to sing.

A telegram from New York states that the Central Federated Theatrical Union has called out the stage hands, musicians, billposters, engineers, firemen, and electricians of the Metropolitan Opera House, in order to compel Mr. Conried to employ "union" choristers.

COVENT GARDEN BALL.

The third fortnightly Fancy Dress Ball of the present season took place at Covent Garden Theatre on the night of the 26th ult. Sixteen prizes were given, that for the "best costume" being a Stanhope canteen fitted with a complete service of electro-plate and cutlery, while that for the "most original costume" was a sable muff. Among the dresses, one of the most striking was called "Heavenly and Ethereal." It included a blue sequin gown, with stars representing the signs of the Zodiac and some of the better known constellations, while the panels of the skirt contained painted portraits of eminent actors and singers. The cloak, elaborate and dark blue, represented the Milky Way, and the headdress suggested the earth, with the other planets, all illuminated. "En bonne Intelligence" was the name of another remarkable illuminated costume, in which the Queens of Spain and Norway, the Lord Mayor, and many other subjects of international interest were cleverly portrayed. Mr. W. Clarkson was successful in gaining first prize (gentleman's) for a costume entitled "Suffragettes"; fourth prize (lady's) for "Esprit de corps"; sixth prize (lady's) for "Our Neighbours in Space"; seventh prize for "Never too late to mend"; and others for "Orchid," "Emblems of Good Luck," "Charles II." &c.

A painful impression was created at the local theatre at Romford on Tuesday, when David H. Anderson, an actor, aged thirty-six, suddenly fell dead in the dressing-room. He had suffered from a weak heart for some time past, and the fatal seizure occurred while he was awaiting his call.

MR. H. A. JONES IN AMERICA.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, in the lecture which he delivered at Harvard University on Wednesday afternoon on "The Corner Stones of Modern Drama," attributed the "lagging behind-hand" of the Anglo-American race in drama to "the insane rage of Puritanism that would see nothing in the theatre but a horrible, unholy thing." He also enumerated the following "secondary and resultant causes of degradation."

(1) The divorce of the English drama from English literature, of which it is indeed the highest and most difficult form, and of which it should be chief ornament. Accompanying this divorce of literature and the drama is the contempt of English men of letters and literary critics for the theatre; their utter ignorance of the difficulties of the dramatist; their refusal to recognise the modern drama as literature, which refusal again reacts upon the dramatist and tends to lower the quality of his work, inasmuch as he is left without encouragement and without any appeal to high standards of literature and good taste.

(2) The general absence from the English theatre and from modern English plays of any sane, consistent, or intelligible ideas about morality; so that, while the inanities and indecencies of musical comedy are sniggered at and applauded, the deepest permanent passions of men and women are tabooed, and the serious dramatist is bidden to keep his characters well within the compass of that system of morality which is practised amongst wax dolls.

(3) The divorce of the English drama from its sister arts; its deposition from any assured place in the intellectual and artistic life of the nation.

(4) The absorption of the English drama into popular amusement; the absence of any high standard whereby to judge acting or plays; the absence of all great traditions; the absence of all pride in the drama as a fine, and humane, and dignified art.

(5) The want of a training school for actors—the want of any means for giving promising novices a constant practice in varied rôles, that they may gradually acquire a sure grip of their art, and make the best of their natural gifts; and that the author may have a sufficient supply of competent actors to interpret his characters in such a way that his play may be seen to good advantage.

(6) The elevation of incompetent actors and actresses into false positions as stars, whereby, in the dearth of any general level of experienced and competent all-round acting, the possessor of a pretty face or a fine physique is able to dominate the situation, and to rule what plays shall be produced, and how they shall be cast and mounted; the general lack of all interest in the play, or in the author's study of life and character, apart from their being the vehicle for some star actor to put or keep himself in a leading position, with his actor brothers and sisters as his satellites.

(7) A widely-spread dependence upon translations and adaptations of foreign plays, inasmuch as they can be bought at a cheap rate, and, in the absence of any general care or knowledge as to what a national drama should be, are just likely to provide the actor with a personal and pecuniary success, while they also largely set him free from all obligations to that objectionable and interfering person, the author.

Mr. Jones, in the course of his lecture, divided the Anglo-American public into: the amusement-seeking class; the moderate, reasonable, indifferent class; and the hostile, religious class. He made an eloquent appeal to the Puritans, in which he said:—"This, then, is the use of the theatre, that men may learn the great rules of life and conduct in the guise of a play; learn them, not formally, didactically, as they learn in school and in church, but pleasantly, insensibly, spontaneously, and oftentimes, believe me, with a more assured and lasting result in manners and conduct. Is not that a wise form of amusement? Ought not every good citizen to foster and encourage it? Then why, Brother Puritans, why, Brother Pharisees, are you found in such bitter opposition to it? If you are the veritable salt of the earth, as by your demeanour we seem to sniff, and as by this appeal we are willing to allow—if you are the veritable salt of the earth, where can you exhale your savour to better effect than in the theatres of your native land? Come amongst us, and brace and strengthen us; incidentally we may sweeten and humanise you, and give you a larger outlook upon life."

The lecturer opined that the following were "The Corner Stones" of any worthy national drama:—

(1) The recognition of the drama as the highest and most difficult form of literature; the establishment of definite and continuous relations between the drama and literature.

(2) The acknowledged right of the dramatist to deal with the serious problems of life, with the passions of men and women in the spirit of the broad, wise, sane, searching morality of the Bible and Shakespeare; his release from the hypocritical fiction that his fellow-creatures are large wax dolls, stuffed with the sawdust of sentimentality and impossible self-sacrifice. To sum up, the establishment of definite and continuous relations between the drama and morality.

(3) The severance of the drama from popular entertainment; the recognition of it as a fine art which, though its lower ranges must always compound with mere popular entertainment, and be confused with it, is yet essentially something different from popular entertainment, transcends it, and, in its higher ranges, is in marked and eternal antagonism to popular entertainment. To sum up, the establishment of definite and continuous relations between the drama and her sister arts.

(4) The establishment of those relations between actor and author which shall best aid the development of the drama; the recognition by the public that there is an art of the drama as well as an art of acting; the assignment of their due place and functions and opportunities to each; the breaking down, so far as may be possible, of the present deadening system of long runs; the provision of training schools for actors, so that they may get constant practice and experience in various rôles, so that the auxiliary arts of the drama and the theatre may keep pace and tune with each other, so that the art of acting may not languish for lack of new plays, and that the art of the drama may not languish from the lack of competent and serious actors. To sum up, the establishment of rigidly definite relations and well-marked boundaries between the art of the drama and the art of acting, to the benefit and advancement of both actor and author.

Mr. Jones, in an eloquent peroration, thus advised his audience: "Especially foster and honour this supreme art of Shakespeare's, so much neglected and misunderstood in both countries; endow it in all your cities; build handsome, spacious theatres; train your actors; reward your dramatists sparingly with fees, but lavishly with laurels; bid them dare to paint American life sanely, truthfully, searchingly for you. Dare to see your life thus painted. Dare to let your drama ridicule and reprove your follies and vices and deformities. Dare to let it mock and whip as well as amuse you. Dare to let it be a faithful mirror. Make it one of your chief counsellors. Set it on the summit of your national esteem, for it will draw upwards all your national life and character; upwards to higher and more worthy levels, to starry heights of wisdom and beauty and resolve and aspiration."

Mr. Uriah Mervyn, the well-known advance representative, is, we regret to have to state, a patient at the West Ham Hospital, Westminster Ward, where he is slowly recovering from a serious operation. He would be glad to see or hear from any of his old friends.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

On Saturday afternoon last, Oct. 27, in the Guildhall, the Lady Mayoress presented the medals, prizes, and certificates to the successful students. Shortly after the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress arrived, the Lord Mayor, owing to slight indisposition, had to withdraw, but the programme was carried out, the Lady Mayoress kindly remaining to present the prizes. The proceedings began with a short concert, the first item being a chorus, "Domini Dirige Nos," by Dr. Cummings, admirably sung by the Guildhall Choir. A clever Russian student, Mr. Anton Tschaikov, gave Vieuxtemps' violin solo, "Ballade and Polonaise," with good effect, the dashing Polonaise being particularly well played. In the scena, "O thou to whom this heart" (*Lurline*), Wallace, better known perhaps in the past as "Great Spirit hear my prayer," Miss Maud Willby won great applause; and the same success was attained by Miss Ethelmay Barwell-Holbrook for her intelligent singing of Weber's scena, "Softly sighs" (from *Der Freischütz*). A very young and clever violinist, Miss Audrey Richardson was heard in Saint-Saëns' "Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso," her efforts being received with warm applause by the large audience. Mr. D'Arcy Woollven displayed a capital bass voice in Gounod's scena, "She alone charmeth my sadness" (Irene); and Miss Ethel Wynne was entirely successful in her solo pianoforte, "Humoresque," Tschaikowsky, and "Study in D flat" by Liszt. The last item on the programme was Stanford's song "There's a bower of roses" from *The Veiled Prophet*, sung by Miss Beatrice Jefferys, the happy possessor of a beautiful and well-produced soprano voice. Miss Jenny Hyman presided at the pianoforte and Mr. David Beardwell at the harmonium. After the concert the Principal, Dr. Cummings, gave a short address, saying—"The Corporation of the City of London may regard with pride the Guildhall School of Music, established by them twenty-seven years ago. The result of the excellent teaching given within its walls is emphasised in the work now carried on by former students, amongst whom rank head music masters of Public Schools, conductors of theatre orchestras, popular composers, singers and intrumentalists, resident not only in Great Britain but in foreign countries. "The fame of the school has become widespread, and it is interesting to note that amongst those who to-day will receive distinctions at the hands of the Lady Mayoress are several students from distant lands; for example, Miss Doris Cloud comes from Australia, Mr. Anton Tschaikov from Russia, Miss Audrey Richardson from New Zealand, and Miss Vera Wise from South Africa. The zeal of our professors and the earnest work of our pupils compel us to maintain a high standard in our examinations, and it is recognised that the facilities afforded in the Guildhall School enable a student to acquire a complete and thorough education in all branches of musical knowledge. Thanks to the efforts of the Music Committee, we shall shortly be in possession of a magnificent organ, the only thing we needed to render our practical work complete. I have to tender grateful acknowledgements to the Lord Mayor for the encouragement he has given to the school, by engaging our students, vocal and instrumental, to perform at the Mansion House on several occasions. This matter is of great importance," said Dr. Cummings, "as a young lady who lately appeared there so impressed a gentleman present that he obtained an important engagement for the lady at a Rotterdam concert. This is the eleventh annual report I had had the honour to make in this hall, and I regard the future with hope and confidence, feeling sure that the thousand students who annually leave the school will be full of the knowledge and love of good music, which they will diffuse and add to the happiness and harmony of their homes."

After the distribution of the prizes, in which Miss Dorothy Cummings received the Gold Medal for singing, Miss L. Selden the Silver Medal for mandoline, and Miss Fanny Cuthbert the Bronze Medal for singing; the Silver Jubilee Commemoration Challenge Cup was awarded to Miss Jenny Hyman, the Lord Mayor's prize to Miss Beatrice Jefferys, and the Lady Mayoress's prize to Mr. Gordon Burgess, a vote of thanks to the Lady Mayoress was proposed by James Roll, Esq., C.C., Chairman of the Music Committee, and seconded by Paul Alliston, Esq., C.C., a vote of thanks was also given to the Sheriffs, and with the singing of the National Anthem the proceedings terminated.

The concert of Wednesday evening commenced with a pianoforte solo, Largo from Sonata, Beethoven, the executant being Miss Gertrude A. Shill. Miss Dora Coombs gave a neat and finished performance of Vieuxtemps' violin solo, "Reverie," receiving two hearty recalls at the close of her solo. In Batten's song, "The Nightingale," Miss Elsie Savage was successful, the somewhat florid music and the shake being skilfully executed, but Mr. W. T. Curtis gave a rather tame rendering of Pinsuti's dramatic ballad, "The Bedouin's Love Song." Miss Dadine Sutherland in her piano solo of three Etudes, A minor, A flat, and G flat, by Chopin, displayed ample executive ability and was warmly applauded, while Mr. Leonard Gowings revealed a promising and well-trained tenor voice in Coleridge-Taylor's air "Onaway! awake, beloved." A very young violinist, Master Sydney Roe, played Cummings' "Légende" with great freedom of execution and capital intonation, and Miss E. M. Scarborough sang two new songs, "My garden" and "The skylark," by F. Ethel Scarborough, with good effect. In Saint-Saëns by no means easy study in the form of a waltz for pianoforte Mr. Frederick J. Daff, A.G.S.M., did himself great credit.

Variety was given to the concert by a clever recitation of "Joe and I at the play" by Miss Gertrude A. Shill, a pupil of Mr. L. F. Chapuy. Other promising items given by the students were Brahms' "Lied Feldansamket," sung by Miss Ethel Oliver, Miss Helen S. Gall's piano solo, "Barcarolle," by Moszkowski, and Miss Wininfred Doré Johnson's air from "Faust." The accompanist was Miss Jenny Hyman.

The character of the comic constable in *The New Aladdin* has been much discussed, for it recalls a lost policeman of Gilbert fame, and it is, at the same time, an original and thoroughly up-to-date "creation." Mr. Alfred Lester has little cause to echo another of Mr. W. S. Gilbert's sentiments—"A policeman's lot is not an 'appy one"—for his first engagement at the Gaiety Theatre has been entirely happy, "taking one consideration with another." Besides being a character actor and comedian, he has played any number of melodrama villains—as a preparation, perhaps, for entering the (stage) force—and possesses a quiet, peculiar humour which is all his own. He is a past master in the art of gagging, and gets so thoroughly "into the skin of a part" that when he first played a scene-shifter at the Palace Theatre last year it was stated, on the "best authority," that the management had really discovered an unconsciously funny stage hand and was presenting him in the rough to the public. Mr. Lester rightly looked on the story as a great compliment to the artistic worth of his character sketch. He probably owes his gift of gagging to the fact that he often played, in the days of his long apprenticeship, a different big part every week, and changed from one character to another as easily as a man puts on a hat. Richelieu, in *The Three Musketeers*; Joe Hackett, in *Romany Rye*; and Shaun, the post, in *Arrah-na-Pogue*, were his favourite parts until he acted the lost constable at the Gaiety.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring-gardens.

COMEDY THEATRE.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that they had considered drawings, submitted by the Charing-cross, West-end, and City Electricity Supply Company, Ltd., showing a proposal to fix electric heaters at the Comedy Theatre, Panton-street. They recommended that the Company be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the two drawings submitted, provided that certain stated conditions be complied with.

PROPOSED NEW CONCERT HALL.

The Committee had considered drawings, submitted by Messrs. Joseph and Smithem, of a concert hall to be erected on the site of St. Paul's Church, Great Portland-street. Accommodation was shown for about 750 persons in the body of the hall and for about 484 in the gallery. They recommended that Messrs. Joseph and Smithem be informed that, provided the works shown on the five drawings submitted by them with regard to a building to be known as the Concert Hall, Great Portland-street, be commenced within six months, the Council will be prepared to grant a certificate to the owner of such building, on being satisfied that the premises have been completed in accordance with the drawings referred to and the regulations of the Council, and that certain stated conditions have been complied with.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

The Committee reported that at recent inspections of the Elephant and Castle Theatre, New Kent-road, it was found that hasps and staples had been fitted to certain of the exit doors, and that one of the doors was fastened in an irregular manner. They were of opinion that in order to enable the Council to take proceedings, should there be any repetition of this dangerous practice, a notice under the 45th section of the Metropolitan Board of Works (Various Powers) Act, 1882, should be served on the person keeping open the premises. The Committee recommended accordingly.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

The Committee had considered a drawing, submitted by Mr. F. W. Hingston, showing the gates which it is proposed to fix at the east and west ends of the 20ft. passage-way at the Putney Hippodrome, Felsham-road, Putney. They recommended that Mr. Hingston be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawing submitted, provided the fastenings to the gates be automatic in action and in accordance with the regulations of the Council.

The Committee had also considered a drawing, submitted by Messrs. R. Dawson, Ltd., showing the connections of the main switchboards and distribution boards of the electrical installation at the Putney Hippodrome, and recommended that Messrs. Dawson be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawing.

QUEEN'S MUSIC HALL.

The Committee had considered drawings, submitted by Messrs. Alexander Ritchie and Co., showing the heating apparatus proposed to be installed at the Queen's Music Hall, Poplar. They recommended that Messrs. Alexander Ritchie and Co. be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the three drawings submitted, provided that certain stated conditions be complied with.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING AND HEATING.

The Committee reported—We have for some time past had under consideration the question of the revision of the regulations made by the Council on March 25, 1902, with respect to the electric lighting and heating installations in theatres and other places of public entertainment in London. The regulations in question are extremely technical, and it is impossible to indicate briefly the various alterations proposed; but, generally speaking, the object has been to make the meaning of the regulations clearer than it is at present, and in very few instances are the regulations made more stringent. We have been in communication with the Theatrical Managers' Association, the Suburban Theatre Managers' Association, and the London Entertainments Protection Association, and have had the advantage of their criticisms on our proposed amendments. A satisfactory understanding has now been arrived at on the whole question, and this result is largely due to the fact that we propose to give a right of arbitration in cases where the regulations require work to be done to the satisfaction or approval of the Council or do not definitely the work to be done, and in cases where, in consequence of alterations to premises, it is proposed to apply the regulations to an existing installation which has already been approved by the Council. We think it reasonable that arbitration on these points should be allowed, provided it is distinctly understood that it must not be regarded as constituting a precedent for allowing arbitration on the structural regulations of the Council, and, further, that the Council will reserve to itself the right to withdraw the clause if it is found to be unsatisfactory in practice. As regards the application of the amended regulations to existing installations which have been approved by the Council, we have given an assurance that the regulations would not be retrospective except in unusual instances, such as the carrying out of extensive alterations, &c. The Committee recommended that the proposed amendments to the electric lighting and heating regulations made by the Council on March 25, 1902, be approved, and that the necessary consequential alterations be made in the rules relating to premises licensed by the Council (adopted by the Council on Oct. 25, 1904) and in the structural regulations with regard to theatres, &c., approved by the Council on July 30, 1901, and Feb. 4, 1902.

All the above recommendations of the Committee were agreed to without discussion.

The New Schauspielhaus, Berlin, which opened last week with Shakespeare's *Tempest*, is an immense and highly-elaborate edifice in modern, semi-sessionistic style. It comprises, too, the Mozart Saal—a handsome concert-room—and an imposing restaurant and café. The auditorium, which is handsomely decorated and upholstered in crimson and white, with a judicious admixture of gold, seats 1200 persons; there are but two circles. The stage is of unusual size, and revolving, with all the newest technical improvements. A good view of the stage is obtainable from all parts of the house, and the stalls are raised amphitheatre fashion. Vestibule, staircases, and *foyers* are all commodious and practical, luxuriously fitted up, and adorned with beautiful frescoes by Klein-Chevaly and Klinger.

An admirable Food of the
EPPS'S
Finest quality and flavour.
COCOA
Nutritious and Economical.

NAT HARLOWE, MOUNTEBANK.

A Drama, in Five Acts, by Geo. R. Sims, Produced, for the First Time on any Stage, at Scott's Theatre, Pietermaritzburg, Natal, on Sept. 26.

CHARACTERS IN THE PROLOGUE.

Nat Harlowe .....MR. WILLIAM HAVILAND
Sir Marmaduke Ashley ..MR. HENRY LE GRAND
Sir Basil Brandreth ....MR. CECIL G. CALVERT
Dr. Kaspar .....MR. J. HAMPTON
Rawson .....MR. KENNETH RIVINGTON
Mistress Blissett .....MISS LOLA DUNCAN
Dorothy .....MISS LUCY TYDD
Molly Davis .....MISS EDYTH LATIMER

CHARACTERS IN THE PLAY.

Nat Harlowe .....MR. WILLIAM HAVILAND
Lieut. Gerard Willoughby..MR. EDMUND WALLER
Sir Basil Brandreth ....MR. CECIL G. CALVERT
The Duke of York ..MR. KENNETH RIVINGTON
Dr. Kaspar .....MR. J. HAMPTON
Samuel Pepys .....MR. FRED BARTLETT
First Cavalier .....MR. REGINALD IRWIN
Second Cavalier .....MR. W. WHITE
Third Cavalier .....MR. THOMAS HART
Captain Brighouse .....MR. FRANK ROYDE
Signor Tomasso .....MR. CECIL BROOKING
Toby Skeet .....MR. HENRY LE GRAND
A Capuchin Monk .....MR. A. MASTERS
Helen .....MISS ETHEL WARWICK
Betty .....MISS RHODA BERESFORD
Molly Davis .....MISS EDYTH LATIMER

The drama was written by Mr. Geo. R. Sims for Mr. Haviland about five years ago, but until to-day has never been produced. As may be imagined, the name-part fits him like a glove, and the same may be said of Miss Edyth Latimer, who takes the leading rôle, that of Molly Davis of the Duke's Theatre, and rival of the renowned Nell Gwynne. The drama is full of exciting moments, and the period of the play allows of very elaborate dressing and picturesque scenery. It takes us back to the pictorial period of the Restoration, when England was known as "Merry England." In the prologue, Sir Basil Brandreth fights a duel with Sir Marmaduke Ashley. The latter is mortally wounded; but before he dies, he entrusts the papers, proving his marriage and the legality of his daughter, to Nat Harlowe, whom he had saved from drowning some years previously. Naturally Nat owes him a great debt of gratitude, and vows he will expose Sir Basil Brandreth, the villain of the play.

Eight years are supposed to have elapsed between the prologue and Act 1, during which time many changes have taken place. Nat and Molly Davis have drifted to London, Nat (in the service of a quack called Dr. Kaspar) with the intention of discovering the relatives of Sir Marmaduke, and deliver to them the papers he has had entrusted to him. The scene of Act 1 is laid at Bartholomew Fair, where we first see Molly at the height of her power, surrounded by many gallants and admirers. The scene is interrupted by Lieutenant Gerard Willoughby, of the Guards, rushing on wounded. He is in love with Helen Leigh (an embroideress to Molly Davis), and in her behalf he has just fought Sir Basil and his accomplices, who have abducted the girl. Nat sets out to rescue the girl, and discovers her in a room at Sir Basil's house, guarded by three villains. Nat gains admittance to the room by scaling the wall outside and entering at the window. He has brought a rope with him, and lowers the girl out of the window, having defeated her guards. Thus he restores her to her lover. However, Sir Basil induces the Duke of York to cast Nat into prison, on the pretence of treason against the King. We are next taken to the tent of Dr. Kaspar, where we discover Lieutenant Willoughby, who is seriously wounded. Here he is visited by Molly Davis, who has fallen in love with him. It is not until after Helen has been restored to her lover that Nat discovers she is the daughter of Sir Marmaduke Ashley.

The scene of the fourth act is in the garden of Molly Davis's residence. Here Nat meets the Duke, and is granted twenty-four hours' leave within which to expose Sir Basil, who is one of the Duke's most trusted friends. Lieutenant Willoughby and Sir Basil meet again, and commence a duel. The Duke intervenes, with the result that he is insulted by Gerard Willoughby, to whom his identity is unknown—the Duke being masked at the time—and condemned to death for this rash act. The meeting between the Duke and Nat, the Mountebank, is very amusing, and in the last act the story ends happily. Sir Basil is convicted of being the murderer of Sir Marmaduke Ashley, and Gerard gains his liberty through the entreaties of Molly Davis.

The character of Nat Harlow, as interpreted by Mr. Haviland, was a complete success. The Molly Davis of Miss Edyth Latimer was a finished performance, and she won great favour with the audience from the beginning. Miss Ethel Warwick appeared as Helen Leigh. Mr. Cecil Calvert as Sir Basil gave a powerful reading of the part, and was exceedingly good in the last act. The rôle of Lieutenant Willoughby was safe in the hands of Mr. Edmund Waller, whose acting reached a very high pitch of excellence. As the Duke of York, Mr. Kenneth Rivington gave a dignified and stately rendering; and Dr. Kaspar, the travelling quack, found an able exponent in Mr. J. Hampton. All the minor parts were sustained in a satisfactory manner.

PERFECTION in perfumes has assuredly been attained by the Halifior Company, who have produced a pure, delicate, soft, and soothing aroma, rich yet chaste, which has been appropriately named the "Halifior Ideal." The delicate odour of the sweet violet has never been fully captured, to be retained in a lasting essence, and yet here, in the Halifior Company's exquisite product, Milton's much-discussed "Gaudy Violet" is enshrined in a perfume true to nature; but not in concentrated essence only, for both the Halifior-Ideal and the Halifior-Violet are combined with the latest luxury of the toilet in a delightful soap. The greatest care, combined with the use of the best materials known to science, have produced in soap, as in perfume, a veritable triumph. The soap is appropriately enough enclosed in patent boxes, artistic in colouring and beautiful in design, which can be retained for trinket-boxes when their rich contents have been utilised by the purchaser. These inestimable toilet adjuncts can be procured at the Army and Navy and all other first-class stores, chemists', and perfumers'.

M. Grisier, manager of the Ambigu Theatre, Paris, has numerous friends, and also many enemies. He, therefore, was not surprised to see himself attacked in a weekly paper. These things do happen. It struck M. Grisier, however, as rather strange that these attacks were unusually venomous, and that the articles bore no signature. So he sent two of his friends to the paper to demand satisfaction from the responsible editor. But the editor declined all responsibility, and sent for the writer of the articles. And when this gentleman entered the room the seconds, to their surprise, recognised in him a former employee of M. Grisier, whom the latter had discharged. The "Affaire Grisier" will now have its dénouement in the police court, where the before-mentioned employee will have to answer a charge of libel.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—In your notice of *The Harbour Lights* at the Elephant and Castle Theatre the exponent of the part of Tom Dossiter should have read yours faithfully, TEDDY COLMAN, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.W., 27/10/'06.

"THE GRAND MOGUL," a comic opera, in three acts, book and lyrics by Frank Pixley and music by Gustav Luders, was produced for copyright purposes at the Victoria Hall, Bayswater, on Thursday.

MR. BANNISTER HOWARD'S BENEFIT AT RYDE.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard was honoured by benefit performances at the Royal, Ryde, on Wednesday, when the members of the Ryde Amateur Dramatic Society appeared in *The Private Secretary*. During past years Mr. Howard's associations with the town have led him into a position high in the public esteem, and it was therefore small wonder that his benefit met with the widest support. The house was literally packed for both performances, and the benefit proved in every respect a great success. The local amateurs number among them several able exponents of the histrionic art, and the reputation of these ladies and gentlemen were in no wise belied by Wednesday's performance. Indeed, their latest achievement rivals anything they have ever attempted in the humorous vein. The audience were kept in a merry mood throughout. In a large measure this was due to the admirable acting of Mr. J. B. Howard himself, whose representation of Mr. Cattermole was a most commendable one. The irascible moods of the old gentleman found excellent expression, the "make-up" was altogether irresistible, and the impersonation left nothing to be desired. The same might also be said of Mr. M. J. Osborne's portrayal of the Rev. Robert Spalding. Mr. Osborne was quickly on good terms with his audience, and carried through his ludicrous impersonation faithfully. To him was the audience indebted for some of the most merry moments of the evening, and their appreciation was unstintingly demonstrated at the conclusion of each act. Mr. P. S. Chiverton presented a capital study of the character of Douglas Cattermole, and his work, on the whole, was excellently accomplished. The part of Miss Ashford found adequate treatment in the hands of Miss Florence Stainer, whose effective display of that lady's spiritualistic inclinations was greatly conducive to the enjoyment of the audience. Miss Daisy Harvey made a vivacious and charming Edith Marsland, and Eva Webster was daintily acted by Miss Maggie Schuymer. These ladies combined very prettily, and made equally successful appearances. Miss Nellie Turtle is to be commended for an effective study of Mrs. Stead, the estimable landlady, to whose qualities full justice was done. Mr. C. Sweetman efficiently filled the rôle of Mr. Marsland, and looked a typical M.F.H. The rôle of Harry Marsland, the nephew, was creditably sustained by Mr. F. K. Ayers, and Mr. E. Fowler is entitled to praise for a very fair rendering of the part of the tailor, Gibson. Mr. S. Purnell and Mr. Fitzpatrick made good appearances as John (a servant) and Knox (a writ-server) respectively.

At the conclusion of the performance and after the principals had been enthusiastically recalled, Mr. Bannister Howard, who was received with much applause, said it would indeed be ungrateful on his part if he allowed them to disperse without thanking them for the very magnificent benefits accorded to him that day. He had to thank the Ryde Amateur Dramatic Society for so kindly assisting him. It was perhaps an open secret that he would be soon leaving that theatre owing to his many undertakings in London and the long distance he had to come from town. If, however, he was not lessee of the theatre, he would still send his companies and take an interest in the town of Ryde. In conclusion, he expressed the pleasure his stay in the town had given him, and his thanks for the splendid support that had been always forthcoming from the Ryde public.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Signor Cilèa's opera, *Adriana Lecouvreur*, was revived at Covent Garden on Tuesday, Oct. 23, and considerable interest was aroused owing to the fact that nearly two years have elapsed since Cilèa's refined and clever opera was heard in London. Although this version of Scribe and Legouve's play is not entirely convincing either in its dramatic or pathetic situations, there are many happy moments in *Adriana Lecouvreur*, much beautiful music, and with such a fine cast as that given on Tuesday the revival was very welcome. Madame Giachetti gave a sympathetic impersonation of the fascinating French actress; while Signor Sammarco's rendering of the devoted impresario, Michonnet, deserved great praise. Madame de Cisneros made a striking picture of the stately Princess de Bouillon, being especially fine in her duet with Adriana. The part of Maurice was delightfully sung by Signor Zenatello with all the requisite attention to light and shade such a character requires. Signor Beremzone sang the music of the Prince's part well, but was somewhat too strenuous in his acting; and Signor Zucchi made a lively and animated Abbé. Signorina Simeoli appeared as Mlle. Jouvenot and Signorina Liviabella as Mlle. Dangeville with complete success; while the rest of the cast worked zealously to secure a good result. The opera was handsomely mounted, and Signor Mugnone as well as the principal artists had to respond to many hearty "calls" from the large audience.

Verdi's melodious opera *La Traviata* was given on Wednesday night at Covent Garden, with Madame Melba in superb voice as the unhappy Violetta. An interesting feature of Wednesday's performance was the innovation made by Madame Melba, who for the first time wore the full-skirted dress in fashion at the time the opera was produced in England, instead of the modern evening dress, the result being greatly to add to the picturesque effect of the famous old opera. Madame Melba's singing of the scena "Ah, fors e lui" was as beautiful as ever, and even more brilliant was the succeeding air. Signor Carpi, as Alfredo, increased the good opinions already formed on his singing, but the Germont of Signor Sammarco did not entirely satisfy the admirers of this clever artist, and his delivery of the "Di provenza" air fell somewhat below his usual standard. For the rest of the cast, Signora Garavaglia made an attractive Flora Bervoix, and Signora Liviabella an equally good Annina, while Signor Poggi and Signor Thos gave a careful study of the characters of Barone Duphol and Dottore Grenvil. The chorus were thoroughly effective, and Signor Mugnone conducted a performance that met with the most hearty approval from the large audience.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Oct. 29, the Drama, in Five Acts, by E. Hill-Mitchelson, entitled

"THE FRENCH SPY."

This intensely interesting drama, played by Mr. Fred Benton's company, has met with a very favourable reception in Marylebone this week. As Captain Sommers, Mr. Richard Fulton acts with earnestness and distinction; Mr. L. Chaseby is easy and natural as Lieut. Maxwell; Mr. Max Coutts acts Count Romanoff with a grimness and determination well suited to the part; Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe does well as General Trepoff; and Mr. Charles Digby is amusing as Viscount Alexis. Mr. Seymour Perry's Knipps is decidedly creditable; whilst Mr. Fred Benton is placidly confident as the German strong man Fritz. Miss A. Harrison Tate portrays Olga in a thoroughly convincing way; Miss Cissie Cleveland is lively as Julie, and Miss Gertrude Evans sustains the important rôle of Countess André with quiet dignity of demeanour and reserved force. The piece is well mounted and staged, and the company all round is an excellent one. Mr. Sidney C. Hill is the acting-manager for Mr. Fred Benton.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

(SPECIALLY COMPILED FOR THE ERA.)

MISS ADA PALMER.

Since her first appearance on the stage in 1892, Miss Ada Palmer has played a great variety of parts in all sorts of pieces—drama, comedy, farce, and musical comedy. She first studied elocution with Mr. Samuel Hasluck, and after gaining first-class certificates for elocution from the late Mr. Samuel Brandram and from Mr. Beerbohm Tree, studied for a year at Mr. Henry Neville's dramatic studio.

Her first professional engagement was to play Maud Chandler in *The Middleman*. She afterwards appeared as Lady Linden in *Blow for Blow*, Maud in *Our Regiment*, and Kate Garston in *The Lancashire Lass*. In 1894 Mr. Edouin engaged her for the part of Helen Griffin in *Niobe* on tour, and in 1895 for Lady Rowland Buttre in *The Babes*, at the Strand Theatre.

Engagements to play Miss Prim in *Nita's First*, Miss Prism in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and Crafer in *Liberty Hall* with Mr. Tapping followed, and in 1896 Mr. Calder engaged her for the part of Mrs. Jelf in *The Span of Life* for a

Photo by Emberson.
MISS ADA PALMER.

forty-four weeks' tour. In 1897 Miss Palmer joined Mr. Lockwood's *A Night Out* company to play Mrs. Pinglet. In August, 1899, she was engaged by the late Mr. Walter Sealby for Mrs. Parke in *A Trip to Chicago* (three tours). In 1901 she played Mrs. Bolton Corrie on the suburban tour of Mr. Frank Stayton's drama *The Despatch Bearer*, and Mrs. Tulk for the first provincial tour of *The Price of Peace* with Mr. Dundas. Another tour with *Niobe* followed, and in August, 1902, Mr. Roy Byford engaged her for the part of Fair Rosamond in *A Queen's Vengeance*.

In 1903, after a summer tour with Mr. Laurence Irving, Miss Palmer joined the stock company at the Lyric, Hammersmith, and was then re-engaged by Mr. Dundas for Mrs. Angerstein in *Hearts are Trumps*. She again joined Mr. Sealby's *The Wedding Ring* company for the part of the Countess of Brierley, and afterwards played the Marquise of Montifiore in *A Royal Rival* for a special engagement with Mr. Tapping. Miss Palmer created the eccentric comedy part of Agatha Pearce in Mr. John Denton's drama *A Modern Judas*, this being followed by an engagement with Mr. Mark Blow.

MR. HENRY WORRALL.

Mr. Henry Worrall is a native of Manchester, and gained his early experience in and around that city. There he studied elocution under Mr. Ryder Boys, the violin under Mr. Walter Evelyn, and fencing under Mons. Camille Lefevre at the Fencing and Boxing Club.

His first experience was in Mr. Robert Courtneidge's revival of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, when he walked on, and later he played a small part in the production of *As You Like It*. After this, he played a round of important parts—juveniles, heavies, and character—with Mr. Ryder Boys in Manchester and district, amongst others—Bassanio, Lorenzo, Sir Hugh Evans, Joseph Surface, Hastings, Beauseant, Blifil (*Sophia*), Willem Hundins (*The Mayflower*), Sowerberry (*Garrick*), Vane (*Masks and Faces*), and Rolf in *The White Pilgrim*; also being assistant stage-manager for revivals of *Macbeth* and *Twelfth Night*, whilst later on he personally stage-managed a production of the farcical comedy entitled *The Pick-*

Photo by Sydney.
MR. HENRY WORRALL.

pocket. When Miss Janet Achurch produced *Mrs. Daintree's Daughter* at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, he created the part of Captain Hampton. Mr. Worrall then joined Mr. Boys again for a recital tour through the seaside towns of the West and South-West Coasts, the repertoire including selections from *The Merchant of Venice*, *Henry IV.*, *Henry V.*, *As You Like It*, *The School for Scandal*, and modern authors, the evening concluding with a one-act play, such as *Barbara*, *By the Sea*, &c.

More recently Mr. Oswald Brand engaged Mr. Worrall to play juvenile leads in his Dickens' repertoire at the Grand Theatre, Islington, supporting Mr. Robert Pateman, the parts being—Richard Carston (*Bleak House*), Harry Maylie (*Oliver Twist*), and Fred Trent (*Little Nell*). Later he fulfilled an engagement with Mr. Harcourt Williams in a most successful and enjoyable pastoral tour, during which he played various parts.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

NEW YORK, OCT. 17.—Miss Lillian Russell, who used to be called "the Queen of Comic Opera," has been unfortunate in her first venture into the field of legitimate comedy. She appeared in Paul Potter's adapted version of Francis de Croissets' comedy *Le Bonheur, Mesdames*, entitled *Barbara's Millions*, at the Savoy Theatre last week, and the play was a complete failure. Its theme is the familiar one of domestic intrigue and duplicity so dear to the Gallic playwright's heart. An American heiress travelling in Switzerland keeps a tryst with a French viscount in an effort to entrap her husband, only to discover, after she has compromised herself, that he is innocent of wrong-doing. The differences of the pair are finally adjusted at an hotel by means of crossed telephone wires. Mr. Ferdinand Gottschalk and Mr. H. Reeves Smith were in the cast.

MISS VIRGINIA HARNED is appearing at the Lyric Theatre in a comedy called *The Love Letter*, translated and adapted from the French original, *La Piste*, of Victorien Sardou, by Ferdinand Gottschalk. The play presents a sprightly woman in a vexatious and comical quandary. Mdme. Revillon has obtained a divorce from one husband and has married another. The second husband discovers a letter which makes him suspicious. As a matter of fact, it was written by Mdme. Revillon's first husband, but the superscription and signature have been destroyed, and Madame is obliged to appeal to Philippe Jobelin, her former spouse to prove that the letter is not of recent date. This the latter agrees to do, but he pays off a grudge that he bears against Revillon by inventing certain details and misrepresenting others, so that Revillon is made frantic with jealousy before he obtains the facts and is willing to become reconciled to his wife.

MR. GOTTSCHALK has been very successful in adapting the piece for the American stage, and, as Miss Harned gives a delightful impersonation of Madame Revillon, the newspaper verdict has been distinctly favourable. The comedy is beautifully mounted and costumed, and the stage management is highly praiseworthy. Mr. William Courtenay as Revillon, Miss Eleanor Moretti as Gilberte Loysel, Mr. W. J. Ferguson as Jobelin, and Mr. Percy Lyndal as Oliver Loysel play their parts admirably.

MR. KYRLE BELLEW is appearing in Conan Doyle's comedy, *Brigadier Gerard*, which has been well received in several of the larger cities, and will shortly be presented in New York.

MISS VIOLA ALLEN is touring the principal cities as Imogen, in an elaborate revival of Shakespeare's *Cymbeline*. In the cast are Messrs. Fuller Mellish, J. H. Gilmour, Sydney Herbert, C. Leslie Allen, Jefferson Winter, and Miss Alison Skipworth.

"THE SPRING CHICKEN" has been well received at Daly's Theatre. Sundry changes in the original version have been made by Mr. Richard Carle, who appears as Ambrose Girdle, and furnishes most of the fun of the piece, being ably supported by Miss Emma Janvier, who, as Girdle's jealous wife, sings "I don't know, but I guess," and makes a big hit. Mr. Victor Morley as Gustave Babori is capital.

"THE ROSE OF THE RANCHO" is the title of the new play which Mr. David Belasco is preparing for production at his own theatre during the present season. The scenes are laid in Southern California at the time of the American annexation of the Spanish settlement in the late fifties. The cast will include Miss Frances Starr, Miss Maria Davies, and Messrs. Hamilton Revelle, Charles Richman, Frank H. Westerton, Frank Losee, John W. Cope, J. H. Burimo, and William Elliott.

"MADAMA BUTTERFLY," the Japanese opera by Giacomo Puccini, was presented for the first time in America at the Columbia Theatre, Washington, on the 15th inst., by Mr. Henry W. Savage, and scored a brilliant success. This was the first performance of the opera in English on any stage. The applause after each of the three acts was prolonged, the principals being recalled many times. Mr. Walter Rothwell, of London, who conducted an orchestra of sixty, was included in the emphatic approval manifested during the evening.

"JEANNE D'ARC," an historical drama, by Percy Mackaye, was produced at the Lyric Theatre, Philadelphia, last Monday, Miss Julia Marlowe appearing in the title-rôle and Mr. E. H. Sothern as the Duc d'Alençon.

"THE TRUTH," a new comedy, by Clyde Fitch, has been favourably received at Cleveland, Ohio. A wife's fondness for fibbing gets her into trouble, her husband being bent on obtaining a divorce, until relatives patch up the differences of the married pair. The play is said to be one of strong human interest.

MISS ELLIS JEFFREYS and Mr. William H. Crane commenced their joint tour at Johnstown, Pa., on the 15th inst., appearing in Goldsmith's comedy, *She Stoops to Conquer*.

"MLLE. SALLIE," a musical comedy, by Robert Smith and Raymond Hubbell, has droll little Katie Barry in the title-rôle. The piece made a hit at Waterbury, Conn., where it was produced last Monday.

ONE of the most remarkable runs in the history of New York theatricals was terminated recently at the Bijou Theatre when Mr. David Warfield gave the 635th performance of *The Music Master*, and left the metropolis to fulfil a four weeks' engagement in Boston at the Majestic Theatre, for the entire period of which nearly every seat in the house was sold beforehand.

IN an address given recently at Carnegie Hall before several hundred literary people, Mr. Frank Lea Short, director of classic plays at Yale College, said that the conditions confronting young playwrights in America were deplorable, writers being subjected to many humiliations before they found a market for their work. Mr. Short is a director of the American Dramatic Guild, which has been formed for the purpose of encouraging young American playwrights.

THE opening of Mr. Robert Redford's New Theatre, Cardiff, will in all probability take place early in December. The theatre is on the model of the New Gaiety in London, being by the same architects, and is one of the handsomest in the provinces. The auditorium consists of stalls and pit area, dress circle, semi-upper circle, and gallery. The site is an island one, and the main approach is at the corner of Park-place, close to the Park Hotel and the entrance to the new municipal buildings. The stage is 77ft. wide and 40ft. deep from the float, with a large scene dock capable of giving a complete depth to the stage of about 55ft. The dominant colour in the decorative scheme is rose du Barry, while over the proscenium opening there is a fine oval painting. The total seating accommodation is 1534. Mr. Beerbohm Tree has kindly promised to open the new theatre.

THE new Astor Theatre, New York, opened on Sept. 21 with a handsome revival of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, in which Miss Annie Russell appeared for the first time as Puck, and gave a highly artistic and delightful interpretation of the rôle. A striking feature of the interior of the new playhouse is the tapestry of leafy design on the walls. An entablature extending to the depth of 8ft. from the ceiling has a projection of 5ft. around the walls. A square marble beam rests on the frieze, above which is diamond-shaped fretwork. The proscenium and the fronts of the boxes and balconies are constructed of stone of a warm buff shade, the general tone of the interior being golden mahogany. The house will seat about 1,300 people.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

SYDNEY, SEPT. 18.—*Veronique* was revived by Mr. J. C. Williamson at Her Majesty's Theatre on the 15th, but this time by his Gilbert and Sullivan répertoire company, which includes Miss Celia Ghiloni, a fine singer, Miss Olive Godwin as Mme. Agatha Coquenard, Miss Dolly Castles as Veronique, Mr. Frank Wilson as Florestan, Mr. Walter Whyte as Seraphin, Mr. W. H. Wallace as Coquenard, Mr. Howard Vernon, Miss Aggie Thorn, Miss Vinia de Loitte, and Miss Margaret Caples.

THE Charles Hawtrey season finished on the 15th, and the company left to-day for Melbourne. At the time of writing, Mr. Holloway is lying ill in a private hospital.

MR. BLAND HOLT continues to score with *A Woman's Hate* at the Theatre Royal.

SYDNEY, SEPT. 25, 1906.—*The Squaw Man*, played by a mingled company of American, English, and Australian thespians, was Mr. J. C. Williamson's bill on the 22nd at Her Majesty's Theatre. Much pictorial and Press advance notice had roused expectation, and every seat was sold before the date of the initial performance. The public was nauseated with comic opera, musical comedy, *et hoc genus omne*, and welcomed anything in the shape of probability and human nature. *The Squaw Man* shows the aristocratic English and the backwoods, American and Indian, every character being strongly drawn, and, in this company, strongly acted. The leaders are Mr. Charles Waldron and Miss Ola Humphrey. The gentleman is a very fine, distinct-speaking, and easy-acting interpreter of the author's intentions, and he became a "chop-chop" favourite. Miss Humphrey was a gracious and dignified Diana, her pathetic touches being particularly effective. Mr. Rapley Holmes captured favour with his powerful portrait of Big Bill, and Mr. Hardy Kirkland made Talywana, the Peace Chief of the Indians, picturesquely attractive. An English actor, Mr. Cyril MacKay, gave a most finished dude effect to Sir John Applegate, and Miss Florence Gleeson elevated a small speaking part, Nat-U-Rich, into strong prominence. Mr. Harry Plumner as the Earl, the veteran actress Mrs. G. B. W. Lewis as the Countess, and Mr. George Bryant, a very excellent Cash Hawkins, Miss Beatrice Usher (Lady Mabel), with a very long list of well-acted minor characters, made up scenes of Western life most enjoyable and natural. Mr. W. R. Coleman painted the fine scenery, Mr. C. M. Berkely stage-managed the production, and Mr. Fred Quintrell conducted the orchestra. The booking is now very heavy.

THE Gilbert-Sullivan Répertoire Company left for Westralia on the 22nd, having a hearty send-off the previous evening, when Mr. Henry Bracey made a valedictory speech.

MR. EDMUND PAGE, hailing from Mr. George Edwardes' and other English companies, presented a new dramatic sketch by himself, entitled *The Newsboy's Dream*, at the Criterion on the 22nd. This consists of two scenes—the exterior and interior of Westminster Abbey, painted by Mr. Harry Whaite. Outside are two waifs—Ned Cook (Mr. Edmund Page) and Bob Fisher (Miss Lucy Carew). These are starving, the latter dying, and both fall asleep. The cloth rises, and we are inside the historic pile, where a choir, trained by Mr. Kilburn Heron, sing several hymns—"No ceremony else"—with Mr. Ernest E. P. Truman at the organ. The outside again, we see one dead waif and one disconsolate one. This sketch was preceded by "Mr. Edmund Page at Home," where he sings, tells stories, and introduces other singers. This, in its turn, was preceded by *Mrs. Hilary's Regrets*, with Miss Ailsa Sherbrook and Mr. R. M. Gibson in the two characters.

"THE GREAT MILLIONAIRE" was revived by Mr. Bland Holt at the Royal on the 22nd, and proved that it had lost none of its attractiveness. A strong company interprets the revival, including Mr. and Mrs. Bland Holt, Misses Ross, Jennie Pollock, Harriet Ireland and Violet Canty, and Messrs. Waller, Baker, Albert Norman, Charles Brown, Arthur Styan, and Max Maxwell.

THE Tivoli has got Burinn, the modern Hercules, back again, and many like his "strong" feats. In addition, Mr. Harry Rickards gives his patrons a long procession of talented performers, including Kelly and Agnes, Nellie Kilburn, George Bentley, Maud Faning, Harry Bedford, Olive Denton, Howard Hall, Tom Dawson, Les Cabiacs, Seymour and Dupré, Brightie Smith, and La Moto Girl.

ON Sept. 20 there died at St. Vincent's Hospital here, Nellie, the wife of Mario Majeroni, now in America with the Rance and Neil company, grand nephew of Mme. Adelaide Ristori. The deceased lady was laid in Waverly Cemetery.

MELBOURNE, SEPT. 25.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Director, Edwin Geach.—After an interval of eight years, *Two Little Vagabonds* was produced by Mr. Charles Holloway's company on Saturday evening in the presence of a large audience. The parts of Dick and Wally were most effectively played by Miss Beatrice Holloway and Miss Mabel Russell, the death scene in the final act being very touching. Miss Ethel Appleton, as Marion Thornton, was charming. Mr. Robert Inman, an old Melbourne favourite, made his reappearance in the part of George Thornton, and played with his customary manliness. Mr. John O'Neill, in the character of Gaffer, was sufficiently brutal to satisfy the most hardened playgoer; while Miss Hilda Fraser as his wife introduced some excellent comic business. Taken on a whole, the performance was highly satisfactory.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis.—Another large audience witnessed the ever-popular opera, *La Mascotte*, on Saturday evening. The success achieved by the revival of this opera has induced the management to postpone its withdrawal till Oct. 6, when *The Belle of New York* will replace it. All the old favourites were cordially received on Saturday evening. Encores were accorded to Miss Young, Mr. Ralston, and Mr. Roberts; while Mr. Lauri and Mr. Bantock were responsible for much merriment.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—Long before eight o'clock on Saturday evening there was not a vacant seat at this theatre. To the already strong bill provided at present were added three new "turns" in the shape of Mr. Alf Chester, comedian, Mr. Larry Lewis, quaint singer and patter comedian, and Miss Violet Stockelle, soubrette and vocalist. All these artists were accorded flattering receptions. Miss Florrie Henderson appeared with her performing dogs and monkey in a clever trick act. Mr. Harry Tate's company appeared in the clever and hilarious sketch, *Motoring*, and convulsed the house. The last nights are announced of Augustin and Hartly, barrel jumpers; Miss Cassie Walmer, dancer and vocalist; Little Cliff, the clever comedian; and Mr. Fred Bluett. It is understood Mr. Rickards has engaged a number of fresh artists for his various Australian theatres, and his patrons can rely upon some startling novelties being presented to them shortly.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Joe Solomons.—A complete change of programme was responsible for filling this theatre to its utmost capacity on Saturday evening. Will Dyson and Rupert Cuthbert made their first appearance; and interesting turns were presented by Marion Akarman, Frank Yorke, May Dagmar, Ruby Crawford, Fred Ireland, Harry Hill, and others.

MME. NORDICA, who has not been heard in London for four years, is on her way from America to fill an engagement in the Opera at Covent Garden next month. She is announced to appear in *Aida*, *Il Trovatore*, *Don Giovanni*, and *La Gioconda*.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Musical Play,
"THE CATCH OF THE SEASON."

The delightful musical comedy *The Catch of the Season*, although here in February last, has returned with unimpaired attractiveness, and is playing to packed houses; as a matter of fact, money has been obliged to be refused several nights during the week. This great success is due principally to the highly capable manner in which Mr. Geo. Dance's company interpret the piece, together with the dresses, mounting, and scenery, which are lavish and very appropriate. The large chorus also show the result of much careful training, being well balanced in tone and power, and the Marlborough orchestra, under the direction of Mr. J. A. Robertson, render the music in an admirable manner. Company, scenery, and appointments are alike of supreme excellence, the result being a most enjoyable evening's entertainment. Miss Zena Dare makes a very refined Angela, her pleasant, natural acting charming the audience intensely. Voice, appearance, and acting are alike superb, and she undoubtedly deserves the high position she has so quickly gained. Mr. Frank Lincoln as the Duke of St. Jermyns enacts a character for which he is eminently fitted, and his rendering of the part meets with popular approval, the musical numbers allotted him going wonderfully well. The stuttering Lord Dundreary is made very funny by Mr. E. H. Keely, who works hard for the success of the piece. Mr. Julian Cross repeats his successful performance of the "henpecked" Sir John Crystal; and Messrs. Boielle and Willis are satisfactory as Higham Montague and Lord Yatton. Words of commendation are also due to Messrs. Alfred Lloyd, Joseph Bruce, Vincent Lawson, and Francis Court. Master Grata also repeats his great success as Buckett, the page, keeping the house in a roar of merriment. A great future may be predicted for this clever young comedian. Miss Ida Mann scores a success as Lady Crystal, and a favourable impression is made by Miss Belle Napier in the part of Lady Caterham. The Misses Margaret Savill and Jane Eyre satisfactorily impersonate the Hon. Sophia and Honoria Bedford; and all the subordinate parts are well filled, the Gibson Girls contributing in a liberal manner to the success of the play.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Musical Play, entitled
"THE DAIRYMAIDS."

If all dairymaids were as bewitching as those who assist in this musical comedy there would be little heard of the "back-to-the-land" question, for we should then arrive at the true solution of the difficulty. No farm-hand would have the hardihood to leave such charmers behind him, and the town dwellers would be attracted to the land in large numbers. The company is a strong one. Sam Brudenell is energetically rendered by Mr. E. Statham Staples, who acts and dances in dashing style. A consistent Lieut. Brudenell is Mr. George Desmond; and Mr. J. Edward Fraser is a capital Capt. Fred Leverton. Cleverly played is the Dr. O'Byrne of Mr. Clarence Blakiston. The greatest success, however, is secured by Mr. Harry Dent, who as Joe Mivens, A.B., is the life and soul of the play, and creates no end of laughter by his most amusing acting. Peggy is brightly played by Miss Violet Lloyd; and Miss Rhoda Gordon makes a delightful Winifred. Equally successful is Miss Beryl Vaudrey as Helene, whose beautiful voice is heard to much advantage. Elisa, the maid-of-all-work, finds a brilliant representative in Miss Rose Musgrove, whose merits are decidedly valuable; Miss Madge Avery is a capable Miss Penelope Pyechase; and Miss Edith Blanche is a graceful and tactful Lady Brudenell. The unusually large chorus, comprising no fewer than fifty, is animated and pleasing to the eye; and the orchestra is judiciously controlled by Mr. Albert Bartlett. Mr. Conrad Trischler's scenery is most effective.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Musical Comedy in Three Acts, book by Owen Hall, music by Liza Lehmann,
entitled
"SERGEANT BRUE."

This play made an entirely successful opening here to a full house and roars of laughter, and with so good a company it could hardly be otherwise. The imperturbable humour of the Sergeant in the hands of Mr. Arthur Reynolds is irresistible, for he is the somewhat obtuse "peeler" to the life, and his scenes with the old lag, Crookie Scrubbs (Mr. Charles McLagan), are excellent, and as neither of these comedians follow the *clichés* of the originals in these parts, their success is all the more commendable. Mr. E. Percy Rogers as Michael, Bruc's son, is an agile dancer, and sings with point; and Miss Mary Hay as his sister Aurora makes a fresh and pretty nurse, who quite justifies the subterfuge of Gerald Treherne (Mr. Ernest Mozar) in keeping up the fiction of the broken arm. Mr. Mozar well renders the song of the piece, "If I could build a world for you," although on the occasion of our visit there was a slight trace of effort in the production of his upper notes. Miss Hebe Bliss is natural and sweet as Lady Bickenhall, and is fully equal to the large share of good things which fall to her part. The servant, Daisy, of Miss Marion Hargrave is clever and slightly different from the stereotyped Cockney domestic usually presented. Mr. Crank, the magistrate (with the laugh) is a clever character-study by Mr. Charles Sims, his enunciation being especially good. The policemen's dance in the second act, in which Mr. Cecil Hood gives individuality to the part of Inspector Gorringe, is very good, and has to be repeated. Miss Mabel Keith makes an interesting *ingénue* as Mabel Widget, and a large and well-trained chorus of stately ladies provide an agreeable background of action and song. The chorus of the sterner sex, whether as guests or policemen, is drilled to an exactness of movement which gives great finish to the numbers. The special scenery carried by Messrs. Lockwood and Crossman is considerable, and makes the representation complete in every way. Mr. Bannister Howard must be congratulated on providing such good fare for his Crystal Palace patrons.

THE GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."

The drama-loving patrons of the Grand have this week had an entertainment after their own heart, and have been by turns thrilled with emotion and tickled to uproarious laughter by the incidents and accidents of Mr. Frederick Melville's play *Between Two Women*, as portrayed by the author's talented company. A highly interesting rendering of Carmen de Saverseaux is submitted by Miss Marie McAulay, whose characterisation is both subtle and powerful. The changeful moods of this abandoned woman, her fierce passion for Harry Millard, and her one redeeming feature—her love for her child—are all portrayed with rare skill. Another finished performance is the Earl of Mr. Fred Goddard, who invests the part with remarkable dignity and pathos, and whose rendering of the Earl's outburst of scathing denunciation in the club scene in the third act is particularly true to the nature of the character. Miss Molly Malone is responsible for a touching rendering of Violet Thornton, and is successful in showing that his much-wronged girl's proud reliance on the virtue of her own cause is tempered by an inherent sweetness of disposition. Mr. Walter Thornton gives a clean-cut presentment of the villainous James Durwood, and fully earns his reward in the shape of the hearty execrations of the "gods." Harry Millard is acted in straightforward, manly fashion by Mr. Jackson Wilcox; and Mr. Rowland Yorke makes a decided impression in the rather thankless rôle of Major Strangeways. Mr. Godfrey Turle submits a careful and painstaking representation of the Rev. Phillip Carton. Last, but by no means least, must be mentioned the amusing Jack Pringle of Mr. Fred Danvers, who keeps his audience convulsed with laughter; and the clever Polly Popp of Miss Lillian Earle, who also contributes largely to this desirable end.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Chas. Watson Mill, entitled
"A WRECKER OF MEN."

A double dose of sensation is nightly administered to the patrons of the Grand Theatre, which is now devoted to the two-houses-a-night system, a whole drama being presented twice in the course of the evening. The attraction this week is *A Wrecker of Men*, which, compared with its first London performance at Greenwich in 1904, suffers no loss of interest and certainly no diminution of excitement. The magnitude of the undertaking may be imagined when it is stated that the effects of the play include a thunderstorm at sea and the foundering of a yacht, followed by a representation of an Egyptian temple of which an animated mummy is a startling feature. The company performing the piece is that of the author, and the parts throughout receive adequate rendition. The chief personage of the play is Risca Mallison, known as the "Serpent Woman," who is supposed to be the reincarnation of an ancient Egyptian woman of notoriously despicable ways, and in her modern existence has, by her wiles, secured the destruction of many men. The part is in the experienced hands of Mrs. Walter Bentley, who represents the abhorrent character in all its manifold shades of expression, not a little grim humour being infused into the performance. Guise Strange, a young man who rises superior to Risca's wiles, is sent to penal servitude on a false accusation, but eventually escapes, and succeeds in proving his innocence. He is represented in earnest and convincing fashion by Mr. Stanley Champion, whose prepossessing appearance is a valuable factor in his success. Doris Melville, the heroine, is played with confidence and refinement by Miss Cissie Podmore, who has several passionate scenes, which she makes very impressive. An outstanding part is that of Jim Murley, who is described as a "slogger," but is nevertheless a constant friend to the virtuous; while the humour of the play is greatly enhanced by his presence. The rôle is played by Mr. Frederick Biron with an all-round excellence far surpassing that of the ordinary comedian of melodrama. Mr. Biron is a general favourite, and at every appearance causes a hearty laugh at his drollery or arouses a cheer for his speeches, which he delivers in thrilling style. Mr. Millar Anderson acts vigorously as Railton, a devoted servant of Risca Mallison, and renders his lines with skilful emphasis; and the ungrateful part of Eric Melville, one of the "wrecked," is played with intensity and force by Mr. Thompson Carruthers. Mr. Milner Noble is duly picturesque in speech and gesture as Pharosaphus, an Egyptian wanderer; and Mr. Charles Earle cleverly doubles the part of a Jew with that of a "mummy," his sepulchral appearance in the latter character being truly awe-inspiring. The merriment of the evening is added to by Mr. Harry Dunning as the Hon. Reggie Verincourt, who is never too much of a "Johnnie" to stand up for virtue in distress; and the vagaries of Vavasole Slopper, a "slavey" of a distinct type, are divertingly presented by Miss Beatrice Reynolds. Miss Gwendoline Talbot makes a ladylike Marion Isaacs; Mr. B. Davis as a Lascar and Mr. Jack Walker as a warder should be commended; and the cast is completed by Messrs. H. M. Mecres, H. Helton, and A. Martin. Despite the short entr'actes, the play is mounted with every regard to realism, and meets with general approval.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Comedy, by Arthur Law, entitled
"A COUNTRY MOUSE."

For the past few weeks musical plays and operas have been the attraction, but this week a pleasant change is afforded by Miss Annie Hughes, who is appearing in her original part in Mr. Arthur Law's amusing comedy, *A Country Mouse*. The company is under the direction of Miss Emma Hutchison, and is a well-chosen one. As Angela Muir, Miss Annie Hughes is quite delightful and very amusing; her assumed innocence of every-day life is very cleverly done, and a ripple of laughter followed her performance. The large audience recognised the real value of her work, and gave her a splendid reception. As the Hon. Archibald Vyse, Mr. Charles Esdale is excellent, playing the part in a finished and refined manner. Mr. William Calvert gives a very good impression of John Bowlby, M.P., a clever piece of character-acting. Mr. Evelyn Vernon is amusing as the Duke of St. Kitts; and Mr. Thomas A. Braidon is most successful in the rôle of Lord Robert Wyckhem. Miss Moyra Creegan appears as Lady Sylvia, and she acts a somewhat difficult part with great judgment and skill. Miss Francis Davis is quite charming as Violet Aynsley, and Miss Ida Laurie is to be specially complimented on her clever sketch of the charwoman, Mrs. Cooper. Mr. John E. Watson, who is the manager for the company, gives a good impersonation of Jephcot. The comedy is preceded by Mrs. Oscar Beringer's clever little play, *A Bit of Old Chelsea*, in which Miss Annie Hughes appears as Saucers with marked success.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Comic Opera,
by Arthur Sullivan and W. S. Gilbert, entitled
"IOLANTHE."

The last week of the D'Oyly Carte Répertoire Opera Company has been equally successful with the preceding ones, and crowded houses have testified to their appreciation and delight at the playful wit and fancy of William Schwenck Gilbert and the rippling, tuneful melodies of the late Sir Arthur Sullivan. The bill of fare for the week has consisted of *Iolanthe*, *Princess Ida*, *The Mikado*, *The Gondoliers*, *Patience*, and to-day (Saturday) a matinée of *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Yeomen of the Guard* being given this evening. It is passing strange how up-to-date a clever, far-sighted dramatist or librettist can be, and probably Mr. Gilbert had no idea in his mind of the advent of the suffragette when he wrote the libretto of *Iolanthe*, yet the close relation of the interfering fairies to this bogey of the present day occurred simultaneously to many among the audience, and caused them to shout with laughter. Nor is this the only theme of discussion which is singularly applicable to modern methods. Mr. C. H. Workman is absolutely grand as the highly-susceptible Chancellor, and his nimbleness of toe is little short of marvellous. All his songs—"Said I to myself, said I" and "The nightmare" patter song especially—are rendered with humorous point and emphasis. Miss Hope Hastings is very charming as Phyllis, the Arcadian shepherdess and ward in Chancery, and her wonderfully sweet and flexible voice, with its bell-like upper notes, sets off to perfection the pretty songs allotted to her; and notable among them is the duet, "Naught shall part us," in which Mr. Albert Kavanagh renders her no small assistance. Mr. Kavanagh is delightful as that personification of affability and rustic simplicity allied to a fairy-like, bucolic beauty, young Strephon, the Arcadian shepherd, who is mortal only in his extremities! Miss Lulu Evans contributes a very pretty and pathetic picture of Iolanthe, the erring fairy, and her rendering of the plaintive ditty, "If in the bygone years," is very pleasing and characteristic. Mr. Leicester Tunks is seen to advantage as the unassuming young nobleman, the Earl of Mountararat, and sings remarkably well; and equal praise is due to Mr. Pacie Ripple as the still more modest Earl Tolloller. Miss Theresa Rassam is exceedingly good as the commanding yet urbane and adipose Queen of the Fairies, and her songs are most agreeably rendered. Mr. Fred Billington is irresistibly droll as the portly Private Willis, of the Grenadier Guards, with his splendid song of the little Liberal or Conservative. Misses Bessill Adams, Mabel Burnege, and Mabel Graham, as Celia, Leila, and Fleta, lead the chorus of sweet-voiced Fairies, and a word of commendation is due to the fine chorus of Peers. Mr. Fred A. Leon is again responsible for the stage management, whilst Mr. H. E. Bellamy assists Mr. Edward Lytton in the front of the house.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Pantomimical Farce, in Three Acts, entitled
"HIS MAJESTY'S GUESTS."

This popular and diverting pantomimical farce, brought up to date with new songs, &c., is attracting large audiences to the Shakespeare, where Mr. Fred Karno's company is being received with great enthusiasm. Bristling with comic incidents, of which full advantage is taken by the respective comedians, the performance from start to finish is thoroughly enjoyable. The piece, too, is staged with completeness, and the scenery and dresses leave nothing to be desired. Mr. George Hestor, a comedian of the highest order, scores a decided hit in the part of Sergeant Lightning, his clever acting keeping the audience in a state of uproarious laughter throughout. An excellent contrast is the Lord Easem of Mr. Frank Morton, whose fine voice is heard to advantage in several songs, which gain well-deserved encores. Mr. Charles Usher is thoroughly satisfactory in the rôle of Mr. Miffin; Mr. Alec Munro is a capable exponent of Harry; Mr. Johnny Clegg makes the most of his part of Mr. Minks; and Mr. Dick Kitchen as Fritz, the doorkeeper, also contributes to the fun. The part of the flunkey Bunker is creditably sustained by Mr. Harry Howe; Mr. Tom Marnado deserves warm praise for his excellent impersonation of Selina; Miss Berenice Maxwell makes a charming appearance in the part of Dolly Miffin, her singing being greatly appreciated; Miss Leonora Castelle submits a clever delineation of Lady Maud Easem, acting with marked ability; and Miss Kitty Brunton as Miss Manley gives an excellent picture of a New Woman. A feature of the play is the clever acrobatic work of the Karno Troupe, which is responsible for a deal of the fun, scoring a decided hit also in "The Burglars" song. Mr. Lyndon Greenwood is the acting-manager, Mr. Charles Usher stage-manager, and Mr. F. H. J. Moran musical director for Mr. Fred Karno.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Musical Pantomimical Comedy, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."

Like *Charley's Aunt*, *The Swiss Express* is still running, and Messrs. C. and F. Renads' excellent company is this week providing plenty of amusement to the patrons of the New Princes Theatre.

The Sleeping-car scene brims over with fun and merriment, and one is almost inclined to pity poor Dr. Gull, who has so many tricks played on him whilst on his honeymoon, although he is a quack and swindler.

The brothers C. and F. Renad provide the bulk of the amusement, and are exceedingly eccentric and clever with their acrobatic and other feats. Mr. Johnny McElroy is excellent as Dr. Gondimar Gull, and scores with his song, entitled "A man without a girl." Mr. George Martin as Bob Rollingstone is well suited, and Mr. Alec Wylie causes many laughs as Dudeley Green, the comical dude. Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon as the landlord of the Black Bear Inn does capital service, and Mr. C. Gray is quite satisfactory as Mr. Septimus Squeeze.

Miss Blanche Lee, Miss Rosa George, Miss Violet Lee, and Miss Rosa Montague all dance well, and are equally at home in their parts of the bridesmaids or as maids at the hotel. Miss Ida Ernest plays the part of Virginia, the bride, with much charm and vivacity; her singing and dancing are much to be commended. Miss Dora Moorhouse is impressive as Mrs. Septimus Squeeze; Mr. Cecil Barrett is an awe-inspiring Gendarme of a particularly ferocious aspect. Smaller parts are all well played.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Alfred Sutro,
entitled
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."

Mr. Alfred Sutro's clever play, presented by Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's company, is again at the Alexandra, and loses none of its attraction and power from the manner in which it is performed, the principal characters being especially well played. A more manly, virile, and robust representative of Jack Frobisher than that supplied by Mr. Herbert Bunston would be difficult to find. He plays the part in an incisive, straightforward way that appeals directly to his audience, and the fine opportunity afforded in the telling speech towards the close of the third act is taken full advantage of. The rough diamond, Hankey Bannister, of Mr. George A. Brandram is an admirable study of character, the *gaucheric* of the old miner being presented without undue elaboration. Mr. Cyril Balcine supplies a finished and artistic performance of the dissipated old roué, the Marquis of Steventon, his playing in the scene between Frobisher and the Marquis in the third act being particularly good. As Lady Alethea Frobisher, Miss Florence Jackson has no easy task to fulfil, but she is fully equal to all demands made upon her, and is completely successful in her delineation of this difficult and complex character. Lady Lucy Derenham and Lady Westerby are well played by Miss Molly Carton and Miss Lydia Busch; and the Harry Dallas of Mr. Sydney Hamilton is a sound piece of work. Other parts worthy of notice are those filled by Messrs. Alexander Casey, E. F. Meads, Harry Pemberton, and Joseph Herbert, and Misses Rita Milman and Edith Cuthbert.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur Shirley,
entitled
"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."

This week the domestic drama, *The Midnight Mail*, is being presented at the Lyric by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company. Miss Ada Oakley is a pathetic and convincing Mary Steyne, and succeeds in obtaining a hearty reception. Mr. Alfred Goddard is excellent as Harry Steyne, the somewhat weak but heroic engine-driver, and rouses his audience nightly. From the part of Billy Brewer, Mr. Fred E. Evison extracts much merriment; Mr. Robert Grey, who is the manly yet unfortunate Leonard Royle, receives much applause. The vivacious Nancy Brewer is played with success by Miss Mildred Carr; a charming performance is given by Miss Grace Chesterfield as Mrs. Mildmay; Miss Phyllis Dailley portrays Lady Phyllis Eustace very capably. Others who deserve praise are Mr. Arthur Gilroy as Hassan Padisha, and Mr. Charles McCann as Donald Craigg, both of whom, in their respective parts, are valuable units to a successful company.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and Company in
"THE TAMING OF THE SHREW."

It is a long time since we have seen Shakespeare's plays at Peckham, and the enterprise shown by Mr. Cecil Paget in securing Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and company in a series of the most notable productions of the Swan of Avon is meeting with the great success that it merits. A crowded audience assembled on Monday evening to witness *The Taming of the Shrew*, one of the most bustling and frankly farcical of Shakespeare's comedies. Albeit the main theme of the story, which concerns itself with the subjugation of a high-spirited woman by the strong, if not brutal, personality of her husband, seems in these modern days to be a little old-fashioned, Mr. F. R. Benson skilfully triumphs over all obstacles. The actor gives us a fine, virile study of Petruchio, and shows by a score of skilful touches that "the tamer" possesses real affection for the wayward girl he has married. Mr. Benson's high spirits and buoyant humour are exactly suited to the part. Mrs. Benson makes an appropriately shrewish Katharina, and the gradual conquest of her stubborn nature is well shown by this accomplished actress. The ripe humour of that favourite low comedian, Mr. G. R. Weir, finds plenty of opportunity in the rôle of the servant Grumio; and Biondello becomes a very clever character-sketch in the hands of Mr. Percy D. Owen, who makes a decided success in the part. Mr. George Buchannan looks handsome and acts with fervour as the lover Lucentio; Miss Gwladys Wynne makes a sweet and pretty Bianca, while Mr. H. O. Nicholson as Gremio, Mr. Clarence Derwent as Iranio, and Mr. Edward A. Warburton as Baptista contribute greatly to the success. The minor characters are all in good hands. In Act V. Miss Cissy Saumarey sings very sweetly "Should he upbraid." During the week *Macbeth*, *Henry V.*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *The School for Scandal* have been performed. To-day (Saturday) there will (by special request) be a matinée of *As You Like It*, and in the evening *Hamlet* will be produced.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Farce, in Three Acts, by E. H. Perry and Frederick Mouillot, entitled
"WHAT THE BUTLER SAW."

A company under the direction of Mr. Lionel Rignold, with himself and Miss Ada Blanche in the leading rôles, has been visiting Fulham with the successful play from Wyndham's and the Savoy. By this time a good many playgoers have found out what the butler did see, and have joined him in many a hearty laugh. Mr. Rignold is well suited as Pink, the butler, and keeps the fun going with great success. Like another famous butler, the late Mr. Toole, he hovers round the guests most assiduously, extracting humour from their foibles, and his laughter is infectious. Miss Blanche is excellent as Mrs. Barrington. The supposed widow, by means of clever little touches, now and again gives a glimpse of her real love for her husband, and adds a charming note of sincerity to her comedy. Mr. Charles Fawcett as the mercurial Barrington submits a delightful representation, and shares the honours of the play with Mr. Rignold and Miss Blanche. Miss Marie Dalton contributes a good sketch of Miss Poden; Mr. G. M. Ascot is good as the peppery General Dunlop; as are also Mr. Reddich Anderson as Sir Charles and Mr. Alec Alves as Vere de Bogyns. Mr. Harry Rignold is amusing as Abraham Weinstein; and Mr. Roy Byford is really clever in his performance of the elephantine Professor. Miss Annie Goward does well as Mrs. Hake; and Miss Willett as Sophonisba, the Misses Davies and O'Connell as the Dunlop Girls, and Miss Jennie Wigney as Nora are all up to their work, Miss Dorothy Garth being a bright and amusing Maria.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Play, by Charles Darrell, entitled
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS."

Mr. Lester Collingwood's company, appearing this week in the realistic play, *When London Sleeps*, is meeting with a most cordial reception. Mr. C. P. Wentworth, in undertaking the part of Captain Rodney Hayes, has to portray a most relentless villain. To his credit as an actor it may be conceded that he assumes the character in a convincing manner. Mr. Sam Arthur as David Engleheart, an athlete, known as the "Star of the Air," gives a manly touch to the impersonation which secures popularity. Mr. F. E. Thomas as Bob Jones does full justice to the comicalities associated with the proprietorship of a small circus; and Mrs. Edgar Colona is a success as the showman's wife. Mr. D'Arcy Kelway makes a humorous as well as a vigorous Sammy Blyth, a handy man in the circus ring; and Mr. Frank Howard as the Hon. Bertie Broomhead, who is seeing life, is also amusing in the way peculiar to that class of character. Miss Mable Scudamore evidently takes the fancy of the audience as Queenie Carruthers, "White Queen of the Slack Wire." Her acting is certainly sympathetic. Others who take prominent parts include Mr. Charles E. Sutton, Mr. Harry Barham, Mr. Fred Bernardo, Mr. Otto Clayton, Miss Maude Yorke, Miss Bessie Frank, Miss Daisy Clifford, Miss Helen Holmes, and Miss Josephine Melbourne.

GRAND THEATRE, FOREST GATE.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Watts Phillips,
entitled
"LOST IN LONDON."

This theatre has again come under the popular management of Mr. Herbert Sibley, who has opened with a stock company and popular prices. The result has proved eminently satisfactory, the building being fairly full each night. Mr. Johnstone Gould gave a powerful rendering of the part of Job Armroyd, whose grief at the loss of his wife was portrayed so naturally as to bring tears to the eyes of many of the audience; Miss Nellie Lucas won all hearts by her touching performance of Nelly; Mr. James Fettes gave a clever impersonation in the character of Gilbert Featherstone; Mr. Alfred Groves was all that could be desired as Sir Richard Loader; Mr. Charles Wisher was soon on excellent terms with the audience as Benjamin Blinker; Miss Kate Roberts (a great local favourite) ably sustained the character of Teddy Tragglethorpe; Flounce had a capital representative in Miss Edith Wenbrook. The play has been mounted in a manner that is highly creditable to the management.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by G. Carlton Wallace,
entitled
"THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH."

Longfellow's poem has been admirably utilised to provide the subject-matter for the piece under notice, and the peaceful picture presented in the opening act of the Village Smithy, with the brawny blacksmith at his forge, is one which few would wish for dark clouds to overcast. However, despite the vicissitudes through which John Strong and his wife and child have to pass, owing to the appearance on the horizon of an evil spirit in one Captain Leo, their blissful country home is eventually restored to them, though not before the powerful John Strong has given an exposition of his wrestling prowess which occurs when he competes against that rascally athlete, Captain Leo, who is defeated and accidentally killed. Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesay's company most creditably interprets the piece. Mr. Sam Livesay is well endowed physically for the part of John Strong, and he acts throughout most incisively. Mr. Joseph Carter depicts the villainous Captain Leo with an ease and assurance which is most effective, and his performance is in every way praiseworthy. A lesser villain in Lucas Marlow is graphically delineated by Mr. Edwin Meydew; and Mr. Thomas E. Marshall is responsible for a sterling performance in the character-part of Jeremiah Parkins. Mr. George V. Campbell depicts the bucolic Billy Twigg with a keen sense of humour; and Mr. George Wilton does capitally as the Music Hall Manager. Miss Maggie Edwards makes a charming and graceful Kate Strong; and Miss Cassie le Grande easily enlists the sympathies of the audience for the much-wronged Ruth Parkins. Sal Parkins is made sufficiently vicious in the capable hands of Mrs. T. C. Livesay; and Miss Edith Giddens makes a bright and amusing Martha Mopps. Minor parts are all ably played.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Four-Act Play, by William Bourne, entitled
"WHEN DARKNESS FALLS."

Mr. J. M. East's stock company this week is presenting the powerful military and domestic drama *When Darkness Falls*, and right well they do it, every part being played in a way which indeed denotes careful study and rehearsal. Mr. Albert Ward gives a finished and attractive impersonation of the young Captain Montrevor; Mr. William Felton as the Rev. Arthur Graham makes a delightfully unaffected young clergyman, and acts with a degree of dignity and earnestness which carries distinction. Instead of the polished, refined villain, Mr. Horace Hunter this week shows his versatility by taking the part of James Woodruffe, ex-Army captain. Mr. Hunter is eminently successful in portraying the vulgar, degraded débauché, his methods being resourceful and well thought out. A foreign spy, Bertin, is capitally presented by Mr. Brian Daly; Mr. Edward Boddy is excellent as Inspector Digby, whilst Mr. Paul Peters as a pawnbroker is effective. Mr. Teddy Coleman seems to revel in the part of Mike Kavanagh, and induces repeated peals of merriment by his quizzical humour. As Jenny, a demure domestic, Miss Agnes Paulton is happily placed. As Jim and Harry, Miss Ross and Miss Dora Hannesley are capital; they very ably show the striking difference in temperament between the two waifs. Miss Therese Osborne in a trying character, that of the wife of James Woodruffe, gains much approbation by her clever impersonation. The heroine, Helen Montrevor, is portrayed by Miss Kathleen Russell with much tenderness and charm, her acting towards the end being touching in the extreme. Incidental music is very ably supplied by the orchestra, under Mr. J. Nurnberger. Mr. R. A. Neville is the genial and energetic acting-manager.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Comedy by Alfred Sutro, entitled
"THE FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT."

One of the prettiest and most interesting comedies that have been seen this year is *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt*, who has been nightly making fresh conquests at Kennington Theatre. The play is produced by the strong company which is touring under the direction of Messrs. Sylvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux, and full effect is given to the biting satire on the conventions of a modern society which abounds in Mr. Sutro's brilliant dialogue. As Mr. Vanderveldt, the hopeless rake but ever hopeful lover, Mr. Reginald Dance scores a big success. It is by no means an easy part to play, but Mr. Dance is an artist of great ability and much resource, and his interpretation reflects considerable credit on his artistic perception. Miss Gladys Mason admirably supports Mr. Dance in the rôle of Lady Clarice Howland, the charming, but somewhat wayward, widow. Miss Mason is an accomplished actress, and she finds ample scope for her histrionic powers. Miss Agnes Gunn is exceedingly clever as Miss Pelling, the lady companion, and her attractive appearance renders her a warm favourite. Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton is a soldierly Col. Rayner; whilst as Mr. Goddlestone and Sir Batholomew Cardick, Mr. G. A. Seeger and Mr. Russell Barry are responsible for a great deal of merriment. The part of Lord Woolham is finely sustained by Mr. Edward Coutts, and Miss Eva Titheradge makes a winsome American girl. As the austere Marchioness, Miss Mary Weigall is admirable; and Miss May Brooke is a very good Lady Clementina. Mr. Geo. Percy, in the character of the unsophisticated parson, is the subject of considerable mirth; and others who should be mentioned favourably are Mr. F. Vernon Travers as the inn-keeper, Mr. Gerald Henson as the inn-keeper's son, Miss Helen Tytler as the inn-keeper's wife, and Miss Dorothy Haigh as Mrs. Brevell. The comedy is preceded by that weirdly thrilling drama, *The Drums of Oude*, in which Mr. Dance, as Captain McGregor, is able to give full evidence of his versatile qualities.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by M. Katz, entitled
"THE ZIONIST."

On Monday evening the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company appeared in M. Katz's strong and virile drama, *The Zionist*, which was produced in so complete a manner as to give entire satisfaction to a large and appreciative audience. Mr. S. Feinman played with considerable power, and presented a fairly drawn and finished portraiture of the Zionist, Reb Yechezkel Lando. Mr. M. D. Waxman as Diomka gave a well-studied performance, while his make-up was exceedingly good; and a careful interpretation of Judah Leib was given by Mr. Goldsmith. Mr. Gusofsky as Efroim fully sustained his reputation as an accomplished artist; throughout the representation his splendid vocalism and excellent acting evoked hearty applause. Mr. N. Hamburger as Schamrie Zukerfass commanded respect and admiration by his undoubted ability, and Mr. Schilling infused much life into the part of Schachne Pinchas. Mme. F. Waxman deserves commendation for her successful delineation of Scheindel; and Miss R. Bryh as Mariashe came through a trying ordeal triumphantly. Mme. Goldstein was a conscientious Chane, and a capable Corele was found in Miss Lubritsky. As a policeman, Mr. Isaacowitch was effective; while Mr. Markowitz was a competent Yontel. The play was staged in a most attractive manner, and the orchestra and chorus rendered valuable assistance. During the week *Gabriel*, *Hanncle the Finisher*, *The Rich Beggar*, *Mirele Efras*, and *Hyman in America* have been performed.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Musical Play, in Three Acts, entitled
"THE DANDY DOCTOR."

Mr. Edward Marris's company is appearing at the Royal County this week in this clever combination of fun and frolic, which is attracting good audiences, and affording no end of amusement to them. The maid-of-all-work Jane is played by Miss Florence Smithers with great success; and Miss Elfie Vincent as Ivy Pendred has won much favour, particularly for her graceful dancing. Miss Rosie Chandler for the same reason has also won the favour of the audiences. Mr. Edward Marris as the doctor has made a great hit, and good work is done by Mr. Herbert Pearce as Col. Pendred. Other characters are ably sustained. There is a numerous and well-trained chorus under the direction of Mr. G. Jenkinson.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA PREFEREE,"

Comedy, in Three Acts, by M. L. Descaves, produced at the Odéon on Oct. 25.

Henri Charlier ..... M. DUQUESNE
Santonnet ..... M. DORIVAL
Maître Monastier ..... M. DUARD
Herbelot ..... M. LEON BERNARD
Faverol ..... M. CHEVALET
Thérèse Charlier ..... MLLE. DEVOYOD
Isabella ..... MLLE. BELLANGER
Mme. Giraud ..... MME. DELPHINE RENAUD
Souci ..... MLLE. LELY
Mme. Herbelot ..... MLLE. RENER MAUPIN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, NOV. 1.—We have had this week a deluge of novelties, but none of the works produced—although from the pens of well-known and talented authors—have come up to our expectations. M. Antoine especially disappointed us. He inaugurated his management of the Odéon, and an "all-Paris" audience had assembled to celebrate the event. We began by admiring the improvements he has made in the theatre. The old stalls have disappeared and been replaced by up-to-date seats. A broad passage-way has been cut down the middle, and other useful changes have been made, adding to the comfort of the audience. M. Descaves' new comedy contains a very fine second act, which created a deep impression, but the opening scenes are so entangled and the dénouement is so obscure that towards the end we almost ceased to feel interested in the personages. The plot reminds us rather of that of *Le Père*, brought out a few years ago at the Théâtre Antoine. M. Charlier, who holds an important post in one of the government offices, has two daughters, Isabelle, engaged to be married to a Colonial official, and Souci, a bright sixteen-year-old girl, as impetuous and affectionate as her sister is reserved and undemonstrative. No wonder therefore, she is her father's favourite, his "préférée." A blackmailing creature, in the shape of a woman, informs M. Charlier that sixteen years ago Thérèse, his wife, had been the mistress of a man, since dead; and that Souci is not his daughter at all. Stunned by this blow, the poor father leaves the house and resolves upon a divorce. Neither Isabelle nor Souci have the least idea of what has happened. After a week he returns, for he is pining after his little Souci. And then we witness a pretty scene between Souci, who cannot understand her father's sudden coolness, and the man who struggles in vain against the love that binds him to the child. What we expect occurs. Charlier, remembering the many years of domestic happiness his wife has given him; forgives her, and everything ends happily. The play was fairly well interpreted. M. Duquesne did not seem quite at home in the rôle of Charlier. Mme. Charlier was impersonated by Mlle Devoyod, who was not natural enough. Mlle. Lély, on the other hand, gave unbounded satisfaction as little Souci. She was really delightful.

THE night's entertainment wound up with *La Recommandation*, a one-act trifle, by M. Max Maurey. A poor out-at-elbows fellow applies for a post. He is humble and gentle. But the moment he has secured the position he shows himself a terrible tyrant, bullying all his subordinates. The sarcastic, well-written sketch was received with roars of laughter.

AT the Théâtre Cluny we have had the première of *Le Coup du Million*, a three-act farce by MM. Desvallières and Eugène Millon. It is not very funny, but it may suit the easily-amused public that frequents that playhouse. Maurice Trémonin has inherited a million francs from an old uncle, but the testator makes it a condition that his nephew shall only receive the money if his wife is unfaithful to him. Trémonin thereupon at once marries his mistress, Thérèse, a flighty damsel, who always deceived him. But Thérèse, now that she has become "respectable," remains on the straight path. Trémonin's friends, at his bidding, try to lead the lady astray. All in vain. Thérèse remains steadfast. In the end Trémonin disguises himself as a burglar, and entering his wife's room takes the lady by surprise. And Trémonin is happy. His wife has not deceived him, and the million will be paid to him.

A CURIOUS law-suit has been brought into Court. M. Marcel Simon had engaged M. Le Bargy and Mme. Jane Hading to go on tour with him. Each partner was to receive one-third of the proceeds. The tour proved a great financial success. In Bordeaux, however, an incident occurred. Through a mistake on the railway company's part the trunks did not arrive in time, and the performance could not be given. M. Marcel Simon claimed and received £240 damages from the railway company. But when his two partners asked for their share of the amount, he refused to give them a cent. Both M. Le Bargy and Mme. Hading are very wealthy, but as they reckon they are entitled to £120 each they are sueing M. Simon.

AT the instigation of M. Albert Carré, of the Opéra Comique, the managers of the principal Paris theatres held a meeting to discuss the Franck-Bernstein incident. Among those present were M. André Antoine, M. Fontanes, M. Franck, M. Gémier, M. Micheau, M. Porel, and M. Richemond. M. Carré presided, and informed his colleagues that the question before them was to decide whether an author has the right to withdraw a piece accepted by a theatre without any plausible reason. In the present case M. Bernstein had demanded from M. Alphonse Franck the return of his comedy, *Le Voleur*, because, Mme. Le Bargy having fallen ill, the piece would not be ready for production at the Gymnase on the 20th inst., the date mentioned in the contract. M. Bernstein offers to pay the £320 forfeit, which M. Franck refuses to accept. The latter argues (and not without reason) that, having guaranteed the author one hundred performances, and spent a much larger sum on costumes and scenery, not reckoning the special engagement of well-known artists, the author is in no way justified in taking away his piece. There is, of course, no doubt that if brought into court M. Franck would lose his case. But, as he pointed out to his colleagues, it is a question of fairness between playwright and manager, and, for that reason, affects the interests of every theatrical manager in France. The gentlemen present seemed to take that view, and one of them, whom I will not mention, even went so far as to suggest that they all should boycott M. Bernstein. Good sense, however, prevailed; and, on the principle of *audi alteram partem*, M. Bernstein was invited to attend the next meeting to state his case if he liked. This M. Bernstein has done; but the proceedings were kept secret. It, however, is more than likely that an amicable arrangement will be arrived at.

AN influential committee is co-operating with the Concert-Goers' Club in organising the banquet to be given to Mr. Joseph Bennett on the occasion of his retirement from the active duties of musical criticism, and to mark the appreciation of the musical world at large of his unequalled services to music. Sir Alexander Mackenzie has consented to take the chair, and the committee includes Lord Burnham, Sir Hubert Parry, Sir Frederick Bridge, Sir Edward Elgar, Sir August Manns, Sir Charles Hanford, Dr. Henry Coward, Dr. F. H. Cowen, Dr. W. H. Cummings, Mr. J. Spencer Curwen, Mr. Ben Davies, Mr. B. W. Findon, Mr. Edward German, the Hon. Harry Lawson, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. J. A. Fuller Maitland, Mr. Claude Phillips, Mr. Charles Santley, Mr. Albert Randegger, Mr. Hugh Thomson, Signor F. Paolo Tosti, and Mr. A. Visetti. Tickets for ladies or gentlemen are 6s. each, and can be obtained of Mr. W. E. Renaut, secretary of the Club, at 4, Tenterden-street, Hanover-square, W.

"UNCLE JACK."

A Comedy in Three Acts, by Robert Ganthony, produced at the Castle Theatre, Richmond, on Tuesday, Oct. 30.

Lord Burke of Trenton, G.C.B. ..... MR. J. J. BISGOOD
The Hon. and Rev. Edward Stanmore ..... MR. ROBERT GANTHONY
Herbert Stanmore ..... MR. PERCY PITCH
Mr. Mordaunt ..... MR. G. M. SMITH
Alderman Sir Lewis Sonnenschein ..... MR. EDGAR WICKS
Lieut. Roland Brand, R.N. ..... MR. PERCY UMNEY
Tizzy ..... MR ALICK MANLEY
Morris ..... MR. FRANK WATKINS
Jenkins ..... MR. W. L. STOFFORTH
Lady Hickley ..... MISS MANLEY
The Hon Florence Hickley ..... MISS LETTY HILL
The Hon. May Hickley ..... MISS ELLA MOORE
The Hon. Ada Hickley ..... MISS CARRIE BROCKMAN
The Dowager Duchess of Dorking ..... MISS J. GILLOTT
Lady Sonnenschein ..... MISS MAUD CLARKE
Rachel Sonnenschein ..... MISS EMMA CORDELL
Batter ..... MISS LUCY NICHOLLS
"Avola" ..... MISS FLORANCE A. AIKMAN
Foyson ..... MRS. NELSON STEVENS
Hazel Stanmore ..... MISS EVA CLARE

That Mr. Robert Ganthony, the well-known playwright, is held in high esteem in his native place—he was born in Richmond, and has resided there practically all his life—was fully made manifest by the testimonial benefit given in his honour at the Castle Theatre, Richmond, this week, when Tuesday and Wednesday evenings were devoted to performances of his new comedy, *Uncle Jack*. The performances were held under the direction and patronage of a very strong committee, with the Mayor of Richmond (Councillor W. Sandover) as the president, the vice-presidents including the Right. Hon. Lord Justice Fletcher Moulton, Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., Mr. Under-Sheriff Langton, Sir Wm. P. Treloar, Sir Smallman Smith, Mr. Frederick Hallison, Sir Thomas Skewes-Cox, Mr. George Cane, K.C., M.P., Colonel W. J. Bosworth, and Mr. Mostyn Pigott.

The play itself was, on the whole, extremely well received, although it was produced under the obvious difficulties usually associated with the work of amateur actors and actresses. Uncle Jack, the principal character, otherwise Lord Burke of Trenton, is the British Ambassador at the Court of Illyria. The name brings to one's mind thoughts of ancient Rome, of Cæsar, Augustus, and Diocletian; but it is quite a modern story that Mr. Ganthony gives us, and it has very little to do with Illyria. Lord Burke—or Uncle Jack, as he is more frequently referred to—is a man of the world who at a somewhat late period in life has fallen in love with his pretty ward, Hazel Stanmore, whose father is the good-natured, easy-going, and, if anything, somewhat weak-minded Rector of Riverdale. Hazel is arranging to hold a water carnival in the grounds of Faudraux Hall in aid of some charitable object, and in order to carry out her plans to the best advantage she has engaged the services of a Mr. Mordaunt, a variety agent. Mordaunt is a man with a past, and there are one or two unpleasant incidents in that past, of which more anon. The rector's daughter goes to London in the company of Mordaunt to attend to certain details respecting the fête. Missing her last train back to Riverdale, she stays at a Piccadilly hotel for the night. She has written a note to the agent, and he contrives to frighten her into the belief that it is of a compromising character, and although the document is of quite an innocent and simple character when read in connection with the whole contents, yet by tearing off a portion of the letter a deeper significance is imparted to it. The girl, not desiring that her father should be worried with even the slightest suggestion of anything improper, gives way to Mordaunt's demand for money. She parts with all the cash she has in hand, and even agrees to let him have a valuable ring she is wearing and which she inadvertently drops upon the ground. It is afterwards picked up by a servant and handed to Lord Burke, along with some "information" as to an overheard conversation between Hazel and the agent. When, for the first time, at the fête, Lord Burke meets Mordaunt, he recognises in that worthy a swindling theatrical manager who had left his company and his wife stranded at Illyria, a false report of his death being subsequently circulated. Mordaunt's wife, a variety artist of the name of Avola, has been married to the rector's son, Herbert Stanmore, a wild and somewhat foolish young man. Avola is also of the carnival party, and in her inebriated state a very vulgar exhibition she makes of herself. Lord Burke's experience of life and his well-trained diplomatic instinct find fitting objects for their employment in the intrigues of Mr. Mordaunt. Uncle Jack quickly sees the trend of things, and as quickly draws his own conclusions therefrom. Hazel comes to him with a request for fifty pounds. As her guardian, he tells her that it is only right and proper that he should know for what purpose she requires the money. Then, without waiting for her to answer his question, he indicates that the money is intended for the blackguardly agent. Gradually the whole story emanates from the girl's unwilling lips. A few seconds later—in fact, before Hazel has been dismissed from the presence of Lord Burke—Avola darts into the room in her usual impudent manner. Uncle Jack speaks to her on the subject of her marriage with Mordaunt, and of her later alliance to young Stanhope when she knew that her first husband was alive. Cornered by a clever and strong-minded man, and finding that equivocation is useless, she admits everything, and seems rather to rejoice in her bigamous action. Lord Burke sends her to her room, instructing her to don her hat and cloak and await his summons. Mordaunt enters, and Uncle Jack gives him plainly to understand that his identity is revealed—that he has recognised him as the man who, under a different name, deserted his wife in Illyria. Avola is fetched, and acknowledges the agent to be her lawful husband. The end of it is that the incriminating letter written by Hazel is purchased by Lord Burke, the rector's son is able once more to consider himself unbound by any matrimonial ties, and the blackmailing agent and his wife retire from the neighbourhood, it is hoped, for ever. And then the ring which had been picked up is placed by Uncle Jack on the finger of Hazel Stanmore, and the curtain falls upon a pretty mutual avowal of love.

As to the acting, Mr. J. J. Bisgood's characterisation of Uncle Jack stood out on the opening night as by far the best performance. He gave one the impression of a man accustomed to command, of a gentleman who never for one moment forgot the dignity of his ambassadorial office or of his own personal importance. He was an ideal man of the world, of undoubted good breeding and aristocratic manner. Mr. Robert Ganthony presented a characteristic study of an exceedingly simple-minded clergyman, who seemed more lacking in knowledge of the world than the average of his calling. As the rector's daughter, Miss Eva Clare showed a sound appreciation of the light and the shade of the character, and acted throughout in a way that was natural and unaffecting. Mr. G. M. Smith was good in a capital portraiture of the blackguardly variety agent; and Miss Florence A. Aikman was amusing as the pert and lively, yet vulgar, music hall artist. Miss Manley was responsible for a clever impersonation of a scandal-mongering old society dame, and a most pleasing performance was submitted by Miss J. Gillott as a very charming and venerable dowager duchess. Mr. Alick Manley gave a really admirable representation of an old gardener; and Mr. Edgar Wicks was good as a restaurant-keeper who had risen to civic honours.

"JACK AND JILL."

A Musical Farce, in Three Acts, written by Barton White; composed by Antoine Banes; and produced for the first time at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Oct. 29.

Jos. Bullard ..... MR. FRED SEYMOUR
Col. Chorley ..... MR. WILLIAM GRIFFIN
Garnet Manners ..... MR. AUBREY CARR
Captain Hatteris ..... MR. FREDERICK HOBBS
Wix ..... MR. GEORGE PAULTON
Sergeant Trent ..... MR. J. DAVIES
Fowley ..... MR. VERNON REED
Bassett ..... MR. E. BARTELL
Mold ..... MR. F. E. TONGE
Fireman ..... MR. ERNEST WATTS
Beadle ..... MR. J. LERONI
Foreman Porter ..... MR. JACK STEPHENS
Cleasby Jukes ..... MR. W. H. POWELL
Cissie Wix ..... MISS KITTY CAVENDISH
Lady Verona Jukes ..... MISS AVIS GRAHAME
Netta ..... MISS VERA VALLIS
Susie ..... MISS ADELINA BURGON
First Pierrot ..... MISS PEARL VIVIAN
Second Pierrot ..... MISS FLORA ERNEST
Third Pierrot ..... MISS VICTORIA WRAY
Fourth Pierrot ..... MISS FLORENCE WYNN
Bennett ..... MISS ROSE LYTTON
Jack / Jill ..... MISS STELLA GASTELLE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Barton White's story of *Jack and Jill*, produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, under the personal direction of Mr. Willie Edouin, is founded on the successful opera, *Toto and Tata*, and contains all the requirements of a success which, no doubt, it will attain.

The opening scene is the perfume factory of Colonel Chorley, whose financial difficulties suggest to him, and to his sister Lady Verona Jukes, that the latter's son, Cleasby, should marry Jill, the daughter of Jos. Bullard, a wealthy mustard king. This is a project highly acceptable to Mr. Bullard—who is also the Mayor of Mulborough—especially because he is made to believe by Colonel Chorley and Lady Verona, assisted by the comic pretences of Cleasby himself, that the young man—styling himself Captain St. Cyr—has seen service in South Africa, and is possessed of the genuine military instinct. To have a military hero for a son-in-law is more to Mr. Bullard's mind than to have his daughter marry young Garnet Manners, a barrister who has conscientiously won a case against the Mustard King, and who looks with decided suspicion upon the military pretensions of his rival Cleasby. The latter is the foreman in his uncle's factory; but at this time he is preoccupied with a book of military tactics, in the attempt to store his mind with knowledge, and acquire the rudiments of a dashing but imaginary experience with the colours. Also at the factory is Jack, Mr. Bullard's son, who is apprenticed to the perfumery business; and this youth is distinctly of a mischievous turn of mind, and more inclined to favour the suit of Manners, the barrister, than the short-sighted Cleasby Jukes.

Having expressed his determination that his daughter shall marry Cleasby, Mr. Bullard gives a reception, at which it is intended that the betrothal shall take place. In this scene the irrepressible Jack has his opportunities to impersonate Jill, sister and brother being so much alike that their own father can distinguish one from the other only by their clothes. Garnet Manners makes his appearance, and arranges that Jill shall elope with him at a certain hour; to give Jill her chance to get away, Jack puts on some of her clothes, and is on the spot when the moment for Cleasby Jukes to make his proposal arrives; so that the spurious Captain's offer of marriage is made to Jack. Of course, the flight of Jill is discovered; the pair have gone away in Bullard's motor-car, and a pursuit is at once begun, which reaches its culmination on the platform of a country railway station near Mulborough. Here, after a number of changes of personality between Jill and Jack, and a revelation of Cleasby's perfidy by Cissie Wix ("La Pirouette" of the halls), who, masquerading as a nurse, has come to remind the absconder of his promise to marry her, the action ends with the proper adjustment of the love affair and the exposure of Cleasby Jukes's pretensions. A variety of lively incidents are employed to illustrate the progress of the story, and the possibilities of a big comic success are great.

The dual rôle of Jack and Jill was undertaken by Miss Stella Gastelle, whose vivacious style was well suited to the sprightly character of the boy, and who invested her impersonation of the girl with a cleverly contrasted quietude and modesty. Great praise is due to her also for the extremely quick changes by which she surprised the house. As Cleasby Jukes, Mr. W. H. Powell acted with a ruminative quaintness and resourceful humour that made quite a success of the rôle, without the need of exaggerating to the point of eccentricity, and he lost no opportunity of getting the utmost out of the situation or the lines. Miss Kitty Cavendish as Cissie Wix, the girl who moves through the action in quest of Cleasby Jukes, was charming and clever from first to last; and as Jos. Bullard, mustard king and mayor—a mayor who "can't find his corporation" when he wants it—Mr. Fred Seymour gave quite a finished and enjoyable impersonation. Mr. Aubrey Carr as Garnet Manners acted well, but had few worthy opportunities as a vocalist; Mr. Frederick Hobbs as Captain Hatteris, scored a big success with his song, "You are mine to-day"; and neat work was done by Mr. William Griffin as Colonel Chorley, Miss Avis Grahame as Lady Verona Jukes, Miss Adelina Burgon as Susie, and Miss Vera Vallis as Netta. It should be added that the words—often remarkably witty—are supplemented by lyrics by Mr. C. Preston Wynne; and that Mr. Ernest Bucalossi and others are responsible for certain numbers. The music is tuneful, and the scenery is as bright and effective as could be wished.

MISS DOROTHEA WALENN'S RECITAL.

At Steinway Hall on Tuesday night, Miss Dorothea Walenn gave a successful violin recital. Miss Walenn was first heard in César Cui's Suite Concertante for violin (with accompaniment for piano). In the Intermezzo Scherzando the violinist's intonation was slightly faulty, but Miss Walenn quickly recovered, and played the beautiful cavatina (one of the finest numbers in the Suite) in a truly artistic and musicianly manner. It is in music of a refined and delicate character that the violinist's talents are best displayed. Other works given by Miss Walenn were Concerto in A major, Op. 45, by C. Sinding, the difficult third movement, Allegro Giocoso being brilliantly played. Miss Walenn was also heard in a well-written but not particularly attractive Reverie and a lively Caprice-Mazurka, by Emmaline Brook, accompanied by the composer. Miss Walenn was assisted by Mr. Roland Jackson, a tenor with a pure and pleasing voice of good compass. His first two songs, "O, Mistress Mine" and "Blow, blow, thou winter wind," by Roger Quilter, hardly did full justice to his vocal powers; but the lovely air "Che gelida Manina," from the first act of *La Bohème*, was sung in a most expressive and artistic style, Mr. Jackson heartily deserving the encore which followed. In this kind of song one of course misses the orchestra, but even with a simple pianoforte accompaniment Puccini's melody was worth scores of the commonplace ballads far too often sung in the concert-room. Two other songs, "Thy Beaming Eyes" (G. Macdowell) and "Through the long days and years" (F. Korbay) were also given by Mr. Roland Jackson. Miss May Walker ably performed the duties of accompanist. The recital was well attended, and Miss Walenn met with a most flattering reception.

ACTORS' DAY.

The Organising Committee, acting under a recommendation from the trustees, are making arrangements for the election of an Advisory Board, which shall represent all classes of contributors and advise as to the ultimate applications of the funds.

The broad lines of the scheme from its inception have been to place on a firmer basis recognised theatrical charities which are purely charities, and the formation of a Grant and Pension Fund for the benefit of contributors.

The constitution of the proposed Advisory Board is as follows:—

Actors (of these four at least must not have played in central London during the last twelve months)	11
Theatrical Managers' Association	2
Touring Managers' Association	2
Suburban Managers' Association	1
Provincial local managers	2
Business and acting-managers, London	1
Business and acting-managers, provincial local	1
Business and acting-managers, provinvincial touring	1
Authors	1

The Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Actors' Orphanage will each be invited to send a representative. The theatrical managers, the suburban managers, and the touring managers will be invited to nominate representatives through their associations. In other cases representatives will be elected by the votes of those whose class they represent.

Nominations, which must reach the Organising Committee not later than the last day of November, must be sent on copies of forms printed below:—

NOMINATION FORM.

Name of proposed representative.....
Permanent Address .....
*Class .....
Name of Proposer .....
Permanent Address .....
*Class .....

If elected, I consent to act as representative on the Advisory Board to the trustees of the Actors' Day Fund.

Signature.....

Date.....

* State here whether Actor, Manager (resident, touring, acting), or Author.

Where the proposer cannot conveniently obtain the signature of the proposed representative on this form, a letter consenting to act may be substituted; but no nomination will be accepted without the written consent of the nominee.

NOTE.—No one is eligible to nominate, or be nominated, or vote for the Advisory Board who is not on the Register: that is, in the case of actors and actresses, those who are willing to give their services on the one night a year, and managers and authors to support the scheme.

All communications should be addressed to the Organising Committee, Actors' Day, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Drama, by Wilton Jones and A. Melville,
entitled
"THE WOMAN IN BLACK."

This week we have an exciting drama full of dramatic interest and comic relief—in fact, just the sort of play the Rotherhithe audience will flock to see. There are several sensational scenes, notably a collision at sea, and the prevention of a railway accident by the hero. Full justice is done to the drama by the talented stock company, headed by the old favourite, Mr. Ashley Page, who plays the hero, Frank Edenbridge. Mr. Page is deservedly the "Darling of the Gods," and his notable character-portrait adds another feather to his cap as one of his most popular impersonations.

Miss Marion Denvil makes a popular and pathetic Ruth Branstone, Frank's sorely-tried young wife. Mr. Johnny Chippendale, who is the favourite low comedian here, extracts every ounce of fun out of the rôle of Bill Stokes, ostler, policeman, and porter; and Miss Mattie Everett as Gwenny Morgan is a bright and winsome Welsh maid-servant. Miss East Robertson gives a powerful impersonation of the revengeful "Woman in Black." Mr. Alf. Harding gains the hisses of the gallery for the excellence of his acting as the villainous Captain Edenbridge; Mr. John Sargent as Pierre Duval and Mr. C. A. Chandler as Count Ivan Orloff contribute excellent character-sketches; Mr. Tom Taylor, an old favourite here, who also acts as stage-manager, is an admirable Squire Edenbridge. The remaining characters are all satisfactorily rendered. The scenery and effects are quite adequate.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 29, the Musical Play,
entitled
"LADY MADCAP."

The second visit to Stratford of *Lady Madcap*, this time under the régime of Mr. George Dance, is proving a very popular engagement this week. Miss Vera Vere, who is best remembered for her comical impersonation of Fi Fi in *The Chinese Honeymoon*, is now seen in such a contrasted rôle as that of Lady Betty, and her success is very gratifying to her many admirers. She depicts the roguish "madcap" with all the necessary verve and vivacity, and sings and dances most pleasingly. Mr. H. V. Surrey makes a decided hit as Oroya Brown, his quaint sayings and doings always compelling laughter. Mr. Alex Chentrens makes a fluent and polished Count de St. Hubert, and his fine vocalism wins much applause. Mr. Percival Knight quickly wins his way into favour as the nimble Bill Stratford, and Mr. Oliver Round plays with a dry and incisive humour in his former part of Posh Jenkins. The peppery Colonel Layton is appropriately played by Mr. R. S. Comber; Mr. Frederick C. Leister is well placed as Major Blatherswaite; Mr. Douglas Phillips is a painstaking Captain Harrington; Mr. Rupert Stutfield fulfils all requirements as Lieut. Somerset; and Lord Framlingham has an excellent exponent in Mr. Martyn Roland. The irrepressible Corporal Ham is divertingly played by Mr. Tommy Nellson, who extracts unlimited mirth from the part. Miss Peggy Primrose makes a bright and entertaining Susan; Gwennie Holden is daintily impersonated by Miss Maisie North; and Miss Florence Raymaur is entirely successful as Mrs. Layton. The concerted music is admirably rendered by the large and well-trained chorus, under the able direction of Mr. Ernest Hartmann; and Mr. Dance's business-manager is Mr. Arthur Davis.

MISS GABRIELLE RAY was not, it appears, originally brought out by Mr. J. Bannister Howard, but sustained her first important rôle with Mr. G. Brydon-Phillips at Mr. Moufet's Richmond Theatre in 1894-5, performing Cupid in Victor Stevens' pantomime *Little Red Riding Hood*. Prior to this, Miss Ray was in Mr. Paul Valentine's Blackpool ballet, when Mr. Brydon-Phillips saw and engaged her.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER LIEBESKONIG,"
Drama, in Three Acts, by Leo Greiner,
Produced at the Deutsches Theatre
on Oct. 17, 1906.

Isabella ..... FRAULEIN DURIEUX
Alphonso ..... HERR HENRICH
Vladimir ..... HERR VON WINTERSTEIN
Ladislaus ..... HERR VON WINTERSTEIN
Kunhard ..... HERR STEINRUCK
Kanzler ..... HERR HARTAN
Yaleski ..... HERR VON JACOBI
Marianne ..... FRAU EYSOLDT
Helene ..... FRAULEIN BERGER
Leonore ..... FRAULEIN KORN
Melitta ..... FRAULEIN LORN
Klara ..... FRAULEIN WEIRAUCH
Ritter ..... HERR SCHUTZ
Narr ..... HERR GOTTOWT
Edelmann ..... HERR FELDHAMMER
Kurier ..... HERR CONRADI
Magd ..... FRAULEIN FLATAU
Hellebardier ..... HERR SCHOLZ

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Oct. 25.—A most indulgent audience received the play with every appearance of cordiality, even going so far as to call the author, who is young enough to give promise of better work. *Der Liebeskönig* is written in blank verse of good quality, but it is rhetorical and declamatory rather than dramatic; the characters talk "tall" without saying much that is worth hearing. The background of the play is historic—apart from a few inaccuracies—but the greater part of it is the result of a fine phantasy. The scene is laid in Baden, in Switzerland—a particularly naughty little resort in the Middle Ages, in which period the action passes. Thither comes King Vladimir of Poland, disguising his plain features under the mask of Venus, and followed by the members of his Court in the costume of fauns and wood-nymphs. The King is an effeminate youth, whose one desire in life it is to solve the riddle, Woman. He has been all but betrothed to the Emperor's daughter Isabella, but she heartlessly casts him off, and weds a handsome Italian prince. The King is captivated in turn by one of the gay fräuleins who frequent the spa, one Marianne, finally making her his Queen, and entering Warsaw with her in state. Vladimir, in the hands of a worthless woman, becomes even weaker than before. His subjects, indignant at the follies of Marianne, rise in revolt, and demand that she be put to death. Vladimir, feeling he has not yet solved the riddle of this woman at any rate, and discovering she has never cared for him, yields to the people's wishes after a struggle with himself, and, in a very realistic scene, condemns her to death. Isabella, in the meantime, is followed by Nemesis, her handsome husband having been slain by Ritter Kunhard the Terrible, because he insulted the King. The piece, whose purport it is difficult to see, would have been less well received had the acting and mounting been less admirable than was the case. Frau Eysoldt made the most of the rôle of Marianne; but it was a poor part for an artist of her great talent. That Herr Reinhardt staged the play in masterly style goes without saying, but I do not fancy the game was quite worth the candle in this case.

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Nov. 1.—The opening of the New Schauspielhaus last week was an event of much importance. Shakespeare's *Tempest* was selected for the opening play, and it is holding the boards nightly. It was remarkably well acted and staged, Herr Adolf Klein as Prospero, Herr Grube as Caliban, and Fräulein Maren in the rôle of Miranda being especially commendable. The Ariel of Fräulein Gasny was not satisfactory in all points. The musical setting by Herr Humperdinck is pretty and appropriate, and the Elfin dances were charmingly executed by the Duncan dancing school. A large audience testified to its appreciation by loud applause and calls for the manager. The second performance in connection with the cycle of Spanish plays at the Neues Theatre takes place at the end of the present week. This time it is a drama entitled *Der Grossvater* (el abuelo), and Herr Schildkraut—one of the first actors of the Deutsches Company—will take the leading rôle.

SIGNORA DUSE gives eight performances during the early part of November at the New Royal Opera (Krolls). Her season opens with *Hedda Gabler*, and other plays announced are *La Locandiera*, *Heimat*, and *Rosmersholm*.

MME. AINO ACKTE, of the Grand Opera, Paris, has been studying the rôle of Salome in German under the supervision of Dr. Strauss himself. A day or two ago Mme. Ackté left for Dresden, where she will sing at the Court Opera. *Salome*, by the way, is to be produced definitely at our own Royal Opera towards the end of November, the composer conducting.

"KLEIN DORRIT," Schönthan's travesty of Charles Dickens's work, is still drawing at the Royal Schauspielhaus. The piece was acted, too, at the New Palace, in the private Imperial theatre, on the occasion of the Kaiserin's birthday last week.

CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND.

On Thursday, Nov. 1, 1906,
the Comedy, entitled
"THE NIGHT OF THE PARTY."

Ubiquitous Mr. J. Bannister Howard is keeping his word: to present "good plays" has been his motto, and he has lived up to his promise. This week *The Night of the Party* is the attraction, and very admirably it is interpreted. Indeed, we are inclined to doubt if the comedy has ever met with a more intelligent rendering than it receives at the hands of this capable company. Mr. Sebastian Smith makes a decided hit as Mr. Crosbie; Lady Hampshire has a capable and pretty exponent in Miss Evelyn Howard; Mr. Aidan Lovett is capital as Sir Charles Hampshire; and Mr. Frank H. Denton as Frayne is exceptionally good. Delightfully droll and deliciously comic is Mr. Ed. Sawer as the Alderman. Miss Lena Graham does exceptionally well as Mrs. Young; Miss Stanley Ronalde plays Gipsy Vandelier with much skill; excellent in every respect is Miss Marion Lewis as Nannie Portland; Baby Hastings is capably played by Miss Gertrude Manners; good work in a minor degree is done by Mr. Douglas Munro as Mr. Flambert, Mr. Stanley Arthur as Mr. Roundle, and Mr. Chas. Wilson as Horace Clonge. The comedy is mounted with scrupulous care, and Mr. Arthur Howard has charge of the front of the house.

MESSRS. H. LAZARUS AND SON, of 21, Great Eastern-street, E.C., who have been among the foremost in the revolution in theatre seating, are issuing an elaborate catalogue of up-to-date furnishing in which the latest designs of patent automatic tip-up chairs are to be found. Luxurious and elegant seating, besides being fully appreciated by patrons, adds considerably to the adornment of the auditorium, and as Messrs. Lazarus are experts of over thirty years' experience, the production of the most comfortable tip-up chairs and other seating at the cheapest price possible is secured. The tip-up chairs of the well-known firm can be seen in a very large proportion of theatres, &c., throughout the United Kingdom, also on the Continent, and South Africa, and everywhere the utmost satisfaction has been given. The success of their patent tip-up automatic chairs, which are of but recent invention, is proved by the fact of their having been adopted in several of the principal theatres in London and the provinces, while a patent for these chairs has been granted by the United States of America. Messrs. Lazarus have in hand the contract to supply their patent tip-up chairs to the orchestra stalls, stalls, and dress circle of Mr. Robert Arthur's His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Charles Wyndham will take the chair at the sixteenth annual dinner of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, which will be held in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hotel Metropole on Wednesday, Dec. 5. A brilliant gathering of friends of the theatrical profession is assured, and it is hoped that a new record in the way of subscriptions may be achieved

Mr. Frederick Harrison is again the recipient of a distinguished mark of Royal honour, having been commanded by the King to give a performance of *The Man from Blankley's* at Sandringham on Friday, Nov. 9, the occasion of His Majesty's birthday. The Haymarket Theatre will therefore be closed on that evening, as the full Haymarket cast, including Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Mr. Henry Kemble, Miss Fanny Brough, and Mr. Weedon Grossmith will be associated in the momentous performance.

Miss Cordelia Grossmith, daughter of Mr. George Grossmith, was married on Saturday at St. Marylebone Parish Church to Mr. George Frederick Turner, son of Mr. H. J. Turner, of Phillimore-gardens. The veteran entertainer gave his daughter away, and the ceremony was performer by Canon Barker. The bride was attired in a gown of soft white crêpe de chine and old lace, and her train was carried by two smart pages dressed in white cloth suits with pale green shoes and stockings, while four bridesmaids, wearing white chiffon and lace dresses and large white and green velvet hats, added to the prettiness of the group. Among those who attended the reception, held at 55, Russell-square, were Lady Wyndham, Mrs. George Alexander, Herr Wilhelm Ganz, and Sir George and Lady Hanson. The happy couple afterwards departed for the Continent, followed by the heartiest wishes of all.

Mrs. Calhaem was in the accident which occurred on Tuesday afternoon on Waterloo Bridge, when a motor 'bus swerved and dashed into the rail of the bridge with such force as to loosen the masonry for some yards. Mrs. Calhaem happily escaped serious injury, but has not yet recovered from the shock, her head still feeling very bad.

Mr. Martin Harvey made two records at Birmingham the other day, when he appeared in *The Only Way* in the presence of the largest audience the Theatre Royal had ever known and to the largest audience ever gathered in the provinces to witness the famous play. Last week, at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, the queues on Friday and Saturday nights were stated by the local authorities to be the longest within their knowledge, and, linked together, it was estimated that the length was almost half a mile. Huge audiences have also witnessed the other plays in Mr. Harvey's répertoire, and the revival of *Hamlet* is everywhere winning favour on a grand scale. Last night Mr. Harvey was announced to produce at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, a new play in two panels, entitled *The Spell*. Its story deals with a phase of the legendary lore of remote parts of Ireland, and Miss de Silva has a remarkably strong rôle. Next Monday Mr. Harvey commences a season of three weeks' duration at Dublin Theatre Royal with *The Corsican Brothers*.

The Irving Memorial Preliminary Committee held a meeting on Thursday, Mr. Cecil Raleigh in the chair, there being also present Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Acton Bond, Mr. Lawrence Grant, Mr. Lewis Casson, and Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks, the secretary. Various matters were discussed in connection with the proposed memorial, and a definite plan of action was agreed upon, the secretary being instructed to communicate with the Press as soon as the precise details were settled.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier, in gratifying the demand for a speech at the conclusion of *The Walls of Jericho* at the King's Theatre, Glasgow, on Saturday, embellished his remarks with a characteristic story of Mr. W. S. Gilbert. "Shortly before the production of this play in London," said Mr. Bourchier, "I met that brilliant wit, Mr. W. S. Gilbert, and he said, 'Of course your new play will be a success with such a title as that.' 'How so?' I replied. 'Because, my dear Bourchier,' retorted Mr. Gilbert, 'people will get angry so long as the world lasts, and when that happens nicely brought-up people always try to be as mild as possible in the choice of their expletives. Now what is more customary than for one explosive gentleman to say to another "Oh, go to Jericho!"'

"On Monday night," continued Mr. Bourchier, "I promised to telegraph to Mr. Sutro, the author, asking him to come up to Glasgow and hear for himself how sympathetically his play was received by an audience famous for its intelligent appreciation of all that is worthy of the name of drama. Unfortunately an attack of influenza has kept him away. On behalf of my wife, my company, and myself, I beg to tender you our hearty thanks for the welcome you have given us, and to say how much we look forward to coming back to you next year with a répertoire which will probably include, besides *The Walls of Jericho*, two works of Shakespeare—*The Merchant of Venice* and *Macbeth*.

A notable innovation will be made in this year's Drury-lane pantomime, the hero of which will be impersonated by a member of the sterner sex. Mr. Walter Passmore is the actor selected to follow in the dainty footsteps of so many comely principal boys, and his performance of Sindbad will be awaited with interest. Hindbad will be played by Miss Queenie Leighton, and to Mr. Harry Randall will fall the part of a wife, with which Sindbad, in Mr. Hickory Wood's version, has been blessed. Other principal characters are to be sustained by Mr. Fred Emney and Mr. Harry Fragson, the latter of whom is careful to save from shipwreck a grand piano, with which he will beguile the tedium of a sojourn on a whale's back. Mr. Hickory Wood has followed the original as closely as possible, and it will take all the time allowed between curtain rise and midnight on Boxing Night to do justice to the series of spectacles invented and designed by Mr. Arthur Collins.

Mr. Charles Manners, in pursuit of his plans to provide the public with operatic performances such as they have never witnessed before and at popular prices, is promoting amateur operatic societies in various parts of the country, so that when the Moody-Manners' combination visits the town the amateurs will join the company and sing in the choruses of the works they have studied. A society of this kind has been formed by a conductor in Sheffield, who has been teaching his members *Tannhäuser* and *Lohengrin*, and next week the society will perform with the Moody-Manners company. There are sixty-two in the company's chorus, and with sixty-five drawn from the ranks of the amateurs the effect of the 127 fresh young voices in *Tannhäuser's* Hall of Song can be imagined.

Members of the society pay a local conductor 10s. or £1 for the season, and for this their rehearsals of opera, as well as the piano and vocal scores, are supplied gratis by Mr. Manners. Mr. Manners will also superintend rehearsals at stated times, and will lend costumes free. When the students are sufficiently familiar with their parts they will be allowed to give a performance themselves, and any principal parts that are too great for an amateur to take, such as Tannhäuser, Wolfram, or Lohengrin, will be sustained by members of the professional companies without cost. The proceeds of the performance will go to a fund for the supply of costumes, music, &c.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard has been successful in obtaining a music licence for his New Royal Theatre at King's Lynn, thus enabling him to present variety programmes as well as stage plays. Mr. Howard's catering since securing the lease of the theatre at Lynn two years ago has met with much appreciation, things theatrical in that town, both as regards the accommodation in the theatre and the style of entertainment offered, having been practically revolutionised.

Mr. Bannister Howard, who had a record house at his benefit at Ryde on Wednesday, when he played his old part of Cattermotle with the Ryde Amateurs, has leased the theatre to a Mr. Cartwright, who will commence operations with *Charley's Aunt* next week. Mr. Howard, feeling the results of overwork for the past year or two, is about to rid himself of a few responsibilities, and will begin by disposing of the Castle Theatre, Richmond. He is also open to let one or two of his companies, so that he may be able to devote more time to the Crystal Palace Theatre, which, it is gratifying to note, has turned out a regular gold mine.

A gracious reply from the King has been received by Miss Emily Soldene, who wrote to Lord Knollys asking whether it would be possible for His Majesty to accord his patronage to her farewell matinée at the Palace Theatre on Nov. 13. The Royal reply was as follows:—"Dear Miss Soldene,—I have submitted your letter to the King, and he desires me to say how sorry he is to be unable to return a favourable reply to your request. His Majesty has, however, been obliged to decline numerous other applications of a similar nature, and it would be difficult for him, as I am sure you will see, to make an exception in any particular case.—Believe me, yours very truly, Knollys."

Among the latest additions to the programme are Mr. George Grossmith, jun., and Mr. Edmund Payne, who have consented to sing the popular "Run them in" duet from *Genevieve de Brabant*, and the balcony duet from the same work will be rendered by Miss Violet Ludlow and Miss Soldene. Miss Camille Clifford will sing her "Gibson Girl" song, and Miss Florence St. John and Miss Maude Branscombe have also volunteered to assist. The cast of Mr. Owen Hall's one-act tragedy, *Agnesa's Secret*, will include Miss Iris Hoey, Mr. Percival Stevens, Mr. William Devereux, and Mr. Leslie Stiles.

The engravings, water-colour drawings, oil paintings, autograph letters, books, theatrical relics, &c., the property of the late Mr. J. L. Toole, will be sold, by order of the executors, on Thursday next by Messrs. Sotherby, Wilkinson, and Hodge, at their sale rooms in Wellington-street, Strand. There are a large number of portraits of Mr. Toole and his friends, including Sir Henry Irving, Helena Faucit Martin, by F. Joubert, after R. Lehmann, signed presentation photographs of Sims Reeves, Mme. Adelina Patti, Dan Leno, and pen-and-ink sketch of Irving in *The Belle's Stratagem*. The relics include a pair of ironstone ware wine coolers in the shape of vases, believed to have been at one time the property of Charles Dickens; a small tortoiseshell snuff-box, once the property of Joe Grimaldi, the famous clown; a pair of old-fashioned silver-mounted spectacles in shagreen case, worn by Mr. Toole in the character of Caleb Plummer; a pair of striped silk hose used by Elliston, and another pair worn by William Farren. Amongst the autograph letters is an extremely interesting one from Nelson to Lady Hamilton, beginning "My dearest Friend." The autograph letters of actors include Mrs. Fitzhenry, J. P. Kemble, T. King, John Palmer (his last letter), J. Bannister, Emery, Fawcett, R. W. Elliston, W. Farren, Maria Foote, C. Mathews, W. Barrymore, Miss O'Neil, Mrs. Glover, J. P. Harley, Signor and Mme. Vestris, F. H. Yates, T. P. Cooke, Drinkwater Meadows, C. Kean, J. B. Buckstone, T. Moore, and of course those of many living members of the profession.

Mr. Bourchier will send the Garrick Theatre company to the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on Thursday next to give a flying matinée of *The Morals of Marcus*. The part of Judith is sustained by Miss Mabel Hackney, who gives an admirable performance. In conjunction with Mr. Bourchier, Mr. Charles Frohman will produce the play in America next year.

The Special Committee of the Actors' Association met on Saturday last, when there were present Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), and Messrs. C. Hayden Coffin, Lawrence Grant, M. R. Morand, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). Questions as to payment for rehearsals and copyright in photographs were discussed, and the secretary received instructions.

The Commissioners' Committee held a meeting on Monday last, when the chair was occupied by Miss Georgina Hamilton, supported by Miss Rose Mathews, Mr. Quinton McPherson, and the secretary (Mr. Charles Cruikshanks). Monthly reports from commissioners were received and read, and questions submitted therein were discussed at considerable length and, where thought advisable, referred to the Council.

The Council of the Actors' Association held its usual weekly meeting on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Miss Kate Phillips, and Messrs. J. Cooke Beresford, Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, F. Cremlin, William Devereux, A. E. George, Lawrence Grant, Fewlass Llewellyn, Quinton McPherson, M. R. Morand, Spencer Trevor, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The hon. solicitors reported they had advised several members, and were requested to advise others upon points submitted. Two cases of alleged insanitation at provincial theatres were under consideration, and the secretary received instructions. The Finance and General Purposes Committee presented their report, and the report of the Special Committee was received. Several questions arising out of the report of the Commissioners' Committee were discussed at considerable length, and the secretary received instructions to deal with matters involved. The Suggestion Book was considered, and an entry made. Four former members were reinstated.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. Acton Bond (chairman), Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater, J. Cooke Beresford, Lawrence Grant, M. R. Morand, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). After dealing with questions of finance, the secretary received instructions to obtain particulars and details for further insurances.

The regret at the withdrawal of *A Winter's Tale* is so widespread that Mr. Tree has arranged to give two special matinées of the play on the Wednesday of the next and the following weeks. Miss Ellen Terry will again appear in the character of Hermione, supported by practically the same cast by which it was represented recently at His Majesty's.

Messrs. Otho Stuart, H. A. Hertz, and J. T. Grein have formed a committee for the purpose of arranging a short season of modern and classical plays in London by the famous company of the Court Theatre of the Duke of Meiningen. If his arrangements permit, Mr. Stuart will place the Adelphi Theatre at the disposal of the Meiningen company, otherwise a prominent West-end theatre will be provided. The leading members of the company will appear during the London season, which is announced to begin in April.

Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton, the proprietors of the Royal Opera House, Leicester, on Sunday last generously granted the use of their premier Leicester theatre for a sacred concert promoted by the Licensed Victuallers' Association in aid of the endowment of a second cot at the Children's Hospital. The principal vocalist was Mme. Ella Russell, the eminent soprano, who delighted everyone. Mr. Henry Nicholson, the veteran musician and flautist, was another notable performer. The fine orchestra of the Royal Opera House, under Herr Theo. J. Klee, gave their services; and Mr. Henry Dundas, the business-manager for the theatre, who was one of the hon. secretaries, rendered every assistance towards the success achieved.

The Society of Authors crows victory because the Theatre Trust has broken down, writes our Paris correspondent. Is it really a triumph for the Society? That is the question. It will be remembered that this so-called Trust had been founded by Messrs. Deval and Richemond, the managers of the Athénée and the Folies-Dramatiques. Backed by powerful financial assistance, they had secured the leases of the Palais-Royal, the Variétés, and the Bouffes-Parisiens. The Society of Authors thereupon promptly boycotted the said trust, and refused to allow any of the Society's members to supply pieces to the houses owned by the trust. Messrs. Tristan Bernard, Henry Kéroul, and Barré, three well-known authors, did so in spite of the boycott, and were heavily fined, and expelled from the Society.

This high-handed proceeding, worthy of the middle ages, created much sensation in theatrical circles; but the three victims of this oppressive measure pluckily declined to make amends. Although virtually prevented from earning their livelihood as authors, they stood by their guns, and vowed that it was for the Society to make the first move towards a reconciliation. The fact is that, notwithstanding all its bombastic talk, the Society was only too eager not to prolong a struggle with determined men like Deval, Richemond, and the before-mentioned playwrights. So they promptly seized an opportunity of coming to a friendly arrangement. By this arrangement the Society takes over from the Trust the leases of the Palais-Royal, the Bouffes, and the Variétés, and removes the boycott on Messrs. Richemond and Deval. As to the three authors who were excluded, they are to be reinstated with flying colours. It is the end of the great storm in a teapot.

An unfortunate accident occurred in the King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, on the evening of the 23rd ult., when *Rob Roy* was being presented. In the duel which takes place between Captain Thornton and Dougal Mr. Millard W. Shevlin (Dougal) had the misfortune to be badly cut on the upper lip by his opponent's sword. The wound was by no means a small one, and although Mr. Shevlin was able to continue in his part, he had to obtain the services of a doctor, who found it necessary to stitch the wound.

A special matinée in aid of the Kingston Victoria Hospital took place at the Royal County Theatre on Saturday afternoon, and attracted a numerous audience. A feature of the programme was the production of a new comedietta, entitled *No Secrets from Your Husband*, the authorship of which was not disclosed. The parts were sustained by Miss Kate Phillips, Mr. G. Bellamy, Miss Irma Foldi, and Mr. Gatty, and the piece received a very favourable reception. Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Cann appeared in the comedietta *First Aid to the Wounded*; Mr. H. Ryan and Mrs. Lionel Tatham represented Justin McCarthy's piece *The Highwayman*; and Mrs. Shuttleworth and Mrs. E. Symons rendered the duologue *A Question of Servants*. An interesting series of lantern slides was shown by Mr. J. F. East. At the close of the matinée Mr. Peter Davey, the managing-director of the theatre, announced that the matinée had realised the sum of £41 17s. 5d.

Mr. J. A. Campbell is having an excellent autumn season with both his companies *The Sin of her Childhood* and *The Little Breadwinner*. His new play, *The Old Folks at Home*, will be produced at the Junction, Manchester, for a fortnight's run next autumn. The mounting is to be on an elaborate scale.

The recent visit of Mr. Charles Carey's *After the Ball* company to the Perth Theatre was an evident source of pleasure to the officers of the 42nd Highlanders (the "Black Watch"), stationed in the "fair city," and their nightly patronage throughout the week gave eloquent testimony to the excellence of the show. On the concluding night of the engagement the Earl and Countess of Kinnoull, with a large party from the Castle, attended, and at the final fall of the curtain his lordship, in conversation with the manager, spoke in highly complimentary terms of the play and the players.

The atmospheric conditions under which Mr. Charles Carey's *After the Ball* company fulfilled a highly successful engagement at Coatbridge last week proved too trying to the health of Mr. Norman Bowyer, who was compelled to relinquish his part for a couple of evenings. Dick Seymour was accordingly taken up by Mr. Harold Wantage, Mr. Bowyer's understudy, whose realistic portraiture of the eccentric dude was worthy of great praise.

Mr. John Wingfield, the manager of the Racine Theatre, Wis., U.S.A., is arranging with Mr. Tom Craven for production in America early in December of the popular dramas *Half-mast High* and *The White Star*. Mr. Wingfield hopes to acquire from Mr. Craven the entire American rights of these plays. If they turn out as successful on the other side as the same author's *Stowaway*, which has achieved a run of twenty years, Mr. Wingfield will indeed be fortunate.

Mr. Alfred M. Loader has been entrusted by Messrs. Louis Decori and Paul Olivier with the task of rendering into English their latest drama, produced at The Gaité, Paris, on Sept. 15. Mr. Loader holds the English and Colonial rights.

Mr. Morton Powell, proprietor and manager of the Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, had his annual benefit on Friday, Oct. 26, when a full house testified its approval of the extended programme, and also showed their appreciation of Mr. Powell's efforts to give them the best obtainable dramatic pieces. Special turns were given by Oliver Conroy, a favourite comedian, and Mr. J. F. Elliston's scratch company in the farce *A Great Inventor*.

Mr. William H. Brougham will terminate on the 24th inst. his long association with Mr. F. Mouillot's *A Message from Mars* company. Mr. Brougham has played the part of the Messenger over 700 times.

Great interest is being centred in *The Four Just Men*, which has been so successfully dramatised by George Warren from the story of Edgar Wallace. The excitement of the play is kept alive throughout, and the dénouement is thrilling and unexpected. Mr. J. Bannister Howard has secured an unusually strong company, including Mr. E. A. Saintsbury in the leading part. Other members of the company are Mr. Gordon Bailey, Mr. Hubert Willis, Mr. H. Elliott Ball, Mr. Legai Robinson, Mr. A. J. Hicks, Mr. E. H. Dobell, &c.; and the ladies' parts are taken by Miss Alys Bass and Miss Dorothea Desmond. Mr. Saintsbury is responsible for the entire porduction, and the company, which opens at the Crystal Palace Theatre on Monday next, is under the direction of Mr. Cecil Barth.

In the death last week of Miss Mary Aukett, the talented young vocalist and harpist, another dark shadow has fallen across the path of Mr. Frank J. Arlton, who, as most of our readers are aware, was a cousin of the late Mr. J. L. Toole and the constant and devoted companion of the veteran actor for many years. Mr. Arlton had been betrothed to Miss Aukett for some time, but in view of Mr. Toole's condition it was agreed between the lovers that their marriage should not take place until, in the fulness of time, the claims of Mr. Arlton's relative should have ceased. Miss Aukett, however, was some time ago attacked by tuberculosis, and within the last few weeks the malady reasserted itself in more virulent form than before, and the patient becoming gradually weaker and weaker, she passed away peacefully on the Tuesday night, practically in her fiancé's arms. Her death took place at her parents' residence at Muswell-hill, to which the family had recently removed from Hove. The funeral took place last Saturday afternoon in Hove Cemetery. We are sure everyone will join with us in extending sincere sympathy to Mr. Arlton in his great affliction.

Mr. Alexander Loftus, whose tour with *The New Barmaid* has been such a striking success, was the recipient of a very handsome present on Saturday night in the form of a heavily gold-mounted letter-case, presented to him by Sir Thomas R. Dewar, of the celebrated firm of distillers. The case was inscribed "A. L. from T. R. D.."

Mr. Charles Hannan's comedy *The Electric Man* which is to be produced at the New Royalty Theatre on Saturday, will be preceded by the same author's one-act play *The Setting of the Sun*, which was originally produced by the late Mr. Wilson Barrett.

The West London Dramatic Studio, founded by Mr. Campbell Rae-Brown some months ago, in St. Peter's-square, W., will give its opening variety and dramatic entertainment on Wednesday, when some of the Studio's most promising pupils will be introduced.

There would appear to be no possible doubt relative to the firm hold already gained by *Lady Kinton's Necklace* on the public. The play aroused intense enthusiasm everywhere, and people are drawn to the theatre to witness it who never go to a place of entertainment. Over and over again the same faces can be seen in the audience, and the universal expressions of delight must be very satisfactory to Servais Le Roy and his manager, W. Scott Phipp. Although the entertainment is only in its third week, there is a smoothness in the performance which reflects great credit on all concerned. The company is a strong one, prominent among the ladies' names being those of Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner and Miss Marie Ault, while among the gentlemen are Messrs. Stafford Smith (who was for fourteen years with the late Wilson Barrett), Frank Melrose, Willie Atom, Chas. A. James, Henry Danson, Robert A. Innes, John S. Chamberlain, and others supporting that inimitable trio Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco with their incredibly marvellous illusions and mystery. Such a show must occupy a unique position in the public eye, and it is safe to predict a long and successful run.

Mr. Charles Carey's production of *After the Ball* has been meeting with such extraordinary success in North Britain that he has decided to extend the tour for a few weeks. The cast remains the same as at the starting of the tour, Miss M. Sadie as Nancy, the heiress from the Mile End-road, being as popular as ever, her artistic performance well deserving the appreciation it receives. About Christmas we may look for the promised production in the suburbs of *The Pick of the Bunch*. Every arrangement is complete for this except the engagement of the star artist for the title-rôle, which is by no means an easy one to fill.

The Tunbridge Wells Opera House has not only been doing "capacity business" with theatrical attractions of late, but an unusual "draw" was provided by the National Association of Women-Workers, who held their conference in this beautiful house last week. Some 1000 ladies were admitted, and for seven hours a-day, or thereabouts, they chatted, lunched, read papers, and had tea together. The whole thing was a great success, and brought many extra visitors to the town. It is satisfactory to learn that the business generally has nearly doubled since Mr. Charles Carey took over the management two years ago.

Tragedy by Bernard Shaw will be presented by Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker at the Court Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 20, when *The Doctor's Dilemma* will be produced. A strong cast will consist of Messrs. William Farren, jun., Eric Lewis, Ben Webster, James Hearn, Michael Sherbrooke, Edmund Gurney, Granville Barker, Norman Page, Trevor Lowe, Lewis Casson, Percy Marmont, and Misses Lillah McCarthy, Clare Greet, and Mary Hamilton. The title has before been used for a story by Miss Hesba Stretton, but she has consented to allow Mr. Shaw to utilise it for his new work.

Miss Lilian Braithwaite, happily recovered from her accident, has returned to the cast of *The Amateur Socialist* at the Criterion, where Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen will on Monday produce a new one-act play, entitled *The Collaborators*, adapted by Mr. W. Kingsley Tarpey from a short story by Mrs. Kingsley Tarpey. Miss Braithwaite will play the leading part, that of an authoress, and the cast will also include Miss Minnie Terry, Mr. O. P. Heggie, Miss Henrietta Cowen, Mr. P. H. Clayton Greene, and Mr. F. Percival Stevens.

During a visit to Glasgow of the Moody-Manners Opera Company several of its members took part in the musical service at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. The vicar, in appealing for a silver collection, suggested that one-half of the offertory should be given to the Actors' Benevolent Fund, with the result that that admirable institution has benefited to the extent of £5 10s.

Mr. F. Anstey Guthrie was the recipient on Wednesday night of an interesting souvenir from the members of the Haymarket company on the occasion of the celebration of the 200th performance of his play. The souvenir, which takes the form of a model of the table used in the dinner scene of the play, originated from Mr. Weedon Grossmith, under whose supervision the Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Co., Ltd., of Regent-street, have produced a perfect reproduction. The tablecloth is made of solid silver, with its natural folds and creases, and has the facsimiles of the signatures of all the members of the company and those connected with the management of the theatre engraved upon it. The pedestal and legs of the table are made of mahogany, with solid silver claws and castors.

"Amasis" celebrates its hundredth performance on Friday, crowded houses being still drawn to the New Theatre by the popular comic opera. Mr. Louis Calvert has secured for the occasion the services of Miss Hart-Dyke, the well-known dancer, who on the hundredth night will take her place in the cast.

A new play, in which Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh will appear, is to be the attraction of a matinée at the Garrick Theatre early this month. The performance, which is under distinguished patronage, is in aid of the Soldier and Sailor Help Society (Work Room Branch).

Miss Sophie Harriss is having such a triumphal progress with *The Prince of Pilsen* that she has been obliged to return a contract at a tempting salary for the part of Prince in *Cinderella*. The tour of the popular musical comedy will run right through the pantomime period and probably long after.

Mr. Gus Oxley has been specially engaged to play M. Fred Emney's part in *See-See* at the Prince of Wales' Theatre. The success achieved by the popular musical play bids fair to continue indefinitely, and Mr. Oxley's appointment will give him invaluable opportunities of adding to his well-earned laurels.

Flying matinées of London successes at the Crystal Palace will be resumed on Thursday, when Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen's company from the Criterion Theatre will appear in *The Amateur Socialist*. The remarkable play by Mr. W. Kingsley Tarpey is sure to attract playgoers for miles around Sydenham, the residents of which are steadily appreciating the value of Mr. Bannister Howard's enterprise among them.

Miss Tita Brand has just returned from Brussels, where she made a great success, reciting scenes from Shakespeare, the audience rising from their seats and giving her an ovation. Miss Marie Brema's Shakespearian songs were also much appreciated. Miss Brand, after her recitation, had several offers for re-engagements.

Mr. Norman V. Norman had pleasing evidence of having established a novel record in Aldershot last week. During his appearances as David Garrick, one of the officers stationed in the garrison town in purchasing tickets said that that was the sixty-second time he had seen Mr. Norman play the part, and altogether he had seen Mr. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson act in various pieces for over two hundred times.

Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred C. Somerfield produced for copyright purposes, at the Osborne Theatre, Manchester, on Friday, their new play, in four acts, entitled *The Tyrant*. The piece is founded on one of Victor Hugo's masterpieces, and is from the joint pens of Mr. Somerfield and Mr. Frederic Ludovic. Bookings for this latest venture are already excellent.

"Beryl," a domestic play in three acts, by L. M. Baker, was copyrighted by Miss Lillian Beszant's company at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, on Wednesday.

Messrs. Robinson and Fisher will sell by auction at Willis's Rooms, King-street, on Thursday, the 15th inst., the old chased plate, old Sheffield plated articles, jewellery, including the gold Abert chain, pendant-locket, sovereign-purse, and matchbox worn by Sir Henry Irving at the time of his death, and many other interesting items, the property of the late Mr. J. L. Toole. The curious relics include a mantelpiece and an Elizabethan stove from Mrs. Siddons' house in Upper Baker-street.

Saturday, Dec. 8, will witness the last performance for the time being of *The Dairymaids* at the Apollo, consequent upon the engagement of several of the leading artists for pantomime, and on the following Monday the theatre will offer accommodation to *Peter's Mother*, whose retirement from Wyndham's makes room in turn for *Toddles*, with which Mr. Cyril Maude will re-open on Dec. 12. Mr. Maude's secession from the Duke of York's paves the way for *Peter Pan*, and the withdrawal next month of *See See* from the Prince of Wales' in view of the provincial tour will allow of the début there on the 12th prox. of the musical version of *The Vicar of Wakefield*.

The Waldorf will reopen on Monday, the 26th inst., not with *The Social Whirl*, as first intended, but with a four-act play named *Julie Bon-Bon*, by Miss Clara Lipman, which has had a pronounced success in America. It will be presented in London by a company of American artists, with Mr. Louis Mann, a comedian very popular in the States, and the authoress herself at the head.

The new Belle of Mayfair will be Miss Billie Burke, whose talents in musical comedy have already received such favourable recognition. She will take up her duties during next month, when Miss Phyllis Dare leaves the Vaudeville in order to fulfil a pantomime engagement long since signed and sealed.

For the first time since its withdrawal from the Criterion *The Little Stranger* will be played at the Camden Theatre next week. The company, under the direction of Mr. Charles Steuart, includes the clever boy-actor, Master Edward Garratt, in his original part; also Miss Mary Allestree, Miss Daisy Atherton, Miss Louie Tinsley, Mr. Athol Forde, Mr. Hubert Druce, Mr. George E. Bellamy, Mr. Charles Goold, and Mr. Steuart. All the Criterion scenery and effects will be used, and the comedy has been rehearsed by Mr. Athol Stewart. In front of *The Little Stranger* will be produced a new one-act comedy by Barton White, called *The Second Mrs. Grundy*, in which the two characters will be played by Miss Daisy Atherton and Mr. Hubert Druce. The scene of the little piece, which is based on a somewhat novel idea, is laid in the interior of a hut on the Welsh mountains.

"A Simple Sweep," the "musical absurdetta" by the Rev. Father Downes, which is to figure in an entertainment at the Scala Theatre on Friday and Saturday next in aid of the Little Sisters of the Poor, was first produced in Leeds twenty-seven years ago, and was afterwards staged in London as a curtain-raiser preceding *The Silver King*. The second composition, *The Minstrel*, a miniature grand opera, the libretto of which is by Mr. J. Arthur Bleackley, will be produced for the first time in London. A duologue, also from the pen of Mr. Bleackley, under whose direction the performance will be given, will have a place in the programme.

A team of actors, captained by Mr. Thalberg Corbett, were opposed in a golf match on Monday by the Home Park Club at the links in the vicinity, and lost by one point. The scores were equal in the singles, each side scoring three, but in the foursomes the local team got the better of their opponents by one point, the totals being—Home Park, 5; Mr. Corbett's team, 4. The theatrical side consisted of Messrs. Herbert Ross, Dawson Millward, G. du Maurier, Thalberg Corbett, Norman Salmond, and A. Whittaker.

Mr. G. Morton-Williams, who shortly concludes his fourth tour as heavy lead with Mr. Frank Bertram's *The Convict's Daughter* company, has been re-engaged by Mr. A. Hamilton Warden to play his original part in *A Woman's Past*.

Mr. Townsend Whitling, the stage-manager for the phenomenally successful tour of *The Freedom of Suzanne* with Miss Mabel Love, is, together with his wife, Miss Violet Ley, now in his third year under the Hutchison management.

Mr. Frank Bertram's company with *The Breed of the Treshams*, celebrated at the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, last Thursday afternoon, its 250th performance on tour. Mr. Martin Harvey, who was playing at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, last week, could not himself be present at the celebration, but the majority of his company were.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's lecture on "The Corner-Stones of Modern Drama" at Harvard University on Wednesday afternoon contained the following eloquent tribute to Ibsen's genius:—"They who have rooted themselves at ease in the rank stubble of modern commercialism shudder at him, as a weed at the ploughshare, as a cancer at the knife. For two-thirds of human kind he has only a command of self-contempt and a sentence of despair and destruction. But the strong he fortifies; the steadfast he establishes. He is a scourge to slaves, but for them that are free he enlarges the bounds of freedom. They honour him who honour the truth, and they welcome him who welcome the growl of the thunder and the dart of the lightning rather than stagnancy and miasma, and the fitful shimmer that dances round corruption."

Mr. Jones has undergone the process of Conversion since 1893, the time of *The Tempter*, when he wrote of the "lobworm-symbolic" play, protested against the temple of our national English drama becoming the very lobby and ante-room to a Scandinavian back-parlour, and begged his audience at the Haymarket, in a rhymed prologue, to

Shun the crude present with vain problems rife,
Nor join the bleak Norwegian's barren quest
For deathless beauty's self and holy zest
Of rapturous martyrdom, in some base strife
Of petty dullards, soused in native filth.

The publishing world does not supply us with a strictly theatrical publication weekly, but a "book of the week" has come to hand in Mr. W. H. Pennington's "Sea, Camp, and Stage," which is published by the enterprising firm of Arrowsmith. In the remembrance of Mr. Pennington's fame as a reciter and one of the "Six Hundred," we are apt to overlook his experience as an actor, of which, in this volume he gives some amusing reminiscences, one of which gives a good idea of Phelps's dignity in the most trying circumstances:—

"Some may remember a reliable old actor named J. B. Johnstone, who was something of a dramatic author. He was usually singled out by Mr. Phelps for parts of the kind which used to be designated as 'feeders.' . . . Upon one occasion, the play being *The Merchant of Venice*, the ancient J. B. J. was as usual the Tubal, and the piece concluding with the final exit of Shylock, the actors and supernumeraries were making for their respective dressing-rooms, for the purpose of assuming their private costumes and hastening from the theatre. All of us dressed in rooms above Mr. Phelps, whose apartment was just up one flight of stairs, and as a matter of respect everyone made way for him. Shylock and Tubal are similarly attired, and the lights upon the staircases not being very brilliant, any difference in the make-up of the two Jews may not have been discernible.

"I cannot say exactly how it occurred, but some jocular friend of J. B. Johnstone, mistaking Mr. Phelps for the former, struck the dignified tragedian upon the lower part of his back, and was horrified to discover his mistake as the great actor, speechless with rage at the indignity, turned upon him. 'Oh, sir, I beg your pardon. I thought you were old J. B. Johnstone!' 'No apology, sir; you're a vulgar brute in any case!' responded the scarcely appeased Mr. Phelps. The practical joker must have felt very small."

When Mr. Pennington was playing Hamlet at the Sadler's Wells Theatre in 1870, he attracted the attention of Mr. Gladstone, upon whom he afterwards waited at 11, Carlton House-terrace, where, later on, Pennington, at Mr. Gladstone's request, gave a recital under distinguished patronage. When the great statesman attended a performance of *Ingomar* at a matinée of the Gaiety Theatre in 1883, an odd incident took place.

"A great many persons awaited the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone, and they had scarcely alighted from their carriage before a gentleman rushed forward in a state of great excitement, and ere the Premier could make any show of resistance he was seized by both hands, his detainer repeating several times and with great unction, 'Oh, you *grand* old man!! You GRAND old man!!!' Fred Charles, who was in front of the theatre, and waiting to show attention to the distinguished visitors, hastened to the rescue and released the evidently astonished statesman, who inquired of Fred, 'Who *is* the gentleman?' 'Mr. Toole's brother, sir—Mr. Frank Toole,' replied my representative, and expressed the hope that Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone had suffered no inconvenience from the unexpected greeting. 'Oh, not at all, not at all,' pleasantly replied the Premier."

Sir Frederick Bridge, says the *Evening Standard*, found recently a musical setting of Hamlet's soliloquy, "To be or not to be," and it was sung for the first time for generations at a lecture he gave on "Shakespeare and Music" at Hove. The composition was written, it is thought, a few years after the poet's death. The idea of putting celebrated Shakespearean speeches to music is a quaint one, and may be adopted by contemporaries. Perhaps we may see modern musical renderings of the "Mercy" speech from *The Merchant of Venice*, Othello's address to the Senate, and the "Dagger" soliloquy from *Macbeth*.

So many unnecessary remarks have been made in America about the assurance of Mr. H. B. Irving in venturing to undertake his father's parts in *The Lyons Mail* and *Charles I.*, that he has been compelled to make it known that their early reproduction is one of the requirements of Sir Henry's will. According to that testament, it is necessary to keep the plays in active répertoire to ensure a regular income from them; the further stipulation being made that if this is not done the dramas shall be put up for sale at public auction. The plays must be acted in any case; and no better successor to the late Sir Henry could be found than his gifted son to act them, especially now that the result has justified the venture in the continuation of the Irving traditions.

Mr. Irving's strong facial resemblance to his father in features must assist him in realising the "Martyr King" personally. In Mr. Bram Stoker's "Reminiscences of Henry Irving" he says:—

"One of the most notable things of Irving's *Charles I.* was his extraordinary reproduction of Van Dyck's pictures. The part in its scenic aspect might have been called Van Dyck in action. Each costume was an exact reproduction from one of the well-known paintings, and the reproduction of Charles's face was a marvel. In this particular case he had a fine model, for Van Dyck painted the King in almost every possible way of dignity. To aid him in his work Edwin Long made for him a tryptich of Van Dyck heads, and this used to rest before him on his dressing-table on those nights when he played Charles. Irving was a painter of no mean degree with regard to his 'make-up' of parts. He spared no pains on the work and on nights when he played parts requiring careful preparations such as Charles I, Shylock, Louis XI., Gregory Brewster (in *Waterloo*), King Lear, Richelieu, and some few others he always came to his dressing-room nearly an hour earlier than at other times."

The *Free Lance* for this week contains a letter, written in 1875 by Mr. F. L. Toole, in which he describes a consultation which took place between himself, Dickens, and Mark Lemon on a walk from Walworth to the Elephant and Castle, as to whether J. L. Toole should go on the stage. The consultation settled Toole's fate. He had always refused to decide it for himself.

"THE MERVEILLEUSES."

a Comedy-Opera, in English, the Book by Victorien Sardou; adapted for the English stage by Basil Hood; lyrics by Adrian Ross; music by Hugo Felix; produced at Daly's Theatre on Saturday, Oct. 27

Dorlis ..... MR. ROBERT EVETT
Lagorille ..... MR. W. LOUIS BRADFIELD
St. Amour ..... MR. W. H. BERRY
Malicorne ..... MR. FRED KAYE
Des Gouttières ..... MR. WILLIE WARDE
Tournesol ..... MR. FRED EMNEY
Alexis ..... MR. SCOTT RUSSELL
Melval ..... MR. V. O'CONNOR
Valcourt ..... MR. GORDON CLEATHER
Ragot ..... MR. A. J. EVELYN
Gifflart ..... MR. J. MURPHY
Picard ..... MR. N. GREENE
An Officer ..... MR. J. BODDY
Pervenche ..... MLLE. MARIETTE SULLY
Illyrine ..... MISS DENISE ORME
Liane ..... MISS ELIZABETH FIRTH
Eglé ..... MISS M. PERCEVAL
Dioné ..... MISS ELEANOR SOURAY
Amaranthe ..... MISS N. SEVENING
Aurélie ..... MISS N. DUNBAR
Cléopatre ..... MISS M. ERSKINE
Pandore ..... MISS E. BARKER
Lodoiska ..... MISS EVIE GREENE

No period could be better chosen for a comedy-opera than that of the Directory. It was the time when the natural "dressiness" of the French nation, forcibly repressed under the Terror, blossomed out with unbridled freedom; when "victim balls" were attended only by those who had lost a relative by the guillotine, and when glass tears adorned the dresses of gay mourners; when blond perruques were supposed to be made of the hair of the dead, and the Beauharnais and the Cabarus resolved to attire themselves "like the free peoples of antiquity"—that is, in sandals and an "airy nothing," with a waist under the arms. There is a half-seriousness about the epoch that lends itself easily to pretty playfulness; and yet there is something dramatic about it, too—a kind of after-taste of the immense "action" of the Terror.

To whoever belongs the credit of the idea of using Sardou's *Les Merveilleuses* for a libretto, the thought was essentially a "happy" one. With such a skilled librettist as Mr. Basil Hood, and such a dainty lyricist as Mr. Adrian Ross, the foundation of the work was assured; but it was a most fortunate thing that Mr. Edwardes was able to secure so bright and sparkling a composer as Dr. Hugo Felix, of Vienna. He is not only a thoroughly well-trained musician; he has sufficient versatility to turn his pen into a popular channel, as well as to produce concerted pieces, well written and ably orchestrated. The score of *Les Merveilleuses* raises the work above the ordinary level of comic opera, and makes it approach *opéra comique*. As for Mr. Ross's lyrics, they are worth reading for their well-turned aptness alone; and Mr. Basil Hood's dialogue is smart, crisp, and vivacious.

The dresses and scenery, which form such an important part of every Edwardesian production, are, in *The Merveilleuses*, exquisitely, bewitchingly beautiful. Whether it be Mr. Joseph Harker's café scene for the first act, or his Luxembourg fête for the third; or Mr. Hawes Craven's artistic and sumptuous stock market and reception room sets, the feast of the eye is richly and liberally supplied; and Wilhelm has designed some of the loveliest dresses ever limned by his skilful brush. *The Merveilleuses*, indeed, is a delightful treat both for eye and ear. Everyone admired it, and everyone enjoyed it; and Mr. Edwardes has undoubtedly scored another triumph.

The plot is simple, but interesting. Dorlis, an aristocratic emigrant, returns to Paris, at the risk of his life, to seek his wife Illyrine, whom he left to fight on the side of the Royalists. She, believing he has deserted her, has obtained a divorce from him. He finds her on the eve of her marriage with Barras's secretary, St. Amour. Dorlis obtains an interview with Illyrine in her bedroom, and explains his absence. St. Amour, by an alarm of fire, brings out the concealed Royalist, who is arrested. By the ingenious device of an "incroyable" named Lagorille St. Amour is persuaded that he alone is ignorant of a mysterious plot against the Government; and he is so frightened that he promises to obtain Dorlis's pardon, and to restore Illyrine to his arms.

Owing to the sudden illness of Mr. George Graves, the parts of St. Amour and Tournesol were re-cast, being undertaken by Mr. W. H. Berry and Mr. Fred Emney at very short notice. Every excuse must therefore be made for Mr. Berry, who appeared somewhat nervous during the earlier part of the evening, but improved rapidly as he went on. We can foresee very plainly the richness of humour with which Mr. Berry will represent the cowardly St. Amour when he is quite at home in the character. Mr. Emney is evidently a very quick study, for as Tournesol, the police agent of Carnot, he could not have been better. He is a master of dry humour; and his scenes with the rival police agent, represented by Mr. Fred Kaye, whose humour is like the good wine which needs no bush, sent the audience into irrepressible delight. Mr. W. Louis Bradfield has seldom if ever done anything quite so good as his Lagorille. Mr. Bradfield is the possessor of what is known as an "attractive personality," which is sometimes more of a drawback than a blessing to its possessor, as it means that effect and applause can be obtained with the exercise of very little effort. But Mr. Bradfield is not content to rely upon his personality; his Lagorille is good work, and shows careful study. His affectations, his mannerisms, his elegance of diction and of manner present a first-rate picture of a Dandy of the Directoire period. Mr. Willie Warde plays the small part of Des Gouttières, secretary to the Directors, and his "get-up" and "business" are, as usual, excellent. Mr. Scott Russell is a most imposing head waiter; and Mr. V. O'Connor and Mr. Gordon Cleather as the two Dandies, Melval and Valcourt, play easily and naturally. Mr. A. J. Evelyn is a capable Ragot; and Mr. N. Greene as Picard, a servant, and Mr. J. Boddy as an officer, do all that can be done with small parts. Miss Evie Greene, as Lodoiska, has returned to the London stage after too long an absence. We cannot spare Miss Greene—her beauty, her singing, her dramatic powers are too rare to be missed. As Lodoiska Miss Greene looked and acted marvellously well. Her song, "Ring-a'-ring o' roses," one of the gems of the piece, was applauded to the echo. Mlle. Mariette Sully made Pervenche a charmingly piquante little personage, and used a light voice with striking tact and skill. Miss Denise Orme made the sweetest Illyrine imaginable; her songs were exceedingly pretty, noticeably "So sorry," which she sang very daintily, and her duet with that fine singer Mr. Robert Evett was received enthusiastically. Miss Elizabeth Firth was a melodious Liane; and Miss M. Perceval gave a charmingly quaint dance in the third act. Mr. Robert Evett as Dorlis won instant favour. He was in splendid voice, rich and mellow; and his songs and duets filled his hearers with deep content. Mr. Evett remains true to the old Savoy traditions, and the result is that in singing and acting he gives us of the very best. The Merveilleuses were agreeably represented by Miss N. Sevening, Miss D. Dunbar, Miss M. Erskine, Miss Eleanor Souray, and Miss E. Barker. Every playgoer of taste and intelligence owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. George Edwardes for his production of *Les Merveilleuses*. It is everything that a comedy-opera should be—bright, picturesque, lightly and playfully interesting, and of real musical merit. In *Les Merveilleuses*, as in *The Little Michus*, we have a piece which appeals to the eye, the ear, and the intelligence.

THE WILLIAM MORGAN JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

In August last Mr. William Morgan, managing-director of the Scarborough Aquarium, entered upon his fiftieth year of service as a public caterer, and the celebration by a banquet and testimonial at Scarborough was fixed for Friday evening.

In his long and distinguished career as a provider of entertainment Mr. Morgan has done much to advance the cause of healthy popular amusement. He has been a noted pioneer in the development of dramatic and musical enterprise, and has achieved a success that it has been given to few to equal. Mr. Morgan was the first to introduce complete London companies into the provinces, the first to give concerts by the greatest artists at popular prices, and the first to open all-day entertainments for a covering sixpenny admission.

In Bradford, Blackpool, Scarborough, Morecambe, Preston, Bridlington, and elsewhere Mr. Morgan's active, varied, and extensive managerial efforts have been greatly appreciated. In Scarborough he has enjoyed the distinction of filling the position of mayor for three successive years.

Such a long and honourable career as this, it was felt by Mr. Morgan's host of friends and admirers, was worthy of some special recognition, and the hearty co-operation of many well-known gentlemen in promoting a testimonial was obtained.

The following influential committee has been formed consisting of the following gentlemen:—The Right Hon. the Earl of Londesborough, Sir George Sitwell, Bart., and Messrs. Lea

MR. WILLIAM MORGAN.

Priestley Edwards, J.P., George Lord Beeforth, J.P., Alderman E. H. Gawne, J.P., Councillor Ascough, George Padley, Francis Goodricke, C. E. Bradley, Alderman J. Grime, J. H. Huddlestone, Thomas Sergensen, Alderman Fish, G. H. Harrop, Ralph Rushton, John C. Smith, Alderman D. Wade, J.P., John Hart, T. C. Hope, Charles Lund, Frank Johnson, W. H. Clough, Edward Terry, James Burnley, E. Schutt, and Dr. Handcock; hon. treasurer, Mr. Wm. Sayner, York City and County Bank, Scarborough; hon. secretary, Alderman V. Fowler, J.P., Huntriss Hall, Scarborough; hon. treasurer for London, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era*, 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

The following letter from Mr. Edward Terry appeared in *The Era* of Oct. 20:—

Sir,—"Lest they forget," will you kindly permit me, through the medium of your columns, to call the attention of the many friends of Mr. William Morgan to the forthcoming celebration at Scarborough, when, as a recognition of fifty years of management, he will be entertained at a banquet, over which the Earl of Londesborough will preside, and be presented with a testimonial of the esteem in which he is held by the members of the dramatic and musical professions and other friends?

Mr. Morgan, as manager of the early Bradford theatres and proprietor of the Aquarium at Scarborough, of which city he has twice served the office of Mayor, is so well esteemed that I feel sure his friends only need this gentle reminder to make them anxious to participate in this interesting celebration. Mr. Valentine Fowler, of Scarborough, as hon. secretary, will be pleased to give all further particulars.—Yours faithfully, EDWARD TERRY.

The following is a list of subscribers to the Jubilee Testimonial:—

	£	s.	d.
Earl of Londesborough	1	1	0
Countess of Londesborough	1	1	0
Sir George Sitwell, Bart.	1	1	0
Lady Ida Sitwell	1	1	0
Ald. David Wade, J.P.	1	1	0
Chas. Gott	1	1	0
Frank Johnson	1	1	0
John Hart	1	1	0
G. H. Harrop	1	1	0
J. H. Huddleston	1	1	0
Thos. Sergenson	1	1	0
James Pearson	1	1	0
Geo Lord Beeforth, J.P.	1	1	0
J. W. Chapman	1	1	0
V. Fowler, J.P.	1	1	0
Wm. Sayner	1	1	0
James Pirie, J.P.	1	1	0
Ald. E. H. Gawne, J.P.	1	1	0
Dr. Handcock	1	1	0
Lea Priestley Edwards, J.P.	1	1	0
Francis Goodricke	1	1	0
C. E. Bradley	1	1	0
Councillor W. Ascough	1	1	0
J. L. Smith	1	1	0
Ald. John Grime	1	1	0
Ald. James Fish	1	1	0
Ralph Rushton	1	1	0
James Burnley	1	1	0
A. C. Burnley	1	1	0
T. C. James	1	1	0
J. Pitt Hardacre	1	1	0
Ernest Schutt	1	1	0
W. W. Leadbeater	0	10	6

T.R.H. THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES and suite witnessed the performance of *Toddles* at the Duke of York's Theatre on Saturday evening.

"THE ROSE OF THE RANCHO," by David Belasco and Richard Walton Tully, was produced on Wednesday, for copyright purposes, at the Elephant and Castle Theatre.

"THE BEAUTY SHOP," a new musical comedy, by W. H. Kirby, with lyrics by Douglas B. Watson and music by George Ess, will be produced by Mr. Kirby at Kilmarnock on Monday, Nov. 12. The cast includes Mesdames Molly Hackett, Cordelia Knight, Millie Gordon, Norah Melton, and M. Bankes, and Messrs. Kirby, E. H. Bertram, Douglas B. Watson, J. Templar Ellis, and R. H. Hamber.

THACKERAY AT HIS MAJESTY'S.

British journalism has rightly earned the reputation of being unprejudiced, and therefore the virulent attack by a certain newspaper on Mr. Beerbohm Tree's realisation of Colonel Newcome—or, rather, on what the precious writer thought most likely to be the chief characteristics of that realisation—before any opportunity of judging orally and ocularly had presented itself, can only be attributed to the ever-growing hysteria that is now considered the chief merit of the modern half-penny daily. The loud cheers and the enthusiastic calls of the first-nighters on the evening of the production of Mr. Michael Morton's adaptation of Thackeray's famous novel must have been the sweetest music in the ears of the actor-manager—must have compensated him for much anxious thought and conscientious study—must have convinced him that he was entirely right in adding to his gallery of theatrical portraits a creation of Thackeray as well as of Dickens. The petty world of sordidness, of greed, of suave cunning, of rampant insincerity has a ready sneer for the soldier and gentleman, who will not price his honour or integrity. "Don Quixote in a Victorian environment! Absurd!" say they. But the higher and better world feels that it is good to see, to know, on the stage the noble gentleman that Thackeray gave us. Mr. Tree presents him in his habit as he lived, and with such a wonderful exposition of the art of the actor that world is content. It was evident on Monday evening, when the run of *Colonel Newcome* was resumed at His Majesty's before a large audience, that Mr. Tree, in the confidence of complete triumph, played with a surer touch, and he again conquered heart and head by an embodiment that was both beautiful and soul-stirring.

Since the first night—May 29—several alterations have been made in the cast. Mr. Basil Gill fortunately remains to repeat his manly and high-souled impersonation of Clive Newcome, the chief point of the impersonation being the deep affection of the younger Newcome for his elder. He is especially fine in the scene with Lord Farintosh.

Mr. Norman Forbes, with perfect art, presents a portrait of Sir Barnes that is absolutely inspiring in its colossal self-sufficiency, unadulterated snobbishness, and rancorous enmity. Such a mean-spirited wretch might easily be exaggerated, but Mr. Forbes is much too clever an actor to over-accentuate a syllable, and the truth of his portrait is strikingly clear.

Mr. Lyn Harding has added no little to the significance and completeness of his conception of Fred Bayham, and he plays the part of that good-hearted and good-humoured personage in a way that is entirely satisfactory to the lovers of Thackeray.

Mr. Sidney Brough's sketch of Lord Farintosh has gained in firmness of outline, and it would indeed be difficult to find an actor who so completely realises the peculiarities of the rich and full-blooded booby of the 'thirties.

Mr. Charles Quartermaine submits a capital portrait of Arthur Pendennis; Mr. J. Fisher White's James Binney is admirable in its finish; Mr. S. Yates Southgate is quite satisfactory as Lord Kew; and Mr. G. W. Anson is an acquisition to the cast as Sir Thomas de Boots. Mr. W. H. Day's Martin stands out as a perfect conception of the faithful and confidential old servitor—trusted and beloved; and smaller parts have adequate representatives in Messrs. Egerton Hine, Robert Atkins, David Powell, Clive Currie, Reginald Owen, Edward Ouston, and Master Browne, the acting of the last-mentioned four adding much to the interest of the last scene in Greyfriars.

Miss Constance Collier now takes the place of Miss Lilian Braithwaite as Ethel Newcome, and plays the tender-hearted girl with a delicate grace and a gentleness that would be hard to equal. The curls and confections of the period greatly set off the beauty of the actress, who now adds another interesting portrait to her gallery of heroines of the Victorian novel.

Miss Bateman (Mrs. Crowe) suggests naturally and quite clearly the perfect breeding and hauteur of Lady Kew, to whose worldliness and callousness she gives perfect expression. Distinction, too, marks every inflexion of her voice, and it is an immense advantage to the cast that so distinguished and so experienced an actress should have been secured for the part.

Mrs. Percival, who was a little nervous on Monday, suggests rather than realises the sweetness and charm of the nature of Madame de Florac—a part that was so beautifully played by Miss Marion Terry. Miss Annie Schletter, who succeeds Mrs. Tree in the rôle of Mrs. Mackenzie, plays the difficult part with a great deal of intelligence, being decidedly humorous in the mincing coquetry and hysteria just previous to the wedding. Mrs. E. H. Brooke's Sally Mason once again proves the value of a good actress in a small part. There is meaning in every line and every gesture, and London playgoers always recognise heartily such perfection of detail as is shown by this experienced artist, who had a hearty greeting on Monday. Miss Mary Sumner is light in her touch and sunny in her sketch of Rosey Mackenzie; and Misses Alice Gordon, Cicely Stuckey, and Hilda Moore aid the completeness of the representation by their careful work in the parts of Lady Fareham, Maria, and the nurse at Greyfriars.

OPERATIC CONCERT IN COSTUME.

A NOVEL departure was made at the concert given at the Queen's Small Hall on Wednesday night by M. and Madame Cokkinis, three operatic examples being given in costume. M. and Madame Cokkinis were assisted by Miss Millicent Bradfield (violin), Mr. T. Methodios (flute), Mr. Geo. W. Hodgson (baritone), and Signor Tito Mattei. Besides the operatic examples given, Mr. Geo. W. Hodgson gave a spirited rendering of the popular prologue to *Pagliacci*, and M. Jean Cokkinis a Romance from the opera *Semelli*, by Lambelet. Madame Stella Cokkinis, who has a pure soprano voice of great compass, somewhat marred, however, by a persistent tremolo, was first heard in Mattei's song "Dear Heart," in which she had the advantage of being accompanied by the composer. A neatly executed flute solo by Mr. T. Methodios was followed by a pianoforte solo of Signor Tito Mattei, who played "Tranquillité and L'Entrainement," one of his delightful valses, which, needless to say, was heartily encored. The first part of the programme concluded with a grand scene from the national Greek opera *Marco Botzaris*, by P. Carreni, in picturesque Greek costumes. From this opera, which is faintly reminiscent of Donizetti, a song, "Nina Nana," was sung by Madame Stella Cokkinis, with violin obbligato by Miss Millicent Bradfield; also a pleasing trio, in which M. and Madame Cokkinis and Mr. Geo. Hodgson took part, and so greatly pleased that a encore was demanded. The final air given was the Last Song of Marco Botzaris, sung by M. Jean Cokkinis. In the second part of the programme Madame Stella Cokkinis was set down for the Mad Scene (in costume) from *Lucia*, with flute obbligato by M. Methodios. There were also to be given a scene and duet from *Faust* (also in costume) by M. Jean Cokkinis and Mr. Hodgson, and trio, grand scene, and finale, in which M. and Madame Cokkinis and Mr. Hodgson appeared. The picturesque Greek and other costumes were by Mr. C. Fox, of Covent Garden. Other vocal and instrumental pieces were included in the concert, and M. and Madame Cokkinis were warmly greeted by the large audience.

A new curtain-raiser, entitled *The Other Heir*, by Ernest H. G. Cox, will be produced at the Opera House, Blackpool, on Monday.

REVIVAL AT THE COURT.

Mr. Bernard Shaw's comedy, *Man and Superman*, was revived at the Court Theatre on Monday evening, when a crowded audience evidently enjoyed to the utmost the author's witty dialogue and remarkably clever character studies. The topsy-turvey philosophy of John Tanner may be described as a piquant sauce to an already appetising dish that is exactly to the taste of a constantly increasing section of playgoers. And in none of his comedies has Mr. Bernard Shaw drawn more amusing characters; while the brilliancy of the dialogue strikes one even more forcibly than it did on first witnessing the piece. The revival of *Man and Superman* is beyond question a wise stroke of managerial policy.

A few changes in the cast are, of course, inevitable, and, indeed, give an additional interest to the revival. In the part of Roebuck Ramsden, originally played by Mr. Charles Goodhart, Mr. James Hearn can be heartily congratulated on his excellent delineation of the highly respectable middle-class Englishman who is so horrified at the idea of being associated with a man holding such unorthodox views as does John Tanner. Indignation almost chokes the old gentleman's utterance when John acts as counsel for the defence in the case of Violet Robinson; and Mr. Hearn quite succeeds in giving a natural, life-like embodiment. Mr. Edmund Gurney now appears as Mr. Malone, a part originally acted by Mr. J. D. Beveridge; and makes excellent use of his opportunities, more especially shining in the exceptionally brilliant comedy scene with his son's wife in the last act. Miss Sarah Brooke was the original Violet, who is now represented by Miss Grace Lane. This charming young actress at once made a favourable impression, scoring in the very first scene, where Violet turns the tables upon her traducers with a vengeance; even her champion, John Tanner, being by no means exempt from her bitter verbal attack. The only other change in the cast is the substitution of Miss Mary Hamilton for Miss Hazel Thompson as Mr. Ramsden's smart parlourmaid. Mr. Granville Barker's John Tanner retains all those admirable qualities which distinguished the impersonation from the first; and it remains a clear, incisive character-study that merits the highest commendation. Mr. Barker has some exceptionally long speeches to deliver, but rattles them off in such a manner as to give the lines their full value; and some of the most telling things in the comedy are placed in John Tanner's mouth. Mr. Lewis Casson, as the sentimental and poetic lover, Octavius Robinson, has not an easy part to play, but he deals cleverly with obvious difficulties, and comes out triumphant. Henry Straker, Tanner's chauffeur, who does not make his appearance until the second act, is perhaps the most amusing character in the play; and happily Mr. Edmund Gwenn is at hand to resume the part. In his hands 'Enery is quite safe, and again has a large share in providing a delightful evening's entertainment. Mr. Hubert Harben is also good as the young American, Hector Malone, who secretly marries Violet. Miss Lillah McCarthy, of course, resumes the rôle of Ann Whitefield, and again charms everybody by a performance that bears unmistakable witness to her high ability as an actress and her keen appreciation of character as drawn by a clever playwright. In every scene in which she appears Miss McCarthy strengthens in no small degree the interest of the comedy, and easily scores a complete triumph. Miss Florence Haydon's sketch of the doleful widow, Mrs. Whitefield, is delightful in a quiet, unobtrusive way; and the part of the sour spinster, Miss Ramsden, exactly suits Miss Agnes Thomas. Throughout a merry evening the success of the revival was never for a moment in doubt.

AN ANCIENT MASQUE.

Dekker and Ford's masque, *The Sun's Darling*, was presented on Wednesday evening at the Queen's Gate Hall by the English Drama Society. The members of this coterie of lovers of the stage are no doubt animated by much enthusiasm, but seemingly lack the ability to realise the spirit, the wit, and the beauty of the imagery in this ancient classic. According to the judgment of Mr. Algernon Swinburne, himself a supreme master of the musical effect of verse, the extant text of the masque may be regarded as a recast by Ford of an earlier masque by Dekker—probably his last play of *Phaeton*. The probable date of the original production of *The Sun's Darling* was 1623-24, and some authorities assert that Dekker furnished a sketch for the Rose Theatre, and that when, owing to the growing taste of the time, it became necessary to recast and improve the original plot, Ford was called in to assist in making the additions and alterations. The morality of the masque is sound, and the lesson it teaches is felicitous both in diction and in sentiment. Raybright, the son and darling of Phœbus, passes through the four seasons of the year which allegorises the stages of life, and the moral is that, instead of following from first to last the dictates of Folly and Humour, ever seeking for something new, man should endeavour to harmonise his life with the powers granted him by Heaven, and while reverencing Nature, honour the Power that makes him more enduring than her.

"Dekker," Dr. A. W. Ward tells us, "endeavoured to take human nature as he found it, and to reproduce his impressions and tell his truths with simple directness rather than seek for artificial effects by attempting flights beyond his range." The text was blurred by the cast on Wednesday, the elocution being very faulty. Mr. Nugent Monck, who "produced," was quite in the Touchstone mood as Folly; Miss Aimée Lowther had some good moments as Raybright; Mr. Arthur Goodsall, who was responsible for a stage wait, did not lack dignity in his delineation of Phœbus; Miss Katherine Stuart's gestures and arm play as Lady Humour were most amateurish; there was some merit in the Autumn of Mr. Percy Goodyer and the Winter of Mr. E. Playford; and Mrs. Bishop's performance of Pomona possessed no little grace and charm. Miss Mary Large's voice is sweet and well cultured, but the pianoforte accompaniment to the songs of Delight was not what it should have been.

"THE GIRL FROM BIARRITZ."

A new Comedietta, in One Act, by Mr. Leonard Robson, produced at Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, on Monday, Oct. 29.

Charles Flutter ..... MR. LEONARD ROBSON
Anthony Crieff ..... MR. A. E. GREENAWAY
Angela Cross ..... MISS LORNA LAWRENCE

This new one-act play was produced by Mr. A. H. Canby. The plot is simple, but amusing. Charles Flutter, an explorer, is left a large fortune under the will of a deceased uncle on condition that he marries within a specified number of hours, otherwise the money was to go to a Home for Lost Dogs. Necessarily the legatee finds it by no means easy to fulfil the condition on which the fortune depends; but, fortunately, just in time a young lady from Biarritz, with whom Flutter had previously been enamoured, appears on the scene, and all ends happily. The playlet is full of intensely amusing situations, but it also owes much of its unequivocal success to the breezy acting of the author as Mr. Charles Flutter; Mr. A. E. Greenaway's Anthony Crieff (a solicitor) is also highly successful; and Miss Lorna Lawrence makes a charming appearance as Angela Cross—the girl.

MISS ROSE LEMOINE, who has just returned from South Africa, has been engaged to open at Manchester at Christmas in *Peter Pan*.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Society Prepshow, St. George's Hall, June 14, 1890.
Society Saint, St. George's Hall, Jan. 16, 1892.
Society Scandal, Theatre Royal, South Shields, Aug. 31, 1896.
Society's Verdict, Shaftesbury, March 26, 1900.
Society Tailor, Guildford, Feb. 12, 1895.
Sock and Buskin, Surrey, June 19, 1880.
Sodom's End, St. George's Hall, March 20, 1900.
Soft Sex, Haymarket, Aug. 31, 1861.
Soft Soap, Elephant and Castle, Sept. 29, 1888.
Softy of Merrington, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour, Feb. 11, 1878.
Soggarth Aroon, Grand, Birmingham, Nov. 29, 1897.
Sold Again, Theatre Royal, Brighton, July 31, 1876.
Soldier and a Man, Opera House, Coventry, Aug. 29, 1898.
Soldier of Fortune, Theatre Royal, Jarrow, March 16, 1889.
Soldier's Daughter, Gravesend, May 11, 1897.
Soldier's Fortune, Theatre Royal, Hanley, Feb. 11, 1878.
Soldiers of the Queen, Theatre Royal, Leeds, May 9, 1898.
Soldier's Son, Kennington, Aug. 7, 1899.
Soldier's Wife, Hotel Cecil, Feb. 25, 1898.
Sold Up, Grand, Nottingham, Dec. 22, 1890.
Sole Survivor, Grecian, Oct. 5, 1876.
Sol Gandy, Opera House, Leicester, April 1, 1887.
Solicitor, Court, Liverpool, May 5, 1890.
Solicitor, The, Toole's, July 3, 1890.
Solid Silver, Theatre Royal, Darlington, May 17, 1880.
Solness le Constructeur, Opéra Comique, March 27, 1895.
Solomon's Sword, Gaiety, Dec. 12, 1885.
Solomon's Twins, Vaudeville, May 11, 1897.
Solon Shingle, New Adelphi, July 3, 1865.
Some Bells that Rung an Old Year Out and a New One In, Britannia, Dec. 15, 1862.
Somebody's Sweetheart, West Hartlepool, July 17, 1899.
Some Day, St. George's Hall, May 13, 1889.
Something Like a Nugget, Theatre Royal, Norwich, Jan. 25, 1869.
Son and Stranger, G.S.M., Dec. 23, 1896.
Song of the River, Theatre Royal, Bath, July 4, 1898.
Sonia, Albert Hall, May 9, 1895.
Son of a Sinner, Parkhurst, July 13, 1896.
Son of Night, Sadler's Wells, Sept. 2, 1872.
Son of the Soil, Court, Sept. 4, 1872.
Sons of Columbia, Britannia, March 10, 1862.
Sons of Erin, Surrey, Sept. 11, 1893.
Sons of France, Prince of Wales's, Wolverhampton, Dec. 8, 1874.
Sons of Freedom, City of London, June 27, 1868.
Sons of the Empire, Britannia, Nov. 20, 1899.
Sons of the Forge, Britannia, Aug. 29, 1870.
Sons of the Sea, Queen's, Birmingham, April 8, 1895.
Sons of Toil, Marylebone, Nov. 8, 1873.
Sophia, Vaudeville, April 12, 1886.
Sorcerer, Savoy, Sept. 22, 1898.
Sorcerer, The, Opéra Comique, Nov. 17, 1877.
Sorceress, International, Jan. 15, 1884.
Sorceress of Love, Liverpool, Oct. 1, 1894.
Sorrow of a Secret, Ladbroke Hall, March 28, 1892.
Sorrows of Satan, Shaftesbury, Jan. 9, 1897.
So Runs the World Away, St. George's Hall, Jan. 22, 1889.
Sour Grapes, Olympic, Oct. 4, 1873.
Southdown A.D. Society's Dress Rehearsal of East Lynne, Stockport, Jan. 23, 1896.
Southern Climes, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, April 27, 1876.
Southern Cross, Victoria, Aug. 9, 1873.
Southerner Just Arrived, Olympic, Nov. 3, 1862.
Souvent Homme Varie, Drury Lane, June 28, 1893.
Sowing and Reaping, Criterion, July 5, 1890.
Sowing the Wind, Comedy, Sept. 30, 1893.
Spadra the Satirist, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, Nov. 18, 1869.
Spae Wife. Elephant and Castle, March 30, 1886.
Spalpeen, The, Bijou, Paignton, Oct. 11, 1875.
Spanish Bridal, Birmingham, Dec. 14, 1883.
Spanish Gipsy, Matinée, April 5, 1898.
Spanish Girl, City of London, April 13, 1857.
Span of Life, Sheffield, Nov. 6, 1891.
Spanish Student, Bayswater, Nov. 13, 1895.
Spare Room, Royalty, June 18, 1894.
Spare the Rod and Spoil the Child, Marylebone, March 14, 1859.
Sparkle's Little System, Folkestone, June 1, 1893.
Specialist, The, Islington, April 21, 1896.
Special Performance, Holborn, April 13, 1868.
Spectre Knight, Opéra Comique, Feb. 9, 1878.
Spectre of Shooter's Hill, Woolwich, Oct. 20, 1888.
Spectresheim, Alhambra, Aug. 14, 1875.
Spectres of the Past, Queen's, Dublin, Jan. 30, 1893.
Speculation, Prince of Wales's, Jan. 23, 1886.
Spell Bound, Theatre Royal, Dundee, Feb. 3, 1871.
Spellbound Garden, Glasgow, Nov. 30, 1896.
Spelling Bee, Gaiety, Feb. 16, 1876.
Spendthrift, The, Olympic, May 24, 1875.
Sperling and Sperber, Pancras Road, Dec. 15, 1884.
Sphinx, The, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Jan. 6, 1872.
Spiders and Flies, Grecian, Oct. 8, 1868.
Spider and the Fly, Britannia, Dec. 26, 1890.
Spider's Web, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, July 17, 1876.
Spin for Life, Edinburgh, Oct. 16, 1897.
Spinster, The, New Cross, April 30, 1887.
Spirit Child's Prayer, City of London, Feb. 27, 1865.
Spiritisme, Adelphi, July 6, 1897.
Spiritualist, Ladbroke Hall, Aug. 1, 1891.
Spirit World, Theatre Royal, Worcester, April 6, 1888.
Spitz-Spitze the Spider Crab, Grecian, Dec. 27, 1875.
Splendid Investment, Olympic, Feb. 11, 1857.
Spoons, Gaiety, West Hartlepool, May 9, 1881.
Sport, Park, Feb. 5, 1876.
Sporting Intelligence Extraordinary, Olympic, Dec. 17, 1861.
Sporting Knight Mayor, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, April 13, 1900.
Sporting Life, Clapham, Oct. 18, 1897.
Sport; or, The Queen's Bounty, Portsmouth, June 6, 1895.
Sportsman, The, Comedy, Oct. 3, 1892.
Spotted Lion, Gaiety, Oct. 8, 1888.
Spottie, the Terror of Wearside, Lyceum, Sunderland, Aug. 20, 1877.
Sprightly Romance of Marsac, Ladbroke Hall, Feb. 2, 1898.
Spring and Fall of Life, Grecian, May 21, 1866.
Spring-Heeled Jack, Marylebone, June 1, 1868.
Spring Leaves, Court, March 14, 1891. 1892.
Spring Legend, Opéra Comique, Dec. 17,
Spring's Delights, St. George's Hall, Feb. 18, 1884.
Spur of the Moment, Globe, May 4, 1872.
Spy, The, Comedy, Sept. 21, 1888.
Squabbles, Opera House, Liverpool, Dec. 17, 1881.
Squaring the Circle, Globe, May 8, 1876.
Squatter's Daughter, Opera House, Coventry, March 5, 1900.
Squire, St. James's, Dec. 29, 1881.
Squire Humphrey, New Theatre, Oxford, June 20, 1887.
Squire of Dames, Criterion, Nov. 5, 1895.
Squire of Ringwood Chase, New Royalty, May 2, 1865.
Squire of Undercliffe, Accrington, July 10, 1895.
Squire's Daughter, Opera House, Sheffield, Nov. 7, 1879.
Squire's Maria, Theatre Royal, Hanley, July 17, 1882.
Squire's Wife, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, July 15, 1889.
Squire's Will, Liverpool, Dec. 6, 1897.
Squire, The, St. James's, Dec. 29, 1881.
St. George and the Dragon, Theatre Royal, Torquay, Aug. 6, 1883.
St. George and the Dragon and the Seven Champions, Standard, Dec. 26, 1895.
St. Ronan's Well, Princess's, Edinburgh, Sept. 16, 1871.
St Slocum, Olympic, Dec. 18, 1876.
St. Valentine, Theatre Royal, Halifax, March 14, 1892.
St. Valentine's, Albert Hall, June 11, 1897.
Stage and State, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, Oct. 2, 1868.
Stage Coach, Globe, May 7, 1892.
Stage-Dora, Toole's, May 26, 1883.
Stage Hand, Vaudeville, Jan. 2, 1875.
Stage, The, Duke's, May 21, 1877.
Stand and Deliver, Elephant and Castle, Nov. 23, 1885.
Star of India, Princess's, April 4, 1896.
Star of the North, Royal, Court, Feb. 1, 1889.
Star of the Woodlands, City of London, March 11, 1861.

CHAT WITH MISS MILLIE PAYNE.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Once upon a time—and that time only about a year ago—a grand festival was held in a gilded palace, in a city called Camberwell. And this grand festival was given in honour of a personage who bore the name of a very popular member of the feathered tribe. Of course, as was only to be expected, great folk came from near and far on this particular night to pay tribute to the King in his court. Some went merely to drink, eat, and be merry; others to see the fine sights and the fine people; others still to display their talents in divers wondrous ways. Among the performers were princes and princesses of their kind. In fact, so brilliant had they shown themselves at other palaces that they had attained more than mere regal significance, and were known to mankind as "stars." On this great day there came to the palace, in humility and practically penniless, a girl who little dreamed that she would ever rise to a position of any importance, much less become a star. For several years she had struggled on, hoping against hope, bravely meeting disappointments, waging a bitter war against hard circumstances. On this night she was going to sing a new song. Not that she expected anything would come of it. It was a childish ditty; "Ring-a-ding-puff-puff," it began and "Ring-a-ding, puff-puff" it ended. Somehow or other, whatever humour the verses contained struck her as being more funny, more ridiculous if you like, than anything she had sung before. And so the merriment that was in her mind came out in her voice and manner. And it caught the audience in an irresistible whirl, and

Photo, by Charles and Russell.

MISS MILLIE PAYNE.

they laughed, and laughed again, and finally rocked in their seats in a fit of uncontrollable mirthfulness.

The singer smiled between the verses. It was a smile the like of which the people in the Palace had never seen before. It completely transformed her face. It was a smile she could not help. Whether it was caused by the knowledge of her own droll appearance—for the nonce she was a poor child in a plaid frock, pinafore, tousled hair, Tam o' Shanter cap, and her countenance beaming with a marvellous self-satisfied expression, as if she were content to regard the whole world as a trivial joke—whether her quaint garb and quaint ideas caused her to be amused at herself is a question that the lady herself is best qualified to answer. At any rate, she made such an impression upon her audience that she was recalled again and again, and was applauded to the echo.

That is the story of how Miss Millie Payne went as a sort of unknown Cinderella to the Camberwell Palace one evening and came out after being assured by high authorities that she was the success of the evening, and that she had a great future in front of her. Mr. Will Oliver, the well-known agent, was the first to secure the lady an engagement, and he rapidly booked her. In fact, she says that she owes much of her success to Mr. Oliver.

Miss Payne tells us that she got her idea for the character of the child from a sketch by the late Phil May, and she was herself agreeably astonished to find that it immediately "caught on" with the public. Another song with which she has made a great hit is "We've come to see Jenny Jones," and this, as well as the one already referred to, was written by Mr. Harry Castling. In Cardiff and Swansea, where she appeared at the Empires recently, the audiences were simply convulsed with the references to Jenny Jones, many of the Welsh girls in the audience bearing that name. Still another song which has helped to enhance the young lady's reputation is "Teacup, tell me true," and is of the class which is known as refined comedy. Miss Payne, who is to be seen at the London music halls for some weeks, and who holds contracts right into 1909, has been repeatedly complimented upon her individuality, and the Moss and Stoll management describe her on their programmes as an artist "with style and methods distinctly refreshing." And that puts the truth very neatly.

Mr. Pennington mentions an instance of the tact and ingenuity of the late Fred. Charles, when acting-manager with Miss Marie de Grey's company. On one occasion there was a difference of opinion between Miss de Grey and her assistant acting-manager, which culminated in his calling her a "cantankerous cat."

"The choice alliterative epithet quite astounded her, and for the moment she was unable to utter a word, but recovering herself, she ordered him 'out of the theatre,' assuring him that she 'never desired to see his face again.' He left the theatre, and it was feared that he had taken Miss de Grey at her word. The meeting or scene rehearsal broke up, and we did not return to the theatre until the time to dress and 'make-up' for the stage. As the A.S.M. played a small but responsible part, which could not be provided for at short notice, speculation was rife as to how the difficulty could be met.

"It afterwards transpired that clever Fred Charles, appreciating the inconvenience which would be caused by the absence of the A.S.M., at once sought him out, and without a blush informed him that 'Miss De Grey was exceedingly sorry for what had occurred, and begged the A.S.M. to think no more about it.' The naturally good-natured fellow was more than satisfied; and in the meantime Fred hurried off to Miss De Grey's hotel and told her that the A.S.M. 'could not forgive himself for his rudeness to her, should ever regret it, and begged to apologise.' Of course it will be evident that neither had apologised, and as in the evening the painful subject was ignored by both each thought the other had done so."

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on the Saturday night of June 30. She had fulfilled an engagement at H.M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left the same night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared the following week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital. She was found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body.

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

Miss Stephens was a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon* and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alcsia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

It is intended to purchase an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

MARRIAGES.

Ellis—Mackintosh.—At Registrar's, Blackburn, on Oct. 25 1906, Arthur William Ellis (Hall), of Hall and Earle, to Annie Langdon Mackintosh, of 12, Dalkeith-road, Edinburgh.

DEATHS.

Cray.—On Oct. 30, Elizabeth Cray, of heart disease; aged 30 years; at her home, 2, Hemingford-terrace, Birkenhead. Dearly loved sister of Mike and John Cray. R.I.P.

Webb.—Oct. 29, 1906, Mrs. Elizabeth Webb, wife of J. J. Webb, and mother of the Brothers Webb, musical clowns, at present in St. Petersburg.

In Memoriam.

Delaney.—In loving memory of my dear friend and colleague, Thomas Delaney, who passed away Nov. 4, 1905.—G. K.

Edgar.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Charles Edgar, who passed away Nov. 5, 1905. A devoted father and an ideal husband. Sadly missed.

Galvin, George (Dan Leno).—In loving remembrance of our dear brother-in-law, who entered into rest Oct. 31, 1904.
All is still, we hear no more his merry jesting;
Gone, but not forgotten—Hush! poor Dan is resting.—Will and Edie.

Gannon.—Martha Ann Gannon (mother of Nellie Gannon), died Oct. 18. Buried in family grave, Leicester Cemetery.

Leno, Dan (George Galvin).—In loving memory of my dear husband, who passed away Oct. 31, 1904.
Sleep well, dear heart, until the King of Glory awakens you.

Leno, Dan.—In memory of my dearest father, who was taken from us on Oct. 31, 1904. Never forgotten by his devoted daughter Georgie.
One of the two so dear to me, but gone from earth.

Scudamore.—In loving memory of my dear father, Fortunatus Augustine Scudamore, died Nov. 1, 1904.—Mabel.

Scudamore.—In loving memory of Fortunatus Augustine Scudamore, whose life's work ended Nov. 1, 1904. Never forgotten by his wife, his children, and little Ely.

Sennett.—In fond remembrance of Mr. Charles Sennett, who died Oct. 30, 1905.

Transfield.—In loving memory of Bellamina Transfield, wife of T. G. Transfield, who died Nov. 6, 1899. Gone, but not forgotten.

HOCKEY.

"The Ugliest Woman on Earth" Co. v. "Beast and the Beauty" Co

Played at South Shields on Oct. 10, the "Uglies" winning by 9 goals (Darien 5, Edlin 4) to 1 (Winpenny). The return match, at Newcastle, on Friday, resulted in the "Uglies" scoring 10 goals (Edlin 5, Darien 4, Thackeray 1) to 3 (Winpenny, Brunner, Talbot). The teams were composed as follows:—

"Uglies."—H. Bradleigh, L. Cancellor, C. de Lee, Nellie Jackson, P. Darien. Nell Oliver, J. Edwards, W. Beesley, "Tubby" Edlin," A. Davenport, and L. Thackeray.

"Beauties."—H. Wood, E. Campbell, W. Passmore, Alice Bowes, W. Fraser Brunner, Marie Camp, S. Gainsford, S. Vivian, H. Winpenny, J. Neal, and H. Talbot.

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Team v. Miss Winifred Bradley's Team.

Played near Clifton Downs, on Saturday, Oct. 13. Misses Lillie Belding, Cecilia Fowler, and Winifred Bradley scored the goals for their respective sides. The following were the teams:—

Miss Fowler's XI.—Miss Lillie Belding, goal; Miss Ivy Bowman and Miss Lilla Carter, backs; Miss Cecilia Fowler, Miss Gertrude Thomas, and Miss Rosie Davies, half-backs; Miss Trixie Maynard, Miss Amy Bernard, Miss Bertha Godfrey, Miss Minnie Leonard, and Miss Gracie Leonard, forwards.

Miss Bradley's XI.—Miss May Fisher, goal; Miss Alice Gibbs and Miss Nellie Richards, backs; Miss Edie Lawrence, Miss Nellie Lawrence, and Miss Amy Fisher, half-backs; Miss Alice Mitchell, Miss Winifred Bradley, Miss Florrie Hooper, Miss Kit Montgomery, and Miss Maudie Burgess, forwards.

Referee, Miss Jessie Edwards. Result: Miss Fowler's XI., 2 goals; Miss Bradley's XI., 1 goal.

"In the evening, to our infinite surprise and relief, he made his appearance, never saying a word as to the morning's contretemps, and having dressed for his part, hurried to the prompt entrance to look after some necessary business, where he happened to meet Miss De Grey crossing the stage in the direction of her dressing-room. She was seen to give him her hand with great heartiness and without hesitation, and he appeared not only restored to favour but in greater favour than ever.

ON THE ROAD, NOV. 5.

After the Ball.—Gaiety T., Leith.
All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—Manchester.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona).—Dudley.
Assassin.—Grand T., Walsall.
At Cripple Creek.—Bishop Auckland.
At Duty's Call.—O. H., Workington.
Beast and the Beauty.—Grand T., Nelson.
Beautiful Fiend.—T. R., Bolton.
Belle of Mayfair.—T. R., Manchester.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Lyceum T., Stafford.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Frome and Wellington.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs., and Co.—Hammersmith.
Breed of the Treshams.—O. H., Southport.
Bulmer, Mr.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Empire T., Oldham.
Catch of the Season (No. 1).—Portsmouth.
Charley's Aunt.—Castle T., Richmond.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona).—Midlands.
Christian, The (Croxs).—Queen's T., Leeds.
Cingalee (S.).—Kingston and Cambridge.
Claudian.—O. H., St. Helens.
Coal King.—T. R., Darlington.
Country Girl (Macdona).—Midlands.
Country Girl (N.).—Aberdeen.
Country Girl (S.).—Chatham.
Country Mouse.—T. R., Birmingham.
Dairymaids, The.—Borough Theatre, Stratford.
Dandy Doctor.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Grand T., Derby.
D'Oyly Carte.—Kennington Theatre.
Driven from Home.—T. R., Peterborough.
Duchess of Dantzic (N.)—Peckham, S.E.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—Northampton.
Earl and the Girl (M.)—Birmingham.
Earl and the Girl (W.)—Wakefield.
Earl and the Girl (N.).—Torquay.
Face at the Window.—New T., Ilkeston.
Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt.—Stoke Newington
Fatal Wedding (N.).—New Theatre, Consett.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—Grand T., Nottingham.
Faust Up-to-Date.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Female Swindler.—Miners' T., Ashington.
Four Just Men.—Crystal Palace Theatre.
Freedom of Susanne.—Grand T., Croydon.
French Spy.—Grand T., Walsall.
Gay Parisienne (Macdona).—Ipswich.
Geisha.—Sheffield.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—Liverpool.
Golden Ladder.—Royalty T., Chester.
Great Awakening.—Dalston Theatre.
Heart's Desire.—Queen's T., Fleetwood.
Held in Bondage.—T. R., Rawtenstall.
Her Fatal Past.—Junction Theatre, Manchester
Her Lost Self.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Her One Great Sin.—Grand T., Luton.
His House in Order (N.).—T. R., Rochdale.
His House in Order (S.).—Southampton.
Hour of Her Triumph.—T. R., Sunderland.
Hutchison Repertoire.—H. M. T., Blackpool.
Indian Mutiny.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Kitty Grey.—Opera House, Perth.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Horley and Redhill.
Lady Kinton's Necklace.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Lady Madcap (N.).—Brighton.
Lady Madcap (S.).—Keighley.
La Poupee (Levilly).—Gaiety T., Manchester.
La Poupee (Halland).—Kirkcaldy and Falkirk.
Lion and the Mouse.—T. R., Hull.
Little Breadwinner.—T. R., Barnsley.
Little Michus (Edwardes).—Lyceum T., Edinburgh
Little Michus (S.).—Burnley.
Love that Women Desire.—T. R., Leigh.
Lucky Durham.—Harrogate and Buxton.
Manxman.—T. R., North Shields.
Marriage of Kitty.—Canterbury and Deal.
Midnight Mail.—Grand T., Islington.
Midnight Wedding.—T. R., Rotherham.
Moody-Manners (A.).—T. R., Sheffield.
Moody-Manners (B.).—T. R., Exeter.
Mr. Hopkinson (Macdona).—Dudley.
Mr. Popple (A.).—T. R., Cardiff.
Mr. Popple.—T. R., Newcastle.
Mr. Smith.—T. R., Colne.
Napoleon the Great.—T. R., Merthyr Tydvil.
Norman V. Norman.—T. R., Colchester.
Orchid (N.).—Deptford.
Orchid (S.).—Bury.
Otto the Outcast.—T. R., West Bromwich.
Power of Gold.—Goole and Scunthorpe.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris).—T. R., Preston.
Prince of Pilsen (Musgrove).—T. R., Glasgow.
Private Secretary.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Prodigal Parson.—T. R., South Shields.
Prodigal Son.—Grand T., Hull.
Proof.—Pardoe's T., Middleton.
Public Opinion.—O. H., Cork.
Raffles.—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Revenge.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Romany's Revenge.—Northwich.
Royal Divorce.—County T., Reading.
Royal Revenge.—T. R., Norwich.
Sailors of the King.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Saints and Sinners.—Kilmarnock and Ayr.
Shadow of Crime.—New Century T., Motherwell.
Sherlock Holmes.—Grand T., Middlesbrough.
Shulamite.—Prince's T., Manchester.
Sign of the Cross.—Grand T., Glasgow.
Silver King (Polini) (N.).—Grand T., Byker.
Silver King (Polini) (S.).—Empire T., Southend.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Junction T., Manchester.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—Greenock.
Spider and the Fly.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
Spring Chicken (S.).—Doncaster.
Still Alarm.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Swiss Express.—Crown T., Peckham.
Temptress, The.—Court T., Warrington.
Terry, Edward.—T. R., Belfast.
Three Little Maids (N.) (Macdona).—Wigan.
Throne of Terror.—Grand T., Chorley.
Toreador (Macdona).—Midlands.
Toreador.—York.
Traitor.—T. R., Birkenhead.
Trip to the Highlands.—Grand T., Glasgow.
Trumpet Call.—Queen's T., Swindon.
Two Hussars.—T. R., Sunderland.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—A. T., Ramsgate.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—T. R., Leeds.
Two Little Vagabonds (M.).—Mardy and Aberavon
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—V. T., Broughton.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.)—Cradley Heath.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Lyceum T., Pentre.
Under the Russian Flag.—A. T., Birmingham.
Unwedded Wife.—Prince's T., Poplar.
'Varsity Belle.—Kirkcaldy.
Veronique (N.).—Nottingham.
Veronique (S.).—Oxford.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Croydon.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—T. R., Bolton.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—O. H., Leicester.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Prince's T., Horwich.
Warning to Women.—T. R., Scarboro'.
Wearin' o' the Green.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
What the Butler Saw.—T. R., Bournemouth.
When London Sleeps.—Aquarium, Great Yarmouth
When Woman Hates.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
White Chrysanthemum (Curzon).—T. R., Bradford
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—T. R., Worcester
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—Palace T., Brighton.
Worst Woman in London.—Liverpool.
Youngest of Three.—Grand T., Blackpool.
£1000 Reward.—T. R., Batley.
10.30 Down Express.—Athenæum, Lancaster.

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth the thoroughfare of Drury-lane was known as Via de Aldwych, and it was not until the close of the sixteenth century that it got its present title, from Drury House, which was built about that time. The old Olympic Pavilion was built chiefly out of the materials of a French warship, the Ville de Paris. The yards and bowsprits of the ship formed the uprights and supports of the new "playhouse," the deck was used for the stage and flooring, and the sides of the ship for the outward walls, while the roof was of tin. The entire cost was £800. Obtaining a licence through the influence of Queen Charlotte, Philip Astley opened the place in 1805 for music, dancing, burlettas, pantomimic, and equestrian exhibitions. It was a complete failure from the beginning, and even the pugilistic demonstrations given by such redoubtable heroes of the ring as Dutch Sam did not make the place pay, and in 1813 Astley sent circulars round to the various theatrical managers, describing the peculiar advantages of the Olympia Pavilion. "We'll throw the bone, Johnny," he said to his son, "and let the dogs fight for it. Someone will snap at it."

Mr. Charles Fry has given annually a series of Shakespearean performances for years past at the Court, Royalty, and other theatres, and also at the East End of London, without scenery. During that time he has produced no less than eighteen plays.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces

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(two doors off Wellington Street)
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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. H.—*A Night Out was produced at the Vaudeville Theatre on April 29, 1896, with the following cast:—Joseph Pinglet, Mr. George Giddens; Paillard, Mr. Chas. Sugden; Mathieu, Mr. William Wyles; Maxime, Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald; Brochard, Mr. J. Carne; Boulot, Mr. Gus Danby; Busteen, Mr. E. W. Thomas; Botticelli, Mr. Neville Doone; Marcelle, Miss Fannie Ward; Angelique, Mrs. Edmund Phelps; Victorine, Miss Pattie Browne; Hyacinth, Miss L. Sargent; Violette, Miss E. Barrington; Marguerite, Miss E. Concanen; Rose, Miss E. Henderson.*

BILLY SIVANE.—*Your production of a "Parkkeeper" song surely does not prevent other comedians from doing the same thing. Many years ago Mr. James Fawn sang a "Policeman" song, but we have not heard that he barred other comedians from hiding their individuality in bobby's uniform.*

G. B.—*You have a good right of action against him for the balance of salary, and you can sue him out there, or in the English Courts when you return.*

E. F. LLOYD.—*The son, "Dan, he went to Ireland," would most likely be published by, or heard of, from one of those well-known publishing firms—Cramer and Co. or Ascherberg and Co.*

L. FAWKES.—*The Belle of New York was revived at the Adelphi Theatre (then known as the New Century Theatre) on Nov. 27, 1901.*

AJAX.—*Write to Mr. Frank Macnaghten, King's Chambers, Angel-street, Sheffield.*

A. E. T.—*A copyright performance of* The Three Musketeers *was given at the Imperial Theatre, June 25, 1898. On its production at the Metropole, Sept. 12, 1898, Mr. Lewis Waller played D'Artagnan.* The Musketeers *was produced at Her Majesty's, Nov. 3, 1898. In this production Mr. Lewis Waller played the Duke of Buckingham.*

HOXTONIAN.—Daddy Longlegs *was the title of the pantomime produced at the Britannia Theatre on Dec. 26, 1885.*

J. B.—*De Groof was killed by falling from flying machine, July 10, 1874. He fell close to St. Luke's Church, Chelsea.*

WYANDOTTE.—*Yes, he played as an amateur with the "Old Stagers" and the "Windsor Strollers."*

OLD PLAYGOER.—Pink Dominos *was first produced at the Criterion, March 31, 1877. It was revived at the Comedy, Nov. 23, 1889, and at the Criterion, Oct. 10, 1892.*

HUGH.—*George Belmore, the actor, died in New York on Nov. 15, 1875.*

J. E. S.—*Aug. 31, 1899.*

J. KING.—*The song "At eventide the shades are stealing" was sung in* Falka *by Miss Violet Cameron.*

F. M.—Belphegor, the Mountebank; or, the Pride of Birth, *a play in three acts, was produced at the Adelphi Theatre, London, on Jan. 13, 1851, with Benjamin Webster as the hero, Mme. Celeste as Madeline, Miss Woolgar as Nini, Miss Ellen Chaplin as Henri, O. Smith as De Rollac, Paul Bedford Montroulade, Wright as Ajax, and H. Hughes as Montbazon.*

FOOTBALL.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. A.F.C. v. HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUB.

Played near Bristol, under Association rules, on Saturday, Oct. 6. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C.—H. Belding (captain), goal; J. Lewis and A. Cox, backs; A. E. Bailey, S. Carter, and H. Slade, half backs; J. Leonard, H. Clements, J. Aubrey, E. Belding, and E. Palmer, forwards.

Harry Hare's Band.—W. J. Horton, goal; A. Hamlin (captain) and A. Mattock, backs; F. Stevens, C. Watson, and P. Hewlett, half-backs; H. Edwards, L. Hamlin, E. Bowman, B. Everett, and E. Hutchings, forwards.

Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C., 1 goal; Harry Hare's Band A.F.C., nil. J. Leonard scored the only goal. After the match an enjoyable concert and dance was arranged by Mr. A. Hamlin.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. A.F.C. AND MUSIC HALLS v. THEATRICALS AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, Oct. 13, no goals being scored on either side. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.—H. Belding, goal; F. Arni and J. Lewis, backs; T. Neagle (captain), J. Lacey, and S. Carter, half-backs; P. Reardon, E. Belding, H. Clements, J. Aubrey, and D. O'Connor, forwards.

Theatricals.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; A. Hamlin and Grahame, backs; F. Stevens, A. Mattock, and P. Hewlett, half-backs; H. Edwards, E. Bowman, Marsdon, W. J. Horton, and L. Hamlin, forwards.

Referee, F. Thorne; linesmen, H. Hare and A. E. Bailey. Messrs. Harry Belding and F. B. Nicholls played splendidly in goal.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. MUSIC HALLS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, Saturday, Oct. 20. J. Aubrey and J. Lacy scored for their respective sides. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.—H. Belding, goal; J. Lewis and A. Hamlin (captain), backs; H. Slade, F. Stevens, and S. Carter, half-backs; E. Bowman, H. Edwards, H. Clements, E. Belding, and J. Aubrey, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; E. Denton and W. Osborne, backs; J. Lacey, T. Neagle (captain), and D. O'Connor, half-backs; F. Hansford, H. C. Douglas, P. Reardon, G. Hillier, and R. Cullen, forwards.

Referee, H. Withers (Westbury Village Res. A.F.C.); linesmen, H. Hare and W. J. Horton. Result, Bristol X.L.C.R. Athletic Clubs, 1 goal; Music Halls A.F.C., 1 goal.

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De Verdi, Mlle. A.
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Dobbs, Miss Edith
D'Ostas, The
Doughty Mr. Henry
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We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Lewis Waller—Saturday, Nov. 3.
Rosemary Rees—Saturday, Nov. 3.
G. H. Elliott—Saturday, Nov. 3.
F. R. Benson—Sunday, Nov. 4.
Eden Phillpotts—Sunday, Nov. 4.
Dollie Huntley—Sunday, Nov. 4.
Edith Forrest—Sunday, Nov. 4.
Lily Roselle—Monday, Nov. 5.
Joe Griffiths—Monday, Nov. 5.
Mrs. Frederick Wright—Monday, Nov. 5.
H. E. High—Monday, Nov. 5.
Chas. Horne—Monday, Nov. 5.
Pat Carey—Tuesday, Nov. 6.
E. Bosanquet—Tuesday Nov. 6.
Grace Jones—Tuesday, Nov. 6.
Mrs. John Wood—Tuesday, Nov. 6.
J. Paderewski—Tuesday, Nov. 6.
J. P. Sousa—Tuesday, Nov. 6.
Frank Wyatt—Wednesday, Nov. 7.
Jessie Merrillees—Wednesday, Nov. 7.
Eric Victor—Wednesday, Nov. 7.
Tom G. Warry—Wednesday, Nov. 7.
Richard Morton—Wednesday, Nov. 7.
Fred Fowler—Wednesday, Nov. 7.
Fifi Gordon—Wednesday, Nov. 7.
Maude Millett—Thursday, Nov. 8.
Fred Terry—Friday, Nov. 9.
Fred Heming—Friday, Nov. 9.
W. G. Elliot—Friday, Nov. 9.
Henry Jee—Friday, Nov. 9.
Lionel Rignold—Friday, Nov. 9.

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ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

NAME.	DATE.
Abrahams, Messrs. F. & M.	March 31, 1906.
Alexander, Mr. Alex.	June 2, 1906
Arnold, the Late Mr. Chas.	May 13, 1905.
Ashton, Mr. George	May 5, 1906.
Ashton, Miss Margaret	September 1, 1906.
Ball, Mr. Alf	September 1, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barclay, Mr. Arthur J.	May 26, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barnett, Mr. Orlando	October 6, 1906.
Barrasford, Mrs.	February 10, 1906.
Barry, Mr. Lennox	March 4, 1905.
Bawtree, Mr. Arthur	March 18, 1905.
Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Bessle, Late Miss Elizabeth	February 3, 1906.
Billington, Mrs. John	January 20, 1906.
Booth, Mr. Junius	September 16, 1905.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	September 15, 1906.
Bostock, Mr. E. H.	September 30, 1905.
Brand, Miss Tita	April 1, 1905.
Brough, Mr. Lionel	May 13, 1905.
Brown-Potter, Mrs.	March 3, 1906.
Burton, Mr. John	March 10, 1906.
Butt, Mr. Alfred	August 25, 1906.
Carrington, Miss Eva	February 24, 1906.
Casson, Late Mr. Walter	Nov. 11, 1905.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Cellier, Miss Marguerite	May 26, 1906.
Chapin, Miss Alice	May 26, 1906.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul	May 5, 1906
Clarey, Late Mr. H. O.	February 24, 1906.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Clark, Late Mr. Henri	Dec. 9, 1905.
Clark, Mr. T. Sealey	May 19, 1906.
Collette, Mr. Charles	November 4, 1905.
Collier, Mr. Hal	May 19, 1906.
Conquest, Mr. Arthur	May 26, 1906
Conquest, Mr. Fred	Dec. 9, 1905.
Coote, Mr. Bert	June 16, 1906.
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	September 22, 1905.
Costello, Mr. Tom	September 15, 1906.
Cotterell, Mr. Sid	July 14, 1906.
Craven, Late Mr. H. T.	April 15, 1905.
Crisp, Late Mr. Henry	May 26, 1906.
Cruikshank, Mr. Alfred	March 17, 1906.
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	July 7, 1906.
Dampier, Mr. Alfred	May 12, 1906.
Deering, Late Miss R.	July 14, 1906.
De Gracia, Mr. G.	May 19, 1906.
Dobson, Mr. E. H.	August 12, 1905.
Donegan, Mr. James K.	May 20, 1905.
Duff, Master Harry R.	April 29, 1905.
Dyball, Mr. George H.	January 13, 1906.
Earnshaw, Mr Arthur	November 4, 1905.
Elliott, Late Mr. J. B.	May 26, 1906.
Elen, Mr. Gus	September 23, 1905.
Gastelle, Miss Stella	July 15, 1905.
Gatti, Late Mr. Stefano	October 20, 1906
Genée, Mlle.	September 22, 1906.
Godfrey-Turner, Miss M.	October 28, 1905.
Gibbs, Miss Edith	March 3, 1906.
Grace, Miss Amy	January 13, 1906.
Gray, Miss Dora	January 13, 1906.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1906.

MUNICIPAL THEATRES.

A remarkable proposal has been made by the Broughton Theatre Syndicate, which owns the Victoria Theatre, Salford. They have offered to hand over their undertaking to the Salford Town Council on certain terms. The managing director of the syndicate, at a special performance given recently in the presence of the Mayor and members of the Council, asked why Salford should not be the first place to have a municipal theatre. The Mayor of Salford is, however, not in sympathy with the scheme.

A muncipal theatre is a standing testimony that the whole of a community is deeply interested in the drama; that it looks upon playgoing as a necessity for intelligent persons; and that it is determined to secure a home of intellectual drama in its midst.

It would be difficult to find any town in the United Kingdom in which such conditions prevail. In the first place, the playgoing public is only a section of the population, a very large proportion of which, from religious or other reasons, never enters a theatre at all. These, unfortunately, are the most serious and reflective fraction of the community. The mass of the middle-class in the provinces is not theatrically inclined. Audiences are drawn chiefly from the young and frivolous, and from the rough and laborious classes. The musical play is the *pabulum* of the former; the sensational melodrama of the latter. As for the smart people who do so much to keep up the price of stalls in London, they are an abstaining class in most provincial towns. They only patronise the local playhouse when it is visited by some "big star" from the Metropolis. It is obvious that as a muncipal theatre must be supported by the rates, the section which cares least for the drama would be the section on which the heaviest burden of its maintenance would fall. The middle-class ratepayers might well ask why they should be asked to provide for the support of a place of entertainment in which they would take no interest.

We have no belief in the continued existence of any institution which is not a natural growth. The subsidised and municipal theatres of the Continent are the creations of generations of tendency and tradition. The Comédie Française had its origin in the disposition of the French before the Revolution to look to the Government—otherwise the reigning monarch—as the fount of enterprise; and the German municipal playhouses are the remnants of the old system of division into States, each with a paternal kinglet exercising a mild paternal sway.

English critics who advocate municipal and subsidised theatres are apt to form an estimate of Continental establishments which is to a great extent imaginary and decidedly too favourable. The "natives" see things as they are. "I am not even sure," says M. AUGUSTIN FILON in "The Modern French Drama," "that the Comédie Française is a paradise even for good artists of the second rank; but, on the other hand, third-rate people flourish and grow fat in these prebendal stalls of the drama. They make up for lack of talent by presence and traditions." And even in SCHLEGEL'S time the German national theatres were "true hospitals for languor and laziness."

It may well be enquired what excuse could a provincial municipality allege for entering into competition with existing interests? The only one which would hold valid would be the representation of the minority. It might be argued: There is a large number of persons in this city who are not attracted by the ordinary entertainments at the local theatres. They do not care for musical plays or melodramas; and they want to see SHAKESPEARE acted frequently by a stock company, mediocre perhaps in merit, but level in excellence, the plays being poorly mounted, but carefully studied. Where are these intelligent minorities? They certainly do not make themselves either heard or felt. And this is not because the minorities in provincial towns are silent on other subjects. Any local improvement or enterprise that is desired has always a swarm of advocates long before it is carried into effect. But we never heard of an "agitation" for a municipal theatre. And this indifference to the drama as a serious art is carried out in death as well as life. People endow drinking-fountains, churches, and libraries; but a theatre, never. It simply does not occur to testators to do so.

What are the reasons of this difference between the taste and feeling of the English public and that of France or Germany. Drawing a bow at a venture, we should say the sharp separation which was made by the Puritan wave, and has never been effaced; the sporting and athletic tastes of the English; and the love of the fireside, which is caused chiefly by our climate. All these are as much a part of the English nature as the climate itself. Feelings and habits cannot be argued away; their roots go down too deep into character. We have neither the laughing intolerance of the French, the considerate interest of the Germans, or the alert, though superficial, curiosity of the Americans. The intense individuality of the national character tends rather towards brilliant gambling than safe, well-protected artistic effort—towards "starring" rather than *ensemble*. The actor, not the author, has always been our pet hero; and scenery, dresses, and comfort are all-important. It is easy to account for the respect of the French for their drama; it is one of the results of the artistic instinct of the Latin race. The Germans, it should be remembered, were only a generation ago the philosophers and dreamers of Europe. Despite militarism and commerce, they still "smack." National characteristics, it is true, may be modified, though they cannot be eradicated. But it will be some time before the British character is sufficiently changed for the establishment in every large town of a municipal playhouse subsidised from the rates.

"BLAZES; OR, THE LIGHTNING FIRE BRIGADE."

Pantomimic Absurdity, in Two Scenes, by E. C. Matthews, produced at the Canterbury Theatre of Varieties on Monday, Oct. 29.

Col. Jeff Decker	MR. O. LUCK
Romeo Decker	MR. H. LUCK
Harold	MR. F. LUCK
Alphonso	MR. A. LUCK
P.c. XXX	MR. P. LUCK
Ferdinand Firedamper	MR. E. LUCK
Dick	MR. H. WILLIAMS

The name and reputation of the Brothers Luck are thoroughly sustained in their latest sketch, which on Monday was received with roars of laughter by a crowded audience at the Canterbury. The playlet is modelled on the lines which travesty everything conceivable, and the audience is treated to a series of irresistibly comic surprises. The first scene discloses the staff of the private fire brigade, owned by Col. Decker, a reputed millionaire. During his absence abroad the brigade has deteriorated, until it is manned principally by loafers, who can only be induced to show signs of activity by the announcement that a brewery is on fire. The Colonel returns unexpectedly to find his men in an advanced state of intoxication, and is nearly assaulted by Ferdinand Firedamper, who fails to recognise the "guv'nor." Col. Decker does not discharge the men, as he is a scoundrel of a deep dye, and has obtained his millions from his brother, whom he has kept a close prisoner. He has a scheme to set the house on fire, destroying his brother at the same time, and arranges with the captain of the brigade that when he is called to the fire he shall deluge the flames, not with water, but with paraffin oil. Romeo Decker, the Colonel's nephew and second in command, overhears the plot, and realises that his father, whom he supposed to be dead, is incarcerated in the doomed house. He is offered a drug by the Captain, but throws it into his face, and in the subsequent struggle the Captain receives a "knock-out" blow. When he recovers consciousness he imagines that "to-morrow night," the time appointed for the fire, has come, so he sallies forth with his motley crew, and after an interlude with a policeman the house is duly set on fire, and liberally fed with gunpowder and other combustibles. The furniture of the house, together with a dummy servant girl are all hurled unceremoniously out of the window, ladies in night attire run about the streets, and eventually the front of the house collapses revealing a lady in the act of taking a bath; while the devoted son leads his old father out of the burning building, and gives the wicked uncle in charge.

The sketch scarcely gives full employment to the talents of the popular troupe, but there is every opportunity for extension, and no doubt additions will be made by which the comedy material will be developed, preferably at the expense of some of the broader humour. Mr. E. Luck as Ferdinand Firedamper, described as "twin step-brother" to the Captain, took a prominent part in the fun-making, and gave a very droll impersonation of the fireman who gets an imperative call at the telephone, and lies down to sleep till the fire goes out; while his subsequent pranks outside the burning building were also irresistibly funny. Mr. H. Williams was the embodiment of comic turpitude as Dick, the captain of the brigade, his make-up being fantastically ferocious. Mr. O. Luck acted the scheming Col. Decker with the proper degree of intensity, and his nephew, Romeo, was vigorously portrayed by Mr. H. Luck, whose delivery of his lines and general bearing as the gallant young fireman was much to be commended. Grotesque appearances were made by Messrs. F. Luck and A. Luck as a fat fireman and a thin fireman respectively; and Mr. P. Luck, as a pie-eating policeman, was a credit to the Force. The little piece lacked nothing in the way of realism, the eccentric fire engine, which acted both as a beer barrel and a piano organ, causing a great diversion. The conflagration, too, apart from its humorous aspect, was quite exciting, and formed a vivid spectacular effect.

AT the Bernhard-Rose Theatre, Berlin, a very old play has been revived with every appearance of success. It is *Die Bluthodzeit*, four-act historical drama, by Friedrich Adami. The action passes in the troublous period when Catherine de Medici flourished, and the plot is well conceived and developed. Herr Bernhard Rose played the important rôle of the King in excellent style, and was very adequately supported.

THE death was recently announced of M. Vizentini, stage-manager at the Paris Opéra-Comique. A distinguished musician, he was for many years first violin at the Théâtre Lyrique, and, finally, became chef-d'orchestre at the Porte Saint-Martin and at the Gaîté. His ambition, however, was to manage a theatre; but all his ventures proved failures. Offenbach made plenty of money at the Gaîté, but when Vizentini took over the house where he produced *Dimitri* and *Paul et Virginie*, with Capoul in the chief rôles, it was a financial fiasco. His management of the Folies-Dramatiques led also to disastrous results. But nobody knew how to mount a play better than Vizentini; and when in 1898 M. Albert Carré was appointed director of the Opéra-Comique, he at once gave him the post of assistant-manager. M. Vizentini, who had numerous friends in England, will be regretted by all who knew him.

"ARIANE."

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The production at the Opéra of *Ariane*, the five-act lyric play by M. Catulle Mendès and M. Jules Massenet, has been the great musical event of the Paris season; and the work, which met with an excellent reception, is likely to become popular. Those who only seek melody will be delighted; for the opera is brimful with airs that will soon find their way into concert-hall and drawing-room. To others, however, *Ariane* came like something of a surprise. The subject, as the title implies, is the story of the loves of Theseus, the Athenian hero, with Ariadne and her sister, Phaedra. But, despite the milieu in which it plays, there is very little Greek about the libretto and the music. We notice rather a decided Parisian touch about both. The whole work has apparently been written without any effort, with an utter disregard for the intellectual movement of to-day. But if M. Massenet has failed in the heroic sense, the work will—possibly for that very reason—appeal to those who complain that modern music is not sufficiently melodious.

At curtain-rise the scene represents the Island of King Minos. Theseus, King of Athens, arrives on the island to slay the Minotaur; and Ariadne, who loves Theseus, has delivered to the hero the secret of the labyrinth, the clue by which he will find his way to the monster's hiding-place. In the second act we are on the high sea. Theseus has conquered and slain the Minotaur, and has taken Ariadne with him to Athens to make her his queen. But Phaedra, Ariadne's sister, also in love with the hero, accompanies them. The pilot loses his way, and directs the barque towards Naxos. In Naxos Theseus perceives that he no longer loves Ariadne, but Phaedra. The despairing Ariadne urges her sister to intercede with her lover; and Phaedra promises to bring him back to her. But no sooner is she in the presence of the hero than all her resolutions vanish, and both fall into each other's arms. Ariadne, who witnesses the scene, faints, and Phaedra, in remorse, mutilates the statue of Adonis, for which the god Cypris kills her. Ariadne, in a sublime spirit of abnegation, implores the god to restore Phaedra to life; and he orders the graces to conduct Ariadne to the sojourn of the dead. In the fourth tableau we hear harmonious sounds. The Graces accompany Ariadne to Hades, and Ariadne obtains from Persephone that Phaedra is to be restored to mortal life. In the final tableau Theseus is bereft of reason. He does not know whom he loves best; whether it is the self-denying Ariadne or the passionate Phaedra. But Phaedra wins the day; and whilst Theseus carries her off in a small boat, Ariadne is left on the island. We see the sirens surround Ariadne, who walks slowly to the beach as the curtain falls.

Written in delightful verse, with melodies flowing freely, the work is charming from beginning to end; and it was therefore all the more to be regretted that M. Gailhard should have staged it in such a poor manner. Some of the scenery was really grotesque. The opera, however, was well interpreted, especially by Mlle. Bréval, who scored a huge success. The other rôles were safe in the hands of Mlle. Granjean, M. Muratore, and M. Delmas.

CAMBERWELL EMPIRE.

Melody, comedy, and melodrama form the nucleus of the entertainment provided here twice nightly by Mr. Jesse Sparrow and Mr. Harry Bawn. The chief feature on the programme this week is Fred Bowyer's ever welcome sketch *The Little Stowaway*, presented by Ethel Arden and George Abel's well-selected company. Miss Edith Lumley, in the title-rôle, gives a vivid and interesting performance, and in the waif's death scene her acting touches all hearts. As the bluff but kind-hearted captain, Mr. J. K. Walton's impersonation is redolent of the sea; and Mr. H. G. Shaw as the First Lieutenant is responsible for a good character study. As the widow, Miss Maude Esmond is sweetly pathetic; and Mr. Hugh Metcalf as the Boatswain sings with marked effect "Somebody's sailor Boy" and "Jack's the handy man."

Miss Helena Sleath and Mr. Charles Aldin appear in a musical scena entitled *Dashing Duval, the Knight of the Road*, and in bright and merry fashion depict an incident in the adventurous life of that historic highwayman. Miss Sleath as Lady Sylvia not only acts well, but gives evidence of a cultured voice in her rendering of Ganz's "The Nightingale's Trill." Mr. Charles Aldin doubles the characters of Claude Duval and Sir John Oldroyd, and is highly satisfactory.

In costume playlet, *The Gambler*, Mr. Fred S. Peake has surrounded himself with an efficient company, and sustains the title-rôle with much earnestness. He has excellent support from Miss Dora Davis as Lady Janet Locksley, an impersonation full of winsomeness. Elegant costumes of the Stuart period are worn by the company.

The Eight Beau Ideals are clever juvenile performers, whose solos, duets, part songs, and international dances are very entertaining. In a pretty and effective Alpine setting Ruby and Laws give an entertainment full of bright and merry moments. It is a happy combination of amusing cross talk, clever quick changes, and well-rendered selections from operas. As a burlesque policeman Mr. Dan Agar has some funny patter in his song "Round the corner." Mr. Carl Rosine, a clever magician, amazes his audience by producing from a bowl of bran a large dish of beautiful goldfish in water. This trick is, however, eclipsed by his having both his thumbs tied securely together by members of the audience, and then catching a number of hoops on each arm. Rose Adams, a dainty and youthful comedienne, excels in dancing; Fred Villars, swell comedian, has a humorous ditty in "Just keep off the grass"; Andie Caine is amusing in character business; and the Empire animated pictures, a distinct feature of the evening's enjoyment, include a comic film entitled "A day's outing on his own." Mr. Percy Ford is the courteous acting-manager here; and the stage management is in the capable hands of Mr. W. Nutt, the orchestra being under the artistic direction of Mr. Frank Hurst.

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Joseph Courtenay, twenty-seven, was charged at Greenwich, before Mr. Baggallay with acting as a pedlar without a licence, and with the possession of forty-seven copies of pirated music.

The facts were admitted, but the prisoner, who had also a large number of pieces of legitimate music, denied that he sold the pirated copies. These, he said, he gave away with legitimate copies, making the presentation with a view to working up a connection.

Mr. Baggallay fined the prisoner £5, or one month.

THE Bristol branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society secured the services of Mr. Acton Bond to head the cast at a dramatic reading of *King John*, given at the Clifton Rooms on Saturday last. The Bishop of Bristol (the president of the branch) was in the chair, and the financial receipts of the evening's entertainment were larger than on any previous occasion since the inauguration of the branch some two years ago.

THE Town Council of Bridlington invite applications for the position of musical-director of the Royal Prince's Parade from March 25 to Oct. 13, 1907. The salary is £100, and applications, stating full particulars, are to reach the Town Clerk not later than the 24th inst.

BRITISH EMPIRE SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.

Mr. George Alexander was the judge at this year's elocution competition held under the auspices of the above society at the St. James's Theatre on Friday afternoon, the 26th ult. Mr. Alexander was supported at the judge's table by Miss Irene Vanbrugh, and Mr. Acton Bond and Miss Morritt, the hon. general secretaries and directors, were present to introduce the competitors, whose relatives and friends made a goodly assemblage in the auditorium. Mr. Alexander, in naming the successful contestants, stated that it had been a great pleasure to him to be present that afternoon. He had to congratulate Miss Morritt upon her energy and enthusiasm in the cause of furthering the knowledge of Shakespeare's works. He felt that he ought to acknowledge the support on this occasion of Miss Vanbrugh.

Mr. Acton Bond, in thanking Mr. Alexander for so kindly fulfilling the principal duties of the afternoon and for lending the use of his theatre, stated that the task of awarding the prizes had been a very difficult one owing to the all-round high level of excellence. If the entries increased in like ratio between this year and next as they had done between last year and this year, they would have to ask the different centres of the society to hold eliminating competitions so that only the best people would be sent up for the final examination in public.

The conditions of the examination were that all competitors were to recite two passages, one comedy and the other serious, from Shakespeare's plays. Both scenes and speeches were admissible provided they did not exceed the time limit of five minutes.

Among the four gentlemen classed as "professional," Mr. Norman Wrighton secured the prize, the speech, "A horse, a horse," from *Richard III.*, being delivered by him with fine effect. In this class, too, Mr. Paul Mardon was highly commended. There were eight entries for the professional ladies' division, Miss Kathleen Rind winning the first prize for a clever exhibition of elocution as applied to the Epilogue in *As You Like It* and the scene at the end of *Winter's Tale*. The second prize was awarded to Miss Hilda Fletcher, and Mr. Alexander was so pleased with the performance of another candidate, Miss Hutchinson, that he expressed the intention of giving her a prize himself.

In the amateur ladies' class, Miss Gwendoline Hart came first and Miss Enid Rose second. In regard to a third student, Miss Ruby Fectum, Miss Vanbrugh was so pleased with her work that she intimated her desire to present the young lady with a prize. Mr. Sydney Smith was the successful candidate among the amateur gentlemen. As to the juniors, of whom there were six—all girls—Miss Clare Absalom was the lucky prize-winner.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 29,
the Musical Play, in Two Acts, book by Hugh Morton, music by Gustave Kerker, entitled
"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK.

The ever-welcome *Belle of New York*, presented by Mr. Bannister Howard's company, is paying a return visit this week. Mr. Frank Lawton repeats his success as Blinky Bill, the inimitable whistler receiving a perfect ovation on his reappearance here on Monday. Miss Empsie Bowman is a delightfully dainty Violet Grey, her singing of the well-known numbers being very pleasing, and her acting all that can be desired. Miss Lily Maxwell is a charming Fifi, and the pretty music of the part is delightfully rendered. Miss Winnie Browne makes an attractive and clever Cora; Miss Florence Hersee is a very vivacious Mamie Clancy, and the scenes in which she is concerned are full of go and dash; the other ladies are all pretty and clever. Mr. Paddy Dupres gives a fine rendering of Ichabod Bronson, and is a warm favourite, his singing being really good. Mr. John Doran is a handsome and manly Jack Bronson, and sings particularly well. Mr. Max Copeland is capital as the polite lunatic; Mr. Alfred Sandoe is very good as Doc Snifkins; Mr. Walter Uridge gives a clever rendering of Mugg; and the Portuguese Twins are amusingly represented by Messrs. Lionel Yeoman and R. L. Cody.

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THE freehold site of the Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees, which was recently partially destroyed by fire, will be offered for sale by auction on the premises by Messrs. R. and W. Mack on Tuesday, Nov. 20. The situation is unique for a theatre or music hall, having a long frontage to Yarm-lane, convenient access for scenery, &c., and being within fifty yards of the electric tramways, giving expeditious and inexpensive access to the population of an extensive and populous district. The main halls, including the handsomely-designed front in Yarm-lane, remain standing, and are practically intact. The Theatre Royal was fully licensed by the county magistrates representing the Durham County Council.

TWENTY teams of matched ponies, with patent leather harness identical with those which were such an admired feature of last year's *Cinderella* pantomime at Drury-lane, and are now attracting similar praise at the Porte St. Martin, Paris, may be obtained on hire from Hales, of 40, Wellington-street, Strand. Handsome white horses for *Dick Whittington*, plunging quadrupeds, and every class of performing animal are also to be procured at the old-established firm.

MR. WALTER JOYCE, that popular veteran of the stage, and comrade of the late John Sleeper Clarke, is now "in front" at the palatial restaurant built by Mr. Rayner at 45, Haymarket. The place is the picture of comfort and beauty in its Adams decorations and mahogany-panelled saloon bar and lounges. It occupies a fine position, and with its admirable appointments and up-to-date management should be a great success.

PRESENTATION.—At the Castle Theatre, Richmond, on the last night but one of *The Walls of Jericho* tour Mr. Wallace Court, on behalf of the members of the company, presented Mr. Horace Mitchell, the urbane acting-manager of the company, with a case of handsomely-mounted pipes.

"BURTON'S Professional Date Book and Diary for 1907" has just been issued. It is of handy size, and contains almost everything that a theatrical manager or an artist needs at his finger ends, as, for instance, the sizes of printing papers, sheet quantities, space for code, spaces for subs., salary list, percentages, and a complete weekly balance-sheet for the year. This carefully-compiled little book can, with confidence, be recommended to managers as a certain time-saver. In proof of its completeness we may mention that it includes the following headings:—"Weather" and "Apartments." The price is only 1s. 1d., post free, from 5, Milner's-chambers, Fargate, Sheffield.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Some interesting details are to hand respecting the dinner given in New York by American publishers on the 21st ult. in honour of Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., who was the guest of the evening. A private letter from a prominent figure in New York musical circles runs thus: "Frank Bowers, of the great Chicago house of Lyon and Healy, was chairman, and the affair went off in great shape. They all thanked 'T. P.' heartily for the example set to America, which would be very useful in influencing the authorities to introduce the same legislation here. There were one or two very clever speeches by such renowned wits as J. Kendrick Bangs.

"Then at the finish 'T. P.' got up and gave us the finest after-dinner speech I have ever heard. He described very graphically the exciting struggle against time, showing how it was only at the very last minute of the session—and then by keeping the Government clerks up all night—that he forced the Musical Copyright Bill through. He also described his interviews with a granite-hearted opponent of the measure, without mentioning his name, which were very interesting, and told us of the starving authors who were being ruined by the pirates, and finished with a grand peroration on the elevating influence of art, most particularly the art of music, the importance of which seemed to him so great in opposing 'brute materialism' that this was his chief guiding motive in supporting the Bill to stop the marauding pirates. Everyone was enthralled with the eloquence of the renowned Irishman, and most of the suburbanites lost their trains."

The news of Mr. Walter Gibbons's serious illness will cause general regret in variety circles. He went home on Friday night, the 26th ult., to his country residence, Cold Blow, Burgh Heath, Epsom, and seemed to be in his usual robust health, but at four o'clock on Saturday morning he was in great pain, and at about eleven sent for the local doctor, who treated him for an attack of colic. Later in the day, however, the symptoms were diagnosed as those of an irregular attack of appendicitis. Eventually an operation was decided on, and Mr. Mayo Robson, surgeon, of London, performed it at 1 a.m. on Sunday morning. The patient is going on as well as can be expected, and is under the care of an excellent trained nurse. We sympathise greatly with the anxiety of the young wife, and hope that the tension she must be undergoing will be relieved by daily reports of satisfactory progress.

Mr. Walter Gibbons will in due course be endowed with a music and dancing licence for the Brixton Hippodrome, late the Brixton Theatre, and will probably open the house about Dec. 3, on the two-performances-nightly plan. He desires it to be generally known that the Empress and the Hippodrome, though close together, will not be run in opposition. The theatre did not answer as a legitimate house, and with such populous surroundings there should certainly be room for two variety establishments. We make this statement on the personal authority of Mr. Gibbons himself, and do so because a great deal of the opposition to the licensing of the Hippodrome has been caused by the belief that it will injure the other house. The two will be carried on as one concern, with, it is hoped and believed, advantage to the public and profit to each.

Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss were interested spectators recently of the Follies' burlesque on *The Beauty of Bath* and *The Catch of the Season*. One of the "gods," recognising the popular couple, shouted out at the conclusion of the skit "How's that, Seymour?" Mr. Hicks immediately went to the front of his box, and replied "Excellent!"

Mr. and Mrs. Alec Hurley have received over 1,000 telegrams and letters of congratulation, as well as many costly presents. It would be therefore quite impossible for them to reply to every one individually; but they desire, through the columns of *The Era*, to convey their sincerest thanks to friends for kind and loving wishes for their future welfare. The wedding-cake, which weighed 160lbs., was presented to the bride by Romano's, Limited—a kind thought indeed.

Mr. Harry Tate's friends in this country will be glad, but not surprised, to hear that his essentially British humour—which is perhaps the most cosmopolitan—has found the widest appreciation in New York, and that he made such a success on his début at Hammerstein's on the 8th ult. in *Fishing* that the management retained him for a further two weeks—a most exceptional thing at that house. The latest question in New York, both in Wall-street and on the Fifth-avenue, is "Any luck?"

Mr. George Dance will, it is understood, be responsible for a new place of entertainment at Ilford—a town that is growing to vast proportions. If he succeeds in his application for a theatrical as well as a music and dancing licence, privileges which have been quite readily granted to the Walthamstow Palace, the Richmond Theatre, and the Ealing Hippodrome, he will not be fettered in his choice of attractions—a freedom for which his brother-managers in the London amusement centres sigh in vain.

The Alhambra matinée on Saturday, in aid of Mr. T. H. Roberts's fund for the relief of the needy survivors of the charge at Balaclava, was a record success. Mrs. Clement Scott, surrounded by some veterans who shared in the glory of a historic day, recited Lord Tennyson's poem, and evoked enthusiastic cheers. Mr. George Leyton, who relinquished an engagement at Plymouth in order to be present, repeated his stirring song, "Boys of the Chelsea School," assisted by a couple of dozen trained boys belonging to Mr. Philip Nolan's choir. Mr. Leyton has done a noble work for these old soldiers, whose cause he has helped to the extent of nearly £2000, and whose needs he has proclaimed far and wide. Mr. George Scott directed the matinée most successfully, and Mr. T. H. Roberts thanked the Alhambra directors most cordially in his speech from the stage.

Mr. Charles Blyth-Pratt's first charity matinée since he assumed the management of the Oxford was an outstanding success. The performance in question was given on Thursday afternoon in aid of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum. As to the artists, who gave of their best, there were Mr. Arthur Roberts and Miss Ruby Celeste, Miss Alexandra Dagmar, Mr. T. E. Dunville, the Sisters Edwards, and Messrs. Doody and Wright, Percy Honri, Edie King, Clarice Mayne, George Mozart, Miss Jessie Preston, Miss Madeline Rees, Mr. Ernest Shand, the Stella Troupe, Mr. Russell Wallett, the Lotti Troupe, Mr. Fred Holland, and Mr. Ted Thomas. Votes of thanks to the directors of the Oxford for the free use of the hall and to Mr. Blyth-Pratt for his kindly services were proposed by the Victuallers' chairman, Mr. Harry Hudson.

Calder's Colossal Comedy Company will produce the latest musical skit, *The Dandy Duke*, on Monday at the Empire, Dublin, previous to introducing it to a London audience.

In the King's Bench Division, on Wednesday morning, before Mr. Justice Grantham, Mr. Hugh Fraser applied to his lordship to expedite the hearing of the libel action of De Celle *v.* Lee. He stated that the plaintiff was the well-known music hall artist, whose stage name is Miss Alexandra Dagmar, and that she was under a contract to go to the United States shortly. His lordship fixed Nov. 12 as the date for the hearing of the action.

Mr. F. W. Fitt has handed over to Mr. E. T. Boardman, the Mayor of Norwich, the sum of £30 as the proceeds of the recent anniversary performance at the Norwich Hippodrome. The Mayor, who was present at the entertainment, will allocate the money to local charities.

A pleasing illustration of the good feeling existing between Mr. T. Allan Edwardes, of the Derby Palace of Varieties, and his staff was given on Saturday evening. This happened to be the birthday of the popular lessee and manager, and during the performance Mr. Herbert Taylor appeared on the stage, and informing the audience of the *raison d'être* of the "extra turn," presented to Mr. Edwardes on behalf of himself, the other members of the staff, and a few private friends a valuable dressing-case. Mr. Edwardes, who was obviously taken by surprise, suitably acknowledged the gift.

That *Over the Sticks*, Mr. Joe Elvin's evergreen sketch, has not exhausted its popularity was abundantly proved at the Gaiety, Birmingham, last week, when all records, both for number of people paying at the doors and amount of money taken, were easily beaten. The actual figures are 31,509 persons who paid for admission. Nothing to equal this has been experienced at the hall since it has been built. Mr. Albert Bushell, the manager, marked the occasion by presenting Joe with a handsome ivory-handled umbrella.

Mr. F. V. St. Clair has just removed from his residence in the beautiful neighbourhood of Windermere, where he has lived a number of years, to Shropshire. In that county he has purchased a part of the Covert Estate of the late Lord Hill, not far from Whitchurch, and has built a new residence there. It is his intention to erect several bungalows among the pine-woods with a view to letting them furnished to artists requiring a rest. Pheasants, partridges, and rabbits abound, so that those fond of shooting will find plenty of sport. Those who wish to gain renewed energy amid ideal rural surroundings—"far from the madding crowd"—will truly appreciate Mr. St. Clair's notion.

Mr. Walter Norman begs to thank, through *The Era*, his many friends, members of the Terriers, and brother and sister artists, who so kindly have sent him letters and telegrams of congratulation on his appointment as manager of the Hastings Hippodrome. So numerous have been these kind messages, that it is impossible for him to answer them personally, much as he would like to do so.

Mr. Philip Sefton, at Manchester last week, had much unexpected work thrust upon him. He was engaged for his seventh return visit to the Tivoli, and on Monday, whilst walking home to his "diggings" after the matinée he met that well-known actor-manager, Mr. William J. Miller, who is touring *The Throne of Terror*, and was due to open at the St. James's Theatre that evening. Mr. Miller was "stuck" for an important part owing to an actor being unable to play, but the situation was saved by the kindness of Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes in altering Mr. Sefton's turn in the first house at the Tivoli, thus enabling him to step into the breach and play the part. Mr. Sefton's revised nightly programme ran as follows:—Tivoli, 7.5; St. James's Theatre, 7.30 till 8.45 (Acts I. and II.); Tivoli, 10.5; St. James's Theatre, 10.25 (Act V.)—truly a good night's work This week Mr. Sefton is at the Coliseum, Glasgow.

The authorities having closed the Queen's Theatre, Glasgow, so suddenly on Wednesday, Oct. 17, Mr. Barney Armstrong wishes to inform all artists that were under engagement to him for that theatre that their dates must be cancelled. He also asks those that were to fulfil contracts with him to send their vacancies to Armstrong's Agency, now under the direction of Bernard M. Armstrong (nephew to Barney Armstrong), New Gaiety Theatre, Glasgow, who will do his utmost to fill in any vacancies up North.

Fred Karno's great sketch, *The Dandy Thieves*, will pay a visit to the Hackney Empire next week. The action of the sketch is well-known, but with the history and personality of Mr. Fred Karno himself the public are not so well acquainted. Equally a theatrical manager and a variety impresario, he has made his speciality pantomime productions, and has excelled as a producer of the same. Each member of the troupe has been carefully selected, and Mr. Karno's managerial acumen ensures careful rehearsal for each sketch, the best possible company, and complete accessories, so that everything essential to success is assured. He himself was originally a gymnast. His principal successes have been *Her Majesty's Guests*, originally produced at the Princess's, *Jail Birds*, *Hilarity*, *The New Woman's Club*, *Early Birds*, and *The Mumming Birds*.

When Mark Sheridan, after many encores, left the stage of the Palace, Sunderland, on Monday evening, at the conclusion of his turn in the first house, it was quite apparent that it would be impossible to produce the half-hour sketch, *The Battle of the Belles*, and there was a call for "the sketch" from the pit and gallery. The portrait of the King was shown on the screen, the orchestra played "God save the King," the bandsmen left their positions, but the audience remained. The manager, Mr. Alf Brown, came to the front of the advertisement curtain. When he could be heard he tried to explain. The audience did not want explanations. They wanted *The Belles*. There were more shouts for the sketch, and at length the manager returned and announced that *The Battle of the Belles* would be played. Triumphant cheering!

Mr. Cull-Pitt, who is this week at the Empire, Coventry, during a recent tour of the East made researches into the weird doings of the people in the Orient. He brings back some wonderful impressions of their remarkable experiments in mental telepathy. In Calcutta he came across an instance which completely astounded him. One native received news from another native in Bombay, many miles away, and some hours later a telegraphic message brought confirmation. In numerous cases Mr. Cull-Pitt found that the natives were able to beat the wires, for they appeared to have a system of wireless telegraphy of their own.

Mr. Cull-Pitt, who is assisted by his wife in his entertainment, landed at Calcutta at the time when native feeling ran very high in consequence of the Government action concerning the partition of Bengal. He appeared before many of the native rulers, who are very enlightened, and live almost upon European principles. His tour included Egypt and Ceylon, and his journey to the East has not altogether been unproductive, for at Christmas he will produce a new act, in which will be presented a large number of tricks suggested by Oriental conjurors.

Miss Bessie Travis, ventriloquist, who is appearing successfully at the Palace, Grimsby, this week, returns to town on Monday, opening at the Queen's, Poplar.

Miss Frances Letty will produce at an early date a new chorus song, which will be published by the Monte Carlo Company. Since Miss Letty appeared in town she has been booked at nearly all the principal halls in the kingdom.

The Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy, will reopen for the season on Monday, under the old directorship of Mr. David Taylor. The house has been newly decorated and partly reconstructed. After an absence of over three years Mr. Carlini Baldry has returned as general manager, and is seeking for big acts.

Mr. Elvin will be seen at the Oxford next Christmas in a gigantic production, which for lavish display is confidently anticipated to outrival all his previous efforts. He will also produce on the same date at the Canterbury another big sketch. Both novelties are from the pen of the versatile Wal Pink, who in delineating the humours of Cockneydom always has a happy touch.

Mr. Jesse Sparrow, chairman and managing-director of the Empire, Camberwell, Limited, presided on Friday, the 26th ult., at the statutory meeting of the company, when he reported the very favourable flotation of the Empire, and the excellent business done at the new variety house since its opening. This must be highly gratifying to all concerned. When the new electric tramways system is completed patrons will be able to travel quite conveniently from Dulwich and Sydenham.

Mr. Tom Woottwell has had to give up work this week at the Euston and Hammersmith Palace, owing to a severe cold contracted by him last Saturday during a midnight journey from Manchester. This is only the second time during twenty years that he has been unable to fulfil engagements in consequence of illness.

Miss Gracie Graham will leave Plymouth on Dec. 13 by the liner Orient for a six months' tour in Australia, which will be followed by a three months' engagement in South Africa, and returns in 1908 to the Moss and Stoll Circuit. She is making her appearance this week in the shadow of York Minster, and is amusing anglers and others by the drollery of her original "Fishing" song, from the pen of Bert Delmar.

Mr. Tom Craven, whose prolific pen is seldom at rest, on the strength of the great success of his and Mr. Will Evans' production, *The Mystery of the Cliff*, has been commissioned to write three new dramatic sketches, one of which will be produced before Christmas.

Miss Maude Odell, who started a successful engagement on Monday as La Statue Humaine at the Palace Theatre, was suddenly compelled to curtail her performance on Wednesday evening, owing to sudden illness. Medical advice was requisitioned, when it was found that the artist was suffering from ptomaine poisoning, the cause of which is at present unknown. Later Miss Odell was conveyed to her residence, suffering great pain. She, however, appeared as usual on Thursday evening.

Miss Juno May, who is 6ft. 2in. in height, weighs eighteen stone, and is only twenty-two, is in strict training as a lady wrestler. She is under the tuition of Mr. Antonio Pierri, and has hitherto thrown all the wrestlers of her own sex who have tried conclusions with her. This magnificent specimen of womanhood is not a Suffragette, so that the police need not be alarmed.

Mr. Arthur G. H. Hunt, the proprietor of the Royal Albert, Canning Town, will on Thursday and Friday next week give performances in aid of the Seamen's Hospital (Royal Albert Docks Branch). This will be the sixteenth annual entertainment held in aid of the charity mentioned, and in this respect Mr. Hunt is carrying out the promise he made some time ago to continue the favours hitherto extended to the Hospital by the late proprietor of the Royal Albert, Mr. Charles Relf. There will be special attractions for the two nights, many prominent music hall artists having undertaken to give their support.

Mr. Lewis Waller, who, in the most becoming costume of Lincoln green, is "trouncing" malaperts at the Lyric as Robin Hood, may be recommended to read the following witty verse, which we shrewdly suspect is from the pen of Wal Pink. It appears as a pendant to the cast of the Water Rats production of (*Cock*) *Robin Hood* at the matinée at the London Pavilion on Monday, Nov. 19, and runs as follows:—

Louisa was a naughty child, who swallowed pins and things,
She swallowed toys, her papa's paints, and mama's cherished rings,
Her "tummy" was a treasure house, to her naught came amiss;
But Louie will indeed be brave if *Lewi-sWallers* this.

Messrs. St. John Denton and George Rowlands, who scored such a success with *The Punch and Judy Girl* on the halls, are presenting a lively musical novelty at the Duchess, Balham, on Nov. 12, entitled *Mixed Bathing*. They have engaged a strong company of principals, including Miss Anita Edis (fresh from her Continental triumphs) and Messrs. Stanley Damerell and Cecil Rutland, supported by the Denton Girls. They have spared no expense in the mounting, and the scene at Madeira is one of the prettiest possible.

Mr. Will Evans and Mr. Harry Randall are among the invalids, the former gentleman being unable to appear on the Stoll tour at the Empire, Cardiff, and the latter being absent from the Oxford, where his place has been most successfully taken by Mr. Will Edwards.

About the third Thursday in November is now named by the directors of the Empire as the most likely date for the first performance of the still unnamed ballet. Mme. Katti Lanner, who has returned to her post as ballet mistress at this theatre, is hard at work arranging the dances, and as the first scene depicts the ballet-room of the Opera House in Paris, Madame should be at home in her task. The second tableau, in which Mlle. Genée has her chance as a novice of filling the place of the absent première danseuse, represents the Gardens of the Seraglio, in which the dancing class is supposed to be rehearsing an Oriental divertissement. In this also Mr. Fred Farren, who in the first tableau is a *maitre de danse*, appears as the Sultan, and Mr. Sundberg is transformed from a patron of the ballet into a slave dealer. As has already been noted, the music is by Messrs. Cuthbert Clarke and C. Glaser, each doing a moiety.

The Harrison Brothers (comedians) had an unpleasant experience at the Empire, Camberwell, on Friday, the 26th ult., when both of them had their watches, chains, and Masonic pendants stolen. Their attendant for many years, Otto Menotti, had his pockets rifled as well to the tune of five shillings. In the previous week a gold watch and chain and a "Kruger" half-sovereign attached were stolen by the same person. The only "little ray of sunshine" in the matter is the fact that the thief was smartly captured and confessed.

Mr. Sydney Kent, the well-known artist, has supplied a title-page for Mr. Fred Earle's forthcoming ditty, "Birdseed," which will raise many a smile when the song is issued to the trade on Monday. The comedian is depicted standing outside his live-stock depôt, an emporium crowded with seaweed, birdseed, and with dens and cages containing some truly remarkable specimens of ornithology and domestic animals.

Mr. Phil Ramy, descriptive vocalist, who will appear shortly in London at the Camberwell Empire, comes with excellent provincial credentials, and is generally the author or part author of his own songs.

On the evenings of Monday, Nov. 5, and Saturday, Nov. 10, at the Victoria Hall, Waterloo-road, will be produced by Mr. Richard Maynard (by permission of Miss Lilian Baylis) a new and original sketch, entitled *Cora* (*of the Ballet*); in the cast will be seen Mr. Trent Adams, Mr. Alexander Bradley, and Miss M. E. Ellis, the lady being seen in the title-rôle.

The Terriers will give their second social of the season on Sunday at the headquarters, the Dover Castle Hotel, Westminster-bridge-road, S.E.

The Theatrical and Music Halls Committee of the London County Council will sit at Newington Sessions House on Monday, and if necessary on Tuesday, to hear applications for the renewal of old licences and the granting of new ones for places of entertainment south of the Thames and under the Council's control. At Clerkenwell Sessions House the Committee deal with places north of the Thames on Monday, Nov. 12. The applicants for new licences include Mr. Walter Gibbons for a music and dancing licence for the Brixton Hippodrome, and Mr. Oswald Stoll for a similar permit for the proposed Empire at Finsbury Park.

Mr. Leo Sterling, of Sterling and Love, is the latest to join the Terriers' Association, being initiated on Sunday last, when Terrier Fred. W. Millis was in the chair.

Mr. Jefferson has had to make additions to his agency staff to cope with the work entailed in negotiating dates for Dr. Walford Bodie. Within two weeks sixty odd towns have been fixed, and many more inquiries have had to be held over pending the Doctor's fulfilment of his American trip. Mr. Jefferson will, by Dr. Bodie's courtesy, extend his energies to London, viâ 163, Blackfriars-road. Notice will be posted to clients in due course.

Lionel Vaughan's company, which is scoring continued success with Stanley Adams's clever sketch *In Trouble* (late *Who's the Culprit?*), is topping the bill this week at the Empire, Belfast. On Monday the sketch comes to the Middlesex.

Miss Nellie Gannon (Mrs. Harry Wright) has suffered a severe bereavement by the loss of her mother, who passed away after a short illness on the 18th ult. at Leicester. Unfortunately, Miss Gannon, who was engaged in Dundee, was unable to attend the funeral, but her daughters, Peggy Fame and Gerty Wright were present.

Mr. Henry Carlton, the popular young comedian, has been appearing with enormous success in his own native town of Grimsby this week at the Palace Theatre in his latest success, *The Window-Cleaner*. Mr. Carlton, who is a keen sportsman, has had some excellent shooting.

It is doubtful if any British comedian has done more globe-trotting than Mr. Tom Woottwell. In 1891, with a burlesque company, he played forty weeks in America, then took a trip to India with the Surprise Party (vaudeville). In 1896 he went to Australia for six months and stayed eighteen (being shipwrecked on the return journey on the Peninsular and Oriental liner China in the Red Sea). The year 1901 he chose for a visit to Italy with an English swimming team; and on returning to Australia in 1902 for six months he stayed twelve. The year 1903 saw him in New Zealand, under the Percy Dix management; in 1904 he played three months in Johannesburg and Cape Town; and next Christmas he returns to America. The Christmas of 1907 he will spend in South Africa.

At the 486th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.B.A. were present Messrs. Clemart, Fred Neiman, Bob Leonard, Douglas White, Jeff Vendome, Albert Voyce, Jack Collinson, Frank Gerald, Charles Coborn, and C. Douglas Stuart. Mr. Clemart presided. Mr. J. Archer Mitchell, of the Melville Hotel, Nicholson-street, Edinburgh, was appointed as agent in that town, and Mr. Sam Young, of the Newtown Hall, Paisley, was also elected agent. It was decided to place £360 to the credit of the current account, in order to pay the amounts to the charities as decided at the general meeting. An important matter is to be discussed at the meeting next Tuesday.

The production of the dainty, old-world comedy of powder and patches, *The Lady of the Roses*, at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday, will be under the personal superintendence of the author, Mr. Hubert Bartlett. A special feature of the production will be a prettily-arranged minuet, with which the sketch concludes.

Marconi invented wireless telegraphy; and at the Alhambra can be seen a system of wireless telepathy of which two Danish Americans, named Agnes and Julius Zancig, are the exponents. In his postered proclamations Mr. George Scott, the manager, quotes Mrs. Lovell's old drama, *Ingomar*, speaking of the pair as "two souls with but a single thought," and the keenest expert cannot detect the employment of a "code." Mr. Zancig, in a preliminary explanation, states that he and Mme. Zancig are so sympathetic that a thought in his brain is immediately reproduced in hers. The most extraordinary test is the final. Mr. Zancig reads silently an extract selected haphazard from a book, and Mme. many yards away repeats the passage aloud.

Mr. Denman on Tuesday gave his decision at Marlborough-street concerning the artistic illuminated advertisement displayed on the façade of the Palace Theatre. It consisted of a framework of wood, he said, which supported a plaster imitation of a stone wall, with figures of a pierrot and pierrette on it, and with a transparent centre, on which the theatre advertisements were printed, and which were illuminated at night from behind by electric lights. The construction was over 13ft. high, its width was 7ft. 10in., and it projected forward from the wall 2ft. 2in. The London County Council contended that it was a structure, and came within the London Building Act. Counsel for the defence urged that it was not. If the construction had been of stone, it would be held to be a structure; as it was, he must find as a fact that, although flimsy and light, and removable from the wall against which it stood, it was still a structure within the meaning of the Act. He therefore imposed a penalty of 40s., and ordered its removal within fourteen days, and awarded the Council £3 3s. costs. Mr. Edward Davis, who appeared for the Palace Theatre, said that his clients would consult counsel as to an appeal.

St. Mary's Church, Stoke Newington, was on Saturday last the scene of a pretty wedding, when Mr. Charles Ridgwell, the well-known comedian and author-composer, led to the altar Miss Lily Lynn, who was given away by her father, Mr. Harry Lynn, the well-known actor, Mr. Sid Bandon making an imposing figure as best man. Telegrams of congratulation and presents were numerous, and the wedding breakfast at the bride's residence was largely attended by brother and sister artists. Mr. and Mrs. Ridgwell are enjoying a visit to Eastbourne.

The Brewsters, who are meeting with great success at the Teatro Pavellon Soriano, Barcelona, return to England at the end of November.

In the Chancery Division, before Mr. Justice Joyce, on Thursday, an application was made by the Empress Theatre of Varieties, Ltd., Brixton, against Frederick John Westcott, better known as Fred Karno, to restrain him from committing a breach of agreement by appearing at Camberwell, which was within two miles of the Empress. Mr. Hughes, who appeared for the applicants, admitted that there was little left but the question of costs. Mr. Younger, for Mr. Karno, considered the agreement most Draconian; a debenture trust deed was nothing to it. In the result the defendant agreed to pay £62 10s. as costs in settlement of the two actions.

"The Drummer of the 76th" still continues to conquer all towns visited. From Manchester it goes to the Empire, Glasgow, where Mr. Matthew Brodie is on his native heath, but promises not to play Napoleon in the Doric.

Ernie Mayne returns to London on Monday, after a starring tour with Oswald Stoll circuit. He is still vacant for pantomime. He was originally booked to play Idle Jack at the Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, now in liquidation.

At last Sunday's meeting of the International Artists Lodge several matters of interest and importance were discussed. Bro. 1226 again announced the news that the Berlin Executive Committee had granted the secretary in England the power of reinstating members who had been in arrears in their dues, upon repayment and application for readmittance to the Lodge.

Brother 595 called attention to the reports of the Executive at Berlin, where the working of the road shows instituted by the Lodge were discussed. Brother 595 briefly explained that the Dom Fair at Christmas at Leipzig used to be the occasion of the meeting of managers and agents to see artists perform new acts, &c. Various abuses and developments on the non-useful side had rendered this old fair of little use to artists. The Lodge had now started companies of turns which are out of work, and had placed them by hiring the theatres from managers in the small towns of Germany and by obtaining halls in towns where there was no regular place devoted to variety entertainment. The meeting was of the opinion that it would be a good thing to introduce something of the kind in England in towns where there were no recognised high-class music halls. Further discussion was left to a subsequent meeting.

Hardeen, the Handcuff King, on Friday, the 26th ult., had to run the gauntlet of a challenge from two ex-officers of the Colchester Borough Police Force. In a letter to Mr. Ben de Frece, the resident-manager of the Colchester Hippodrome, they challenged Hardeen's ability to release himself from a strait-jacket in use at a local institution. Mr. de Frece accepted on the principal's behalf, and the event aroused unwonted interest and caused an immense audience to assemble. Hardeen allowed the two challengers to strap him into the jacket, which was of a most formidable aspect, and, amidst intense excitement, released himself in fourteen minutes.

In the Chancery Division on Tuesday, before Mr. Justice Warrington, a petition by Hugo Baruch et Cie. for the compulsory winding-up of the London Coliseum (Limited) was mentioned, and allowed to stand over for a fortnight. Mr. Waggett, for the petitioners, stated that a long affidavit had been filed by creditors opposing the petition, and he wanted time to answer it.

Mr. Charlie Deane, the comedian whose song "Getting Older" has so much taken the fancy of the public, sails in a fortnight's time for South Africa, where he is to fulfil an engagement lasting some six months.

The following additions to the "Fred Locke Fund" have been received by Mr. J. S. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow: Frank Doyle, 3s.; Lodge Glasgow, St. Mungo (No. 27), £1 15s.; Dan Thomas (219), 10s. 6d.

Lambeth and Robertson are a Scotch couple who present comedy as it really exists north of the Tweed. Mr. Robertson, who is this week at the Leeds Empire, is a descendant of Rob Roy, and he met Miss Lambeth, the Glasgow city organist, in that city, where both had been engaged to render similar parts. Neither artist could agree, and a quarrel resulted. Later a reconciliation took place, a partnership for life was entered into, and the foundation was laid of a realistic little sketch, *A Scot's Wooin'*. This depicts two lovers indulging in a violent quarrel, and has now been played 700 times in Scotland from the Shetlands to Berwick, and was seen only a few weeks back in London for the first time at the New Cross Empire, where it obtained an enthusiastic reception. The coat Mr. Robertson uses in the sketch is 120 years old, and was worn by Lord Hamilton of Dalzell in 1796.

Mr. Robertson's first experience in London was unique. He was wired for to go to Hastings at short notice. Accordingly he told the guid wife (Miss Lambeth) to pack the trunks and to meet him at Crewe, where he also had a little business to transact. At the great engineering centre he successfully got through his business and went back to the station, only to discover that the train by which his wife was travelling did not stop there. It went through, as a matter of fact, just as he had ascertained the unwelcome news. Mr. R. accordingly caught the next express to Euston, thinking his wife would be awaiting him, but subsequently it transpired that that lady, finding the train go through Crewe, got out at Stafford and went back to Crewe expecting to meet her other half there. Both waited long and anxiously, sent many telegrams to one another to various places, but without discovering each other's whereabouts. Mrs. Robertson did the most sensible thing she could do—put up at the nearest hotel. Not so Mr. Robertson, however.

Arrived at Euston, he discovered to his dismay that he had a cheque for £90 in his possession and 5s. 3d. in coin. It was a Sunday morning—no banks open—and he had to get to Hastings. He went to Charing Cross Station, explained the situation to the stationmaster, showed that individual his contract, his cheque, and his 5s. 3d., asked him to wire to the manager of the pier at Hastings, where the artist was to open on the Monday and which was the property of the S. E. and C. Railway, all in vain. Mr. Robertson had to choose between practically starving all night and the next day or spending the 5s. on a railway ticket to Hastings. He chose the latter course, and proceeded to kill the fourteen hours prior to the train starting and to spend the 3d. over. That sum he got rid of at Short's in a whisky. There he entered into a conversation with a cabman, who, on hearing Mr. R.'s story, stood him another whisky. Mr. R. took that man's number, and every time now that he visits London he wires for the cabman to meet him to drive him to wherever he may be staying. So cabby has not been the loser by his trusting ways.

The same night Mr. R. slept out on the Embankment, and made the acquaintance of another man—a city policeman—who has since become one of his firmest friends. The man in blue first advanced towards him with the intention of ordering him to vacate the seat he had taken. A few words with the comedian convinced him that it was no loafer he had to deal with. And so it came about that the P.C. offered to show Scottie the "toon" by the river at moonlight, an offer that was gratefully accepted. The sights Mr. R. saw, and how he longed to tip the bobby and take pity on the poor waifs *en route*, and was unable to do so, may be better imagined than described. He spent a night and a day chiefly remarkable for what he learnt and the many pangs of hunger he endured. Penniless, he at last reached Hastings, where he found his wife very anxious, but very happy to get him back safe and sound. The moral of all of which, says Mr. Robertson, is that a millionaire with pockets full of cheque-books and many banking accounts, if he be unknown, may starve in London.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

MISS VESTA VICTORIA has acquired a new song, written and composed by Henry F. Greenfield, and entitled "He says he's an astronomer."

MR. ARTHUR LENNARD'S new song, "If I'd been born a girl," by Fred Murray and Charles Hilbury, has been accepted for publication by Messrs. B. Feldman.

MR. DAVID DAY'S firm are just issuing "The New Promenade Waltz," by Jas. Finnigan, which that popular Manchester M.C. and past master in the art of terpsichore has, with the ingenuity which is natural to him, evolved from Chas. Coote's "Enchantress" waltz. Mr. Finnigan's fecundity in inventing new movements, figures, and steps is remarkable.

MESSRS. FRED BAINES and R. P. WESTON have just placed the song "He got the job," which has been made popular by Mr. George Brooks, with Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.

LESTER REEKIE and Harry Lawrence are the author and composer of George Brooks' song "Would you mind passing the salt?" In "That's what they told to me," another of the comedian's songs, Messrs. Keith and Merson have collaborated. Both are published by Francis and Day.

A. J. MILLS and Bennett Scott call the special attention of their numerous clients to the fact that they are now located at No. 9, Charing Cross-road, W. C. (facing the Garrick Theatre), where all may hear their pantomime songs to advantage, and where business is also transacted with artists requiring special songs, scenas, or sketches written.

"SAILING IN MY BALOON!" is fast becoming an epidemic, and looks like being the only serious rival to Mills and Scott's other popular pantomime number, "By the side of the Zuyder Zee."

A VERY fine patriotic song has just been secured by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, entitled "Fighting for the King and Sireland." It is by Edward Montagu, whose rousing song "The dear old shore" will be long remembered.

AMONG other novelties being placed on the market by Messrs. Francis and Day are "Mr. Johnson, I don't want you," by Jack Foley, sung by Miss Louie Herman; "Man and wife should always pull together," by Murphy and Lipton; "It's not the bee that hums the most," by Medley Barrett and Hugh Owen; "Just because you've got a brand-new suit," by C. Collins and Charles Ridgwell; "Won't you float with me in my gondola?" by J. F. Lambe and T. W. Thurban; "Never put off till to-morrow," by Mellor, Gifford, and Lawrance; "Beau Kate," by A. E. Sidney Davis and Herman Darewski, jun.; and "Moon, shine again," by Chas. Ridgwell, now being sung by Mr. Charles Whittle. Mr. Ridgwell, whose "Billy Muggins" is a gem, became a Benedict on Saturday last.

A PANTOMIME song that is likely to achieve great popularity this Christmas, especially in London, has just been issued by Messrs. Price and Reynolds. It is called "Courting at Hampton Court," and is essentially of the popular type. The words are by A. E. Sidney Davis and the music by John Neat.

MISS CARLOTTA LEVEY, who has been making an enormous success in the provinces with Murphy and Lipton's new song, "Don't tell the world your troubles," will introduce the number to town audiences on Monday, when the popular lady opens at the Tivoli. Mr. David Day is publishing it.

MISS LIL HAWTHORNE, who has during the week been delighting Shepherd's Bush audiences, has for over three months on the Moss' Empires tour been evoking thunderous plaudits with a trio of songs by that talented trinity of tryers, Messrs. Mellor, Gifford, and Lawrence, namely, "My castle in Spain," "Don't cry, little girl," and "My cosy caravan," and that one firm publishes all three—namely, Messrs. Francis and Day.

MR. HENRY E. PETHER, whose barn dances, "Josie" and "Teasing," have added much to the gaiety of ball-rooms, has just completed for Messrs. Francis and Day a third, entitled "Waiting at the church."

MESSRS. FRANCIS AND DAY have recently acquired three new "free" songs from the versatile pens of Messrs. Mellor, Lawrence, and Gifford, entitled, "Don't put off till to-morrow," "Matilda McGee" (another "Irish Molly"), and "The Marsh-Marigold and the Will-o'-the-Wisp."

MESSRS. MELLOR, LAWRANCE, AND GIFFORD, the song-writers, have recently placed the following novelties on the market:—With the Von Tilzer Company, "The blue-bell's wedding" and "No fellow should be without a sweetheart"; with Messrs. Feldman and Co., "I want no other little girl but you"; with Messrs. Reeder and Walsh, "Sailing home"; and with the Monte Carlo Company, "There's a big ship sailing in the morning" and "My chateau on the Rhine." The last number promises to be the "Bamboo bungalow" of next season. All are "free" for the halls and pantomimes.

MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR'S song, "In Chicago," is still a feature in most programmes, and has been on sale in cheap music form in the various halls throughout the provinces. Nearly one hundred thousand copies have already been sold, as many as a thousand copies going in one night at some houses.

THE Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Company, Ltd., have accepted a new number from Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford, entitled "No fellow should be without a sweetheart"; and have also acquired for immediate publication a new song, entitled "You are my girl in the springtime," which Miss Daisy Jerome is singing with great success.

MISS NELL RICHARDSON will feature in her forthcoming engagement at the Palace two songs, entitled "Fair Lady, sigh no more," by J. F. Lambe, and "Moonbeam," the latest American hit. This song, by the way, looks like a big principal girl song for the pantomimes. The two numbers will shortly be issued by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Company, Ltd.

MISS VICTORIA MONKS has found another big winner in her new coon song, "I'm leaving home," which bids fair to eclipse the popularity of "Take me back to London Town." The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Company, Ltd., are the publishers of both.

MESSRS. HARRINGTON AND TATE have been busily engaged during the past week on some new and novel songs for the "Queen of Comedy," Miss Marie Lloyd, which she purposes producing in London at an early date. The Monte Carlo Publishing Company will shortly issue this talented artist's great success, "Customs of the country," in their "Sixpenny Successes" series.

THE Monte Carlo Publishing Company are by way of issuing a novel topical duet, for dame and principal boy, entitled "Whom shall we invite to the party?" by Fred Terry and Gilbert Wells. There are no less than thirteen verses, and every conceivable topic of interest is embraced therein. All pantomime producers on the look-out for a novelty should secure this highly-original and "taking" number.

MARIE LLOYD'S WEDDING.

It was far more amusing than the average music hall entertainment, was this wedding of Miss Marie Lloyd with Mr. Alec Hurley. The actual ceremony which *de jure* bound the two famous artists together took place on Saturday morning before the Registrar (Mr. Herbert E. Bridgen) at Hampstead Town Tall, outside which a large crowd, who did not seem to regard the function in anything like a serious light, had congregated. Some thirty motor-cars took the entire bridal party to Haverstock Hill, and from there to the Gaiety Restaurant, for the reception.

The bride's gown was a very beautiful creation. She wore a corselet skirt of the finest pearl-grey cloth, with rich cape and stole of ermine, with muff to correspond, and in the latter was clustered a large knot of pink carnations. Her toque was likewise of ermine, with a panache of grey feathers, and she wore with it a long white curtain veil. Mr. Sam Poluski and Mr. Tom Macnaughton were the groomsmen, although they preferred to designate themselves bridesmaids.

Photo by Barraud.

THE WEDDING CAKE BY BUSZARD.

From the Hampstead Town Hall to the Gaiety Restaurant the bridal party was escorted by a gallant corps of enthusiastic budding warriors belonging to one of the boys' brigades Outside the restaurant in the Strand a curious crowd had foregathered, and the approach of the bride and bridegroom was hailed with considerable cheering and a good deal of gentle jesting. The reception-room provided an animated spectacle. There were from 150 to 200 people present, among them being, in addition to those already named, Mr. and Mrs. Wood (parents of the bride), Miss Alice Lloyd, Miss Rosie Lloyd, Miss Annie Wood, Miss Maudie Wood, Mr. and Mrs. John Wood, Miss Marie Courtney, Mr. Sydney Wood, Mrs. Dick Burge, Mr. Tom Claxton, Mr. Nelson Francis, Mr. H. Aylin, Mr. and Mrs. B. Sayers, Mr. and Mrs. J. Nathan, Miss Claire Romaine, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Elen, Miss Alexandra Dagmar, Mr. Henry Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. George Foster, Mr. Chas. Blyth-Pratt, Mr. Albert Gilmer, Mr. Arthur Roberts, Mr. W. Newhouse, Miss Lily Lena, Mr. Charles Hector, Mr. Malcolm Scott, Mr. Jack de Frece, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Romaine, Mr. Fred M'Avoy, Mr. Willie Clarkson, Miss Ruby Celeste, Mr. Leon Zeitlin, Mr. Bernard Marks, Mr. W. C. Barber, Captain Young, Mrs. Sister, Mr. Joe Blessedale, Mr. J. Morrell, Mr. Alfred Butt, Mr. Hugh J. Didcott, Mr. Orlando Powell, Mr. George Arthurs, Mr. James Howell, Mr. Joseph Wilson, Mr. Harry Masters, Mr. Harry Parker, Mr. James Finney, Mr. Fred Miller, Mr. Basil Lawrence, Mr. Mark Leslie, Miss Louie Lytton, Miss Carrie Moore, Miss Lucy Weston, Miss Queenie Nathan, Miss Rose Hamilton, Mr. Fred McNaughton, Mr. Robert Levier, Dr. Lang, Mr. Sydney Joussiffe, Mr. Jack Clarke, Mr. James Brown, Mr. Burgess, Mr. George Walmer, Mr. Billy Doyle, Mr. George Fraser, Mr. Gainsborough, Mr. Fragson, Mrs. Geo. Le Brun, Mrs. Keddie, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. A. Bishop, Mr. Luigi, Mrs. James Tate, Miss Alda Martini, and Miss Alice Wilson.

The cake, which weighed nearly 100lbs., was decorated by white sugar sprays of convolvulus, geranium, azalea, and phlox, was cut amid great cheering. Then the speech-making began. Captain Sheen, in a few well-chosen words, proposed the health of the bride and bridegroom; and standing upon a sort of dais in the centre of the room, surrounded by the admiring guests, who fairly crushed one another in their desire to secure an affectionate proximity to the honoured couple, Mr. and Mrs. Hurley were compelled to reply to the demand for a speech.

Mrs. Hurley made a characteristic address, in which she said she was proud of her husband. She hoped for a few years longer to amuse the public on the music hall stage, "then we shall settle down at one of those roadside hostelries where the motor-cars pass by and never stop, and I shall say to my old man, 'Put up the shutters, and we'll go out on horseback.' And now, ladies and gentlemen," she concluded, "I thank you very much for turning up here to-day to wish us good health. I'm not going to invite you again, so don't worry yourselves."

Mr. Tom Macnaughton and Mr. Sam Poluski considering themselves to be the "bridesmaids," spoke on behalf of those charming creatures, and added to the afternoon's fun. Mr. Arthur Roberts also delivered an entertaining speech.

Mr. Malcolm Scott, who hazarded the statement that he was replying on behalf of the ladies, propounded a conundrum—"Why was Alec Hurley?" and answered it himself in the words, "In order to Marie Lloyd." Proceeding, Mr. Scott remarked that in order to be successful on the music hall stage, it was necessary to have a song which concluded with something about coons or cake walks. Then he relieved himself of the following lines in his best "woman-that-knows" style:—

THE DISAPPOINTED SOUBRETTE.

I've never had a date with Moss and Thornton,
I've never had a telegram from Stoll,
I've never been engaged at the Alhambra,
I've never sung a song about a dancing doll;
I've never been engaged by Mr. Willard,
Inside the Empire I have never been;
I'm fat and discontented, but I don't care if it snows,
For I'm your dusky, pale-faced queen.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

DEAR SIR,—Will you very kindly oblige by inserting the enclosed letter in next Saturday's issue of *The Era* as an expression of goodwill and congratulation towards Marie Lloyd from her admirers in Eastbourne? Thanking you in anticipation, believe me, dear Sir, yours very truly,

CATHERINE WEBB.

Devonshire Hotel, Seaside-road,
Eastbourne, Oct. 29.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MARIE LLOYD.

(MRS. ALEC HURLEY).

DEAR MARIE LLOYD,—There has been a generally-expressed wish by your numerous admirers in Eastbourne to convey their congratulations upon your marriage, with good wishes for your long-continued happiness. I have undertaken to voice these sentiments, although we live in hope that ere long they may be expressed in person, for I can assure you if ever she does visit this town, a true and loyal welcome will await the "Queen of the Halls."

You have made yourself the people's idol as much by your British industry and pluck as by the talents which you possess in such brilliant measure; to you has been vouchsafed the great power of charming people out of their sadness and care, and your infectious gaiety has cheered many a heart. In return, it is not too much to hope that your life may now be full of sunshine and untouched with care. This wish loyally greets you from Eastbourne, with many another as true and hearty for yourself and your husband.—Believe me, always sincerely yours,

CATHERINE WEBB.

Of the only "Professional" House in Eastbourne.

Photo by Illustrations Bureau, Ltd.

MR. AND MRS. ALEC HURLEY.

Sheean, Mr. H. Joyner, Mr. Charles Beecham, Mr. Jack Nanson, Mr. Fred Higham, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hanley, Mr. George Fairburn, Mr. Ted Morrell, Mrs. Tom McNaughton, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Munro, Mrs. Sam Poluski, Mrs. Smith and daughter (Marie), Mr. Joe Tennyson, Mr. J. Nathan, Mr. Dureda, Mr. J. Cooney, Mr. J. Cooney, jun., Mr. Alf. Lotto, Mr. Mayhew, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Henry Harriss, Mr. Jimmy Tanner, Mr. and Mrs. Jessop, Mr. Tom Mason, Miss de Grey, Miss Connie Ediss, Miss Lily Burnand, Miss Carrie Joy, Mrs. Fred Karno, Mrs. Fred Ginnett, Mrs. Harry Hyams, Mrs. Jack Israel, Mrs. Charlie White, Miss Lily White, Mme. Weihs, Mrs.

TO MARIE AND ALEC.

(On their Wedding-Day, Oct. 27, 1906.)

Marie, dear friend, on this, your wedding-day,
A heart-felt wish I'll offer, if I may;
Your life, I trust, will ever joyous be,

Happy and prosperous and sorrow-free!
Alec, old boy, let your well-wisher true
Pleasure now find, congratulating you.
Proud, proud, indeed, methinks you ought to be,
In wedding our sweet Queen of Comedy.
Nobly stand by her, in all stress and storm,
Eager to shield her, with affection warm.
Side by side standing, when the skies are bright,
Side by side still, when sunshine yields to night!

So may you live, true husband and true wife,
Making a rose-bow'r of the path of life,
Hummed by the sun of Love divine,
Lustrously shining, where the roses twine;
Each loving each—each to the other true—

Oh! may Life's choicest flowers bloom for you!
Never may shadows gloom the path you tread,

Your lives as blissful as the day you wed.
Over those lives may True Love wave her wand,
United, in a sweet and life-long bond!

All honour, all success, to both of you!
Laurels of Fame bedeck your brows anew.
Language is weak, as I sit, pen in hand;

Yet, friends of many years, *you'll* understand!
Oh! that I could but join the merry throng,
United subjects of our Queen of Song!
Rigorous illness keeps me to my chair:

Let me in spirit, if not form, be there.
I wish you all that heart *can* wish: Good health,
Very much pleasure, fame, success, and wealth.
Ever the best of husbands—best of wives,
Sweet Happiness smile on you all your lives!

JOHN P. HARRINGTON.

QUEEN'S PALACE.

The biggest contribution to the programme at the Queen's this week is furnished by Mr. Fred G. Brooke and Miss Dora Deane's new dramatic episode, entitled

"THE DESTROYERS."

Henry Carfax ..... MR. FRED MORGAN.
Stephen Bryce ..... MR. FRED G. BROOKE
Dr. Kelway ..... MR. HARRY HILLIER
Prof. Houseman ..... MR. RICHARD COWELL
May Houseman ..... MISS ISLA GARNET VAYNE
Diana Carfax ..... MISS DORA DEANE

Out of the scores of sketches written by Mr. Fred G. Brooke and Miss Dora Deane, *The Destroyers* may be put down as one of their best efforts. Some originality is shown in the plot and in the manner of weaving it into a stage story. Twenty years previous to the time at which the play opens, Professor Houseman, an inventor, had invented a wonderful explosive. Henry Carfax, a ruined financier, proposes to purchase the patent, and after an agreement has been arranged between him and Houseman as to the price, he gives the inventor a cheque, which is not worth the paper it is written on. Houseman denounces Carfax for playing such a trick upon him, and in a violent scene the financier assaults the inventor, while Carfax's private secretary, Stephen Bryce, also attempts to secure the formula of the explosive, and in a dastardly manner blinds Houseman. Later there is a quarrel between Carfax and Bryce. The former discovers that his secretary has committed forgery in respect of a cheque, and the incriminating document is in the possession of the financier. Quite accidentally, and without any knowledge of her father's transactions, Miss Carfax is brought into contact with Houseman, to whom and to whose daughter she affords the shelter of Carfax Hall. Bryce succeeds in rendering Carfax insensible by means of a drug, and then gets possession of the fateful forged cheque. He drops it on the floor, and, in an instant, when his back is turned, Dr. Kelway, who has been a silent witness of the proceedings, picks it up and substitutes for it another, which Bryce, believing it to be the one he took from the pocket of his employer, burns. However, his revenge is apparently not complete yet. He incites Houseman to avenge the loss of his sight upon the financier by blinding him with vitriol. Leading the blind inventor to the chair in which Carfax sits in an unconscious state, he directs Houseman's hand which holds the glass containing the destructive liquid. Carfax recovers just in time to prevent the deed being committed, and gives the old man a heavy blow which fells him senseless to the ground. Dr. Kelway, however, restores Houseman, who regains his sight with the shock. He immediately recognises in Bryce the man who has done him so much injury, and Bryce, fearing the legal consequences of his various misdeeds, including the forgery, evidence of which, to his surprise, is still in existence, shoots himself after being struck blind by a flash of lightning. To Mr. Fred G. Brooke falls the most arduous task set to the members of the company. He plays the part of Stephen Bryce with thrilling dramatic force, and as a persuasive and accomplished villain he would be hard to beat. An interesting character-study is presented by Mr. Richard Cowell as the aged and blind inventor, and Mr. Fred Morgan acts with subtlety in the rôle of Carfax. Miss Dora Deane submits a particularly pleasing portraiture of the good-hearted and benevolent daughter of the financier, and Miss Isla Garnet Vayne is winsome and engaging as May Houseman. Mr. Harry Hillier acquits himself creditably as the doctor. The sketch is extremely well mounted.

Excellent material is to be found in the rest of the programme. Miss Daisy Jerome's imitations of the greetings characteristic of the people of different nationalities, and her song about a little ragged urchin who stands outside a house in Park-lane wistfully watching a dinner-party, as well as the verses anent "a little pat of butter on the floor," which causes so many people to slip, form an attractive portion of the evening's entertainment. Miss Jerome is a versatile comedienne whose abilities have long been recognised. Miss Rose Hamilton discourses in entertaining fashion about members of West End clubs, concluding with a song about the "greatest of clubmen, the King." In Miss Maud Esmond we have a charming burlesque artist and vocalist, her songs, "You can't stop the sun from shining" and "Remember me to mother dear," being rendered in an expressive and sympathetic manner. The Gregson Comedy Trio make for merriment with their original speciality act, *The Dummy*. The whole turn is exceedingly funny, the doll duet being particularly amusing. Mr. Charlie Deane has a song with a moral in "Getting older," in which he points to the necessity, as the years roll on, of making provision for a helpless old age. The verses are sung in the right sympathetic strain, and are highly appreciated by the audience. The Brothers Corcoran, who, we learn, were formerly employed in the shipbuilding trade at the Thompson Shipyard, Sunderland, prove themselves to be capable instrumentalists. They give a fine performance of popular airs, including "Sing me to sleep" and "A little boy called Taps." The Swift Trio are seen and admired in an amazingly smart cycling act, and Happy Fritz, the Dutch boy, submits an attractive speciality dancing turn. The coloured pictures presented by the New Bioscope on the subject of "Mephisto's Son; or, A Night in Paris," are both interesting and vividly descriptive. Mr. Jack Woolf attends in his usual strenuous manner to the requirements of the establishment, and in the arrangements thereof are to be found evidence of his sound judgment and painstaking labours.

MR. HARRY CONLIN has settled pantomime with Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, of Edinburgh.

MUSIC HALL LADIES' GUILD.

This, the latest society for the assistance of the wives of artists who are in need of help through various causes, is now in working order. The officers of the society are among the most prominent of our lady artists, whilst the indefatigable secretary is Miss Anna de Grey, to whom all inquiries should be addressed at 69, Primrose Mansions, Prince of Wales'-road, Battersea Park. Messrs. J. B. Roberts and Co., of 312, Regent-street, W., have been appointed the solicitors to the society. We feel sure its work will be ennobled by the generosity of the women of the profession, who will be guided by delicacy and tact in their administration of relief to necessitous wives and children. The following is a list of donations:—

	£	s.	d.
Collected by Carter Livesey	2	17	0
John Nathan	2	0	0
R.Ns.	1	17	6
J. B. Roberts	1	10	0
Collected by F. Sinclair	1	6	4½
Miss H. King	1	1	0
H. E. Ebden	1	1	0
Mrs. Riley	1	1	0
Mrs. Bodie	1	1	0
Dan Thomas	1	1	0
Miss Bella Bijou	1	1	0
Collected by M. Prentiss	1	0	0
" " Miss Katie Butler:—			
W. S.	1	0	0
Malcolm Scott	0	5	0
Geo. Mozart	0	5	0
Collected by Mrs. Erroll and M. Jackson	0	16	3
" " May Vulcana	0	15	6
" " Mrs. Erroll	0	13	0
" " "Griff"	0	13	0
Mrs. W. Poluski	0	10	6
W. D. Chipchase	0	10	6
C. P. Richards	0	10	6
Kitchen	0	10	0
Mr. Chirgwin	0	10	0
Anon.	0	10	0
Little Ganty	0	10	0
Nat Clifford	0	10	0
— Harris	0	10	0
La Milo	0	5	0
Mrs. R. Wallett	0	5	0
Fred Land	0	5	0
Mrs. J. H. Hamilton	0	5	0
Mr. Ben Albert	0	5	0
Mrs. F. Leslie	0	5	0
Anon.	0	5	0
Collected by Miss B. Braham	0	3	8
Miss M. Stansfield	0	3	6
Miss D'Orville	0	3	0
Miss Burns	0	2	6
Mrs. Erroll	0	2	6
Miss A. Hazel	0	2	6
La Monte	0	2	6
Miss G. Hasto	0	2	6
Anon	0	2	6
Mrs. Thomas	0	2	6
Miss Ada Fawn	0	2	6
Mrs. Pounds	0	2	6
Miss M. Radcliffe	0	2	6
"John"	0	2	6
Adele de Frere	0	2	6
Anon.	0	2	0
Collected by Mrs. G. Smythson	0	1	6
Miss Moxon	0	1	6
Miss F. Fields (P.O.)	0	1	0
Donations of clothing from Mrs. Stratton Mills, Miss Lilian Lea, Miss L. Burnand, Mrs. Ginnett, Sisters Slater.			

THE offers from ladies who desire to assist at the matinée at the Canterbury on Nov. 27 are coming in very freely. Seats can be now secured at the box office or on application to Mr. Fred Miller. The advertisement inserted by the Guild in *The Era* of last week has resulted in an engagement being obtained for a necessitous artist. Any lady wishing to join the Guild will please address Miss De Grey, 69, Primrose-mansions, Prince of Wales's-road, Battersea. Gifts of children's boots and shoes and clothing will be gladly received and judiciously allotted.

MR. TOM MELLOR, in conjunction with Mr. Ernest Leathley, will shortly be seen on the London variety stage in a novel and original act, entitled "My latest song." Some of the best-known agents are on the *qui vive*. The novelty is, we understand, by Mr. Mellor himself, who was partly responsible for "The wooden hut" rage and the "Bamboo bungalow" craze.

MR. DONALD HALL, a recruit from the regular stage, will shortly produce at a West End hall Mills and Scott's charming descriptive ballad, "Will you dance with me, Marie?" This song reverts to the style made popular by the late Chas. Godfrey. The melody is plaintive, and occasionally passionate, and lingers pleasantly in the ear.

"SKYLAND," by Harrington and Tate, with which Mr. Charles McNaughton is making such a phenomenal success in *The Belle of Mayfair*, on tour, is being eagerly snapped up by pantomime producers, who "know a good thing when they see it," and already it has been "booked" for Liverpool and other important cities. It certainly promises to be the favourite topical song of the year. The Monte Carlo Publishing Company, who issue the song, are charging a fee for pantomimes.

THE Monte Carlo Publishing Company's newest publication, a coon motto song, "You don't miss de water," by Harrington and Tate, which is being "featured" on the "halls" by Mesdames Frances Letty and Esta Stella, bids fair to become one of this pantomime season's greatest "hits." Although the firm is charging a fee, it has been accepted by such good judges as Mr. F. W. Wyndham for his various theatres, Mr. Herbert Cottesmore for the Shakespeare, Liverpool, and many other prominent pantomime producers.

MISS ALICE LLOYD has been scoring very heavily at the Palace, Hammersmith, during the past week with the Monte Carlo Publishing Company's highly-successful song, "Queen of Old Samara," written and composed by J. F. Lambe. Miss Lilian Doreen is also singing this tuneful number at all her engagements with conspicuous success. The pantomime demands for this song have already been unprecedentedly great.

MISS CLARICE MAYNE will, on Monday next, sing two of the Monte Carlo Publishing Company's songs—viz., "She didn't come from Borneo," by Paul Pelham, Newton Butts, and Herbert Rule, and "You don't miss de water," by Harrington and Tate, both at the Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue (where she starts a fresh six weeks' engagement), and the Empire, Hackney. Miss Rose Hamilton will also sing "She didn't come from Borneo" in the halls, and will make a special feature of "Queen of Old Samara" in pantomime at Glasgow.

MR. ALF. GIOVANNELLI has been engaged as clown by Mr. Samuel James in one of his next Christmas productions. This makes Mr. Giovannelli's fifth season as an impersonator of Joey.

MR. GODFREY A. YATES, the well-known agent, owing to the increase of his business, has taken larger offices, close to all stations and theatres, at 41, Mount-pleasant, Liverpool.

MISS LENA VERDI, who is meeting with great success on tour, goes to the Crown Theatre, Peckham, for pantomime, to play Gretchen in *Mother Goose*.

To Pantomime Managers, Producers, & Artists.

M. WITMARK & SONS

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MOON DEAR.
LITTLE FAWN. A Prairie Episode.
WILL YOU LOVE ME IN DECEMBER AS YOU DO IN MAY?
I COULD LEARN TO LOVE A SOLDIER.
THE SONG BIRD. An Indian Love Song.
AMERICANA.
I'M THE COON LOTHARIO.
HELLO—ALL RIGHT—GOOD-BYE.

THERE ARE SEVERAL LITTLE REASONS.
PANSY, PANSY.

... AND ...

Miss RACHEL LOWE'S Song Successes:

THEY ALL GO TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY *(The Dame Song of the Year),*
KETTLES TO MEND, And
ANY RAGS? *(Now Free for Pantomime.)*

PANTOMIME

THE SONGS OF THE SEASON.

Production Songs.

THE SHADOW OF THE PYRAMID.
Sung with enormous success by MISS MAY MARS.
THE WITCH BEHIND THE MOON.
IN A BIRCH CANOE.
DOWN BY THE COCOANUT PALMS.
MY LADY OF LACES AND GRACES
(Another "Cosy Corner Girl").
DEAR OLD PUMPKIN MAN.
QUEEN OF ZULULAND.
DE BUGABOO MAN.
MY JAPANESE CHERRY BLOSSOM.
LUCY LINDA LADY.
MY INDIAN PRINCESS.

Chorus Songs.

I'VE GOT NO RIGHT TO LOVE YOU, BUT I DO.
IN MY MERRY MOTOR 'BUS.
ANY OLD PLACE WHERE THE LIGHTS ARE LOW.
LITTLE MISS NO ONE FROM NOWHERE.
THE GIRL WHO CARES FOR ME.
YOU'RE THE FLOWER OF MY HEART, SWEET ADELINE.
HE'S MY PAL.
KATE KEARNEY.
NORAH FLORODORA.
A SWEETHEART FOR EVERY DAY.
YOU'RE MY HEART'S DESIRE; I LOVE YOU, NELLIE DEAN.

Ballads.

(SUITABLE FOR FAIRY QUEEN).

LOVE ME, AND THE WORLD IS MINE.
(The latest American ballad hit.)
IN DREAMLAND.
GARDEN OF LIFE.
THE LOVE-LORN LILY.
STAR OF MY LIFE.
JUST IDLE DREAMS.
IN LOVELAND.
THE GARDEN OF LOVE.
YOU AND I ALONE.
GOODNIGHT, BELOVED.
THE ROSE AND THE VIOLET.

The American House.

Comic Songs.

NOTHING LIKE THAT IN OUR FAMILY.
MY WORD, WHAT A LOT OF IT!
NONSENSE.
ALL I NEEDED WAS THE MONEY.
JINGLES, JOKES, AND RHYMES.
DEAR OLD PROVERBS.
ALL IN THE LINE OF DUTY.
THE WAITER LAUGHED.
THE OTHER WAY.
IN A PECULIAR WAY OF HIS OWN.

Musical Comedy Successes.

HONEYMOON HALL.
BY THE OLD OAK TREE.
THOSE LOVING EYES.
WON'T YOU BE MY LOVEY DOVEY?
JUST MY STYLE.
SINCE I FIRST MET YOU.
TO HOO, TO YOU.
FREDDIE.
MY HONG KONG BABY.
JUST TO PLEASE YOU, SUE.

The American House.

March Songs.

I'M CRAZY 'BOUT A BIG BRASS BAND.
TO ARMS.
CUPID IS THE CAPTAIN OF THE ARMY.
THE GAY BOHEMIAN KNIGHTS.
THE CIRCUS BAND.
MARCHING ON.
GOOD-BYE, EYES OF BLUE.
KISS ME, GOOD-NIGHT, SWEETHEART.
THE COONVILLE CULLUD BAND.
JOHNNY IN THE ARMY
I WILL ALWAYS THINK OF YOU.

Rough Coon Songs.

BILL SIMMONS; or, I'VE GOT TO DANCE TILL THE BAND GETS THROUGH.
WHY DON'T YOU QUIT, QUIT, QUIT?
I'VE GOT SUFFIN' ON MY MIND.
DON'T YOU EVER COME IN WITHOUT KNOCKING?
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WHEN YOU LOVE A GAL?
'CAUSE I ONLY HAD A QUARTER TO MY NAME.
SALLY ANN.
GOODNIGHT, EVANGELINE.
YOU'LL NEVER MOUNT TO NOTHING IF YOU STICK TO ME.

Dainty Soubrette Songs.

THE MAN, THE MAID, AND THE MOON.
THE MODEL LITTLE MAID.
A LITTLE GIRL LIKE ME.
A LITTLE HOME IN MY HEART FOR YOU.
MR. MOON WINKS HIS EYE.
IF I SHOULD.
TRICKS; or, PUT IT IN YOUR REPERTOIRE.
SHE READS THE LONDON PAPERS EVERY DAY.
DEARIE.
DAINTY LITTLE MAID.
I LOVE YOU ALL THE TIME.

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STEINIE.
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ON THE ROCKY ROAD TO DUBLIN.
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BEWARE OF THE BRIGAND BOLD!
Certain winners—
McCORMICK and
YOU'RE THE BEST LITTLE QUEEN IN THE PACK.

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CREEPY CREEPS.
DANCE OF THE WHITE RATS.
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LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE OXFORD.

To Miss Marie Lloyd Mr. Blyth-Pratt gives the proud title of "queen of all comediennes." The little woman is pre-eminently a British product, and without the coaching and training of schools has grown into a great artist by the sheer force of genius. She resembles Judic in her audacity, and her seemingly unconscious accentuation of the sauciest lines is quite French also. One may note this in her first song, "The custom of the country"—which, by the way, is quite as successful at the Oxford as it is elsewhere; and there is quite a world of meaning in her utterance of the cabalistic phrase, "Tiddley-om-pom-pom," which forms the refrain of the inimitable Marie's song as the Cockney-Espana señorita, with a keen sense of the amenities of civilisation in a southern clime. A characteristic touch of Iberian civilisation is a suggestion of the barbaric in just a taste of the Moorish dance. In another number the popular favourite imparts to the audience her confidences as a lady susceptible to the gallantries of an adorable stranger on a railway journey. Miss Lloyd had a very warm greeting on Monday, when she had just returned from her short honeymoon, and by their persistent applause the audience sounded a note of congratulation which must have been very gratifying to her.

Mr. Harry Randall has unfortunately been absent for several nights through indisposition; and on the evening of our visit his place on the programme was filled by Mr. Will Edwards, who found plenty of appreciation for his comic description of a "beano." In his final contribution he detailed the delirious and erratic fancies of a nightmare, in the course of which the sufferer is supposed to harangue his "fellow gaol-birds and brother sherbert-shifters." In this humorous number he scored most unmistakably, and his success is all the more creditable as he won it under the anonymity of the word "deputy." Mr. Ernest Shand has another curate song—this time with the text "Dearly Beloved"—and the adventures of the "unworldly" person give rise to shouts of laughter, which are continued while Ernest of the voluminous coat remarks "What weather we're having!" with sundry embellishments that have nothing whatever to do with meteorology. Brown and Le Clerq again prove that the public can never tire of good sketch by the reception they get in that crusted specimen of negro farce, entitled *Black Justice*, with the success of which "Big Ben," at any rate, has been associated for something like thirty years. Comedy of the Dutch-American pattern seems to have been most successfully acclimatised by Fanny Fields, who is, however, not quite happy when she introduces gags concerning St. Peter and Paradise. It is injudicious and without a particle of the real wholesome fun that is to be discovered, for instance, in the duologue turn of the Poluskis, who go for "laughs," and see that they get them.

A turn cast in an original mould is that presented by the smart acrobatic Mackweys, whose knockabout act on the wire and on terra firma is just the very thing for a pantomime. The business throughout is indescribable, but is very laughable and—when first one of the partners and then the other slides from the stage and drops into the auditorium just behind the orchestra—sensational. If the Mackweys escape serious injury in their business it is certainly from no lack of energy. Doody and Wright amuse early comers, who also appreciate the turn of Miss Edie King, recently described in our columns. Miss Alexandra Dagmar, with her fine physique and admirable voice, is very entertaining as a Viennese soubrette; Miss Annie Purcell's success as a vocalist is thoroughly deserved; Mr. Russell Wallett is diverting as "The Lady in Black"; Mr. T. E. Dunville's mirthful manifestations are of the true Dunvillian brand; and the programme has other attractions in Hackenschmidt, George Bastow, the Stella Troupe, and Arthur Roberts and Co. in *The Woman Who Was*.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

The usual large and delighted audiences assemble here nightly to enjoy the very liberal and carefully-selected bill of fare provided for their delectation by the enterprising management of this popular resort. Loud laughter and prolonged applause is the order of the night at every performance. The most remarkable turn on the bill is that of Miss Kate Carney, who is accorded at every house the great reception which she always gets at this establishment. Miss Carney first sings in her own inimitable style "I am coming back to you," in which she is warmly applauded, and then appears in her latest production, entitled *Brighton Promenade*, supported by fifty artists. The famous Coster Queen is as bright and vivacious as ever, and is, if possible, even a greater favourite here. Mezzetti and Mora, in a comedy triple-bar performance, prove themselves artists of exceptional excellence on the horizontal bar; Charles R. Whittle, billed as a peculiarly quaint and taking comedian, fully deserves this description, and in his songs, entitled "Nothing like this" and "Billy Muggins," causes much hearty laughter. Ted and May Hopkins, the Welsh comedy couple, sing of Cambrian courtship in a manner to provoke much merriment, and their dialogue is smart and novel.

Miss Daisy O'Malley dances with much grace and agility, and is a warm favourite, her singing of "Rosie McKee" being especially good. Barton and Ashley's quaint comedy turn evokes roars of laughter, their patter being really funny.

Arthur Reece makes a very welcome appearance here, and in "When there's a girl about" has found a song peculiarly adapted to his own style of interpretation, the popular comedian being well received. The Stein-Eretto Troupe give a really marvellous exhibition of skill, and their wonderful speciality, viz., that of jumping to the top of three tables on both hands, calls forth tumultuous applause. Miss Amy Sullivan is also included in the programme and proves herself an attractive and charming comedienne.

Another welcome feature in the generous bill is the American Bioscope, which exhibits many amusing and interesting pictures, including the Fishguard route to Ireland, &c., and these pictures are now an established turn in many variety theatres and prove most enjoyable to the majority of those present. The splendid orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Louis la Rondelle, "discourse most excellent music." The overture, "Poet and Peasant," being admirably rendered. The managing director must be congratulated on the skill which week after week enables him to find a succession of artistes so thoroughly suited to the taste of his patrons, and Mr. Ernest Bridgen, the popular resident-manager, must be complimented on the admirable order maintained in front of the house and on the courteous and obliging demeanour of all his staff.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

The most important item in the current bill at the Islington Empire is the dramatic sketch, entitled *My Pal Jerry*, a sequel to *The Bloomsbury Burglars*, by Messrs. H. Boden and Lew Lake. The first scene represents the Central Criminal Court, and the two pals Jerry and Nobbler, are being tried for burglary. Most of the proceedings are uproariously comic, the two prisoners interrupting judge, counsel, and witnesses in the most outrageous manner possible. The unfortunate constable who took the men into custody bears conspicuous marks of the rough usage he met with at their hands; and even the court officials are not exempt from their violent and unprovoked attacks. However, the disorderly behaviour of the prisoners, strangely tolerated by the Judge, who is addressed as "Old Father Christmas," is the cause of incessant merriment on the part of the audience. The more farcical the doings in Court the heartier becomes the laughter; but all the same this portion of the sketch might be shortened with advantage. In the next scene—Pentonville Prison—the pals, though confined in their respective cells, hold an animated conversation, and while one is visited by his "donah" the other receives the sympathetic attentions of his wife and some half dozen children. The scene is also enlivened by a row between the two ladies. The pals are next found at the Portland quarries, where a riot takes place, and they make their escape. But Jerry is mortally wounded by a shot from the gun of a warder, and the sketch concludes with a most pathetic and touching death scene. Nobbler, although the prison officials are in active pursuit, refuses to leave the side of his dying pal, and consequently is caught and handcuffed, previous to being taken back to prison. The sketch is well played by Mr. Lew Lake and his associates, and is most effectively staged.

Mr. Tom Leamore, a comedian who is well known in North London, sings his ditties, "The prodigal son" and "Rufus" with all his old success, finishing with an eccentric dance that elicits quite a storm of applause. The famous Abdullah Arabs are here this week, and their skill in the formation of human pyramids is acknowledged by loud applause. Equally wonderful are their tumbling feats, which they perform to the accompaniment of wild ejaculations and encouraging shouts from the members of the troupe who are for the time being spectators only. Mr. Dennis Drew is the central figure in his scena, *A Bit of a Soldier*, and his robust rendering of a military song is deserving of much praise. He is supported by a chorus of soldier lads, the smallest of whom takes the command, to the amusement of the audience. A capital performance is given by Dezmonti and Mora in their comedy bar act. Mora is a funny little fellow, who is also clever in his business. Dezmonti's work on the bar is marked by much skill, and he is also graceful in his movements. The combination is an excellent one, and the turn is warmly appreciated. The Sisters Jonghmanns sing in their usual pleasing and artistic style "Manitoba" and "Eileen Alannah"; Mr. Walter Stanley, comedian, has a successful ditty in "I'm glad I live in England." Hicks' Clerks shine both as vocalists and comedians; Miss Edie King, comedienne and dancer, gracefully illustrates national dances; Mr. Pat Rafferty, Irish comedian, is also in the bill, and "How the jail birds flew" is presented by the bioscope. In the absence of Mr. J. L. Wilson, Mr. Harry Blight, acting-manager, looks carefully after the front of the house.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

Talent in brilliant array is this week presented at the Camberwell hall, the programme at which might well be said to match the entire evening's show at variety houses of more remote days. A sketch on an elaborate scale is found in *The Mystery of the Cliff*, which had its initial representation at the Bedford a fortnight ago. The little piece represents Mr. Will Evans, so widely popular as a humorist, in the light of a pathetic writer, in collaboration with that practised playwright, Mr. Tom Craven. The sketch deals with an incident on the sea-coast, in which an adventuress, foiled in her endeavours at blackmail, pushes an old man over a cliff, allowing the odium of the crime to rest upon the shoulders of the victim's son. A local clergyman with a mania for taking snapshots ingeniously conceives the occurrence, and reproduces it at a cinematograph entertainment in the schoolroom. A dramatic moment is reached when the picture is displayed on the screen, and the guilty woman, who is present among the audience, collapses in terror. The part of a naval lieutenant affords opportunity for Mr. Ernest Leicester to appear at his best, and his virile acting and forcible delivery gain the heartiest appreciation. Miss Violet Fulton represents the adventuress with concentrated passion and deep intensity, and Miss Cissy Farrell plays with gentleness and refinement as the village schoolmistress. Comedy is furnished at the hands of Mr. Sid Craven as an eccentric curate and Miss Jessica Lait as his sweetheart, and Mr. Archibald McLean acts powerfully as the luckless father. The sketch, which contains three scenes, is beautifully mounted, and a handsome oil-painting of the chief scene which graces the vestibule of the hall excites much comment.

Comedy of the lightest and brightest kind is provided in *Hooked by Crook*, a trifle presented by Mr. Homer B. Mason and Miss Marguerite Keeler. The little piece is highly diverting, Mr. Mason exercising a constantly hilarious effect as a light-hearted burglar, who gives novel imitations at the piano, and Miss Keeler acting with charm and delicacy as a young fiancée, her lover being played in excellent style by Mr. Henry Travers. Collins and Rice also have a slight sketch representative of an actress's dressing-room, and laughter loud and long comes of its presentation, while a comic recitation at the end, in which the lady joins, is effectively rendered.

The popularity of Verno and Voyce is well maintained in their episode of the newsboy and the naval officer, the powerful voice of one member of the duo and the clever string of verses on popular periodicals reeled off by his partner meeting with enthusiastic acknowledgment. The Athos Troupe provoke admiration for the wonderful way in which they juggle with balls bounced on the stage, an innumerable number being kept going in this way by a trio of performers. Their acrobatic feats are also skilfully executed, especially notable being a series of what might be termed head-tumbling by one member of the troupe. Vocal obbligatos are given to their musical selections by Barton and Franklin, who appear in handsome Scottish uniforms. They extract melody from bamboo bells, render the prison scene from *Il Trovatore* on concertinas, and perform Sullivan's "Lost Chord" impressively on bells and tubes. An encore is loudly demanded, and a spirited sand-dance gives evidence of uncommon versatility. Tennyson and Wallis, who are in the programme of the first house, deputised on Wednesday at the second for Mr. Pat Rafferty, and put the assembly into the heartiest mirth with their "cross-talk," which has an agreeably original flavour, while their duet, "When they get old," has sentiment as well as humour. Mr. Jack Lane, as a yokel, indulges in some funny "patter," which keeps the house highly amused. Miss Sylvia Du Barri's cultivated soprano is heard agreeably in a "Toreador" song and in "Sing me to sleep," the ballads being rendered with such feeling as to win the warmest applause. Miss Lily Lena sings a couple of songs in the smartest style, the three Sisters Silcott make the jolliest "Middies" imaginable, and dance with rare neatness, and the well-varied pictures on Vernon's Bioscope create great interest. Mr. Leon A. Bassett controls his musical staff with his customary judicious care; Mr. P. A. Lennon is tactful and untiring in the discharge of his duties as manager; while Mr. J. J. Fruin at his post of observation in the box-office has the pleasure of welcoming the rush of patrons which nightly occurs at the opening of the doors.

MISS RAY MASKELL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will you kindly correct a report in circulation to the effect that I have received a sum of money from the V.A.F. as a death levy for the late Eddie Harvey? This is entirely wrong, as I have not had one penny. I was promised a certain amount, but up to the present I have not received it.

I should like this fact made public in order to put a stop to further false reports.—Yours faithfully,

RAY MASKELL.

BANQUET TO MR. T. P. O'CONNOR, M.P.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., was banqueted at the Hotel Astor, New York, on the 19th ult., by the Music Publishers' Association of the United States. The "college room," where the publishers assembled to honour their distinguished guest, whose notable achievement in connection with uniting all factions in Parliament and securing their endorsement in the passage of the new Copyright Bill they wished especially to commend and commemorate, was suitably decorated for the occasion. Mr. J. F. Bowers, president of the association, presided, and in a few neat, tactful, and appropriate remarks introduced Mr. O'Connor, whose formal address on the copyright situation as existing in the United Kingdom, and his detailed narrative of how Bills are brought before and obstructed in Parliament, together with his many witty sallies apropos of the subject, was listened to attentively and greatly relished, generous applause greeting his telling points, which were frequent and neatly turned. At the close of his address Mr. O'Connor was presented with a set of laudatory resolutions on behalf of

T. P. O'CONNOR, ESQ., M.P.

the association. They are to be artistically engrossed and forwarded to the recipient, who acknowledged the honour in a brief and graceful rejoinder.

The entire affair was managed in excellent taste, and the work leading up to this very satisfactory result was accomplished only after rapid, strenuous, and untiring work on the part of a number of New York publishers, who took the initiative and assumed the responsibility until relieved by the executive committee of the association. Friday last Isidore Witmark, of M. Witmark and Son, Fred B. Haviland, of the F. B. Haviland Publishing Co., and Leo Feist held an informal conference as to ways and means and the scope of the proposed function. Believing it too important an occasion to confine its observance to the local publishers, they wired President Bowers in Chicago to preside. He accepted promptly, and notified Secretary Bayly in Washington, D.C. In the meantime Mr. O'Connor had returned to New York, and on being waited upon expressed his pleasure in accepting an invitation to meet the publishers, to whom he would gladly give an entire evening, as he considered it too significant an occurrence to accord less time, and therefore would cancel any engagement that his numerous friends and political allies were constantly making, for his every working hour evidently—night and day—had been parcelled out. Subsequently, Friday (the 19th ult.) was substituted to suit the convenience of the guest, when a special committee waited upon him, escorting him from his hotel to the Astor banquet room.

In the meantime the publishers of New York were personally canvassed, and nine-tenths immediately pledged their hearty co-operation. The executive committee held its first meeting Tuesday, the following being present:—J. L. Tindale, of G. Schirmer; Leo Feist; Jay Witmark, of M. Witmark and Sons, and E. T. Paull, of E. T. Paull Music Co.; B. S. Cragin, of Charles H. Ditson and Co.; Isidore Witmark, of M. Witmark and Sons; and Nathan Burkan, attorney for the association, were invited to participate. Letters had been despatched to out-of-town members, and such other essential work as was already under way was detailed and approved. In the afternoon Messrs. Feist and Burkan, as a committee, called upon Mr. O'Connor at the Prince George Hotel, where he was sojourning during his stay in the city, when the formal invitation from the association was tendered and pleasantly accepted.

On Thursday, the 18th ult., a second conference of the full committee was held at the Hotel Manhattan, President Bowers in the chair. Messrs. Walter M. Bacon, with White-Smith Publishing Co.; George W. Furniss, with Oliver Ditson Co., Boston; Walter S. Fischer, of Carl Fischer, New York; and Chas. B. Bayly, the missing members at the first meeting, in attendance. The final arrangements were then completed.

LONDON ENTERTAINMENTS' PROTECTION SOCIETY.

A largely attended meeting of members of the London Entertainments' Protection Society was held on Wednesday to consider their position with regard to music-hall sketches in view of recent proceedings. Last week Mr. Graydon, of the Middlesex, and Mr. Gros, of the Metropolitan, were prosecuted for performing stage plays in a place not licensed for such performances, and were mulcted in costs. Mr. George Adney Payne, Tivoli and Oxford, states that it has been decided to secure adequate representation before the Courts for the artists affected by this persecution. He would not call it merely prosecution.

MISS DAISY JAMES, through our columns, desires to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy with her in her recent sad bereavement.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

There is a time-honoured impression that "old friends are the best," and it would seem to be verified in the programme that Mr. Arthur J. Barclay is enabled to present here for the current week. Out of the ten "numbers" announced on the bill five are familiar favourites, while another—Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope—had not a look in on Monday night owing to lack of time. It may be well to begin with the boys (and girl) of the old brigade, leaving the absolute novelties to the end. Mr. Dave O'Toole sings a couple of songs in his own dry manner, and is well received. A very popular "turn" is that of Miss May Mars, who, appearing first in the tights of orthodox fashion, sings capitally an appropriate song, and afterwards gives her picturesque embodiment of a Cleopatra-like lady, with the scene representing the Pyramids and the Sphinx. The statuesque grace of the singer and her fine declamatory style are productive of much enjoyment. Miss Mars richly deserves the great applause with which her performance is greeted. Terry and Bentley repeat an act that has made them popular here before now. The couple sing well, dance well, and look well; while the acrobatic performance of the gentleman elicits unstinted applause. Another well-tried favourite is Mr. Charles Mildare, whose whistling proclivities have been tested and not found wanting on several occasions. Mr. Mildare's imitations of various birds are marvellously true, and afford the most unbounded delight. A turn that has before now won favour here is that of Stirling and Love. The command of various instruments possessed by the gentleman is simply wonderful, while the lady sings agreeably. Together they manage to produce an artistic and animated show.

A large portion of the time allotted to each performance nightly is occupied by the sensational sketch, *Grip; or, the Fatal Hand*, played by George Kirk and his company. This is the story of a young woman tempted by the wicked devices of evildoers to desert her lover the moment a flimsy pretext is presented to her, and to marry the villain-in-chief, who, with his accomplice in crime (a lady), only want Alice to act as a decoy at their gambling-house. Of course, before the final fall of the curtain the rough places are made smooth, and justice is meted out all round, chiefly owing to the doings of a "man with three fingers" called Grip and a little girl of the "slavey" order named Judy. The piece is effective enough in its way, and is cleverly played by the company engaged. Mr. George Kirk himself acts Grip with a decided grip of the character. His cool, inflexible and masterful bearing towards the bad people is most effective. Duberg (the Viper) is well played by Mr. George Langdon, who is equally diabolical in evening dress and in workman's clothes. The banker, Sterling, is played by Mr. Monson Thorpe. Miss Connie Laurie is full of resource and smartness as the child of the street, Judy, and is received as prime favourite with the audience almost from her first entrance. Miss Gwendolen Thorpe, with nervous tension, plays the unfortunate victim, Alice. Miss Marie Collings is a handsome and bold "wretch" (companion to Duberg), speaking her lines with refreshing distinctness. *Grip* is elaborately mounted. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope winds up the programme, which is opened by an overture, "His Majesty's March," written by Mr. H. Petersen, and conducted by the composer. Mr. Geo. F. Slatter looks after the front of the house with his customary tact and skill.

ROYAL ALBERT.

Affairs at the Royal Albert are now in full swing, and the house is being patronised to such an extent that it will almost appear advisable for Mr. Arthur G. H. Hunt, the proprietor, to enlarge his seating accommodation at some time or other. Already he is having plans prepared for a new frontage, which will be decorated in elaborate fashion by marble pillars and statues. The alteration will be effected within a few months, and the building when completed bids fair to become one of the architectural sights of Canning Town. The system of two houses a night, which Mr. Hunt inaugurated at the re-opening of the Royal Albert, has proved successful even beyond his anticipations.

This week one of the chief attractions is furnished by Miss Ella and her troupe of forest-bred lions. One is struck with the lady's daring. She arouses the anger of one of the beasts, and almost before he has ceased roaring his annoyance, she places her arm in his mouth, then her face, in a manner that seems to invite disaster. Yet her influence over the creature is apparently so strong as to ensure her own safety. At her bidding, too, four lions perform various feats, such as jumping over pedestals, and engage in various other forms of acrobatics. In spite of the seemingly complete control Miss Ella has over her troupe, much of what one sees her doing in the cage is exceedingly thrilling. For an amusing cross-talk turn we can commend Messrs. F. W. Nash and T. H. Noel, who prove themselves to be versatile comedians and smart dancers. Miss Minnie Morán is a delightfully engaging comedienne and dancer, and her whole business receives the hearty approval of the audience. Musical clowns who are not content to give a hackneyed show are to be found in Messrs. Alec Huline and Tom Le-May. Both of these gentlemen contrive to be original, and funny.

Mr. Peter Gotz, who, according to the programme, bears the reputation of being the lightweight champion wrestler of the world, is on in an interesting exhibition of strength and skill. Gotz is the winner of two international championship belts, one light-weight and the other middle-weight. He has defeated many champions, and he now offers the sum of £5 to anyone of 10st. 6lb. whom he fails to throw in fifteen minutes, and £25 to the man of same weight who defeats him. Perhaps the most instructive portion of his act is a demonstration wherein he shows how to deal with a hooligan who suddenly pounces upon a law-abiding pedestrian, and of course everybody goes away from the hall with the pleasant assurance that he is prepared for all emergencies. Mr. Gotz's performance concludes with a wrestling bout with, presumably, a stranger. Mr. Harry Bancroft is an actor-vocalist whom it is a pleasure to listen to. His song, "Rich little boy," is sung with appropriate expression and feeling, and the number is highly appreciated by the house. Miss Emmie Ames makes for merriment with her latest success, "Presents from my Christmas tree." A huge stand laden with scores of those pretty toys that children delight in at the festive season is placed in the centre of the stage, and as Miss Ames picks out an article from the collection she sings an appropriate verse. Mr. Nero Bianco deals in illusions, and one's curiosity is aroused when a lady appears suddenly out of what was a second ago an empty barrel. The same lady is bound and placed inside a cabinet, which is opened less than a minute later and found to be rid of its former occupant. The Moxon Troupe provide an amusing acrobatic and equilibristic act, and also demonstrate their abilities on the concertina. Of course, the programme at the Royal Albert would not now be complete without Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, and considerable attention is given to the latest films presented by the firm this week.

THE DUCHESS.

Record business is still the order of the day here, and Manager Ross, just returned from a well-earned though brief holiday, is again presenting to his patrons a most interesting and entertaining programme. The ball is started in no half-hearted manner by the Three Florodora Girls, with their interesting comedy, entitled *The Rival Sweethearts*. These artists put plenty of life into their performance, which they bring to a conclusion with some neat dancing. Dale and O'Malley are a couple of amusing comedians, the one who is addressed as "Archibald" being especially funny, his quaint style causing roars of laughter. Miss Mabel Thorne, a charming comedienne, has a couple of interesting numbers. In her first, entitled "Paint," she scores well; but it is in her second, that well-known number, "Rainy Day," that she is at her best, and the way the choruses of both of these are taken up by "the boys on the top shelf" is sufficient to show how much she is appreciated. Mr. Charles Whittle is a comedian whose refreshingly original style will soon carry him into the very front rank of our variety performers. His two songs, "America" and "Billy Muggins," are rendered in a most capable manner, the latter especially being a quaint and most humorous number. Harry Tate's company in *Motoring* is paying yet another of its periodical visits to this hall, and, if possible, the sketch seems to be more appreciated than ever. Although this popular comedian is at the moment in Africa, his deputy takes his part in such an efficient manner, that even those that are in "the know" might well be pardoned if they made a mistake. The Musical Schaffers, who seem to be able to extract music from anything, are paying their first visit here, and, judging by the manner they are received, it should not be long before they make another. They are presenting their novel turn, entitled *The Garden of Melody*, and a more appropriate name could certainly not have been chosen. These artists start with a melody played with funnels, and bring their turn to a conclusion with a pretty waltz played on revolving sunflowers. Miss Daisy Davidson, a New Zealand soprano, is the possessor of a charming voice, which she knows full well how to use, and it is a pity that time does not allow of her contributing more than one song. In the one she renders, however, her well-trained voice is heard to the greatest advantage, and hearty applause awaits her on concluding. Cruickshanks, who has not been here for some time, is again presenting his musical act, into which he introduces some new and laughable jokes. Amongst other songs, he gives a most amusing parody on "Under the old apple tree." Fred Karno's company is presenting that laughable sketch, *Moses and Son*, with the inimitable Fred Kitchen as Perkins, the caretaker. Whilst he is on the stage, this comedian is the cause of roars of laughter, and he receives most able support from Miss Leah Morris as Moses's daughter. Others who contribute their quota are Miss Janet Reeve, Miss Madge Rockingham, Mr. Landeck, and Mr. Anthony Gordon. This sketch is well mounted, and the scenery is effective. A capital evening's enjoyment is brought to a conclusion with some amusing pictures on the bioscope, that one depicting "the inexperienced chauffeur" causing roars of laughter. The orchestra, under Mr. Charles Longmaid, are heard to advantage in Sullivan's *Gondoliers*, and do full justice to the incidental music of the programme. Mr. Bertham C. Ross, the popular manager, by his tact and courtesy, continues to make hosts of friends, and Mr. L. Westcott Hicks is his acting-manager.

TWO HOUSES A NIGHT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—At the commencement of my theatrical (?) career I have the temerity to give my personal opinion in regard to this controversy, and I must admit it is rather curious to me that my attempt to woo the suffrages of theatregoers, after working the twice nightly music halls for so many years, should be coincident with the dawn—or is it merely a flash in the pan?—of two performances each night at the theatres. I think it would be safe to suggest that there is not a performer on the music hall stage who would not unhesitatingly admit that the system is injurious to the production of his best work. Therefore, it would seem only reasonable to conjecture how much more so must the said system militate against the gentle, refined, and subtle art of the actor.

Probably there is plenty of money in the theatres as—so far—we have been playing to capacity. Accordingly, may it not be the fault of the theatre manager himself who—being unable to cope with the novelty and originality of the music halls—"throws up both hands" and weakly imitates a system which must necessarily ever lend itself to great diversity of opinion.—Yours faithfully,

SERVAIS LE ROY
(Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco).

T. R., Darlington, Oct. 29.

THE Harvey Boys are making a big hit on tour with their new boxing act, *That was Me*. They open at the Hippodrome, Leeds, next week.

MISS BERTHA STUART, the favourite Scotch character ballad vocalist, who is meeting with the heartiest reception nightly at the Palace, Cork, is naturally very gratified at the compliments paid to her by Sir Alfred Dobbin, J.P., one of the directors, who has expressed himself as delighted with her singing.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

The fairs ahead for next week are:—Beverley, on the North Eastern Railway; Eastwood, on the Great Northern; Kirkby Stephen, on the North Eastern and Midland; Plymouth, on the Great Western and London and South Western; Portland, on the London and South Western; Rotherham, on the Midland and Great Northern; Scarcliffe, on the Lancashire, Derbyshire and East Coast; Penistone, on the Great Central; Heckmondwike, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Morpeth, on the North Eastern and North British; South Shields, on the North Eastern; Swaffham, on the Great Eastern; Alford, on the Great Northern; Alston (Cumb.), on the North Eastern; Biggleswade, on the Great Northern; Hertford, on the Great Eastern and Great Northern; Loughborough, on the Midland, Great Central, and London and North Western; Leeds, on the North Eastern, Midland, Great Central, and Great Western; Romsey, on the London and South Western; Biddenden, on the South Eastern; Easingwold, on the North Eastern; Thornaby, on the North Eastern; Bakewell, on the Midland; Camborne, on the Great Western; Carlisle, on the North Western, Midland, North Eastern, Maryport and Carlisle, North British, Glasgow and South Western and Caledonian; Cartmel, on the Furness; Egremont, on the Great Western and Furness; Farnham, on the Great Eastern; Hucknall, on the Midland; Kendal, on the London and North Western; Lancaster, on the London and North Western and Midland; Melton Mowbray, on the Midland, Great Northern, and London and North Western; Sutton-in-Ashfield, on the Midland; Wakefield, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire, Midland, Great Northern, Great Central, North Western, and Great Western; Wetherby, on the North Eastern.

In Scotland we have Alyth, on the Caledonian; Jedburgh, on the North British; Paisley, on the Caledonian, Glasgow and South Western, and Glasgow and Paisley (joint). In Wales there are Llangefeloch; Penygroes, on the London and North Western; and Penmorfa, on the Cambrian.

Kidwelly Great Fair opened on the 27th ult., but the fair day proper was the 29th, when a tremendous crowd of people, young and old, flocked in. In the fair-field Messrs. H. Studt and Sons occupied premier position with their Venetian gondolas, the shows present being Tom Wortley's model colliery village and Lerca's snakes, performing dogs, and knife-throwers. There were, we are sorry to say, two concerns of the kind denounced by the Rev. Thos. Horne a week or so ago as a disgrace to the profession. Had there been one good show, say a bioscope, instead of these two, things would go on better. Others present were Messrs. David Boswell, James Day, Edward Booth, and W. Evans, with their shooters, cocoanut sheets, mollies, &c., Turner's and the Don Photo Studios. Oxley, the wire king, had a well-appointed stall of gold wire work. Business was very good throughout.

After an absence of some 30 years, Mr. John Studt paid a visit to Kidwelly Fair on Monday, and was well received. With his usual generosity, on Tuesday he gave all the children of Kidwelly a free ride on his Venetian gondolas, the free rides lasting some eighty minutes; after which a hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Councillor A. Stephens, ex-Mayor of Kidwelly, and seconded by the Rev. Hugh Rees, B.A., curate of Llandurry.

John Cole's electrical leaping and switchback gondolas, with attendant cocoanut sheets, shooting galleries, &c., opened on the Broad Quay, Bath, last Saturday for a short season, and crowds of pleasure-seekers have availed themselves of the chance to enjoy all the "fun of the fair."

Princess Gooma and her Dahomey Warriors met with great success at Wishaw Fair last week. Friday, the 26th ult., was an interesting date in the annals of the Warriors, for on that occasion they celebrated their sixteenth anniversary. Mr. Tom Brown, the genial director for this long period, was the recipient of a handsome gold watch and massive gold chain. Princess Gooma was also presented by Mr. Bert Miles on behalf of the Warriors and staff with a beautiful brilliant brooch. Mr. Brown, in a few felicitous words, acknowledged the gifts, and after the show Princess Gooma and her Dahomey Warriors, with the whole of the staff, repaired to the Royal Hotel, where a sumptuous "spread" wound up a memorable day.

At Buckingham Fair the principal showmen and entertainers were Alf. Ball with bioscope and variety company, and F. Grey, with his famous aggregation of novelties, including the motor-car switchback track and galloping horses. This year, for the first time, the Buckingham people emulated the ox and sheep roasting so famous at the Warwickshire Mops. The celebrated champion ox roaster, Mr. George Luckett, of Stratford-on-Avon, was in charge of the arrangements for this new departure.

At Leighton Buzzard the pleasure fair following the statutes was provided by those well-known caterers Messrs. Barker and Thurston, with their cinematograph theatre and elaborate roundabouts; and with them were associated a number of fairground caterers attending their round. Alexander's circus, located for the fair-day in the town, drew immense crowds, and in another part of the town Mr. F. Gray, with his well-known entertainment, received a full share of public patronage.

The official answer to the Showmen's Petition against the abolition of Writtle Fair is to hand, and reads as follows:—

"Home Office,
"Oct. 25, 1906.

"Sir,—I am directed by the Secretary of State for the Home Department to acknowledge the receipt of your letter relating to Writtle Fair.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

"M. D. Chalmers.

"Rev. T. Horne."

This, of course, is the acceptance of the petition, which will be considered in its proper place when the matter comes before the Home Secretary for final decision.

The Rev. T. Horne is holding on Sunday next a series of meetings and conducting a service in connection with the Showmen's Guild at Rotherham. In the very early days of the Vandwellers' Society Mr. Horne was Curate of Whiston, Rotherham, and every year at the time of the Statute Fair meetings were held to make known the claims and work of the guild. Many friends were won to the showman's cause through the public advocacy of their business and trade rights at these annual meetings at the Statute Fair. It is a very good thing that these meetings are being resumed, for it is no small part of the work of the guild to educate and guide public opinion by means of open meetings presided over by gentlemen of local repute. Excellent examples of what we mean have been fully noticed in our columns during the last few weeks—notably the successful meetings at Gloucester and Hull.

Bridlington, a popular pleasure resort in the summer season, keeps its fair on Oct. 22, and was visited by Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie, Captain Tom Payne's bioscope, Westray's two ground booths, the freak exhibits, and the novelty show; these, with Professor Carvill's school of boxers, completed the show list. The steam horses and motor cars were those of W. Shipley and R. Marshall, J. Carvill provided swings, and there were a goodly array of shooting concerns, variety stalls, and throwing games.

NEW CENTURY PICTURES AT THE CURZON HALL, BIRMINGHAM.

Mr. Waller Jeffs, of New Century Picture fame, had a unique experience last Friday night (26th ult.) at the Curzon Hall, Birmingham. Messrs. Mason (late Draycott), the eminent Birmingham photographers, arranged to take a flash-light picture from the stage of the audience in this hall, and we have pleasure in inserting above a copy of this wonderful picture. It is astonishing that after a twelve weeks' season (twice daily, at 3 and 7.45) Mr. Jeffs has succeeded in keeping the interest of the Birmingham public to produce such an audience as we see depicted in the photograph above. The New Century Picture Company have for the last six years been giving seasons under Mr. Jeffs' management from twelve to twenty weeks in the Curzon Hall, and this long innings of two shows a day easily passes the record for any Birmingham place of amusement.

Mr. Jeffs' experience in pleasure travel leads him to choose travel pictures of the most interesting kind, while the pictures of the comic element are not overlooked. The fact that on one occasion recently there were over eighty clergymen counted in the audience at the Curzon Hall shows that the picture entertainment is acceptable to those who very seldom visit a theatre or music hall.

Mr. Jeffs has at the moment two other companies under his direction showing at Wolverhampton and Redditch. He is associated with Mr. Sydney H. Carter, of St. George's Hall, Bradford, who controls the Northern "New Century" companies, now numbering some seven distinct animated picture enterprises, together forming probably the largest organisation of the kind which runs regular and prolonged seasons in all the more important towns, besides others of lesser note.

"The city and district are much indebted to Mr. Waller Jeffs for having brought the people into touch with realistic and exact representations of the principal events and scenes in the world's more recent history.

"Instruction imparted by the means of the New Century Pictures at Curzon Hall has proved of great educational advantage to the city, and it is not surprising that the pictures continue to be very largely patronised, for Mr. Jeffs spares no pains or expense to keep right up to date."—*Birmingham Express*, Oct. 30, 1905.

Messrs. Green and Wallis's Carnival, held at the same time as Old Wigan Fair, has been, from every point of view, a big success. The crowd of entertainers, with concerns big and little, was equal to anything brought to Wigan in the palmy days of the Corporation Fair. Colonel Clark's coliseum of animated photography, Dyer's empire of varieties and cinematograph, Gal Hague's black and white boxers, and the well-known roundabout sets of every variety and up-to-date attractions of Messrs. Green, T. Hurst, W. Holmes, W. Mitchell, and gem sets by Messrs. Holmes and Green. The other caterers included J. Sharp, G. Wallis, The Lorenzos, Hall, Holmes, Dearden, Marsden, and Mesdames Bowser, Henshaw, Jewell, and Burton.

At Tewkesbury Fair a special feature was the benefit performance for the Nursing Institute, Hospital, and Dispensary, given by Mr. John Studt. The fair-ground attractions included Chipperfield's electrograph, Purchase's menagerie, Dooner's coliseum, and many minor novelties, in addition to the well-known concerns of Mr. John Studt.

The Mansfield Statutes Fair, which commenced on Thursday, was to be continued on Friday and to day. Among the shows is Buff Bill's menagerie.

THE FIGHT FOR BURSLEM WAKES.

Without accurate knowledge of all the local circumstances it is extremely difficult to deal effectively with attempts to interfere with the fairs of the people and to defend the trade and business interests of showmen and fairground traders. In order to obtain this inside information the hon. chaplain to the Showmen's Guild, the Rev. T. Horne, has spent some days this week in Burslem, the primary object of his visit being to deny in no measured terms the vile slanders heaped upon show-people by certain members of the Corporation when the wakes question was before that body, and to prove that show-people, as a class, are just as honest in their dealings, as industrious in their work, as cleanly in their habits and daily life as any other class in the community.

To show the need for this mission of defence on the behalf of travelling showmen, we have before us the alarmist statements of the enemies of the wakes, not only uttered in the Council Chamber, but since then repeated and amplified on public platforms at the recent municipal election.

We gave last week a full report (as given in the local Press) of the proceedings of the Town Council with reference to the fair. The main reasons given by the abolitionists were that it was (1) out of date and no longer required by the people, and that the shows were a source of noise and nuisance to the immediate residents of the fair-ground spaces, and (2)—and most serious of all—that the holding of the fair in the centre of the town was a danger to public health.

In a recent speech at a board meeting in connection with the municipal election, Councillor Brodie, the leader of the abolitionists on the Town Council, was severely heckled by indignant ratepayers and market traders on the question of his determined attack on the wakes.

In his reply he again emphasised the serious allegations he made in the Town Council. He insisted that the continuance of the fair was a menace to public health—they gave up the best streets and thoroughfares of the centre of their town once a year to noise, rowdyism, and insanitation. All ordinary traffic was disorganised, and in many cases business had to be suspended. The chairman of the Sanitary Committee would tell them that what the sanitary inspector reported after the last wakes was a disgrace to any town in the United Kingdom. The whole thing belonged to a time when amusements were not so easily or cheaply got, and working people were not blessed with the advantages that they were to-day.

The town, he argued, was spending thousands of pounds upon an infectious diseases hospital and sewage works, and he asked what was the good if they invited shows to bring in all this filth and thereby run the risk of bringing in infection into the town. It will be readily seen that charges of the character made by Mr. Brodie must have a most damaging effect upon public opinion. Before dealing with these serious allegations, the Rev. T. Horne called upon the sanitary inspector and asked for a copy of the report that had inspired Councillor Brodie. This, Mr. Horne was told, could not be given him without the consent of the Sanitary Committee. In the meanwhile the character of showmen must be dragged through the dirt and made the talk of the town upon the allegations of a secret report. The sanitary inspector entirely exonerated the great majority of show vans as being model dwellings in a sanitary sense, and when pressed for specific examples to the contrary could only hint at carelessness in dealing with rubbish and the emptying of slops—a fault even more common amongst the residents of towns than with travelling showmen.

There were, of course, the usual necessary cleansing of the streets incident to the influx of a crowd into the town upon the fair days; but as regards the terrible bogey of danger to public health, not one specific instance could be adduced. To vindicate their character in the minds of the people the showmen have issued

A MANIFESTO

In Defence of Burslem Wakes.

The Executive Committee of the Showmen's Guild appeal to the people of Burslem for fair play and justice. They protest with the warmest indignation against the vile slanders heaped upon them as touching the cleanliness and the sanitary and health conditions of their movable dwellings. They deny the truth of such statements as those made in the Borough Council concerning the danger to public health that the shows bring to the heart of the town at wakes' time. Their answer to these unjust aspersions is: They demand proof—proof clear and without doubt; they demand the name of the individual offender and the name of any one resident of Burslem whose health has been injured by the insanitary conditions of the shows at the wakes.

Vague and alarmist general statements do considerable damage, but they are not evidence, and the showpeople say, "Give us and our friends and patrons, the show-loving public, proof positive. We claim, and it is generally conceded by all unprejudiced observers of our daily life that we are, as a class, as cleanly in our habits of life and quite as healthy as the rest of the community. We go further, and say that our people are longer-lived and freer from epidemic and contagious disease than the ordinary dwellers and workers in cities and towns. The great progressive London County Council welcomes the showpeople at all times of national rejoicing and the Bank Holidays to make fairs upon the open spaces under the control of the Council for the amusement and recreation of the people. London recognises in these times of the speeding up of industry and keen competition that the great body of the workers require such healthy, wholesome, and essentially British open-air entertainment as that provided at our modern fairs and wakes.

Surely if mighty London recognises that it is wise to provide amusement for the people and to co-operate with the organised showmen for that purpose it would be (to say the least) equally advisable for Burslem to follow the lead of the London County Council. It is also worthy of note that great provincial towns like Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Leeds, and Bradford are surrounded in each instance by a belt of fairs held in the suburbs, but frequented in their multitudes by the people of the city. All these great corporations without exception co-operate with the showmen, and also without exception give them a clean bill of health. We may also point to the fact that great towns like Nottingham, York, Bradford, Halifax, Blackburn, Burnley, Bolton, and a hundred others still hold their fairs in the heart of the town, and all these public bodies co-operate with the showmen, and again, without exception, give them a clean bill of health.

It is because of their knowledge of these facts that the whole body of showmen resent with all the force and vigour at their command the vague alarmist statements used in the debate of the Borough Council when the question of the wakes and its continuance was before them. The showmen also wish to call the attention of the people of Burslem to the threatened abolition of Old Burslem wakes. In the first place, they would remind those who wish to abolish the fair that it is a properly-constituted and legal fair, and that it cannot be abolished without the consent of the people of Burslem. There is statutory power to abolish fairs, but the statute safeguards the rights of the people in their fairs, and it also safeguards the business interests and rights of showmen and fairground traders. The advocates of abolition on the Borough Council will find that they have made a serious blunder in assuming that they can, by a resolution of the Council, usurp the authority of the Home Secretary, as provided by statute law. Anyhow, the showmen will take every legitimate and constitutional means to defend their trade interests, and they will also rely upon the sense of fairplay and common justice of the people of Burslem to assist them in the fight with the enemies of the wakes.

It has been said that fairs are becoming out of date and not suitable to the needs of the people. The people who say these things have made no effort at all to understand the subject, and it is almost lamentable that men of intelligence and speaking in places of authority should continue to assert the decadence of British fairs. It is true that the migration of the people from country districts into great industrial centres like the Potteries has caused the falling into disuetude of certain old fairs, but for every fair thus ended there has sprung into existence a dozen new fairs. In the great industrial belt of England, stretching from London to Liverpool or London to Newcastle, there are more fairs in existence to-day than ever obtained in the history of the nation.

The Showmen's Guild represents an industry that concerns the daily livelihood of 70,000 persons engaged in the provision of amusements to the people of the Empire. It also touches indirectly a large number of trades and industries engaged in providing the things used in the amusements of the fair and the articles sold by fairground traders. In conclusion, the Executive Committee of the Showmen's Guild confidently appeal to the working classes and to the Trade Unionists of Burslem for their help and assistance in this fight for the continuance of Burslem wakes.

Why should the people of Burslem be deprived of their annual time of holiday and recreation at the wakes? Surely the hard grind of daily toil and the increasing keenness of the struggle for life makes it more necessary to-day than ever in the past to extend rather than to curtail the people's opportunities of necessary recreation and amusement, and what better form of amusement for the toiling multitude than that provided by the thousand-and-one attractions and novelties of our popular and up-to-date fairs?

Signed on behalf of the executive of the Showmen's Guild.

George Sanger, President.
P. Collins, Vice-President.
T. Horne (Rev.), Hon. Chaplain.
Thomas Hurst, Hon Secretary.

Offices of the Guild:
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, London W.C.

To be charged as a body and to be held up to public scorn and repudiation in the manner adopted by Councillor Brodie left the showmen no other alternative but to issue the manifesto and to demand evidence that will bear the fullest possible examination. We are confident that the people of Burslem will take good care that justice is done and that showpeople shall not be traduced and driven out of the town without an opportunity being given them to defend their character and their business interests.

Now we turn to the popular movement in the town itself for the defence of the wakes. Immediately on the decision of the Council becoming known, the local tradesmen and the market traders took concerted action. The petition asking the Mayor to convene a town's meeting was numerously signed and duly presented. The Mayor has fixed Nov. 15 as the day for the meeting. The Tradesmen's Committee has for its chairman Mr. T. Bentley, one of Burslem's most esteemed public men and proprietor of the Burslem Theatre. Mr. Bentley took the leading part twenty-five years ago in restoring the wakes in 1881 after it had been in abeyance for two years. The secretary to the committee is Mr. Arthur Boulton, solicitor.

Mr. P. Collins, vice-president of the Guild, and the principal tenant of the Corporation at the time of the wakes, is taking a deep interest in the question and has provided the Guild officials with most valuable information, and also thrown himself heartily into the work of defence. Mr. Collins was not able (owing to indisposition) to be with the hon. chaplain in Burslem. It was his intention to have been there, but found himself at the last moment compelled to remain indoors under doctors's orders. However, he sent his business-manager, Mr. Jeffries, and that expert showman has rendered invaluable assistance. Mr. Jeffries, as representing Mr. Collins and the general body of tenants great and small at Burslem wakes, and Mr. Horne, for the Showmen's Guild, have worked like twenty men, and we are now in a position to say that a big impression has been made upon the forces of the enemy at Burslem. Conferences have been held with the leaders of the local interests concerned in maintaining the old-time fair. The local Press, unfortunately already committed to the side of the abolitionists, has been fed with accurate information on the showmen's side of the case. Huge posters are now on every hoarding in the town setting out in clear bold type the showmen's manifesto. Ten thousand handbills containing the manifesto are being distributed from house to house in the borough, the forces of the voters and the friends of the wakes are being co-ordinated, and the campaign to save the fair is now in full swing.

Already the enemy has shifted his ground. He declares now that he did not mean abolition, but only that the fair be taken to another ground. This is a most miserable subterfuge, for they know, what the showpeople know, that in Burslem

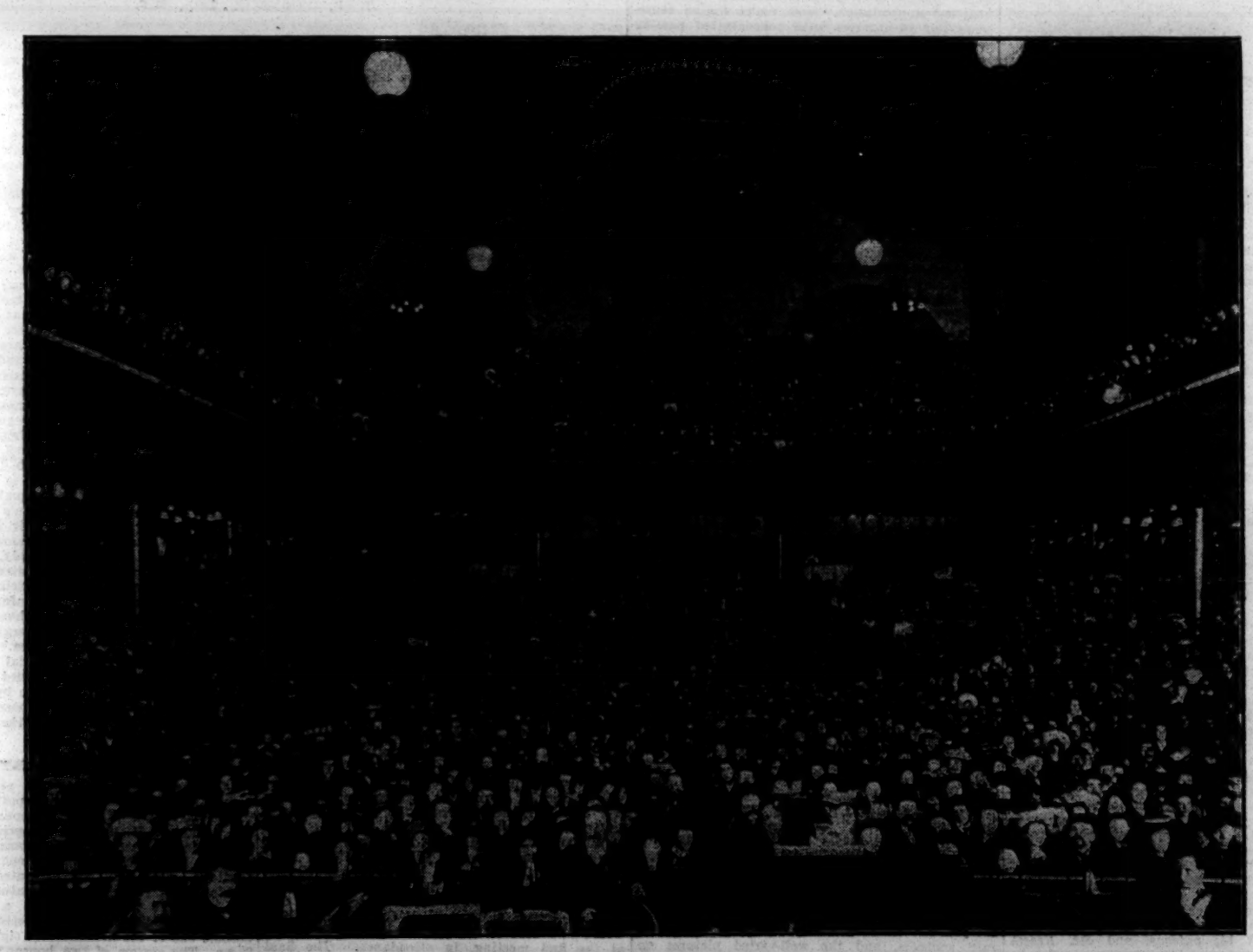

Photo by Mason.

THE AUDIENCE AT CURZON HALL, BIRMINGHAM, ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1906.
Twelfth Week of the "New Century" Pictures.

At Great Marlow on the 29th were the following concerns:—Biddall's cinematograph, Biddall's menagerie, Professor Elliott's boxing booth, John Thomas's steam circus, and a considerable number of minor novelties.

Bridgenorth St. Luke's Fair attracted a considerable crowd of fairground caterers. The principal show was Farrell's cinematograph, and the side show was Wright's fine art gallery. There were shooting saloons by Farrell, Wright and Son, and Wilson, who also provided minor novelties. The other caterers were Messrs. Curry, Kemp, Wright, and E. Harlem.

it is practically impossible to remove it. They know that to take the fair to the outskirts of Burslem would be to invade (in whichever direction they went) another pottery town. This is indeed a peculiar feature of the case. As soon as you leave Burslem you are either in Hanley, Stoke, or Newcastle-under-Lyme. The Potteries really form one huge town cut into four separate divisions—Hanley, Stoke, Burslem, and Newcastle. There is no open country worth mentioning, and certainly no distance that you cannot cover easily on a cheap tramcar.

To advocate the removal of Burslem Wakes is but another way of saying "kill it." The opinion on the Borough Council is clearly divided between those who desire to abolish it and those who say "remove it out of the centre of the town." The abolitionists have skilfully devised a resolution that unites both parties—a resolution that most practically abolishes the fair and yet does not say so. All it says is "That the Market Inspector be instructed to let no ground for shows or booths on the town squares at the time of the wakes."

A clever and a cunning scheme; but its promoters reckoned without the showmen, their tenants for years in succession. They also forgot the people. Now that they find that the people are rousing themselves to defend their grand old wakes, "these mighty men in buckram" are turning tail and saying, "Oh, yes, oh, yes; it is for the people to decide. Let a ballot be taken, and let the people settle it." But notice, if the local traders and the showmen had not moved and these schemers and plotters against the people's fairs could have ridden roughshod over the backs of the people, not a word would have been said about a ballot of the people.

It seems to us to be the habit of mind of nearly all men in power to ignore the source of their power—the people. Once they become "Jack-in-office" they arrogate to themselves plenary powers to order and rule everything and to fix and determine what the poor workers shall do, even to the question whether they may take their children to a fair and enjoy a little innocent fun and recreation. The one thing these men forget is, that as they gained their power to rule by the sovereign will of the people, so back again must they come to the people for a renewal of their mandate of authority. The action of the local committee and the rousing work of the Guild will prepare the people to exercise their fair franchise. The town's meeting in defence of the wakes, to take place at the Town Hall on Nov. 15, will be addressed by the Rev. T. Horne, T. Watson Wright, and local champions of the fair.

IN connection with the mistaken zeal of a certain section of Burslem people to remove the fair out of the centre of the town, it is worthy of note that at Workington the experiment was made, and the fair removed from the squares and open spaces in the centre of the town. So great, however, was the dissatisfaction at the new arrangement amongst the local traders and the people, that the Corporation have determined to revert again to the old plan of holding it in the town.

WITH regard to Burslem, it would be impossible to find such admirable ground spaces for shows as the old arrangements for shows afforded.

THERE are no less than five excellent open squares, including the large piece of ground upon which the wooden theatre is built. These spaces are entirely out of the run of the traffic of the town, and during the wakes the grouping of the shows in proper order upon these five open spaces (all within sight of one another) leaves the main thoroughfares and the cross-streets connecting them entirely free for the crowds to move about from showground to showground with perfect freedom.

THE movement to defend Burslem Wakes is now well organised, both locally for the tradesmen and nationally for the showmen. The Rev. T. Horne has been in Burslem, and with him was Mr. Jeffries, manager for Mr. P. Collins. Owing to the great pressure on our space, the detailed account of the movement is held over until next week.

THE forthcoming meeting of the Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen Union at Rotherham will deal with necessary business of importance. Will members see advertisement as to time and place?

LORD JOHN SANGER'S circus visited Luton on Monday, and was well patronised, particularly at the evening performance. The programme included some remarkably clever doings by elephants and trained dogs, in addition to the usual equestrian and acrobatic items. The circus was located in a field off the Bedford-road.

WE learn that Mr. Alfred Hengler has taken Messrs. Harcock's Winter Gardens, Plymouth, for the season. The season commenced on Monday, and had a most auspicious send-off, the two shows-a-night system having been adopted.

WE are sorry to say that Mr. Alfred Whitmee, of the Eden Theatre, Hemel Hempstead, after pluckily trying again, this time asking only for three months' licence for dramatic performances, has been refused.

ANSWERS TO SHOWMEN.

CARL VILLIERS.—*We advise you to communicate with Mr. S. Forrest, Winchelsea Cottage, Station-road, Forest Gate, E.; Mr. F. Gray, 3, Victor-road, Kensal Green, N.W.; Messrs. Thurston and Sons, Stanstead, Essex; and W. Wilson, Ordnance-road, Hounslow.*

F. R. O. (Swinton).—*Your best plan will be to attend a meeting at 3.30 p.m., in Mr. Kemp's show, the Fairground, Rotherham, next Sunday.*

A MOST successful concert was given on Thursday, Oct. 25, at the Branswick Institute, Vauxhall, in aid of the widow and orphans of the late Guard Lawford, of the L. and S.W. Railway. The following artists kindly appeared: Tom Packer, H. Mayville, J. Penny, the Olympians, Gleeson, Mountford and Walsh, Dacombe, Joe Lawrence, Sisters Lavender, Frank Gerald and Co., C. Stelling and dog, Kathleen Leslie, Ernest D'Almaine, Fred W. Millis, Reginald Cooke, Ada Norman, W. L. Murray, Three Martells, Sidney Gandy, Ted Harding, and Fred Neiman. The concert was under the patronage of Mr. Henry Holmes, superintendent of the L. and S.W.R., and the Terriers Association, and over £60 was realised for the beneficiare. The stage was managed by Mr. A. H. Hoyle, the theatrical manager of the South-Western, and Mr. C. Douglas Stuart.

AT the Southampton Hippodrome last week quite a furore was created by the appearance of Master Ernest Scorell, aged eleven, who sang "For all Eternity." The power and sweetness of his voice delighted the audience greatly. He appeared both at the afternoon and evening performances, and his reception at night was quite remarkable. Master Scorell will appear for a week here later on.

MR. WILL H. BOARDMAN, the manager of the Pavilion Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, has arranged for a special matinée at that theatre on Thursday, Nov. 15, the proceeds of which will be given to the relatives of the unfortunate miners who lost their lives in the disaster at Wingate Colliery. Several of the leading theatrical gentlemen of the North have very kindly volunteered their aid.

FRED KARNO'S COMPANIES.

LONDON.

GRAND, CLAPHAM, & EMPRESS, BRIXTON. **"Moses and Sons."**

Messrs. Fred Kitchen, Albert Bruno, T. Ellis Buxton, Herbert Landeck, Anthony Gordon, J. Springsohn, H. Leppa, Nat Lewis, Bernard Katz, Gipsy Dolin, H. Myers, Phil Sinclair, D. Asher, W. Davis, N. Goodman, B. Hart, Frank Lester, F. Westcott, M. Rutherford, E. H. Carl, Misses Aggie Morris, Janet Reeve, Madge Rockingham, Rosa Abrahams, Lydia Weber, C. Doncaster, Leah Holland, Bertha Hymans, Kat Hymans, Blanche Newmann, Etty Ray, E. Silve, A. Boyce, A. Spencer, B. Asher, C. Gordon.
Manager, Mr. J. B. HELM; Musical Director, Mr. DUDLEY POWELL.

AMERICA, U.S.

CLEVELAND, O. **"Mumming Birds."**

Messrs. Harry Royston, James Russell, Sidney Chaplin, W. Fern, Ernest Stone, Fred Bendo, Bert Clark, Arnold McFarlane. Misses Amy Minister, Beatrice Barnes, Agnes Clark.
Manager, Mr. A. FORREST.

LONDON.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY. **"Dandy Thieves."**

Messrs. George Hestor, Frank Morton, Harry Howe, R. H. Kitchen, Tom Manardo, Alec Munro, Charles Ellis, Sydney Bolton, Charles Usher, B. Moore, S. Gossling, Frank Douglas, Misses Leonora Castelle, Kitty Brunton, Chicey Johnson, Margaret Ruby, Berenice Maxwell, Daisy Hestor, Marie Lawrence, Amy Hermance, Marjorie Gossling.
Manager, Mr. L. GREENWOOD; Musical Director, Mr. F. H. J. MORAN.

AMERICA, U.S.

BOSTON. **"Early Birds."**

Messrs. Billie Reeves, George Welsh, Arthur Dando, Will Stanley, Charles Emerald, Jack Osborne, Chas. Sivado, Reed Almonti, Will Crackles, G. Seamans, J. Aubrey. Misses Rosie Fenton, Mabelle Welsh, Minna Dixon.
Manager, Mr. A. REEVES.

GLASGOW.

PAVILION. **"The Smoking Concert."**

MANCHESTER.

PALACE. **"Saturday to Monday."**

Messrs. Rolando Martin, James Fletch, Fred Palmer, J. W. Bradbury, Dick Harcourt, Victor H. Crawford, T. McDonough, George Cooper, C. Herbert Summers, Sydney Lansdown, Bertie Crew, W. Lawrence, E. Pablo. Misses Amy Rogerson, Ada Maskell, Daisy Stone, Lucy Walden, Lulu Lillian, Kathleen Dennis, Mabel Clarke, Valetta Rushton, Muriel Palmer.
Manager, Mr. H. A. DOOLEY; Musical Director, Mr. A. D'ALBERT.

LEICESTER.

EMPIRE. **"Mumming Birds" and "Early Birds."**

Messrs. James Le Fre, Bob Lewis, Fred Whittaker, Bert Williams, Will Moran, Frank Melroyd, Will Lorenzi, George Craig, Albert Layton, B. Dean, Misses Ada Minister, Sara Dudley, Louie Decubas, Marjorie Williams, Rosie Mayville.
Manager, Mr. C. SEEWELL.

GLASGOW.

GRAND. **Pantomime Season, 1906-7.**

GORGEOUS XMAS PANTOMIME.

"The House that Jack Built."

Fred Kitchen, Harmony Comedy Four, The Fourteen Black Hussars, Miss May Mars, Miss Luna Love, Miss Frances Kapstowne, Kirby's Flying Ballet, Sisters Hopkins, Little Maudie Francis, Wee Mona, Bob Sloan, Fred Whittaker, Herlier Le Maistre, Miss Genevera Tree, Miss Agnes Lane, and Chorus and Ballet of 150 Performers.

MANCHESTER.

PALACE. **"The Football Match," Christmas, 1906.**

Messrs. Harry Weldon, Ernie Myers, Robb Gilmore, Will Poluski, jun., Brien McCullough, Bertie White, Jack Royal, Miss Lily Lonsdale, supported by the Karno Troupe of comedians, and pantomimists, and two real first-class football teams, comprising well-known football players selected from the leading clubs of the United Kingdom, and chorus and auxiliaries of over a hundred artists.

KARNO'S THEATRICAL FACTORY, CAMBERWELL, S.E.

The Magnificent **NEW WING** just added to the above, comprising a Paint Room, Rehearsal Room, and Storage Dock, is now complete. The new Paint Room is furnished with Two Frames capable of carrying any Cloths. The new Rehearsal Room, splendidly lighted, ventilated, and heated, is 72 feet long, 21 feet wide, and owing to its exceptional height (26 feet 6 inches) can be used as a Practice Room for any Gymnastic or Aerial Acts. The huge Storage Dock, thoroughly ventilated and dry, covers an area of 316 square yards, and has a cubic space of 32,648 feet.

Plays and Sketches written and produced in their entirety.
Tours booked and arranged.
Scenery and properties manufactured and painted to order.
Scenery stored, carted, &c.
Motors, lurries, and ommibuses on hire.

GENERAL STAGE DIRECTOR, AUTHOR, and PRODUCER,
Harold L. Hilliard.

GENERAL BOOKING MANAGER, CONTROLLER, ADVERTISING, and ADVANCE DEPARTMENTS,
Joseph Hindle.

ACCOUNTANTS,
T. S. Bell and A. Jennaway.

SOLICITORS,
Stanley, Woodhouse, and Hedderwick, E.C.

Sole Proprietor and Director,
MR. FRED KARNO.

26, 28, & 28a, VAUGHAN ROAD, CAMBERWELL, S.E.

Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell."
Telephone, Nos. 2341, 2341A Hop.

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TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Dec. 10, Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Feb. 4, 18, 25, March 4, 18, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Dec. 17, Feb. 11, 25, March 4, 11, 25, April 29, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Feb. 4, 25, March 4, 11, 18, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 28, Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 4, 25, April 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
March 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Nov. 5, 26, Dec. 10, Jan. 7, Feb. 18, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
March 18, May 6, 13, 20.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
Dec. 24, March 4, 11.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
Dec. 10, 17, 31, Jan. 7, 14.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Nov. 12, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, Jan. 7, 14, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Nov. 22, 29, Dec. 6, 13, onwards.
Add., E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Company, Nov. 12.
Wire, FALCON, Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Strong Attraction, for Luton, Jan. 14 (three nights).
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM, LIMITED.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, Nov. 26,
Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.
Address, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Dec. 10. Vacant through transfer.
Wire, HARRY YORKE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through disappointment, First-class Musical Attraction,
First-class Musical Attraction,
for week of Dec. 10.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

THEATRE ROYAL,
MARGATE.
THEATRE ROYAL,
MARGATE.
Reseated, and entirely renovated.
Xmas week Vacant, and onwards.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
Apply, EDWARD MICHAEL,
15, Craven-street, Strand, London.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for
Dec. 10, 17.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

WANTED, Dramatic Co., Dec. 3, 17, Panto., Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, and Feb. 11.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-Class Company, Dec. 6, 7, 8 (three nights).
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Good Attractions, Dec. 17, to oblige Geoffrey Fulton, Esq., and Jan. 14, through transferring. Apply, MARK H. LINDON.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Manager and Licensee, Mr. L. F. A. ROGERS.

WANTED, Cos., Nov. 29, 30, and Dec. 1 (for three nights only), best three nights of the week; Jan. 7, 1907, onwards.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Co's., Musical preferred, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Inverness, Attractions, for Xmas and New Year Weeks. Few vacant dates Nov., Dec., and Feb. CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Dec. 17. Also Really Good Pantomimes for January and February dates. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Dec. 10, 24, and 31. Also Pantomimes for dates in January.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

WANTED, for the Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, Sound Attractions, Dec. 10 and 17.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, through obliging Managers, First-Class Dramatic Companies, weeks Nov. 26 and Dec. 17. Address, G. CONQUEST.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, Dec. 17.
Apply, T. W. ROWE.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Dec. 3 (to oblige Mrs. O'Grady) and Dec. 10. Address, J. W. WHITEBREAD, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, Companies, Vacant Nov. 29 (three nights), also Feb. 4, and the following Spring Season dates. April 8, 22, 29, May 13 and 20.
CHARLES CAREY.

GRAND T.'s, CHORLEY and RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Dec. 3, 17, 24, Grand, Radcliffe; also Dec. 10, 24, Grand, Chorley. Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

COMPANIES WANTED.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre in the Town.
The only Theatre in the Town Lighted by Electricity.
Nov. 5, "THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON.."
Nov. 12, "THE PRINCE OF PILSEN."
Only Best Companies Booked at this Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Vacant Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 11, 25, and various, onwards.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Musical Comedies, Dramas, or any big Productions, suitable for two houses nightly; dates open from Nov. 19, 1906.
Pantomimes required for Xmas, twice nightly.
Share or Certainty.
Communications,
BERNARD ARMSTRONG,
Gaiety Theatre, Glasgow.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Nov. 22 29, Dec. 3, onwards; and really Good Pantomimes, Jan. 28 and Feb. 11, 1907.
The Theatre now has a Permanent Staff,
Orchestra and Acting Manager.
Address, F. W. PURCELL,
"Lingwood," Yerbury-rd., Tufnell Park, London, N.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Nov. 12.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR,
24A, Regent-street, S.W.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Dec. 3, 17, Jan. 7, and on.
Apply, Manager,
CHARLES TRENCHARD.

THEATRE ROYAL, WEST BROMWICH.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Comic Opera, Musical Comedies, &c., April, onwards. Address, HERBERT VERE.

NEW PAVILION, EASTBOURNE PIER.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Dec. 17 (good Drama preferred), Xmas week (through disappointment), Jan. 14, 28, and various dates onwards.
The Pier Theatre is now recognised to be the leading place of Entertainment in Eastbourne, and is booked by all the leading Touring Managers for their most recent Successes.
Apply, G. HAYES, Manager.

WANTED, No. 1 Attraction, Dec. 17.
Grand Theatre, Mansfield.

THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE.
WANTED, Nov. 19, Dec. 31, First-class Attractions only. FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, Musical Plays and Important Attractions, for Grand T., West Hartlepool, Vacant Nov. 19, 26, Jan. 14. F. GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Dec., and on.
Address, HENRY BOWMAN.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions. Dec. 17, 1906; Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 1907.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

ASSEMBLY ROOM THEATRE, NORMANTON.
WANTED, Sound Attractions (last three nights only), Nov. 15 (f), Dec. 6, 13; also good Panto. Jan. 14 or 21 (week). J. P. BEARDMORE.

WANTED, Dramatic, Panto., any Big Attractions for Christmas Week, tours near London; sharing terms. FRED FORRESTER, 36, Trinity-square, London, S.W.

WANTED, Comedy Companies, three nights each, Nov. 12, 19, 26, for Londesborough Theatre, Scarboro'. WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

WANTED, First-Class Company, Musical preferred, for Dec. 17. Apply, WADDINGTON and SONS, Theatre Royal, York.

ILFRACOMBE.
RUNNACLEAVE T. AND OPERA HOUSE.
The Most Comfortable Playhouse in the District, used exclusively for Amusement Purposes.
Everything well done. Open all the year round.
WANTED, Attractions, between now and Xmas, with exceptions, also a Good Panto.
JULIUS PHILLIPS, Opera House, Ilfracombe.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.
WANTED, Company Dec. 3 and 10. Vacant Dec. 3. Vacant Dec. 10.
Apply to FRED MORGAN.

WANTED, Best Companies, Nov. 12, 19, 26 (3 nights each), Dec. 27, 28. Booking for next Spring and Autumn. PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

COUNTY HALL, ST. ALBANS.
WANTED, Good Companies, two nights weeks of Nov. 12, 19, and 26. Fridays and Saturdays preferred; must have own scenery. Sharing terms. Apply, A. ROWDEN.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Magnificent New Town Hall, moderate rental, permanent stage, excellent accommodation. F. W. WESTERN, Sandy, Beds.

VICTORIA THEATRE, WEST STANLEY.
WANTED, Good Combinations or Dramas, to Play Twice Nightly preferred, Dec. 3, 17, Jan. 14, 21, Feb. 4, 11. Address,
JOHN CASSIDY.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, weeks of Dec. 3 and 17, Scala Production.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Christmas, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Shakespeare T., London.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 26, on, Christmas.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Shakespeare T., London.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO., in the Romantic Irish Musical Play, "THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Autumn, 1907, Grand Production "Rollicking Rory." CHALMERS MACKEY, Nov. 5, Metropole T., Gateshead, 6 nights.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Dec. 16
Jan. 7.
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Nov. 5, Grand Theatre, Derby.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "HER LUCK IN LONDON."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Nov. 12,
Nov. 12,
between Middlesbrough and Junction, Manchester (return). New Year's Week Jan. 7, 21, 28.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
CHARLES A. LEICESTER, T. R., Middlesbrough.

THEATRES WANTED.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatre, Nov. 26.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 24, Feb. 11.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

Grand Autumn Production.
"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 28, Feb. 11.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

Grand Autumn Production,
"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 11, March 11.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatre, Dec. 31.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatre, Dec. 31.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 10, 31, Jan. 28, April 1. FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 10, 31, Jan. 21, on.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 28, Feb. 25, March 4.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 3, 10, 24, 31.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 31, Jan. 14, 21. TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 18.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Jan. 21 and March 11.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

"LADY KINTON'S NECKLACE."
The Great Modern Mystical Play, including Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco.
WANTED, Dec. 24, onwards. All coms., W. SCOTT PHIPP, T. R., Dewsbury.
(See Companies Page.)

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
By Edward Marris.
WANTED, Nov. 19, between Bolton and Bristol, for Witty Watty Walton and Company. Wire, to-day, LEONARD DALRYMPLE, Theatre, Batley; next week, Prince's, Blackburn.

Messrs. SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, for this Great Holiday Attraction, Xmas, Xmas.
Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 21, Feb. 4. All new scenery by Roberts and Co., Manchester, and Hancock, London. All communications to JOHN B. SHINTON, Theatre Royal, South Shields (return).

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Known, First Vacant Dates, Jan. 7 and 14, Feb. 4, Lancs. or Yorks.
DICKIE CLARE, T. R., Blyth.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.,
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Nov. 19, for this great Attraction, to follow West London Theatre, a First-class Production. Refer Portsmouth (this week) as to business. Band of Drums, Fifes, and Bugles for parade. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Theatres for Messrs. Elliman's Enterprises, "A Heart's Desire," by Frank Adair, the most magnificent Romantic Play on tour, undoubtedly the finest Company playing. Next week, Queen's T., Fleetwood. Money refused Saturday at Shakespeare T., Altrincham. Audiences enthusiastic. Managers delighted. Another big Production shortly. Communications en route, or H. ELLIMAN, 5, Vernon-street, Dublin.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, for the above Success, Nov. 26, Dec. 3 and 31. HARRY FOXWELL, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

MR. JAMES WELCH and full London Company, in Enormous New Success, "WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD." a Scream from start to finish.
WANTED, three week Christmas date, the play for the Christmas Season. First-Class Theatres only wire. JOHN HOOD, Manager for Mr. Welch, Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

"SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this reliable Attraction, Good Theatres, Nov. 12, 19, and 26. Wire or write, C. and F. RENAD, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

"SINS OF SOCIETY."
'SINS OF SOCIETY."
By Charles Darrell.
Production, T. R., Darlington, Nov. 26.
WANTED, Xmas, Xmas, Xmas, New Year's Week.
New Year's Week.
Jan. 21, 23 (North), Feb. 4, 11 (Midlands or South).
BESSIE ELMA, 10, King-street, W.C.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
Tragedy, Comedy, Drama.
WANTED, Nov. 12, Dec. 3, 10.
Address,
283, Edge-lane, Liverpool.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, Feb. 4 and 11, for Edward Marris' Production of above. Scenery and Dresses from Shakespeare, Liverpool. See Companies Column. EDWARD MARRIS, T. R., Grantham.

"THE INDIAN MUTINY."
WANTED, Dec. 24 and 31.
Address, FRANK C. BURDETT,
O. H., Northampton. Nov. 5, Prince's, Portsmouth.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
By Edward Marris.
WANTED, Nov. 19, between Bolton and Bristol, for Witty Watty Walton and Company. Wire, to-day, LEONARD DALRYMPLE, Theatre, Batley; next week, Prince's, Blackburn.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
By Edward Marris.
WANTED, Nov. 19, between Bolton and Bristol, for Witty Watty Walton and Company. Wire, to-day, LEONARD DALRYMPLE, Theatre, Batley; next week, Prince's, Blackburn.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPAN
"THE FOUR JUST MEN,"
by arrangement with H. A. Saintsbury.
WANTED, Nov. 26 (f), Dec. 3.
Address, CECIL BARTH,
The Managers' Club, Savoy-mansions, Strand.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Xmas and Easter Weeks, FRED BULMER, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, March 4, 11.
FRED BULMER, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Aug. 5, on.
FRED BULMER, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

Mrs. BANDMANN-PALMER'S TOUR.
WANTED, Nov. 26 and Dec. 3 (through transfer). Lancashire preferred. Address, Mrs. BANDMANN-PALMER, Opera House, Coventry.

"THE TRAITOR."
WANTED, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 24. Wire, E. HILL-MITCHELSON, to-day, Smethwick; next, Prince's, Bradford.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Xmas and New Year's Weeks, Jan. 7, 14, 21, Feb. 4 (North).
GEORGE DENHAM,
This, St. Helens; next, Osborne, Manchester.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
All Branches of Theatrical Business Transacted.
WANTED, Dates as follows:
"WORLD'S VERDICT,"
Nov. 5, wire.

DR. WALFORD BODIE,
the Pay-Box Magnet,
Now Booking 1907-8.
Jan. 7, various on.
Theatres or Halls, Share, Certainty, or Salary.

Address,
2, Park-terrace, Queen's Park, Glasgow.
Telegrams, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."

WANTED, First-class Theatres only. Only Vacant Date this Year, Nov. 19.
Spring Entirely Filled, except March 4 (between Avenue, Sunderland, and Royalty, Glasgow) and April 1 (to follow Tyne, Newcastle).
Now Booking Autumn, 1907.

E. GRAHAM-FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Sixty-second week of present Tour.
Booked and re-booked into Oct., 1907.
Cast, printing, and scenery A1.
WANTED, Whit Week, Midlands, March 25 (follow Jarrow), April 8.
FRANK AYRTON, Goole (three), Scunthorpe (three).

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for "Mr. Pomple," Nov. 19, 26, "Mr. Hopkinson," Nov. 5, "Are You a Mason," Nov. 26, Dec. 3, Xmas. Communicate, CHAS. MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, Feb. 4 and 11, for Edward Marris' Production of above. Scenery and Dresses from Shakespeare, Liverpool. See Companies Column. EDWARD MARRIS, T. R., Grantham.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 24, 31, March 11, on, with exceptions.
OSMOND, T. R., Edmonton, N.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOUR.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this sound money-maker, Xmas and New Year, Xmas and New Year; also Feb. 4, 11, and 25. Address, FRANK M. THORNE, T. R., Merthyr.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Enormous Success.
Miss V. ST. LAWRENCE as FIEND.
WANTED, Nov. 19, Xmas, New Year, Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 18, 25, March 18, April 15, 22, 29, June 3, 10, 17 (?), July 1, 22, 29, Aug. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25, on.
MONTAGUE BEAUDYN,
next, Royal, Bilston.

WANTED, for "An Actor's Romance," Dec. 17 and 24, also a few Spring Dates. Address, CHARLES DURIE, Kettering (3 nights), Grantham (3 nights).

"SILVER KING."
Polini and Melford.
WANTED, Dates, Dec. 24, 31, Feb. 18, March 11. POLINI, 93, Penge-road, Anerley, London.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae. "THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, for these genuine Attractions, Nov. 12, 19, 26, Xmas, New Year. Wire, FRANCES DELAVAL, to-day, Century Theatre, Motherwell; Nov. 5, Lyceum, Govan.

"KITTY GREY."
WANTED, Jan. 14 and 28, only vacant dates until Whit. First-class Theatres only. GEORGE STEPHENSON, O. H., Perth.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14. FRED BULMER, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Theatres, Xmas and New Year Weeks, for Two Big Attractions.
DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for
JACK HADDON'S
JACK HADDON'S
Gorgeous Pantomime,
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK"
Vacant Jan. 14, 21, Feb. 4, and onwards.
This Pantomime can be played twice nightly.
Address,
JACK HADDON,
Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, Nov. 12, also Xmas. Wanted, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 4, 11.
Wire,
BEAUDYN and LIVESEY,
Theatre Royal, Darwen.

"AN UNWEDDED WIFE."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Jan. 7 and 14.
Address, J. EDWARD WHITTY,
Prince's T., Poplar, E.

MADGE McINTOSH and LUMSDEN HARE'S CO.
"MOLLENTRAVE ON WOMEN,"
by Alfred Sutro.
Author of "The Walls of Jericho," &c.
WANTED, Nov. 19 (three nights, to precede Oxford), Nov. 26 (week). Cast includes Miss May Pardoe, Miss Eva Hamblin, Mr. Athole Stewart, Mr. Harry Kendal, and Mr. Herbert Grimwood. Charming Scenery.
G. F. REYNOLDS, 10, King-st., Covent Garden.

Messrs GLENISTER and
WOOD-INGRAM'S CO
in
"ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, Spring Dates.
Apply, J. W. WOOD-INGRAM,
Midland Theatre, Manchester.
See Company's Column.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
WANTED, Theatres, for Dec. 10, 31, "For Better or Worse," beautifully mounted, splendidly played. Wire, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, Feb. 4 and 11, for Edward Marris' Production of above. Scenery and Dresses from Shakespeare, Liverpool. See Companies Column. EDWARD MARRIS, T. R., Grantham.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY.
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
WANTED, Jan. 21 and 28, for
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
Vacant Jan. 21, on, with exceptions.

"A LONDON ACTRESS."
Vacant Nov. 26. Only date open.
STUART CLEVELAND, Shakespeare T., Altrincham.

"LADY KINTON'S NECKLACE."
The Great Modern Mystical Play,
including Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco.
WANTED, Dec. 24, onwards. All coms., W. SCOTT PHIPP, T. R., Dewsbury.
(See Companies Page.)

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
The talk of every town visited.
Twenty-five Artists. Everything carried.
WANTED, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, and Easter.
EUGENE BERTRAM, O. H., Southport.

"COAL KING."
Polini and Maitland.
WANTED Dates, Jan. 7, 14, 21, Feb. 4, 11, and 25, also Aut. POLINI, 93, Penge-rd., Anerley, S.E.

WANTED, Feb. 4, 11, and 18, for "Cinderella." Apply,
H. A. JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

"THE FIGHTING PARSON."
"THE FIGHTING PARSON."
"THE FIGHTING PARSON."
"THE FIGHTING PARSON."
"THE FIGHTING PARSON."
"THE FIGHTING PARSON."
Vacant Nov. 26.
Vacant Nov. 26.
Share or Certainty.
Share or Certainty.
WANTED, Theatres for Combination, Dec. 24 and 31.
All communications.
GEORGE GRAY and Co., Ltd.,
Palace Theatre, Blackburn.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, Jan. 14, 28,
Mr. Samuel James's Company,
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
A perfect production. A brilliant company.
Address,
F. S. JENNINGS, Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Nov. 5, Nov. 5, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 17,
Mr. Samuel James's Company,
"WHY WOMAN SINS."
Entirely new scenery.
Entirely new uniforms.
First-Class Company.
Five Suburban Theatres booked for this Autumn.
Address,
F. S. JENNINGS, Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Cardiff Pantomime; all new scenery, painted especially for this production.
SAMUEL JAMES,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Croydon Pantomime. All new scenery, painted especially for this production.
SAMUEL JAMES,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, best Theatres, Vacant Nov. 26, Xmas, and New Year's Weeks, Jan. 28, Feb. 11, and few later.

T. R., North Shields, Nov. 5 (thrid visit).

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
By Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Nov. 26 and Xmas, Midlands or North preferred.
Wire,
H. HOLLISTER, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
Monday, Shrewsbury; Nov. 12, Grand, Birmingham.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Colossal Gorgeous Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Jan. 21, Feb. 4, and onwards.
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
Vacant Feb. 18, Lancs. or Yorks.
"ALADDIN."
"ALADDIN."
Vacant Feb. 18, Midlands.
Address,
JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

EDWARD MARRIS'S TOURS.
WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen seeking Engagements in above, please communicate with C. St. John Denton, Maiden-lane, Strand, who has entire charge of the booking of Artists pro tem. EDWARD MARRIS, T. R., Grantham.

WANTED, for the Bandmann Tour of Musical Comedy in the Mediterranean and the East. Excellent Low Comedian, Comedienne, also a Dancer (both ladies must be young and pretty). Rehearse in London Nov. 14, and the Company leaves England on the 30th. Add., KELSON TRUEMAN, 233A, Regent-st., W.

WANTED, Artists, for Fit-up Tour of "Bluebell," commencing Xmas, King, Queen, Sleepy King, Dicky, Blib, Blob, boy for Cat, Pianist-Conductor, Agent, Carpenter, Baggage and Fit-up Men. Age, height, references, lowest terms, ladies' photos., E. G. FALCON, County T., Bedford.

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.
WANTED, to Open Nov. 17, Rehearse a Week Previous,
Character Old Man,
also Aristocratic Old Lady.
Joint Engagement can be arranged.
State age, height, lowest terms, and enclose photo.,
EUGENE BERTRAM, O. H., Southport.

WANTED, Immediately, for Warm, Comfortable, Winter Portable, two or three really good Responsible Actors, used to stock; must be experienced, steady, and young, with usual props. Treasury regular. Mrs. POULTON, Theatre, Thirsk, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Amateurs all Lines, also Lady, dark, about 5ft. 6in., for Sketch, splendid opening for those wishing to enter Profession; also Bioscope.
MANAGER, 25, Pentney-road, Balham, S.W.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, tall Heavy Lady, rehearse immediately. Full particulars, photo., &c.,
G. M. MONTANINI, 19, Perry-street, Darwen.

WANTED, for Madge Duckworth's Tour, "Her Nameless Child," Lady for utilities (photo. and age essential) and Carpenter to walk on. Refs. and lowest terms. Rehearse Nov. 12. SAM DUCKWORTH, Theatre Royal, Ton-y-pandy.

WANTED, for Sketch, Tour, Juvenile Lady, young, pretty, and powerful. Apply, Saturday, 11 to 1, LANGDON, Palace, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Young Gentleman, for Small Juvenile Part, to Double other parts; must be experienced; height not to exceed 5ft. 8in. Terms, last three references, age, and other particulars to Box 3,941, "The Era."

WANTED, Strong Character Actor for Heavy Part. Last three references, age, height, and other particulars to HEAVY, Box 3,938, "The Era."

"CASTE."
WANTED, for Nov. 19, Gentleman to play Hawtree; must have played part before. Reply, terms, H., 4, Sea-road, Bexhill.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, to Play Small Parts, and walk on.
NORMAN V. NORMAN, Theatre Royal, Colchester.

WANTED, Xmas and Long Tours, Smart Short Comedian and Soubrette, sing and dance, Bambo and Rosette, in "Man and Wife." Full particulars, photos., &c., to T. E. WARD, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, Singing Low Com., and Cham. (joint preferred), for Sketch Work, and capable of Single and Double Turns. STAGE-MANAGER, 4, Stockwell-avenue, S.W.

WANTED, Talented Amateur Lady (very good figure), to create magnificent Emotional Part in Sketch (London production); small premium, returned in salary. Photograph, particulars, height, &c., to MANAGER, 38, Kingsley-house, Beaufort-street, Chelsea.

WANTED, Young Ladies and Gentlemen, for Chorus of Comic Opera, good voices. Apply, Saturday, between 3 and 4, or Monday, 11 and 12, to LAWRENCE, Percy Hall, Percy-street,, Tottenham Court-road, W.C.

WANTED, a powerful Soprano, good reader and quick study, for Light Concerted and Solo Work; long engagement; good voice and appearance essential. Apply, with photograph and full particulars,
MANAGER, Smart Set Entertainers,
Palace Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, a reliable Tenor, young, and good appearance, for Light Concerted and Solo Work; one able to Dance preferred; long engagement. Must have a good répertoire of Modern Songs. Apply to
MANAGER, Smart Set Entertainers,
Palace Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Small Boy Soprano, over 14; also Young Tenor, Principal Part, for Xmas Season, Brighton. Apply to DAY, Weatherby's, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

WANTED, young Lady and Gentleman (married), capable Comic Opera and Grand Opera Duets; must read music. Photo., ages, refs., salary, to H. VERNON, P.O., Wisbech, Monday; March, Tuesday and Wednesday.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Baroness d'Egville desires Engagement for Dancing, or to Act in Comedy; Stage experience; could undertake Solo Skirt Dance. 97, Talgarth-road, West Kensington, W.

WANTED, by experienced young Actress, Engagement with good Club Shows, Sketches, London. Terms moderate. Box 3,951, "The Era."

WANTED, by Will Trevelyan, Baritone Comedian; Maude Trevelyan, brilliant pianist-vocalist, accompanist; concerted numbers, glees, sketches, duets, can open immediately. 73, Portland-road, Worthing.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for "Aladdin," Principal Boy (must be young), Comedians for Dame, Abanazar, Vizier, and Emperor, Knockabouts, Specialities, Dancers, Chorus Ladies. Age, height, references, lowest terms, ladies' photos., E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Panto. Artists all Lines, for "Aladdin." Refs., age, photos., lowest terms first letter. Please give the next three weeks' address. Apply, SAM DUCKWORTH, Theatre R., Ton-y-pandy.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, at once, Chorus Ladies, for "Bo-Peep," long Tour. Letter only, BARRETT, 4, Lower Kennington-lane, S.E.

WANTED, Prin. Boy Dandini, Pair Comedians (Ugly Sisters), Really Funny Comedian for Abanaza, Soprano and Contralto (special parts), Sisters, Second Boy and Girl, and Thirty Chorus Ladies. Particulars, JAZON, St. Andrew-road, Anfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, Demon King and Fairy Queen, able to act and sing. Photos., &c., JESS VERNO'S Agency, 16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-Class Comedians, for Ruffians-Baron ("Babes"), Ali Baba and Cogia ("Forty Thieves"); tall, handsome Chorus. FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, Smart Pair of Sisters for Parisian Pantomime; must be Good Dancers. State where can be seen. Lowest terms, photos., &c. TOM SHAW and Co., 18, Adam-street, Strand.

WANTED, Artists, to send stamp for Sample Verses of Songs suitable for Dame. G. D. FOX, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Louie Hurman, at Liberty Principal Boy. Last year, West London Theatre. Permanent, 7, Canonbury-avenue, Highbury, London, N. Nov. 5, Foresters' M. H.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Miss Daisy Morell, the Popular Principal Boy.
Monday, Pavilion, Leicester.

WANTED, Pantomime Engagement, by the Three Sisters Hayden, vocal character comediennes. Next week, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH,
in Liquidation.
WANTED, Known, ERNIE MAYNE, the great Comedian, at Liberty for First-Class Pantomime; last season Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, the late Herbert Campbell's part in "Mother Goose." The hit of the show.—Vide Fred Wyndham, Esq.
Concluding tour Stoll, Oct.
Tops and Bottoms of Bills.
See me in London next week.
Duchess, Balham; The Cambridge;
Palace, Camberwell.
Stoll's Newest Star Comedian.

WANTED, Panto., by Charles Valvo, the Military Ventriloquist; smart, novel Act; can also play part. Address, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, Known, Will Burton, Eccentric Comedian and Dancer, at Lib. for Panto., Dame or Baron. 45, Liverpool-road, Canning Town, E.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty at Once or for Pantomime, Animal Parts and Harlequinade. CLINTON ROMELLI, 31, Wilson-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, Known, Barrett and Knowles, at Liberty for Panto. Reasons for being so. Last year, Theatre Royal, Glasgow; year previous Alex., Birmingham. Refer to Fred Wyndham, Esq., or Lester Collingwood, Esq. Address, 16, Woodsley-view, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Drum and Major, at Liberty for Panto., prin. girl and comedian. Address, Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, Pantomime. Thanks to Stanley Rogers, Messrs. Renad, and Agents for offers. Address, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Panto., by The Carls, Comic Trampoline Speciality, Speaking and Animal Parts, Speciality. Novelty for Palace, Forest, or Kitchen Scene. At present Tivoli, Bremen, Germany. Add., 76, Willes-road, N.W., for terms, lithos., &c.

WANTED, Known, Risto Bros., Speaking Knockabout Parts, Trick Chase, Comedy Acrobatic and Contortion Speciality, Animal Parts. 46, Lothian-road, North Britxon, S.W.

WANTED, Known, The Dunlops, Comedy Cycle Act; also Lillian Sivado, Lady Gymnast, any parts; Liberty for Panto. Address, Blue Bell Hotel, Stockport.

WANTED, Known, Frank Keegan and Co., Funniest Knockabout Act on the Road, at Liberty for Panto., Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21. Com., 8, Somerleyton-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Panto., Chard's Fourteen Trained Dogs, no fixing, no inconvenience, a guaranteed draw to any show. CHARD, Victoria Hall, Sunderland.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE AND Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram open to accept Contract or Salary. Arrangements complete at present. Address, c/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Scenic Studio, twenty years' reputation, Artistic Scenery, lowest prices. Managers producing Pantomimes compare, Terms, models, Properties, &c. W. B. BOSTOCK, late Manchester Theatres, Rumford-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, G. Sackmann, Scenic Artist and Contractor. Painting-room, Kennington Green, Kennington-road, S.E. Tel., N3295 Hop.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

Exceptional opportunity.
WANTED for Musical Comedy, Lady or Gentleman, to Finance Suburban Production of New Musical Play by well-known author and composer, under First-class London Management. West-End Production to follow.
Apply by letter for appointment to Box 3,950, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, smart young Acting-Manager, for Tour commencing Dec. 26. Photo., refs., full particulars, LAWRENCE DUE, Theatre, Normanton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Manager, for Amusements Park, near Wakefield, Yorks.
Applicants must have had experience of Parks where amusement devices are installed, or must have thorough knowledge of the Showman World, and be capable of influencing amusement caterers. Write, stating age, salary required, and giving full particulars, to
LIGHT RAILWAY COMPANY, Wakefield.

WANTED, Young Gentleman, to learn Acting-Management with Leading Touring Drama; necessary qualification, £50 for third share. Commencing salary, £100 per annum. Box 3,963, "The Era."

WANTED, for Prolonged Tour, Lecturer, for Flying Lady Show; must be gentlemanly, and good doorsman. Apply, with references, and giving experience, to Box 3,956, "The Era."

WANTED, Assistant Stage-manager, conversant with all technicalities, play several Small Parts, and Understudy Principals. Terms, last 3 references, age, height, and other particulars, to Box 3,937, "The Era."

KING'S THEATRE, CARDIFF.
WANTED, immediately, thoroughly good, reliable, and willing Resident Stage-Carpenter, own tools; must understand electricity; sobriety indispensable. Address, stating age, lowest terms, full particulars, and recent references, to ALBERT C. DUNCAN.

WANTED, Good Smart Wardrobe Mistress, young, to go on in chorus, for "Saturday to Monday" Company. Apply, with terms, references, and photo., FRED KARNO, Park House, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, a good Costume Hand, who understands Fitting, Cutting, &c., for Theatrical Costumes. Salary, 16s. per week; permanency if suitable. Write full particulars to Box 3,959, "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced Acting-Manager (Theatres or Music Halls), Re-engagement; well up all branches, bars, &c. Cash security. Box 3,931, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Gentleman, young, speaks English, French, German, Dutch, fluently, good general education, voice, appearance, desires situation any capacity, with theatrical or variety company. BROCKHURST, 81, Glengall-rd., Kilburn.

WANTED, Known, well-known Composer is willing to undertake Commissions for High-class Artists for Ballets, Scenas, Sketches, &c. Box 3,929, "The Era."

WANTED, by unknown but promising Playwright, Situation in any literary capacity, or in Theatre, London. Box 3,930, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Musical Director, for Music Hall, Midlands; good Violinist; thoroughly reliable. Lowest terms and references. Box 3,946, "The Era."

WANTED, Conductor for a London Music Hall. Apply with full particulars, including salary required, Box 3,964, "The Era."

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, two First Violins and Double Bass, to open Nov. 19. Lowest terms for winter season must be stated, and last two references (copies only) forwarded. H. WAMBA, Conductor.

WANTED, a First-class Violin; must be thoroughly used to Variety Business, or else no use; one house nightly, and matinée. Refs. and terms. Evening dress. Commence Nov. 12. Apply, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Albert Hall Varieties, Southport, Lancs.

WANTED, First-Class Violinist, experienced in all Lines, good Soloist, gentlemanly and steady, or useless; commercial employment guaranteed to right man, ex-soldier preferred. Photo. and full particulars to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, 11, Andover-road, Southampton.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM, LIMITED.
WANTED, Solo Cornet and Solo Clarionet; experienced, reliable men only; open Nov. 12. State terms, references, age, and full particulars, GEORGE BURNLEY, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Good Solo Cornet, must be steady and reliable. Address, with references and lowest terms, W. L. RICHARDS, Empire Theatre, Belfast.

WANTED, for Southend Town Band, good Cornet. Permanent. Terms shares. 11, Market-place.

H. AND F. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, Commence Monday, Nov. 12, at Ashford, Trombone. Terms 30s.; wear evening dress, and assist fittings when travelling. Apply, POOLE, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, French Horn Player, for Hastings and St. Leonards Military Band. Apply, J. VINCE, St. Leonards.

PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.
WANTED, Flute, Piccolo, and Second Violin, to open Nov. 12. Age, references, and terms to C. W. POOLE.

WANTED, Lady Flute, Clarionet, Cornet, Bass, Viola, and Drums for 5 months' engagement in Nice. Letters only to R. COOK, 67A, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

WANTED, a First-Class Pianist, to travel with Rowley's Auction Mart, must make himself generally useful during the day. Permanent engagement to a suitable man; one who has been in the business before preferred. Write, C. F. ROWLEY, Rose Mount, Middle-road, Sholing, Hants.

WANTED, Situation by Brilliant Pianist, Soloist; used to Variety and Dramatic or any business; refs. WM. BOARDMAN, 15, Wolseley-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Permanent, Good Pianist, used to variety and musical comedy; must combine flute. Lowest terms, JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

Musicians
WANTED, for the R.M.S. Ortona (Australian Trade), leaving Tilbury Nov. 16. Pianist, Violinist, and Clarionet. Character references indispensable; must be good readers. Apply to F. C. CANE, Bandmaster, 28, Nelson-st., East Ham, Essex.

MARCH.
FOURTH TRIENNIAL TRADES, INDUSTRIAL, and ART EXHIBITION,
Opening Easter Tuesday, April 2 to April 10, 1907.
An established success; locally organised.
WANTED, First-Class Ladies' Orchestra, Lady Palmist, Side Shows, Artists for Stage Entertainments, and Novelty Exhibits of every kind. Old patrons are again booking Spaces for the fourth time. A few excellent positions still available. R. F. BERTOLLE, Secretary, March.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept., "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster, "Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Tenders for Band, Folkestone Amusements Association. The Committee invites Tenders for supplying thoroughly efficient Band, of Military Formation, consisting of twenty-six capable Musicians and a Conductor, in suitable Uniform, to play thrice daily (four-and-three-quarter hours each day) in the Bandstands on the Leas, or elsewhere, as required, for the season 1907, eleven weeks, July 3 to Sept. 17. The Committee desires an already established Band and a Conductor with well-known name and good reputation. Tenders must state price per week, including the supplying of Music and Uniforms, proposed composition of Band, information as to past engagements, references. Sealed Tenders, marked "Tender for Band," to be sent to the Secretary not later than 2 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 22. The Committee does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any Tender.
THOMAS FINN, Secretary,
Radnor-chambers, Folkestone.

WANTED, Musicians, Stewards (Pianists and Violinists), for West African Service. CROPPER, 20/19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Drummer in Shop, to Change with Drummer on Mail Boat for eight or nine weeks, Music Hall pref. Particulars, A. MORGAN, 14, Herne-place, Herne Hill.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, now Disengaged, Panto. or Tour; Composer, Arranger, Violinist. Address, 54, Caswick-road, West Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Jules Guitton, Musical Director, Composer, and Arranger, Disengaged, Pantos. arranged. 51, Fairland-road, West Ham, E.

WANTED, Known, T. C. Poyser, late Musical-Director, Grand Theatre, Leeds, Disengaged. Address, 98, Gordon-hill, Enfield, Middlesex.

WANTED, by First-Class Musical Director, Engagement in Music Hall or Theatre; highest references; only good offers entertained. Box 3,935, "The Era."

WANTED, immediate Re-engagement as Leader or First Violin, Theatres, Restaurants; London suburbs. OSCAR CREMER, 10, Caithness-road, Mitcham, S.W.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Leader or First Violin, any Business, through disappointment. Can open Monday. First-class refs. HART, 78, Grasmere-street, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, First-Class Musical-Director, at Liberty; brilliant Violinist (Variety business preferred); highest credentials. CHARLES FOX, 35, Heathcote-street, Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED, Engagement, by Ladies' Trio (Violin, 'Cello, Piano), Hotel, Restaurant, or Tea Rooms; competent performers; popular music; London or suburbs. Box 3,942, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement as Second Violin, London or suburbs, any Business. VIOLINIST, 22 Knowle-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Joint Engagement, Violinist and Pianist; experienced; excellent refs.; Hotel, Café, or Theatre; home or abroad. H. FAY, Poste Restante, Bradford.

WANTED, by Young Lady Violinist, Engagement, any Bus.; experienced as First Violin. VIOLINIST, 60, Kimberley-gardens, Harringay Park, London, N.

WANTED, by Good Violinist, Engagement, Theatre or Varieties, Leader or First Violin Address, VIOLINIST, c/o Mrs. Craig, 6, Moss-street, Paisley.

WANTED, immediately Engagement by Young Lady Violinist, Soloist and Orchestral, tour or permanent; good appearance; refs. Box 3,948, "The Era."

WANTED, an Engagement, Competent Violinist, any business. Address, A. B., 9, Sharsted-street, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Violin or Viola; end of season. KIRKMAN, 120, Albert-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Cornettist, experienced all lines; highest refs.; disengaged. J. BONNER, 50, Clifton-road, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, as Solo Cornet, Theatre, or Music Hall, good references; North London preferred. J. SCUTT, 14, Puller-rd., High Barnet, Herts.

WANTED, Engagement, as reliable First or Second Cornet; can join at once. Address, CORNET, 12, Cooper's-road, Old Kent-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, any business; reliable references; total abstainer; finished season West Pier, Brighton. MCCORMICK, 8, Cleveland-road, Brighton.

WANTED, by Late Solo Clarionet Hyde Park Band, Engagement, any business. Good refs. SHEEHAN, 11, Pelham-st., South Kensington, S.W.

WANTED, by Clarionet, capable, steady, experienced, Engagement or Deputising, London or Suburbs. H. AUSTING, 35, Northcote-rd., Clapham Junction.

WANTED, Engagement, Bass, four string, any business, now at Liberty; good references. Jos. MURRAY, Theatre Royal, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone, Theatre or Music Hall, or Deputising. W. GOFF, 111, Upper Kennington-lane.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, Theatre or Music Hall; good references; would deputise. HURST, 105, Culford-road, Dalston, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Euphonium, any business, steady, reliable, refs., works band. FRED NORRIS, 12, The Drive, West Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement as Bombardon; reliable and steady; at Liberty immediately. W. J. HOSKING, Adelaide Cottage, Penzance.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, as 'Cellist; excellent refs. S. IRWIN, 37, Badlis-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist, experienced in all Branches of the Profession. Highest references. Address, GEO. HIRST, 'Cellist, Hippodrome, Hull.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, Disengaged through Change of Management, at Liberty Nov. 10, any Business; good refs. HARVEY, 2, Crescent, Gateshead.

WANTED, Known, Miss Maud Curtis, Solo and Orchestral 'Cellist, Disengaged; thoroughly experienced. Address, King's-road, Brentwood, Essex

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Viola or Violin, any business, experienced, excellent refs. Apply, ALFRED BEECH, 31, Bourne-st., Netherfield, Notts.

WANTED, Deputising or Permanent, Engagement, as viola or second violin, variety or theatre. WOOLLETT, 29, Khyber-rd., Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, by experienced Oboeist, Engagement; sober reliable. Late Royal Artillery Band, Woolwich. FIELD, 28, Cardozo-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, age 19, Harpist; brilliant Soloist. All letters, 7, Provost-rd., Hampstead, London, N.W.

WANTED, Known Æneas Gibson, First-class Harpist and Pianist, immediate Rengagement; young; travel abroad if preferred; reliable, sober. 164, Roundhay-road, Leeds.

WANTED, by Lady Harpist (Solo and Orchestral), Engagement for Panto. or Xmas Production. Address, Box 3,960, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Fred Greenwood, Pianist; thoroughly experienced and reliable; any capacity. Wire or write, Tunnel Hotel, Edgehill, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady; excellent pianist, certificated, medallist. Miss SIMS, 35, St. James's-square, Holland Park, W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Ladies' Orchestra or Otherwise, by Young Lady Pianist (Professional), First-rate sight-reader, accompanist; certificated honours. VINE, 24, Lancaster-gardens, Ealing, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Pianist, brilliant Soloist and Reader; open immediately. Wire or write, H. JORDAN, Winstanley-road, Wellingborough.

WANTED, Engagement, by N. Robinson, Pianist, Orch. or Self; experienced in Var., Dram. business; excel. refs.; good reader; steady; reliable. 227, Bowling Back-lane, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady requires Engagement as Accompanist, Theatrical or otherwise, good sight-reader; London preferred. G. M., 71, York-road, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, by Professional Pianist (lady), soloist, accompanist, sight reader, would like post in orchestra, References. DINGLE, Newtown, Montgomery.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady, as Accompanist, London or Tour. 39, Chelsham-rd., Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced; Variety preferred; good references. A. LILLE, 93, Queen's-rd., Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Shop as Double Drums, any Business. Address, A. EASON, 16, Stonebridge-road, South Tottenham, London.

WANTED, Known, the following Instrumentalists (Ladies), at Liberty Nov. 10, Leader, Second Violin, 'Cello, Bass, Cornet, Flute, Piano, Double Drums; young, good appearance, experienced, any business. ST. VALERIE, 3, Heathmansions, The Grove, Hampstead.

WANTED the Shakespearean Ladies' Orchestra (Viennese), copyright registered Stationers' Hall, twenty-two (or less) performers, magnificent costumes; highest criticisms. Conductor, Miss GASCOYNE OLD, 238, Edgware-road, London.

To Pier Managers, Corporations, &c.
WANTED, Known, a First-Class Italian Orchestra or Military Band, at Liberty for next summer season; best picked soloists; smart uniforms; répertoire includes all the latest English selections. MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Box 3,765, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands, apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to Dec. Quartet now Disengaged.

WANTED, Known, First-class Artist Band (German Hungarian), Five Soloists, Two Violins, 'Cello, Double Bass, Piano. Open Nov. 15, or later. FRITZ PREISICKE, Bandmaster Primas, Café Savoy, Hamburg. I have been over two years Bandmaster in the Carlton Hotel, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Brass Band, Eight Performers. Open for Engagements, Circus, or any Bus. At Lib. Dec., and on. BANDMASTER, 50, Salem-street, Amlwch, Isle of Anglesey.

WANTED, Known, the Orchestral Association is prepared to provide Managers and Conductors with Professional Players, from Single Performers to Complete Orchestras, for First-class London or Provincial Theatres, Concerts, or Balls, &c.; or Military Bands of any number, including Conductor if required. None but bonâ fide professional musicians are admitted to membership. For particulars, apply SECRETARY, 28, Gerrard-street, London, W. Telephone, 4459 Central. Telegrams, "Harmonists, London."

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, for the above Circus, all the latest and greatest Novelties in England; also useful Circus turns in all lines; nothing too big. All must state when last appeared in this town.
Address, KING OHMY,
Ohmy's Grand Circus, Barrow-in-Furness.

CIRCUS, HULL.
WANTED, Nov. 19, 26, Equestrienne Lady and Gentleman, Clowns, and Artists of every description. Silence a polite negative. Address, EDWARD EMERSON, General-Manager.

WANTED, Nov. 12, onwards, Gentlemen Riders, with or without own horses, circus acts, all lines. T. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Musical Clowns, Aerial Performers, and any Acts suitable for Circus Ring. Send lowest terms for one week, two, three, and four weeks (in one town), also vacant weeks in January and February, 1907. Silence a polite negative, pro. tem. Address, GEORGE GASCOIGNE, Victoria Villa, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, Boy or Young Man, at once, good Flipflap Throfer or good Arab Tumbler; also good Hand Balancer, for Double Tricks. State lowest terms and tricks to GONZALO, Palace, Manchester.

WANTED, a Good Acrobat, about 8st, able to play Comedy in Acrobatic Sketch. Box 3934, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Youth, about 18 to 20, used to Comic Acrobatic Bus. Call, 86, St. George's-road, S.E.

WANTED, a Top-mounter for Acrobats, at Once.
E. STARLING, 57, Fortess-rd., Kentish Town, London.

WANTED, a Smart Boy, about 15, as an Apprentice to the Acrobatic Business; good home. Apply, Box 3,952, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Dec., onwards, for winter season, the refined John Scott Family of Male and Female Equestrians, &c., including Poor Billy, the King of the Ring; all are specially invited to witness our numbers.
Address,
12, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, Comical Walker, Talking Clown, with good comic entrées, Vacant Nov. 12; also good globe show. Address all letters, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

Notice.—This is New.
WANTED, Known, to Proprietors, Managers, and Agents, Happy Jackies and his Dogs, the Savage Brutes, 2 years touring with Bostock and Wombwell's Great Shows. A good Agent Wanted. For dates, BOSTOCK and WOMBWELL, c/o J. J. Miller, Melbourne, Australia.

WANTED, Known, Zampo and Clown, Trampolin Bar Act.
Sanger's Hippodrome.

WANTED, Known, the Maros are at Liberty Nov. 5 and 19, with their Quaint Comedy Bar Act. Address, 126, Porter-street, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Body Bros., Triple Bar Gymnasts, just concluded tour of Ireland, Hanneford's Circus. Wire for Monday; also Nov. 12, Dec. 3, 10, 17, and Jan. 7, on, in Scotland.

WANTED, by The Steckels, Nov. 12, 19, Gymnastic Speciality; also Jean Steckel, Equestrian. Com., 12, Seymour-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lo Lo, charming Lady Gymnast, Trapeze, and Teeth Speciality Artist; and Little May, Graceful Contortionist and Dancing; at Liberty Nov. 5 and on. Finished with King Ohmy. Address, 127, Aughton-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, Mayeno Trio, two ladies, one gent., Gymnasts, Acrobats, Wire Walkers, Stilt Tumblers, Tub Posturers, Knockabout Clown Silva. Liberty Nov. 12, on, with number First-class Acts, Halls, Circuses, Carnivals. Perm., 30, Great George-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Linton, the Greatest Acrobatic Bounding Wire Artist Extant. Wire, for Nov. 5, 13, Orange-street, Canterbury, Wire.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Floria, Comic Slack-wire Artist and Equilibrist of Strength, free until Nov. 26. 38, Harwood-road, Walham Green, London.

WANTED, Monday next, between Yarmouth and Liverpool, by Lillian and Agouste, Contortionists; also Savaro, Siffleur. 55, Apsley-road, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty to Join First-class Three-bar or Trampolin Act.
GYMNAST, Box 3,954, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists,
RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY.
RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY.
RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY.
Principal Girl (with a name and Big Speciality, Panto. Must see all acts; recommendations useless. 30 Maiden-lane, Strand. 6704 Central.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Nothing too big. Send full particulars, with Ithos. (if any), to MORGAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Nov 12, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, to complete company, Nov. 19 and 26. Full particulars, JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Nov. 12, onwards. Address, HURMAN, 18, Conway-mount, Leeds.

Wires, "Benbrick, London." 'Phone, 8148 Gerrard.
BLANCHARD'S
AMUSEMENT ASSOCIATION,
49, Charing Cross-mans., Charing Cross-rd., W.C.
Under the sole control of BENBRICK BLANCHARD.
WANTED, Artists of Every Description in want of Concert, Theatrical, Pantomime, or Variety Engagements to communicate with BLANCHARD'S Amusement Association (Professional Employment Department), Manager, Mr. HARRY BISHOP, as above.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists for Glasgow Concerts. Lowest terms and permanent address to the SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines,
Palace, Lancaster.
J. FELL, Proprietor.

EMPIRE, GREENOCK.
General-Manager, H. L. SKIVINGTON.
WANTED, Star Artists in all Lines.
Nothing too Big.
Salary or Share.

WANTED, Artists in every Line, Nov. 12, on. Clients post me weekly. Big Sensational Stage Act, New Year's Week; also Small Speciality Acts write at once. DREW BAYLEY, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Coloured Artists, for Long Tour, Ladies and Gentlemen with Good Voices, Cake-Walkers, also Good Banjoist. Terms, photos., references, W. T. RUSHBURY, Elmwood Dunoon, Scotland.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Nov. 12, 19, 26, onwards.
CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Known.—Artists wishing to be booked for First-class Music Halls, apply at BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Saturday evenings, for Dec. 1, and onwards. Nothing too big. Write, VICTOR W. ROWE, 28, Herbert-road, Stockwell, London, S.W.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, also Top of Bill, Nov. 19, Lancashire. Address, WILL ONDA, Palace, Porth, S. Wales

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards. Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT,
Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Nov. 12, onwards. No prepaid wires, please.
Silence polite negative.
GEO. SAPHRINI, Palace, Boston.

WANTED, Artists for Empire Palace, Dover, Lessees, The Vaudeville Syndicate. Artists communicate FRED DURHAM'S Agency.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, for Scotland, immediate dates. ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
DALTON'S AGENCY. Always send
DALTON'S AGENCY. House Address as well
DALTON'S AGENCY. as Theatre.
DALTON'S AGENCY. A feature in connection
DALTON'S AGENCY. with this Agency will be
DALTON'S AGENCY. Artists Vacant "Monday
DALTON'S AGENCY. next," also "Artists Vacant
DALTON'S AGENCY. Immediate Dates," and Art-
DALTON'S AGENCY. ists are requested to post
DALTON'S AGENCY. me if open Monday next,
DALTON'S AGENCY. and mention at same time
DALTON'S AGENCY. any immediate vacancies;
DALTON'S AGENCY. but "Monday next" being
DALTON'S AGENCY. a feature in the future, a
DALTON'S AGENCY. penny stamp may mean a
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DALTON'S AGENCY staying in the respective
DALTON'S AGENCY towns for early delivery of
DALTON'S AGENCY. telegrams. Tele., "Granbeste Withington," Telephone, 193 Didsbury. 29, DALTON'S AGENCY. Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, the Cream of the Profession. Those who have written, write again. Impossible to answer all letters. Those new to London can have a Trial Show. Send lithos., memos., lowest terms, and bookings.
May Henderson, Empire, Edinburgh; Lade Henderson, Hippo., Dewsbury; Sauteron, Champion Jumper, Widnes; Lily Arthur, Empress, Brixton; C. Banks and Wonderful Dog, one month, London Pavilion, March 4; Maud Esmond, Queen's, Poplar; Dick and Dorothy, Coliseum, Glasgow; The Dewars, Nov. 12, Richmond. Address, BILLY HENDERSON and Co., 30, Handforth-road, Brixton-road, London.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME Co., LTD.
WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contracts will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager. T. M. SYLVESTER, Manager; G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin, for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, for Nov. 12, 19, and 26,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Big Stars and Novelties, for Nov. 12, onward. Those on my books keep me posted. FRED NEIMAN and Co., 108, Strand, W.C. Telephone, 8468 Gerrard.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.
Big Variety Turns.

Something New and Up-to-Date.
Something New and Up-to-Date.
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Something New and Up-to-Date.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.
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Novelties and Sensational Acts.
Novelties and Sensational Acts.

For Immediate and Future Dates.
Send at once, Terms, Dates, and Lithos. Those having a Good Act can rely on Immediate Work
I can give you nine months' solid work.
Also Wanted, Big Acts of all Kinds for the Coming Season for the Seaside.
WILL SLEY,
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41, Oxford-street,
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Manchester.
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Manchester.
Manchester.
Telephone 09144
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."

W. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.
WANTED, commencing Dec. 31, for five weeks, First-Class Speciality Turn.
Nothing too Big.
Silence a polite negative.
Address,
Coliseum, Leeds.

WANTED, Refined Musical and Other Turns suitable for well-known Picture Show; six months' tour, from December. Lowest terms to ENTERTAINMENT MANAGER, Assembly Rooms, Alton, Hants.

WANTED, Big Variety Stars, Comedians, Acrobats, Gymnasts, &c., Nov. 12, on. Terms, &c., EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. 'Phone, 09261. Wires, "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Stars and big drawing Tops of every description, Nov. 12, 1906, onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c. Full up for small turns at present. JESS VERNO'S Agency, 15, Elizabeth-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal. Gladys Christoe please wire address, important.

BARNARD'S AGENCY,
24, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, Stars and Specialities.
Nothing too Big.
Telephone, 1114.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Variety Talent, Share or Salary. Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock, for The Maisanos, Lovelaces, F. S. Hulme, Babusio Bros., C. Hampson, T. W. Royal, Harding and Preston, Vernon's Bioscope.
Letters, SMITH and Co., Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

WANTED, Talent all Lines,
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street,
Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686 Royal.

WHITSUNTIDE FETES, MAY 20, 1907.
WANTED, Sensational Up-to-Date Novelties and Specialities. Acts Booked up to £200 per week. Must send Lithographs, permanent address, letters only, no callers. Mr. W. G. SYLVESTER, Agent, 271, Clapham-road, London. Dare-Devil Schreyer write.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wiggles-worth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, big Top of Bill, Nov. 12 and 19, also Artists in every branch of the Variety Profession. Apply with lowest terms, D. TAYLOR, Hippodrome, Ton-y-pandy.
Call, Monday, Nov. 5,
2 o'clock, for
Dr. Carl Hermann, Lynn, La Tosca, Alfonzo, Lucretia, Chant and Chant, Zarcas, Three Bostonians, Steve Cook, Ladderites, The Wheelers, Auguste Denton, and full orchestra.

WANTED, Attractions for Amusements Park, situated midway between Leeds and Wakefield. This Park has been purchased, and is being laid out by the Wakefield and District Light Railway Company, who intend sparing no expense to make it successful. Very favourable terms offered to persons willing to put up and run up-to-date first-class amusement devices. Write, GENERAL-MANAGER, Light Railway Company, Wakefield.

WANTED, immediately. Wanted, immediately. The Best Solo Boys in England, or any really Good Speciality; must be first-class, for Immediate Engagements at West-End Theatres. Good salaries. No fees of any kind charged. Call, write, 'phone, or wire us at once. Est. 30 years at same address. STEDMAN'S MUSICAL AGENCY, 58, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W. Telephone, 8194 Central.

WANTED, for Music Hall Sketch, to be produced next week. Ladies and Comedians with knowledge of Dancing and Singing. Apply ARTHUR, to-day, Saturday, between 3 and 5, at Percy Hall, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted,
Smart Young Girl,
Smart Young Girl,
Good at Acrobatic Dancing; must have a good voice, and able to do speciality for sketch.
A good Step Dancer may also apply.
Long and Comfortable Engagement.
Photo., full particulars, and salary expected, to Box 3,958, "The Era."

WANTED, Serios, Comediennes, Sisters, Doubles doing Singles, Comedians and Dancers, Nov. 12 and onwards. MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Low Comedy Lady; sing and dance. Terms, last three references, age, height, and other particulars to Box 3,940, "The Era."

WANTED, good Comedians, Comedy Acts, throughout the Winter Season. Quote lowest nett terms.
ZALVA, Hippodrome, Scarboro'.

WANTED an Ultra-refined, very Versatile Comedian, for Costume Concert Party, for Occasional Winter Dates, and Thirty Weeks' Tour, from March next. Terms, £3 per week.
H. JACKSON, 38, Lady Somerset-road, London, N.W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

ROYAL
HIPPODROME,
BELFAST.
Now in course of erection,
and
when
finished
will be the largest and handsomest building in Ireland.
WANTED, February, onward, all the Finest Acts in the World. Price no object.
New and Novel Turns of every Variety.
The above is booked
in conjunction with
TIVOLI THEATRE,
DUBLIN.
WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

THE PALACE, NORTHAMPTON.
THE PALACE, NORTHAMPTON.
THE PALACE, NORTHAMPTON.
Proprietor, Mr. FRED H. ANDERSON.
WANTED, Refined Acts of every Description, including Tops, from December, onwards. Note.—Northampton makes a very convenient break in the journey for Artists coming North or going South.
Address, FRED H. ANDERSON, as above.

THE EMPIRE, DUDLEY.
THE EMPIRE, DUDLEY.
Managing-Director, FRED H. ANDERSON.
Wanted, Boisterous Comedy Acts, Dramatic Sketches, and Cheap Turns of all Descriptions, now and onwards. (Dudley is situated about eight miles from Birmingham.) All communications should be addressed, FRED H. ANDERSON, Northampton. N.B.—Agents can have appointments in London if desired. Artists are requested to state bed-rock terms and address for two weeks.

PALACE, KILMARNOCK.
Lessee and Manager, J. CUMMINGS.
WANTED, Star Acts, all Lines, absolute lowest, once nightly.

WANTED, Known, any Star Acts who have odd weeks vacant should send list of vacancies to FRANK LYNNE, 12, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W. (ATTOUN'S Agency.)

GRAND THEATRE AND EMPIRE,
DONCASTER.
WANTED, for above and other First-Class Theatres, the greatest Acts in the Profession, in all Lines, the bigger the better, Comedy Act also, for immediate and onward. Apply to LEO FRITZ, Agent, Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, Nov. 12, onwards, for South Wales, West, Bristol, Sunderland, star acts and specialities, all lines. T. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Good Knockabout Comedy Acts and Specialities to write lowest terms at once to G. PAYNE, c/o General Post Office, Goole.

WANTED, Big Speciality Acts for Xmas, for Animated Picture Show.
Radford and Winchester write.
SHEFFIELD PHOTO Co., 95, Norfolk-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Comedian, Funny, Original, Good Tenor Voice, Quartet, abstainer Londoner, £3 weekly and travelling expenses; all engagements fulfilled. Send capabilities, RICHARDS, 24a, Cleveland-gardens, Bayswater.

WANTED, Small Comedian, about 4ft., sing and dance. Terms, last three references, age, height, and other particulars, to Box 3,939, "The Era."

WANTED, Immediately, Tall, Acrobatic Legmania Comedian, about 18, to speak few words in comedy act. Long tour booked. Letters, stating experience and salary, to Box 3,953, "The Era."

WANTED, Bioscope, with Up-to-date Pictures. Lowest terms, or can have big sharing terms. SYD HERMAN, Public Hall, Liss, Hants.

WANTED, to Open Monday, certain, First-class Operator, with own moving picture machine, and really good films, able to give a two-hours' show nightly, good tour; films must be good, and free from flicker. Wire, to-day, lowest terms and refs. (all fares paid). DIRECTOR, Picture Co., Town Hall, Tunstall, Staffs. Cost of wire refunded and fare paid.

WANTED, at once, First-Class Bioscope Operator, Pianist, that can sing to Pictures; also other Turns. Address, DUNLOP, Blue Bell Hotel, Stockport.

WANTED, Good Operator, with Machine and Sheet; 6 months' tour from December; good money to right man. Address, ENTERTAINMENT-MANAGER, Assembly Rooms, Alton, Hants.

WANTED, Operator, Lime and Electric. Last two refs., particulars, lowest terms. Wanted, big films, cheap. Particulars, DAVIES, Concert Hall, Llanrwst.

WANTED, to Sell or Let, Original Version of "Whittington," one scene, music and parts, complete; also Farcical and Pathetic Sketches. G. D. FOX, 134, Queen's Park-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. La Tosca, Artist's Model, produced Velasquez' Venus, Psyche, 4 years ago; notices prove. Imitators, be original, don't copy. Coms., LYNN, F.O.S., V.A.F., "Era."

WANTED, by Nellie Nora, Novelty Instrumental Act, Monday next; also Nov. 12. This, Public Hall. Wire, 50, Sackville-street, Barnsley.

WANTED, Monday next, by Pretty Polly Adula, Refined Serio, Sand and Legmania Dancer. Wire, ADULA, 16, Hastings-st., Loughboro'.

WANTED, Dates by Cento, the Man in the Monkey's Skin, for his Speciality, The Cycling Monkey. All coms. to Hippodrome, Dartford.

WANTED, Nov. 12, 19, 26, Plymouth to follow, by Ventom Swift, Swell Eccentric, Dancer. Pavilion, Greenock; next, care Pavilion, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday and on, by G. R. Lees, Baritone (big voice); also Panto. Wire, Victoria, West Stanley; next, P.O., Dundee.

WANTED, Known, George M. Schilling, World's Walker, the famous American Athlete who has walked around the world, Vacant Nov. 5 and 12. A Cert. Draw. Address, Grand Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Known, Dan Kirton is at South London nightly, Nov. 5. Managers and Agents, watch this turn.

WANTED, Known, Phil Rabey, Comedian. Wire. Vacant Nov. 26 and Dec. 10. Wire. This, Public Hall, Barnsley; next, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Monday next, and 19th, by Bernard Bransby, Vocal Comedian. Enormous Success of my New Songs. 44, Walcot-square, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Harry Barlow, Baritone, sixth week Corn Exchange, Watford, at Lib. Dec. 3, on, for Panto., Concerts, or Quartette.

WANTED, Monday next, by Fred Casburn, in Dramatic Song Scena, "An Actor's Reverie." Wire, Public Hall, Barnsley; after Sat., 14, Dudley-street, Shipley.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey, big Novelty, also Ventriloquist. Wire, 97, Hill-street, Garnet-hill, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday next, also 12th, by Harry Leaton, Refined Vocal Comedian. Wire, 16, Greek-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, the Russian Lion's marvellous little Wrestling Pupil, World's Champion Boy Wrestler, Pose Artist, &c. Instant success this week Lincoln; crowds of competitors turned away nightly. Vacant on, with exceptions. Wire or write, 34, Margaret-street, Liverpool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

THE NATIONAL VAUDEVILLE CO.
Under the Management of Mr. JOHN JACKSON,
Will shortly Tour with a
First-Class Co. of Dramatic and Variety Artists.
The Company will consist of
Mr. JOHN JACKSON and CO.
In a powerful Dramatic and Sensational Episode,
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP IN LONDON."

A New and Original Coster Comedy Sketch,
"SALLY'S BIRTHDAY."
Songs and Music by Sam Richards, Esq.
Assisted by local supers.

A Charming and Most Pathetic Scena,
"THE HOSPITAL NURSE."
Depicting A Child-en's Hospital Ward.
Assisted by local children.

Farcical Duologue with Songs and Music,
"A GREAT MISTAKE."

In addition to the above,
A Bioscope with all the Latest Films.
Mr. Jackson is negotiating with several leading variety artists to join the Company.
Eight Numbers for Two Houses Nightly.
Twelve Numbers for One House Nightly.
Pictorials, Printing, Gag Bills ad. lib.
The Company can be booked from one to four weeks. Change of Sketches, Duologues, and Variety Turns each week.
Managers are assured that the National Vaudeville Co. will be the most powerful combination touring.
WANTED, Dec. 3, onwards.
Shares or Certainty.
Shares or Certainty.
For further particulars apply
SECRETARY, 55, Bancroft-road, Mile End, London.

WANTED, Nov. 5, onwards, by Li Chang, Comedy Chinese Conjurer. Wire, Theatre, Dereham. After Sunday, 70, Wiltshire-road, Brixton, S.W. Vacant for Panto. or Tour.

WANTED, Immediate Engagement for Animal Impersonator and Trap Worker; anything acceptable, Sketches &c. Apply, Sec., M.H.L.G., 69, Primrose-mansions, Prince of Wales's-road, Battersea.

WANTED, Known, a young Trick and Knockabout Comedy Cyclist will join any Comedy business, with or without own machines. Box 3,896, "The Era."

WANTED, Nov. 5, onward, The Great Kyoto, Japanese Contortionist, &c.; May Geraldine, Comedienne, Dancer. Wire, 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Herbert Banks, the famous Crippled Tenor, and Miss Jenny Mills, Serio Comic and Coon Vocalist; original songs, duets; a great Novelty. Would join Concert Party or Choir. Harrowgate Hill, Darlington.

WANTED, Known, that after Oct. 1, 1906, Alec Aubrey and Mlle. Devena will be known as The Garellys. Address, Mosebacke, Stockholm.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement by good all-round Comedian, and Serio and Dancer, Double and Single Turns. Wire offers, S. L., 9, Little Mount Zion, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Nov. 5, the Camerons (Jim and Marie), greatest comedy act on the road, two singles if required. Wire, Hippodrome, Grimsby.

WANTED, by The Monckton, Dec. 31, Jan. 14, in screamingly funny Musical Farcical Duologue, "Are Wives Dummies?" Next, Hippo., Hastings.

WANTED, Dec. 31, by The Monckton Comedy Company, in screaming Sketches, "What Ailing Did," also "Hoo from Wych." Hippo., Hastings.

WANTED, Nov. 19, 26, Sardou's Illusionists par excellence, Laughter, Laughter; Marie Riviers, Queen of Song. Monday, Palace Theatre, Porth, S. Wales.

WANTED, Stanton and Le Clare, Comedy Sketch Artists, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26. Write or wire, 57, Myddleton-street, London, E.C.

WANTED, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, by the Two Browns, Eccentric Duettists, Doubles and Singles. Mount Morin, Delancey, Guernsey.

WANTED, Nov. 12 and Dec. 3, by the Mozondos, in eccentric jumping and tumbling Act. Next week, Grand, Stockton. Wire.

WANTED, Nov. 5 and 12, by The Boultons and Mlle. Bartenelli, two Acts. Wire, 5, Hope-road, Sale, near Manchester.

WANTED, The Cheers, Original Speciality, Special Scenery, Real Chimes, Wonderful Performing Cats, Vacant Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10. CHEERS, People's Palace.

WANTED, Known, The Chicago Entertainers will arrive in England, June, 1907, to Tour Gt. Britain and Ireland. For vacant dates and samples of printing, G. P. VAUGHAN, 9, Park-st., Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Kriss, Ventriloquist Scotsman, vacant dates Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 17, 24, 31. Two acts if required. C/o Lindsay, 55, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Bessie Travis, Musical Ventriloquist, Nov. 12 26, Dec. 3. Works three life-size figures and plays piano simultaneously. P. Grimsby; Nov. 5, Queen's, Poplar.

WANTED, Nov. 12, 19, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist; two first-class acts. Letters, 5, Union-road, Macclesfield.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Vent. and Illusionist, Nov. 5 and 12. Wire, Central Hall, Lincoln, till 4th inst.; then, 32, Courtenay-rd., Walthamstow.

WANTED, Monday next, and 12th, by King Leo, smart singing ventriloquist, always successful. Wire, 29, Mytton-st., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, by Gulliver, Clever Refined Ventriloquist, Fast Booking 1907 8. Address, Empress, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Nov. 26, Dec. 31, for Sketch, "Did He Deserve It?"
DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, to follow Gaiety, Dundee, Dec. 17, onwards, for Tom Bassett's Grand Spectac'e, "Santa Claus," Twenty Local Children and Principals. Dresses, scenery, &c., carried. For terms, apply Business-Manager, CLARKE, c/o Pollock, 220, Hope-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday next, by Billy Rose and Co., Greatest Comedy Act on the Stage. Wire for Draw, 29, Vassall-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, The Dunlops, Comedy Cycle Act, also Lillian Sivado, Lady Gymnast; two distinct Acts; Vacant Monday, Nov. 5 and 12. Wire, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Educated Lions, (Only Lion Show in England),
fresh from her Engagements in Spain.
Vacant Dec. 3, 10, 17, and 24.
Com., week Nov. 5.
Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Roza's Great Feline Hippodrome, including the Football Team and Dog Goalkeeper, the smartest and greatest Canine Show; great Electric Spectacle; big Stage Set; Top Liner. Vacant Nov. 19, the only date previous to London season. Add., Hippo., Wigan.

WANTED, Known, Devereux' Troupe of Dogs, the Dogs with Human Brains, the Dogs that take the audience by storm. Liberty Monday. Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, Alice Fontainbleau, Famous Troupe of Dogs, few immediate dates, London, Xmas. Sure success. Wire, Wood Cottage, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Florrie Transfield's Performing Poodles and Terriers, great Dog Act and Novel Contests, certain draw; also Brown and Spink, Eccentric Comedians; two Acts; Free Nov. 19 and Dec. 10. Address, FLORRIE TRANSFIELD, General Post Office, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagements, public or private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Dates for the Lingwood Bioscope, change of Films weekly; electric or Limelight. LINGWOOD, 31, Watcombe-road, S. Norwood.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, good Halls and Assembly Rooms, Nov. 12, onwards, for First-Class Combination. Shares or Rental. Ten good Turns. Box 3,962, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Carl Fredricks' Great Palace of Illusions. Six in Number, the only one travelling, vacant Xmas and January; share or rental. Address, Athenæum H., Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, Dates for Chronophone, Gaumont's Patent, Dec. 1, onwards. Terms apply, 81, Victoria-avenue, Hull.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.
President, Lord George Sanger.

WANTED, Known, Meetings at Rotherham Fair, Sunday next, at 3.30 p.m. The Mayor is expected, and other local gentlemen, to attend and support the Guild.
The Evening Meeting will be at 7 p.m.
At both gatherings
the Rev. T. Horne, Hon. Chaplain,
will speak.
Members of Committee within easy reach of Rotherham are asked to attend Committee Meeting after each meeting.
T. Hurst,
Hon. Secretary.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Important, Important,
that the next meeting of the
British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union, will be held at the
Cross Daggers Hotel, Rotherham,
on Tuesday, Nov. 6, at 2.30 p.m.,
when a
good muster of Members is requested.

Signed, T. Hurst, Secretary.

WANTED, Known, Electrical, Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture four and six pole Showmen's Dynamos (improved pattern), also new Flame Arc Lamps, geared motors, for driving organs and roundabouts, large stocks, cable, carbons, globes, incandescents, all classes of repairs; new line, direct coupled portable electric plants, driven by paraffin.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

WANTED, Known.—A Word to the Wise is Sufficient. A Client writing June 25, 1906, says:—Bag puncher took £300 in a little over three months. For price, write Sole Agents to the Makers, viz., the Mills Novelty Co. Minerva Automatic Co., 120, York-rd., King's Cross, London, N. Largest Variety of Automatic Machines in the trade. No Junk. Don't buy worn-out machines of old pattern; get a genuine Mills 1906 pattern.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch, is going ahead with up-to-date Lines in Field Glasses, Fancy Goods, Clocks, Jewellery, &c. Send for Special Xmas Supplement. There is no cheaper house for you.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., the largest Tent Manufacturers in the World, have a large stock of New and Secondhand Circus Tents, made from their famous Rotproof and Waterproof Tent Canvas, "Birkmyres Cloth." This is the most durable and waterproof Canvas for Showmen's Tents, Tilts, &c. Buy direct from Manufacturers and save middlemen's profit. Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., Lancaster-place, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Circus, and Roundabout Proprietors, that De Salis and Co., of Leighton Buzzard, are manufacturers of Showmen's Colours, Paints, and Varnishes, suitable for Switchbacks, Galloping Horses, Rounding Boards, Swings, &c., &c. Specially recommended by Mr. A. Higgins, Artist, of Totterdown, Bristol, and others.
All Showmen should send for price list and samples.
Specialities.
"New Royal Red."
"Salisello," a perfect white enamel.
Extra Pale Durable Body, and White Copal Varnishes.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
'Tis not in mortals to command success,
but we'll do more—make good in everything we contract to (new version).
A word to the wise is sufficient.
CARNARVON
CHRISTMAS
CARNIVAL,
and
FESTIVAL OF FUN,
For a three months' season, commencing Dec. 24, in the GRAND PAVILION, CARNARVON, NORTH WALES. The largest Entertainment Building in Great Britain out of London. 11,221 paid admission to one performance last August.
WANTED, for the TOP, BOTTOM, and all through the MIDDLE of the BILL,
POSITIVE Attractions of all kinds.
COMPARATIVE beyond all others; and
SUPERLATIVE in their various Classes.
Nothing too Good, Nothing too Big, but sensible salaries only entertained. We are not running a "Dream-land," for you'll get it. We want all kinds of "Coney Island" Attractions that would be a credit to "Luna Park" or anywhere else. Loop the Loop, Flying the Flume, Leaping the Gap, Marvellous Marsh Dare-devil Schreyer, High Diver, Whirling the Whirl, Aerial and High-wire Acts, or anything that can be done on the mammoth stage, 80ft. wide by 40ft. deep, or in the building, 250ft. long, 120ft. wide, 60ft. high, or in the ten-acre field outside. Comedy Acts, Sketches, Quartettes, Dancers, Musical Teams, Variety Turns, and really great Animal Acts, such as Hendrickson's Tiger Conclave and Bevy of Bengal Beauties; Le Beau Gaillard, the World's Fashion-Plate, Lion Tamer and his twenty forest kings; Eph. Thompson's Elephants; Woodward's Seals and Sea Lions; and any other truly meritorious performance that can be creditably put before lady, gentlemen, and children audiences. Positively no Boxing or Wrestling, or anything else that appeals to the morbid brutality of a certain few. High-class Side Shows, Games, and Sports. Already Booked are "Hereafter; or, the End of the World"; the Great American Train Robbery; San Francisco in Earthquake, Fire, and Flame; "Pharaoh's Daughter"; Trips Around the World; Rushing the Mountain Gorge; Shooting the Rapids; and hosts of others. A few Spaces only for Games and Stalls left. Wire-workers, Glass Engravers, and such apply quickly.
Silence a polite negative pro tem.
Address, James W. Bostock, Bell Hotel, Barten-st., Gloucester, England.

WANTED, Known, Uniforms, Cheapest House in the Trade for Band Uniforms, Attendants' and Page Boys' and Military Uniforms, &c., &c., new and part worn. Send for list to Uniform Clothing and Equipment Co., 5, Clerkenwell-green, London, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Showmen's Letter Cloths Made and Attractively Painted in Fancy Colours. Roche, Artist, 22, Lansdown-rd., Lee, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Auction Marts and others, R. Owens, 65, Market-street, Manchester, making up good Lines; good profit. Write for samples.

WANTED, Roundabout, Swings, Stalls, Games, Novelties, Side-shows, Character Delineator, &c., Xmas and New Year's Carnival, Dumfries. Director, 1, Promenade, Portobello.

WANTED, Up-to-date Novel Side-show, on Shares; Walking, Cycling, or Swimming Girls preferred; 3 weeks, commencing Nov. 19, for High-class Winter Gardens. Particulars, Nanjura, Drill Hall, Plymouth.

WANTED, for prolonged tour, a Good Side-show (without music), and Distorting Mirrors, on sharing terms. Room for one or two good stalls at low rentals. Apply, "Exhibition," Box 3,957, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Novelties, and other Shows, for Large Shop; best position in Liverpool; great business. Last week of the Lady in Flames and the Australian Bushman with his Exciting Show. Manager, Exhibition, 34, Scotland-place, Liverpool.

WANTED, Good Novelties, to Open on Shares, in a large shop, with good Window-flash. Apply, Manager, 73, Wallgate, Wigan.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS FOR NOVEMBER, 1906.
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ENGLAND.

Nov. 3. Clipstone (546)
Nov. 3. Disley (2,827)
Nov 3. Halifax Fair (104,933)
Nov. 3. Mansfield (Woodhouse) (21,441)
Nov. 3. Rowsley (639)
Nov. 3. Skegby (3,897)
Nov. 5. Beverley (13,200)
Nov. 5. Eastwood (16,423)
Nov. 5. Kirkby Stephen (2,000)
Nov. 5. Plymouth (107,509)
Nov. 5. Portland (15,300)
Nov 5. Rotherham (60,000)
Nov. 5. Scarcliffe (2,525)
Nov. 6. Penistone (3,071)
Nov. 7. Heckmondwike Feast (9,459)
Nov. 7. Morpeth (6,158)
Nov. 7. South Shields (97,300)
Nov 7. Swaffham (3,400)
Nov. 8. Alford (2,500)
Nov. 8. Alston (Cumb.) (3,300)
Nov 8. Biggleswade (5 000)
Nov. 8. Hertford (9,300)
Nov. 8. Loughborough (21,600)
Nov. 8. Leeds Winter Fair (428,935)
Nov. 8. Romsey (4,200)
Nov 9. Biddenden (1,300)
Nov. 9. Easingwold (2,000)
Nov. 9. Thornaby (16 000)
Nov. 10. Bakewell (2,850)
Nov. 10. Brackley (2,500)
Nov. 10. Bulwell (14,767)
Nov. 10. Cambourne (8,200)
Nov. 10. Carlisle (25,500)
Nov. 10. Cartmel (400)
Nov. 10. Egremont (Cumb.) (8,000)
Nov. 10. Farnham (6,124)
Nov. 10. Hucknall (15,250)
Nov. 10. Kendal (14,200)
Nov. 10. Lancaster (40,300)
Nov. 10. Melton Mowbray (7,500)
Nov. 10. Sutton-in-Ashfield (14,862)
Nov. 10. Wakefield Fair (41,544)
Nov. 10. Wetherby Fair (2,212)
Nov. 12. Chelmsford (12,000)
Nov. 12. Maryport (12,000)
Nov. 13. Cockermouth (6,400)
Nov 13. Epping (2,732)
Nov. 13. Kingston-on-Thames (34,400)
Nov. 13. Penrith (9,200)
Nov. 13. Stamfordham (900)
Nov. 13. Stockton-on-Tees (51,476)
Nov. 14. Brampton (2,708)
Nov. 14. Chesham (7,300)
Nov. 15. Ulverston (10,064)
Nov. 15. Warkworth (1,195)
Nov. 16. St. Colomb (60 846)
Nov 17. Andover (6,500)
Nov. 17. Horsham (9,500)
Nov. 17. Malton (4,800)
Nov. 17. Richmond (Yorks.) (4,000)
Nov. 17. Shaftesbury (3,000)
Nov. 17. Yeovil (10,000)
Nov. 19. Darlington (44,500)
Nov. 19. Pickering (3,500)
Nov. 19. Rugby (17,000)
Nov. 22. Dover (41,800)
Nov. 22. Fakenham (200)
Nov. 22. Guildford (15,937)
Nov. 22. Haltwhistle (12,000)
Nov. 22. Martin Town (900)
Nov. 23. Crowle (2,800)
Nov. 23. Louth (9,500)
Nov. 23. Newark (14,985)
Nov. 23. Ripon (8,200)
Nov. 23. York (77,794)
Nov. 24. Chesterfield (27,185)
Nov. 24. Gloucester (48,000)
Nov. 26. York (77,793)
Nov. 27. Hartlepool (22,800)
Nov. 28. Frome (11,000)
Nov. 28. Ilminster (2,300)
Nov. 30. Ludford (714)
Nov. 30. Milborne St. Andrews (1,000)

SCOTLAND.

Nov. 3. Berwick-on-Tweed (13 500)
Nov 3. Biggar (1,925)
Nov. 6. Alyth (3,521)
Nov. 6. Jedburgh (4,662)
Nov. 8. Paisley (68,427)
Nov. 15. Dumbarton (17,800)
Nov. 16. Govan (111,000)
Nov. 20. Airdrie (20,500)
Nov. 21. Langholm (3,976)
Nov. 23. Inverness (25,000)

WALES.

Nov. 6. Llangefeloch
Nov. 7. Penygroes (2,517)
Nov. 8. Lydney (3,000)
Nov. 10. Penmorfa (1,486)
Nov. 15. Llandovery (2,234)
Nov. 19. Aberystwith (8,500)

The principal agricultural shows and cattle fairs for next month are:—Newark, Northampton, Alston (Cumb.), Armagh, Chester, Doncaster, Ripon, and Beverley, on the 1st; Richmond Moor, Moy, and Oakham, on the 2nd; Halifax and Saffron Walden, on the 3rd; Appleshaw and Middleton Moor on the 5th; Preston, Doune Tryst, and Thurles, on the 6th; Clonmel, Keighley, and Swaffham, on the 7th; Alford, Blackwater, Blandford, Hertford, Romsey, Loughborough, and Leeds, on the 8th; Stamford, on the 9th; Darlington and Farnham, on the 10th; Macclesfield, Uttoxeter, Chelmsford, and Rugby, on the 12th; Leek, Lynn, Drogheda, Dunstable, and East Ilsley, on the 14th; Lincoln and Yeovil, on the 16th; Andover, West Malling, and Ballybay, on the 17th; Boston, on the 19th; East Witton, Edinburgh, and Durham, on the 20th; Battle and Congleton, on the 22nd; Louth, Marlborough, and Ripon on the 23rd; Chesterfield, on the 26th; Uttoxeter, on the 27th; Northampton, Doune Tryst, and Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 28th; Ashbourne, Chester, Clones, and Warrington, on the 29th.

WANTED, good Shops in London, First-Class Novelties, Live Group of Indian Serpents, Giant Rat &c. Share or certainty. Full particulars, C. Biddall, Post Office, Blackwater, Hants, Nov. 7, 8, and 9.

WANTED, Novelties and Freaks, to open Monday, Richmond, Lambeth, and other good Shops in London. Johnson, Old Baths, Quadrant, Richmond.

WANTED, Novelties, with Paintings or Posters, present and future dates, for four good Shops. Address, Thompson, 78, Castle-st., Bristol.

WANTED, Novelties, with good Flash, to open Monday, Nov. 5, and onwards, one week here and one week at Yarmouth. Wire for Monday, Barron's Exhibition, High-street, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Novelties. Freaks, Tattoo, Second Sight, Knife Throwers, anything with drawing powers, best shops, shares. Manager, 33, Bradshaw-st., Derby.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, Open at Once, sale of books and post-cards allowed, in addition to salary. Terms, Charles A. James, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Smart Lady Character Delineator (shares), for James's (Permanent) Waxwork Exhibition, 114, Kirkgate, Leeds.

WANTED, Lady Character Delineator. Manager, Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Character Reader, &c., for Wax Exhibition, shares or rent, open at once. 182, Snargate-street, Dover.

WANTED, a good Comedian, for Auction Mart, known plenty of songs, make himself useful during day; good wages. Edwards and Page, Neath.

WANTED, Smart Man, used to Show Business. State experience, references, age, and salary required. Manager, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, The Wallers, at Liberty, Sam, Juggler. Balancer, Weight-lifter; Ernest and Nellie, Dancers, Cake Walkers. Finish to-night, P. Collins, Wonderland. Next week, 129, Herries-street, Kilburn-lane, London.

WANTED, Known, Harry Larnder, Vocalist (light baritone) and Planksman, at Liberty Dec. 3. Write, Rising Sun Hotel, Newmarket.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Nov. 10, James Smith, Knockabout Comedian, well up in Show Business, also to make himself generally useful, not afraid of work, not a dummy but a real live Comedian. Saturday, Nov. 3, James Smith, care of Twigton's Electrograph, Mansfield, Nottingham; Loughborough Nov. 8, 9, 10.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Flo, Tattooed Lady, and Ydac's Cabinet Act, at Liberty Nov. 12, onward. Cady, Stewart's Waxworks, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Auction Lot, Compact, Up-to-date, No Rubbish. Mug-finders, save stamps. Midlands preferred. Barber, Auctioneer, Cradley Heath, Staffs.

MANCHESTER EXHIBITION,
AT LEWIS'S.

WANTED, to Let, Permanent Stalls for Novelties.
Apply at once to
W. H. Williams,
Exhibition,
Lewis's, Manchester.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

OLYMPIA,
OLYMPIA,
LONDON, W.
GREAT FAIR AND CARNIVAL.
GREAT FAIR AND CARNIVAL.
6 weeks commencing Christmas Eve.
A Mammoth Fun City,
A Mammoth Fun City,
A Mammoth Fun City,
with
a Whirl of Merriment.
From 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Admission Sixpence.
Free Circus,
Free Menagerie,
Free Ballroom,
Free Vaudeville.

WANTED, Known, Space can still be found for a limited number of Approved Shows and Stalls.
The Special Attractions include
P. Collins's Motor Cars,
P. Collins's Twin Yachts,
Ralph and Pedley's Razzle Dazzle,
The Whirling Switch Car,
The Steeplechase Staircase,
The Earl's Court Helter Skelter,
Ernest Cartwright's Big Wheel,
J. Wingate's Bicycle Circus,
W. Biddall's Living Pictures,
W. Le Neve's Athletic Saloon,
E. Russell Polden's Wonder Cavern,
Carl Nilsson's "Luminous Butterflies," from Olympia, Paris,
Letta's Pedestrian Girls,
The South Before the War,
The Nice Ostrich Farm,
The Wrestling Alligator,
The Great American Sceneograph, "Doomsday."
Hale's Tours of the World.
Inshaw's Great Laughing Cyclone, from Luna Park, Coney Island.
Leon Gould's American Enterprise.
Oliver Holt's Waxworks.

White's Indian Menagerie,

HACKENSCHMIDT,
HACKENSCHMIDT,

Sacco the Fasting Man,

The Pigmies from the Ituri Forest (lately exhibited at London Hippodrome),

Harper's Automatic Pianos,
Electric Rifle Co.'s Shooting Ranges,
Stacey and Co.'s Jungle,
British-American Novelty Co.'s Automatic Machines,
S. Mayne's Cokernuts,
J. Stroud's Orange Grove.

Programmes published by
Gale and Polden, Ltd., 2, Amen-corner, E.C.
Lavatories and Cloak-rooms,
J. H. Faulkner, 50, Newgate-street, E.C.

Prospectus and plans can be obtained from
The Secretary,
The First International Fair and Carnival,
10, Leicester-place, W.C.
Telephone, 4319 Central.
Telegrams, "Interfair, London."

ARDCADIA DRILL HALL, PORTSMOUTH. Fifth year. Opening Dec. 1 to Jan. 13. Visited last season by nearly quarter-million. Enormous Attractions. Great Indoor Zoo. Three Performances Daily.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for First-class Stalls, Games, Side-shows, Indian Warriors, Cingalese, Novelties, &c. Shares or rent. Manager, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, Known, Room to Let, suitable for Wire-worker, &c., splendid opening. Charles A. James, Waxwork Exhibition, Dublin. Palmistry excepted.

WANTED, to Let, to Auctioneers, Bazaars, &c., best shop in Swansea, for a few months. 30, Hannah-street, Porth, Rhondda Valley.

WANTED, Space, 50ft. by 40ft., in First-Class Exhibition, Gardens or Pier, for Minni Letta's Refined, Novel, Money-making Side Show, on the Rolling Stage. Can be seen working daily at the Olympia, London, for two months, commencing Xmas. Absolutely the only Show of its kind in the World. For particulars address, A. Letta, care of Hall Porter, 11, Addison Park-mansions, Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, and 102A, Houndsditch, has Special Departments for 9ct. Rings, Secondhand Watches, Unredeemed Pledges, and Cheap Jewellery. Send for Special Xmas Supplement. All up-to-date Lines.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Fortune Machines, Money-takers, one to six drawers, cheap. Catalogue; samples free. Meurice, 39, Argyle square, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, every description supplied, best and cheapest. Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London. Established 1867.

WANTED, Known, Slot Machines. If you want genuine bargains, we have very large stock, new and second-hand. Mason, Settles-st., London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Punch Balls; end of Summer Season. Also Lifting (Strength) Machines. All at clearance prices. Apply, Auto. Punch Ball Co., Pagden-street, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Handsome State Coaches (the property of the late Duke of Cambridge), excellent advertising medium, together with four-in-hand harness, cheap. K., 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell Double Joint, 20ft. long, in first-class condition; Tilt, new last spring; Paintings, Letter-cloths, Linings, everything complete, with Stock, ready to open, price £8; without stock, £5.
Richard Chiffenfield,
Wakes Ground, Lye, near Stourbridge, until Nov. 8.

WANTED, to Sell, Parading Show, 50 by 30, well seated, good fit-up inside, used as Varieties, &c., with or without organ. C. Abnett, Canterbury-road, Whitstable, Kent.

Great Bargain.

WANTED, Purchaser, Opportunity for good experienced Showman with capital. No others need apply. Water Chute for Sale. For particulars, write Engineer, 25, Victoria-street, Westminster.

WANTED, to Sell, Razzle-Dazzle, complete, made by Howcrofts and Co., West Hartlepool, Savage's Centre Engine, also Organ; all new in May last year. Price and particulars, apply, J. Wingate, Whale Museum, Skegness, Lincs.

WANTED, to Sell, Waxwork Exhibition, complete, sixty-five figures, travelling cases, scenery, drapery, organ, &c., genuine. Sacrifice £50. Stacey, Settles-st., E.

WANTED, to Sell, Doll Frame, complete, thirty figures, £8; stereoscopic lot, three sections, fourteen sets glasses, 40s. Stacey, Settles-st., London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Set Four Abreast and Three Abreast Gallopers, Steam Hobby Horses, Organs, &c. Walker, Engineer, Tewkesbury.

WANTED, to Buy, Traction Engine, six or eight horse; repairs required no object. Walker, Engineer, Tewkesbury.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed, according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any Railway Bookstall to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street Strand W.C

WANTED TO SELL.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, to Sell, as a going concern, to dissolve a partnership, a Successful Music Hall, in good Provincial town; playing to big business; no opposition; part might remain on mortgage. Apply, with bankers' references, Box 3,738, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, the latest "Urban" model Bioscope, new, complete with Limelight fittings, Lenses, 3in. and 4in., Gwyer Jet, 3,000 candle power, Gauges, Regulators, Sheet, and 1,500ft. of splendid up-to-date Films. Everything ready for showing and in first-class condition. The lot, cash, £36; originally costing over £70. Not sent on approval, but can be seen any time. F. Sculthorpe, G.P.O., Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, 20,000ft. of Films, majority good as new, from 1d. per foot.
Poole, Palace, Gloucester.

The (No. 2) Rights, including Scenery, Wardrobe, Properties, &c., of the Musical Success, "BONNIE BOY BLUE," by Victor Stevens.
WANTED, to Sell, or Let. Reason for disposing. Pantomime and new Musical Comedy in preparation. The above is on Tour until Christmas. Can be seen next week, P.O.W. Theatre, Nuneaton. Also Palace and other Scenes to Sell. All coms., Miss Lena Stanton, as above.

WANTED, to Sell, Pantomime Dresses, in good condition,
Made by Eminent Costumiers.
Can be seen on application to the Wardrobe Mistress,
Drury Lane Theatre Royal, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Fifty Pantomime Dresses, some quite new, suitable for Principals and Chorus, in good condition, would do for "Babes," "Robinson Crusoe," "Sinbad," "Jack and Beanstalk," "Dick Whittington," "Cinderella," "Robin Hood," &c. Apply, B., 136, Junction-road, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Undetectable Leg Paddings, Tights, Animal Skins, Blondin Donkeys, Elephants, Cows, &c. Mayers, 22, Shepperton-road, Islington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Number of Pantomime Dresses and Properties. Apply, T. F. Doyle, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

WANTED, to Sell, Handsome Serio Costumes; chance for beginner; eight dresses, waist 23in., bust 36in. Miss Dale, Belmont, Jamaica-st., Greenock, N.B.

WANTED, to Sell, Tights, Symmetrical Paddings, Woven Animal Dresses, Masks, Shoes, &c. H. J. Boxall, 166, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, in one or more Lots, 140 Tip-up Chairs and 18 Benches, 19ft. long, whole upholstered in crimson plush, good condition. Horner, Empire Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, to Sell, Coloured Song Slides, 11 Volunteer Organist, 5s.; 12 Promise of Life, 5s.; 12 Excelsior, 5s.; 6 Killarney, 2s. 6d; 8 Anchored, 3s. 6d. Dates wanted for Bioscope. Morris, 18, Tweed-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
"Cinderella" Ponies,
28in., upwards.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
these Ponies can be
seen in London.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
for these Ponies
apply Espinosa, Vaudeville Club.

WANTED, to Sell, Front-leg Hand-balancing Dog, also Three Clever Performing Dogs; together or separate. Clackson, 9, Rosoman-street, Clerkenwell, E.C.

WANTED, to Sell, £100 worth of Conjuring Apparatus, at quarter cost price. Stamp for list. Professor Day, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Great Second Sight Act. The latest book on this interesting subject. Send 8d. postal order. Leo Shakeshaft, Bishop-st., Coventry.

WANTED, to Sell, all kinds of Trick Musical Instruments, for Musical Plays, Ballets, and Pantomimes. Lisle, 5, Cuthill-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, to Sell, Electric "Cinderella" Motor (real, practical, "Crowdus" Chicago Car), Cream Enamel Body, beautifully upholstered in white satin, electrically-lit Crystal Wheels and Ornaments, Dunlop Tyres, used last Pantomime at Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, where it can be seen.
Apply,
J. F. Graham, Manager, as above.

WANTED, to Sell, Conjuring Apparatus, cheap, Cannon Illusion, Target Birdcage, Chinese Mystery Boxes, Magic Wand, Flag Staff, Dyeing Handkerchiefs, Rice Bowls, Magic Kettle, Mystic Ball, Celery Glass, and Goldfish Production, Welsh Rabbit Saucepan, Latest Silent Thought Transmission, &c., all professional size. Full particulars, Nanjura, 63, East-street, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

WANTED, to Sell, Big Conjuring Tricks, and Oriental Illusions, flying lamp, flower-pot, table, &c., &c. Fredricks, Athenæum, Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, to Sell,
First-class Musical Comedy.
Entire production. London success.
Long tour booked.
Reply, Box 3,943,
"The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Gentleman wishes to Sell Ticket of Single Stone Brilliant Ring, pledged for £50. Advertiser unable to redeem will sell ticket £4. Write W., 7, Heathfield-terrace, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, Known, Diamonds; lady has pledged brilliant and sapphire Bracelet, £17; also diamond marquise Ring, £15. Lady unable to redeem, will accept any reasonable offer for vouchers. Call or write, 20, Bolingbroke-road, Kensington.

WANTED, to Sell, the most beautiful Drama every written, a sure thing; nothing like it; also Sketches, Songs. Apply for particulars to J. M. Taylor, 15, Beckett-street, Leeds.

WANTED, to Sell, New Sensational (typed) Sketch, "Convict's Mutiny" (on Gloucester Gaol Mutiny). Price, with parts, £1 1s. Hal Collier, Clarendon Hall, Watford.

WANTED, to Sell, Score and Band Parts of "Cinderella," suit any Panto. Musical-Director, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, to Sell, good Comic Songs and Duologues (Lady and Com.), cheap. No rubbish. G. Barr, 67, Strand-road, Bootle.

The Publisher, "The Era."
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, London, W.C.
"Dear Sir,—I ordered the following advertisement to appear in your paper for two insertions.

"'WANTED, to Sell, Self-acting Pianoforte, two barrels, twenty tunes, perfect condition, cost £44. What offers? Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.'

"Kindly do not insert my advertisement again, as the self-acting piano which I had to sell has been sold to Mr. Jack Woolf, of Wonderland fame, Whitechapel-road, E. I had also ten other applicants through my advertisement in 'The Era.'
"Yours faithfully,
"J. H. Meurice,
"39, Argyle-square, W.C. Oct. 9, 1906."

WANTED TO BUY.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

Reversion, Assurance, Annuity, or other Property.

WANTED, to Purchase promptly, no complications must exist, principals only; agents will not be replied to.
R. D. Yelverton, Esq.,
Barrister-at-Law, 3, Pump-court, Temple, London.
Tel. 12773 Central.

WANTED, a Roc, for Pantomime of "Sinbad," must be in first-class order and condition. Good price paid if suitable. Apply, Box 3,945, "The Era" Office.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, a Principal Boy's Palace Dress, must be in good condition. Full particulars, C. Deal, Empire, Riddings, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Known, Young Lady, 5ft. 4in., thin, wishes to Buy Velvet Dress for street wear; also Short Chiffon Dress. Thompson, 29, Rowley-street, Blyth.

WANTED, Secondhand Cinematograph Films; must be in good condition, and cheap. F. Day, 293, Alfreton-road, Nottingham.

WANTED, to Purchase, Large Quantities Secondhand Films, including "Terrible Kids," "Rarebit Fiend."
Sheffield Photo Co., 95, Norfolk-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, to Buy, First-class Cinematograph, with all latest improvements, cheap for cash; also 20,000ft. of good Films, from 1d. per ft. Address, Entertainment-Manager, Assembly Rooms, Alton, Hants.

WANTED, to Buy, Few Secondhand Films, in good condition; no rubbish. Harmon, 226, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Really First-class Palace Scene for Important Pantomime Production, Xmas. Purchase or hire. State size, style, and fullest particulars, to Clarence Sounes, Prince's Theatre, Poplar, E.

WANTED, Two Stage Cloths
Sand Cloth and Interior, 30 by 30.
George Stephenson, Opera House, Perth.

WANTED, to Buy, a Riding Pad, in good condition; or would pad-maker write to George Pinder, 67, Tennent-street, Leith, Scotland?

WANTED, Biunial Lantern, for Electric, complete and in good condition. Boggis, 21, Canterbury-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Small Set of Tubular Bells, in B flat. Lowest prices.
Box 3,933, "The Era."

WANTED, Complete Slides for Luminous Dance. Joe Whitmore,
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WANTED, to Buy, a Set Secondhand Three Throw Double Cranks. Box 3,961, "The Era."

WANTED, "Cinderella" Coach.
Fraser Hay,
8, Jackson's-row, Manchester, all particulars.

WANTED, to Buy, Two Rings of Sleigh Bells, for horse's collar.
J. Cassidy, Victoria Theatre, Stanley.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual, 1906, is welcome as containing carefully compiled lists of the pieces produced during the past year in London, the suburbs, and the provinces, in Paris, and in Berlin. The rest of it is curious and entertaining reading. There is the almanack with its "memorabilia of theatrical events occurrences, &c." There are besides a score of stories and other articles contributed by theatricals a very good one being Miss Louie Freear's set of verses, "'Boy Bob' at Sea," which has humour, feeling, and swing. The book contains many theatrical portraits. As a book of reference the Annual is of great use and value, and while some of its contents doubtless appeal more keenly to the professional than to the outsider, any thoughtful person may derive from its study much amusement and no little insight into the conditions, the magnitude, and the complexity of the English theatre of to-day.—Morning Post, Jan. 22.

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Barton and Ashley, Arthur Reece, Amy Sullivan, Mezzetti and Mora, Stein Eretto Troupe, John Lawson and Co., in "Humanity," Ted and May Hopkins, Eadie and Ramsden, "Buddha's Blackboard."

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
The Leopolds, Althoffs, Los Granadas, Hale and Francis, Maudie Ford, Harriett Vernon, Cliff Ryland, Master Clifford, Bioscope, "A Trip to Coontown."

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Harmony Four, Paulinetti and Piquo, Clemart, Will Mitcham, Maud Rose, Lil Hawthorne, Whit Cunliffe, Talbot and Pierce, Moon and Morris, Bioscope.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Will Evans, Ludwig Amann, Victor Travers, Florence and Lilian, Avrigny Troupe, Amy Russell, Five Bogannys, Roy and Fenton, Emey Leyster, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Alexandre and Hughes, Ray Wallace, Brett and Orford, New Macs, Sisters Dorrell, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, George Brooks, Lizzie Daniels, Imperial Russian Troupe.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
"The Globe of Life," Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, Leslie Bros., Sisters Caselli, Preston and Balmaine, Albert Christian, Katie Cohen, Nora Emerald, Bioscope, Darwin and Bradshaw.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
Fred Karno's Co., Dan Crawley, Lilian Bishop, Jack Charman, Silent Tait, Katie Butler, Molasso Quartette, Three Dumonds, Lilian Lea.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Louie Freear and Co., Little Ganty, Madge May, Three Amaranths, Cosgrave and Burns, Nat Clifford, Halma, Bioscope, Ten Loonies, Harry Carsdale.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
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EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Boswell's Circus, Ernest Ball, Burley and Burley, Eily Adair, McConnell Family, Frank Sylvo, Hanid Alexander, George Newburn, W. J. Ashcroft.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
"Casey's Court," Fred Bronte, Boy Glenn, Bioscope, Les Voces, Tom Parker, Lily Esplin, Ryder Slone, Derenda and Green.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Phil Ray, Teresa La Sylva, Five Figaros, Pictures, Picitte and Lizette, Fred Daniels, Violet Ray, W. F. Ellwanger and Co.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
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THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Gus Elen, Will Musgrave, Fred Poplar, Guy Ryder, George Collins, G. H. Chirgwin, L. B. Athol, Kitty Wager, Katie Lawrence, Ethel Ra Leslie, Sisters Wingrove, Daisy Dormer, Barton and Franklyn, Griff and Alpha, Collins and Rice, Lavelle Bros., Howard and Collinson, Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
First Performance: Chirgwin, G. W. Hunter, Frank Leslie, Frank Gee, May Marton, Ada Cerito, Alice May and Co., Halter and Ray, Sanford and Lyons, Two Bostons, Bioscope, Ernest Shand. Second Performance: Little Tich, Ernie Mayne, George Collins, Frank Gee, May Marton, Ada Cerito, Alice May and Co., Frank Leslie, Farley Rennie, and Farley, Lanus and Montes, Bioscope, Ernest Shand.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Willie Edouin, James Toner, Wyndham and Kitty, Sydney Dolf, Ray Maskell, Horace White, Boris Lensky, Kitts and Windrum, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for those engaged at the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagement cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

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Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not re-booked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Eugene Fougère, Mac and Hill, Flo Cecil, Paragon Trio, The Albanos, Five Whiteleys, Great Scott, Lily Sharplin, Sisters Olive, Pictures, Manchester Mites.

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PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls,
Monday, at 12-0 sharp.

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Geo. Hyam, Rowland Hill, Daisy Morell, Harwood's Juveniles, Vocal Chameleon, Pallister's Bioscope, Anna Kelwick.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Sivronis, Sisters Hall, V. L. Granville, Du Gros Trio, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Cissie Dryden, Almos, Æolians.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Maxim Girls, Harley and Hardon, Pallister's Bioscope, Gus Hindell, Flo Chevalier, Bros. Durant, J. C. Scatter, Sisters Redfern.

PALACE, BATH.
Friscari, Gladenbecks, Tom Yorke, Vox, Minnie D'Aubyn, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Dancing Gilberts, Susie and Protti, Marconis.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Dora Martini, Belle Braham, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Harry Taft, Silvo, Steinway Quartette, Chas. Gardener, Zampas, Leotard Bros., Chas. Dare's Minstrels.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
"The Fighting Parson," Will Driscoll, Lina Verdi, Lillie Lassah, Maurin's Fountains, Mr. and Mrs. Finden, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Henri Cot and Prince Colibri, Angelo, Davenports, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Gracie Bard, Harry Weldon, Rastus and Banks, Ethairien Bros., Les Belles Americaine.

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7. Twice Nightly. 9.
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Rehearsal, at 2 o'clock, for
Selbinis, Esmé Gordon, Baroux and Bion, Carden and Zesch, Pavoscope, Cissie Schofield, Forest and King.
Artists please notice clause number ten on the contract will be rigorously enforced from this date. All bill matter must be sent to Glasgow 14 days ahead. Failing this, Artists will run the risk of having their contract cancelled. By order,
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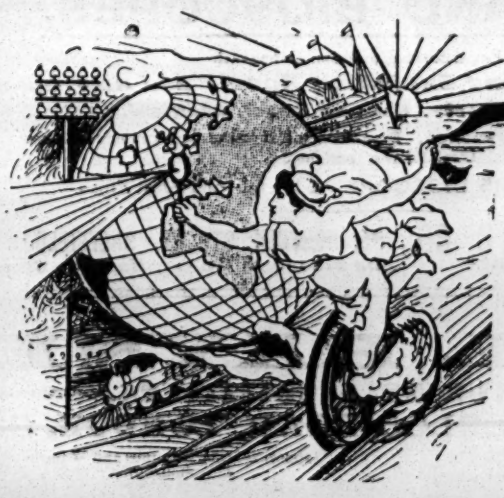

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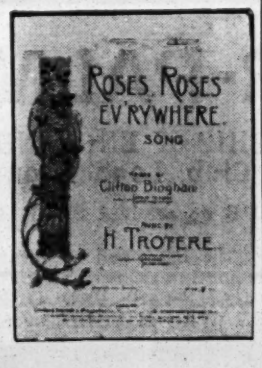

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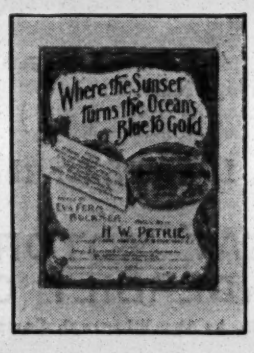

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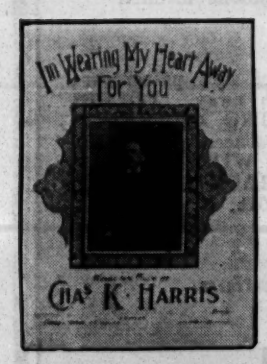

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"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Almanack and Annual ("Era" Office, 1s.), a copy of which lies before me, is an invaluable publication for those who wish to have stage records by them. It contains a dramatic and musical calendar, lists of new plays and important revivals produced at the London and suburban theatres during 1905, and also of plays produced in the provinces. Further, we have lists of the new plays and revivals produced at the principal Paris and Berlin theatres. "The Era" Almanack has been regularly issued since 1868, when is was compiled by Edward Laman Blanchard, a comedian whose fascinating life was recorded by Clement Scott. The Almanack closes with an illustrated list of those members of the profession who died during the course of last year, headed, naturally, by Henry Irving. Amongst the other names are those of William Rignold, Frank Celli, Ada Neilson, and Minnie Mario. There is an added pathos in the deaths of those who were so long bodily before the public, and the ringing down of the last curtain seems to have added significance.—T. P.'s Weekly, Jan. 26.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual for 1906, 1s. 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. This useful little work, which brings nearly up to date the calendar of dramatic events which is so excellent a feature, is, as usual, full of stories over the signature of prominent stage lights. To those interested in the business of the theatre the work has become a necessity by reason of its valuable record of the progress of the drama.—Financial Times, Jan. 22, '06.

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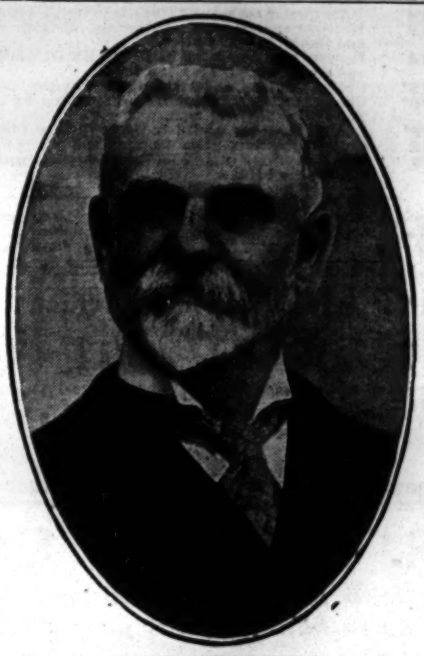

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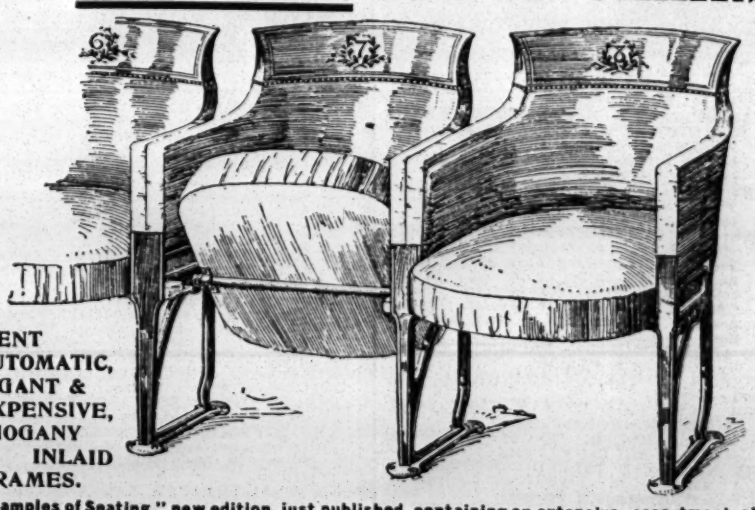

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
The thirty-ninth issue of "The Era" Annual has just appeared, and once more it supplies a useful record of the theatrical year. An editorial note reminds us that among the contributors to the first number, that of 1868, were R. L. Blanchard (its editor), Charles Mathews, T. W. Robertson, Andrew Halliday, H. J. Byron, Watts Phillips, and Dion Boucicault—a brilliant band indeed. The contributors to the present issue are almost exclusively actors rather than literary men, but upon the whole they make a very fair show; while the lists of plays produced in London and the provinces, and in Paris and Berlin during the twelve months under review are distinctly useful. There are a number of photographs including an exceedingly fine one of the late Sir Henry Irving.—Pall Mall Gazette, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual is published from the offices of the old-established organ of the theatrical profession, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. As usual, it is a carefully-compiled record of notable events of the year 1906. A pleasing feature is the selection of short stories, after recounting strange experiences, by "stars" of the dramatic and music-hall professions, these being in every case accompanied by photographs of the writers.—Newcastle Daily Journal, Jan. 27 1906.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—New Theatre.—Manager, Mr. L. Andrews. — Mr. Sidney Dench's company is here this week in *The Rich and Poor of London*. Mr. Henry Deane as Dr. Leonard Morton makes a manly hero; and Mr. F. Danner makes a capital villain of the Earl of Ravenswood. Mr. Sydney Dench as Spider Jack is the life and soul of the piece. Mr. Cole Aspinall is very successful as Matthew Grabbem, and the same may be said of Mr. Arthur James as Bill Blake and Mr. Jack Sydney as Daniel Drake. Mr. Dennis Clyde as Mark Standing is also deserving of special mention. Miss Dora Dench as May Braithwaite, the heroine, quite wins the sympathies of the audience. Miss Emily Woodleigh proves herself to be a powerful actress as Auntie Scrimp. Miss V. Lesborough as Ruby Redgrave deserves special praise. Master Bert Dench as the waif Dixie and Miss Winnie Redford as Sea Drift do clever work. The minor characters are in capable hands, and the scenery is excellent.

ABERDEEN.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—Mr. George Dance's company is giving a fine presentation of *The Country Girl* this week. Miss Maisie Gay, who possesses an excellent voice, plays with much vivacity as Nan; Mr. Charles Walcot acts with unflagging verve as Barry; Madame Sophie is finely impersonated by Miss Addie Lennard; and Marjory has a very sweet exponent in Miss Nancy Rositer; Miss Winnie O'Connor appears effectively as the Princess, and deservedly gains several encores; and Mr. Percy Carr, as Geoffrey Challoner, and Mr. St. John Hamund, as the Rajah of Bhong, are likewise highly capable. Both the orchestra and the chorus contribute greatly to the success of the piece.

Palace Theatre. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The distinguished comedian, Mr. Harry Lauder, had a great reception on his reappearance on Monday, and so much was his turn enjoyed that at the end his admirers would hardly allow him to leave the stage, although with his usual good nature he had given a multiplicity of encores. The Norman and Leonard Trio are highly successful in their delightful musical sketch, *The Itinerant*; and the clever comedians, Spry and Monti, are, as usual, enthusiastically applauded; Mdlle. Dora is a skilful oboe player; Mr. Charles Ernest, the double voice vocalist, is enjoyable both as silleur and instrumentalist; Miss Lizzie Lever, a juvenile vocalist, sings cleverly; and among the other artists are Miss Millie Denham, a vivacious burlesque actress; Mr. Barney Stuart, the versatile actor vocalist; and Vernando, in his novel and amusing sketch, *The Ventriloquial Barber*.

ABERTILLERY. — Theatre Metropole.—Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom; Stage-Manager, Mr. Fred Thomas.—This week we have Mr. Chas. Watson Mills's company in *A Wrecker of Men*, under the direction of Mr. Thompson Carruthers, who in the rôle of Eric Melville is well placed. Mr. Frederick Biron is a powerful Jim Murley; as Pharosaphus Mr. Milner Noble gives satisfaction; Mr. Millar Anderson, as Railton, is well received; Mr. Stanley Champion and Mr. Harry Dunning are quite favourites in the respective parts of Guise Strange and the Hon. Reggie Verincourt; Mr. Charles Earle is good in the double rôles of Ezekiel Isaac and Karnaphus; Miss G. Talbot deserves praise for her impersonation of Marion Isaacs; Miss Beatrice Reynolds is responsible for mirth as Vavasole Slopper; Miss Cissie Podmore is effective as Doris Melville; and the greatest praise should be given to Miss Lucy Sibley, who ably sustains the part of Risca Mallison, in the absence of Mrs. Walter Bentley.

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—There is an entire change here from melodrama to variety. Tarro Myaki, who heads the bill, does some interesting and exciting work; Mr. Charles March gives a smart exhibition of quick-changing; Harry Leander is well received; Mr. Ellis Barrington is successful; Issa Steel has a pleasing voice; and Lonnen Meadows, J. W. Wilkinson, W. Dunlop, Lewis Leslie, Ada Tilley, and L. Leslie appear with success in sketches.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Parsons.—An excellent bill is provided here this week. The Achmed Ibrahim Troupe are wonderful acrobats; Miles and May are amusing; Miss Blandford receives due appreciation; Fred Horsfall keeps his old form; Bliss and Bliss are very good; Par and Garetti give an interesting show of facial mimicry and lightning cartoons; McCann's Dogs are clever; and some good pictures are exhibited on the Bioscope.

ALDERSHOT.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. R. Williams.—The ever-popular musical comedy, *Florodora*, has so many fascinating associations that the oftener it is presented the more it grows in favour. Mr. Bannister Howard has sent a capable company to present it, and success is thereby again assured. With Mr. Alf. E. Passmore as Tweedlepunch, there is a continual round of fun; Mr. Stanley White is capital as Gilfain; and Mr. Allen Morris sings and acts with excellent results as Abercoed; and Mr. Herbert St. John's Donegal is capably played; whilst as Leandro, Mr. A. C. James does well. Miss Kate Leicester is a charming Lady Holyrood, and Miss Lily Gallick is a favourite as Angela, her smart acting, singing, and dancing helping considerably to the success of the piece; Miss Jos. Sullivan's Dolores is ably portrayed; and Miss Kathleen L. Russell as Vallida does well.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn. — It is interesting after a lapse of time to hear once more the tuneful melodies and to note the quaint manners and dresses of the Japanese musical comedy *The Geisha*, and to share in the applause heartily given to its performance by Mr. F. Mouillot's company at the Theatre Royal this week. *The Geisha* occupied the boards four nights, and *A Greek Slave* two nights, the latter poetic and musical piece being also excellently presented. As the principal tea-girl, O Mimosa San, Miss Lydia Bland was vivacious and full of charm; Miss Edith Adeson as the English girl, Molly Seymour, was sprightly and chic; and Miss Doris Langdon as O Juliette Diamante acted the French girl in naïve style. Thoroughly efficient representatives of Lady Constance and her lady guests were found in Misses Winifred Knightly, Lucy Kipling, Daisy Notting, and Evelyn Powell; and notable representatives of the British warship's officers were seen in Mr. Wilfred Heath as Fairfax, Mr. E. Pollard as Dick Cunningham, and Messrs. Royton Hoare, Squire, and Evelyn Lovell. Mr. E. Kipling made an amusing Wun-Hi, and Mr. J. H. Booth made an imposing and dignified Marquis Imari.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech. — The leading line on the Empire bill for the week is Peter Gotz, the young Hackenschmidt, surnamed the King of the Light-Weight Wrestlers. The Spanish Goldinis have astonishing electric novelties; Smith and Johnson are clever exponents of their speciality; the Edwards Trio are adroit and sensational equilibrists; American banjo song and dance are introduced by the Dagodets, comedy entertainers; York, Mac, and York are seen to advantage in a comedy act; a funny parody is enacted by Arthur Alston, the comedian, in "Starve Her Joe"; and Harry Morris, character comedian, and Marie Jones, a smart and clever protean actress, assisted by Ernest Munro, are also entertaining. "The Millionaire Man" is depicted on the bioscope.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—The programme here this week includes Florelli and Miss Elly in a unique spade-jumping act; Marco, a smart illusionist; Miss Lily Hayes, coon comedian and dancer; Wyndham and Waters, comedy vocalists, in a scene entitled *The Professor and His Pupil*; Grant and Allen, pleasing burlesque comedians; Mr. E. C. Clayton's Aftergraph pictures; Mr. Tom Kelso, in a rightly described absurdity, *The Silly Servant*; and Mr. Bert Brantford, comedian.

AYR.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—*Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush* was played on the first three nights of this week by Messrs. Durward Lely and Wm. Mollison and company. Mr. Mollison, in his original part of Lachlan Campbell, gave a grand portrayal of the stern, unbending Highland Presbyterian, and he had admirable support from his company. Mr. W. A. Mackersey, in the character of Dr. Wm. MacClure, was excellent; while Margaret Howe had an equally fine exponent in Miss Josephine Woodward. The "Postie" of Mr. Alec F. Thompson was a relief to the sombre picture; the Kate Carmichael of Miss Alice Francis was made appropriately bright; while as the Rev. John Carmichael, Mr. Durward Lely made a most favourable impression, and his singing contributed much to the enjoyment of the piece. The part of the Earl of Kilspindie was in the able charge of Mr. D. Lyall; while the part of Lord Hay was played in a manly style by Mr. Archibald W. Chappell. Thomas Mitchell, the herd, was well portrayed by Mr. Kendall Chalmers; while the dairymaid, Annie, was made acceptable by Miss Edith Blair Staples. The two youngsters, Geordie and Jeannie, were prettily portrayed by Miss Martha Stewart and Miss Jeanie Fitzgerald respectively. To Miss Evelyn McNay was entrusted the trying part of Flora Campbell, and she created a most favourable impression by her sweet and touching acting. The piece was well staged and most complete in every detail.

BACUP. — New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Dudley Harcourt.—Messrs. Owen and Zelda's variety company is here this week. The programme is headed by Marlo, who gives a refined and clever juggling act. Zelda in her novel musical act is greeted with applause. Wall Owen was highly amusing as the comedy man in *A Bit o' Blarney*. The Sisters Pelmish are responsible for some graceful dancing; and others who met with a favourable reception are Marie Yorke, dainty soubrette; Fred Tenby, comedian; Pearce and Ward, specialty artists and burlesque boxers; Alex Fox, ventriloquist; Dan Noble, comedian; and the Schallers.

BARNSTAPLE.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Bridge Trustees; Manager, Mr. Harry Ashton.—*Uncle Tom's Cabin* was presented here on Monday and Tuesday by Mr. Josh Hybert's company. Uncle Tom had a faithful exponent in Mr. Billy Taylor, who held the attention of the audience throughout the piece; Mr. Reg. Kloof displayed keen judgment in the difficult part of George Harris; and Phineas Fletcher, the Quaker, received careful treatment from Mr. J. A. Hybert. Messrs. L. Humphries and Western Beecher handled their respective parts with ability; Miss Violet Mignon made a sympathetic Little Eva; and Miss Kitty Wood quickly scored a success as Topsy.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Hilliard Vox's company in *Alaska* is here. Mr. Vox gives a good account of Skookum Jim, the hero, and Mr. C. D. Pitt is sufficiently villainous as Ned Larson; Mr. John Ford submits a stirring presentment of Majumite Kid; Jessie Dalton is sympathetically played by Miss Cora Patey; and Miss G. Hastings Walton's portrayal of Alaska is clever; Mr. Albert Rogers as Pompey Cæsar and Miss Leslie Wynne as the Widow Casey are very funny.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company in *The Worst Woman in London* is here. Mr. George Gaisford plays finely as Jack Felton and Mr. C. R. Stone does well as James Milford; the Ruth Milford of Miss Elizabeth Watkins is a winning and graceful one, and Miss Florence Dalton as Francis Vere is especially attractive and successful; Mr. Willie Garvey does well as Bob Goldfinch, and Mr. H. W. Monty is a characteristic Hugh Drayton.

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties. — Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—The Melody Makers, in their scena, *The Burglar's Dream*, are pleasing; the Gallery Boy sings well; Oswald Williams proves a clever illusionist; Mount and Corelli give a capital musical duologue, *The Master and the Maid*; the Sisters Grey (Adah and Lucien) sing pleasing duets, as do also the Sisters Cora.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A Long.—*San Toy* is being presented by Mr. Mouillot's company. To Miss Beesie Allayne, an accomplished vocalist and bright actress, belong first honours for her excellent portrayal of the title-rôle; Mr. Bert. Edwards puts in plenty of hard work as Li, and causes much hilarity; Mr. Wm. Jordan, who has lately taken up the part of Yen How, is well suited in every respect to make a success of the portly Mandarin; Bobby Preston is satisfactorily undertaken by Mr. Arthur Cartwright; and praise must be accorded Mr. Charles Ross, as Fo Hop; Mr. Robert Rivers acts Sir Bingo Preston with humorous fussiness; Mr. Frank Tyndall appears as the Emperor; Miss Irene Lavington is fairly successful as Poppy; and Dudley, her maid, finds a chic representative in Miss Nellie Berlyl.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—Very bewildering is the electric wireless telegraphy demonstrations by the Marconis, and they create extraordinary interest; the Gladenbecks, in their balancing and ring speciality act are recalled again and again for their clever feats; Susie and Protti, in their finished terpsichorean interlude, are always well received whenever they visit Bath; Friscari, the hat juggler, does his work with accuracy and remarkable ease; Minnie D'Aublyn, with her ringing voice and pleasing songs, is deservedly applauded; Barney Vox carries through his popular ventriloquial act to the accompaniment of considerable laughter; the clog dancing of the Gilberts is smartly executed; Tom Yorke, coster comedian, is to the fore; and Raymond's Biotableaux are greatly enjoyed.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. J. Clegg causes roars of laughter as Jim Cheese; Mr. Frank Wilson makes an excellent Dick Wargrave; Mr. Alec Godfrey cleverly depicts the character of Downham; Mr. Melville capitally interprets the rôle of Hazel; Liza Shoddam finds a capable exponent in Miss C. Dade; Miss Alice Nixon is a charming Elphin Haye; and Mrs. Shimmering Black is successfully represented by Miss M. Maude. The part of Miss Virginia Bliss is capably undertaken by Miss C. Stephens.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—We are favoured this week with a return visit of Mr. Edward Terry and company on Monday in *Liberty Hall*. His impersonation of William Todman was a delightful piece of acting. In the rôle of Mr. Owen, Mr. Allan Pollock acquitted himself well; and the rôles of Blanche and Amy Chilworth were charmingly portrayed by Miss Fyfe Alexander and Miss Gertrude Tate. Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., deserves praise for his clever impersonation of Hon. Gerald Harringay; and Miss Eugenie Vernie was capital as Crafer. Other rôles were effectively filled by Miss Ella Dixon, Master Earle, and Messrs. Wm. Dexter, E. W. Thomas, and Geo. Howard. On Tuesday Mr. Terry presented *Sweet Lavender*. On Wednesday *The Magistrate* was given.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Mr. George Gilbey, a clever comedian, tops the bill and has been most successful. Mr. Lempriere Pringle and Mr. J. C. Piddock and company (including that charming comedienne Miss Beatrice Edwards, and Mr. Morgan Williams) produce an operatic episode, entitled *The Romany King*, which has been accorded a capital reception. The Four Charles appear in their original transformation acrobatic juggling act which has been voted first-class; and Miss Dolly Harmer is an exceedingly smart character comedienne. The fine tenor voice of Mr. Arthur Aldridge has been heard to advantage; and Mr. Charles Banks and his dog "Wof" supply an interesting and clever performance. The Lorrisons, the Macdonald Trio, Bromley and Fontem, and the ever-attractive Palace Pictures complete the bill.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—After only a week's absence, the inimitable solid man, Mr. W. J. Ashcroft, returned to this theatre on Monday and was again remarkably successful with his capital rendering of several Irish songs. Mr. Ashcroft's popularity in Belfast is certainly unbounded. Boswell's Circus, containing some clever performing animals, was accorded a capital reception; and a hit has been made by the McConnell Trio in one of their well-known sketches. Miss H. Alexander exhibits talent at the piano; and Mr. George Newbern's imitations are interesting; Mr. Ernest Ball is an actor-vocalist of merit; and also here are Burley and Burley; Miss Elly Adair, comedienne; Mr. Frank Sylco, tramp juggler; and Joly Comet, soloist.

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—General Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—This week the Alhambra Dramatic Company produces with good effect the sterling drama, *The Slave of Sin*. Miss Nina Blake-Adams, a clever emotional actress, sustains the rôle of Elsie Beresford with much credit; Mr. Horace Denton acquits himself with distinction as Gordon Morley; Mr. Percy M. Stevenson portrays the villainies of Dr. Selby vividly; much praise is due to Mr. Cyril Grier for his skilful delineation of Wily; Miss Ellie Macintosh is a vivacious Clara Jenkins; Mr. Tom H. Solly creates much laughter as Alphonse D'Arcy; Miss Nora Caronne as the adventuress, Ida Ross, is worthy of praise; Miss Alice Clarke is the repulsive Mother Moocher to the life; Mr. Elmore Frith acts with skill as Professor Morley; and Mr. H. Arnold Allen is seen to advantage as Stephen Fletcher.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Batteraby; Manageress, Miss G. Battersby.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company is presenting *A Beautiful Fiend*. Mr. Tom Robertson, as Count Karateff, plays most effectively; in the title-part, Miss V. St. Lawrence gives a splendid exposition of the dare-devil Wanda; Mr. Montague Beaudyn takes care that every detail connected with Paulovitch's trials is fully brought out; Miss Irene Munro is another hard-working and consistent artist in the rôle of Nadine Karateff; Mr. Harry Oates as Crackles, Mr. Tommy Bryon as Malachi, and Miss Blanche Hill as Patty Woodlands all lend valuable aid.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Messrs. E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's company is here with *The Traitor*, a drama which appeals strongly to the popular parts of the house. Mr. Bensley Evans gives consistent and effective renderings of Prince Rudolph and Colonel Nervi; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlon successfully represents the Traitor; and Mr. Arthur McCulloch as General Hertz and Mr. Edward Duff as General Trantz are both most efficient; Mr. Frank Sutherland is a capital Jack Boult; the rather exacting rôle of Elsie Dupres is cleverly enacted by Miss Katherine Vere; Miss Gwynne Warren is an excellent Countess Zika, and Cen-Cen is amusingly portrayed by Miss Maud Stuart.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—A return visit from Happy Fanny Fields, Anglo-Dutch comedienne, is highly popular, the lady being deservedly a great favourite here. Mr. John E. Coyle, with an excellent budget of comic songs, is also a leading attraction; and Barker and Miss Rozsika's troupe of performing animals give a most pleasing exhibition; Les Rallis, in *The Artist and His Monkey*, are a conspicuous success; Takio, Japanese mimic, is exceptionally clever; and Marba and Verity, comic acrobats; Miss Lily Morris, comedienne; Mr. Julian Mack, patter vocalist; Mr. Walter Bentley, comedian; Mr. George Reeves, variety artist; and Brown's Royal Bioscope complete the company. Mr. Ernest Denney is musical director.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Redway.—Mr. William Greet's company is beguiling large audiences this week with *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. William Stephens as Jim Cheese, the pseudo Earl, fully maintains the humour and popularity of the rôle; Mr. Arthur Harrold as the real Earl, and Mr. Percy E. Wright as the supposed heir, the Hon. Crewe Boodle, act and sing in a taking and telling manner; Miss Frances Earle as the heiress, Elphin Haye, is applauded vociferously; Miss Gertrude Melville appears to signal advantage as Daisy Fallowfield; Miss Mary Morison comes into much popularity as Virginia Bliss; Miss Beatrice Anderson proves a formidable Mrs. Shimmering Black; Miss Jennie Richards disports with amusing ingenuity as Liza Shoddam; Mr. H. Courtin parades as the truculent Bunker Bliss with excruciating effect; and Messrs. W. Norman, Greene Taylor, and Tom Redmond, &c., support in an able manner.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*The Walls of Jericho* wrought an indelible impression here on Monday, when Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh made their rentrée, surrounded by an excellent company. Mr. Bourchier's attitude as Jack Frobisher was richly enjoyed, and his trumpet-tongued denunciation of the "smart set" and its ways evoked thunderous applause. Miss Vanbrugh's acting as Lady Alethea reveals the inherent goodness of the woman, good at heart though light of mind, and her part in the performance was enthusiastically applauded. Mr. Chas. Goodhart as Hankey Bannister succeeded in a conspicuous degree; Mr. Arthur Whitby as the Marquis of Steventon gave a striking performance; Mr. H. Nye Chart was also superlatively successful as Harry Dallas; Miss Pamela Gaythorne gave admirable expression to the witty-tongued Lady Lucy Derenham; and Miss Nora Greenlaw manifested the amiable qualities of Lady Westerby in a charming manner.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—*A Country Mouse* appears here under the well-known direction of Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison. As Angela Muir, the adventurous young lady who is not so ingenuous as was supposed, Miss Annie Hughes is distinctly clever and successful; as Lady Sylvia Bowlby Miss Moyra Creegan gives most important support; Miss Francis Davie acts in a bright and winning manner as Violet Aynesley; Miss Ida Laurie gives humour and point to the rôle of Mrs. Crooper; Mr. John E. Watson delivers a clever study of the butler, Jephcot; Mr. William Calvert is admired for his well-expressed sentiments as John Bowlby; Mr. T. A. Braidon is mirth-provoking as Lord Robert Wyckham; Mr. Evelyn Vernon duly accentuates the rôle of the Duke of St. Kitts; and Mr. Chas. Bedale acts in a finished and pleasant manner as the Hon. Archibald Vyse. *A Country Mouse* is preceded by *A Bit of Old Chelsea*, in which Miss Hughes scores in her original part.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood.—Mr. Jack Haddon and his company appear here in Walter Howard's famous play, *Under the Russian Flag*. Mr. Haddon is awarded a fine reception in his well-played rôle of Captain Demetrius; Miss Marie Rayner plays the part of Luka Marischia to excellent advantage; Mr. George Herbert invests the rôle of General Romanoff with due importance; Messrs. Edward Avinall and Cecil Melton as his two sons, Michael and Ivan respectively, both deserve praise; Mr. Chas. Liddon plays a powerful and impressive part as Wolf Marischia; Mr. Hal Forde lends valuable support as Paul Poniski; Messrs. Fred Haming, W. Wilson, and William Rivers act worthy parts; Miss Blaine Vanbrugh gives an artistic exposition of the rôle of Vera Vassiloff; and Miss Violet Lytton creates a favourable impression as the opera dancer, Orgarita.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—Mr. Augustine Knight presents E. Hill-Mitchelson's modern romantic drama, *The Assassin*, here, and in the character of Prince Demetri scores a big success. Mr. Edwin Ashby, in the heroic and rival part of Ivan Ipanoff, meets with every sympathy; Miss Ella Vane, in the titular-rôle of Countess Wanda, acts with well-studied effect; Miss Frances Waring secures the warmest admiration and sympathy as the unfortunate Nita; Mr. Theo Balfour bears the aristocratic rôle of Duke Carl with dignity; Mr. Edwin Jenner proves "one of Ireland's best" as Capt. O'Neill; Mr. Tom Taylor is successful as Peter; Mr. Cecil H. Raymond lends much diversion as Baron Alphonse; Mr. Jack H. Smith is an able contributor as Evangil; Mr. Chauncey Morris shines as General Nicol; Miss Hettie Senior as "America's best," Connie Jonathan, scores in a very clever style; and Miss Edith Woodward as Olga Stadt, Miss Ada Douglas as Nadia Farina, and Miss Marie E. Robertson as Katrina are able supporters.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley. — General-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Mr. Howard Hardy's company holds the stage here this week in *The Days of Cromwell*, a drama replete with clever and thrilling sensationalism. Mr. Howard Hardy assumes the rôle of the hero, Walter Clifford, in a gallant style, which wins him volleys of applause; Mr. Henry Belding as the Avenger, Ironhand, proves himself an exceedingly capable and conscientious actor; Messrs. Chas. Herberte and Vernon Vane plot and plan villainy with excellent realism as Sir Marsden and Matthew Mar-

dyke respectively; Miss Jennie Hardy contributes a charming portrayal of the heroine, Ruby Avondale; Miss Jane Massey acts capably as Mistress Shadwell; Miss Beatrice Hudson as Mistress Judith is most meritorious; Mr. Geo. P. Lester is highly successful as Sir Wilfred Avondale; and the humorous rôles of Mr. T. E. White as Shadrach Shadwell, Mr. Geo. Harvil as Toby, and Miss Mona Hungerford as Betsy are cleverly portrayed and much enjoyed. Messrs. John Melton and Alfred Smith shine as "Chaunt and Slay" and "Smite and Pray" respectively.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*Life's Sweetest Sins*, with its realistic scene and model of a submarine boat seen in actual service, is portrayed here by Mr. T. Arthur Jones's company. As the sailor-lover of the heroine Mr. Jones inspires the utmost enthusiasm with his manly performance; Miss Hazel Dent acts as his sweetheart, Doreen Rivers, in a prepossessing way; Mr. Oswald Douglas proves a dominating character as the infamous Dr. Colbrooke; Miss Mary Ainslie acts as Fay Colbrooke with the utmost success; Messrs. Robert Sawin and Clem Horlock are conspicuous as the doctor's satellites; Mr. Fred Wilson does good service as one of the confraternity, Ernie Woodstone; Messrs. Edgar Morgan and Bertram Lee leaven the play with admirable humour as Bob Tanner and Martin respectively, being well assisted by Miss Elsie Walton as the maid; and the other characters are in good hands.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—The Four Indian Fakirs are exceptionally clever conjurers; Tiller's company remain another week; *Mad Minstrels* is a sketch which provides plenty of amusement; De Dio is an expert dancer, her dance, "The Indescribable," being most artistic; C. H. Johnson, Spry and Austin, R. H. Douglas, and The Calcotts are entertaining comedy artists; while Clarice Netta whose sweet voice is heard to advantage; and Rose Naynon with her 100 trained birds complete the bill.

GAIETY.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Marie Kendal is at the head of the bill here, and her songs are loudly applauded. The Five Delevines are great favourites; Sinclair and Whiteford have a good comedy sketch; the Walleys perform some clever juggling tricks. Other turns are the Three Clarions, Steve McCarthy, Tennyson and Wallis, Horace Wheatley, Lee and Bentley, and the cinematograph.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Mlle. Eugene Fougère is here with her artistic novelty dance "La Matchiche"; Tiller's Manchester Mites are a clever and well-trained combination; the Albanos have a bright musical act; the Sisters Olive and Flo Cecil are dainty comediennes; Mac and Hill and the Paragon Trio are applauded for their songs; Lily Sharplin is a clever mimic; the Five Whiteleys and Great Scott add to the success of the programme.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Sketches are the principal attraction here; Julia Kent, Alex Keith, and company have a tabloid musical comedy, *Where's Aubrey?* which has made a big hit; and a melodramatic sketch, *His Master's Wife*, played by Madge Morley and company, is equally successful. Harry Hayton, Charles Robinson, and Will Cornish are entertaining comedians; the Picquays have an up-to-date gymnastic display; Lilian Bowas wins loud applause. The bioscope is also a big attraction.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company is attracting large audiences here this week with the American drama *At Cripple Creek*. The character of Joe Mayfield is excellently portrayed by Mr. Stanley Bedwell. Villainy is well depicted by Mr. Chas. H. Lester as Martin Mason and Mr. J. G. Maine is highly successful as Manuel Alvarez, his accomplice. Wahketah, the faithful Indian, has a worthy exponent in Mr. Arthur D. Layland; little Rosie Hopkins cleverly undertakes the part of Little Tatto; Dynamite Ann receives a praiseworthy interpretation from Miss Agnes Verity; whilst Belle Gordon is capably played by Miss Lily Beagle. Miss Daisy Carlton is well received in her rendering of Maggie Mason. The humour of the play is supplied in a commendable manner by Mr. Will Hook as Reggie Harwood and Mr. Sydney Benson as Ben White, the nigger.

BLACKBURN. — THEATRE ROYAL.— Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—There could be no bigger attraction to Blackburn theatre-goers than a visit from Miss Florence Baines. The play in which Miss Baines appears is *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, and of course the interest wholly revolves around that lady, who is hardly ever off the stage. As Mary Ellen Thompson, a typical Lancashire lass, she is excellent, and, moreover, speaks the dialect with far more correctness than most artists who attempt to portray Lancashire characters. She is also good in her several songs. She is supported by a capital company, and the play is also extremely well staged.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—*As Midnight Chimes*, a sensational drama presented by Mr. Leonard Dalrymple's company, is being played here. Included in a strong cast is Wittie Watty Walton, the popular comedian, who is very successful in the part of Ted Flavin, a railway porter.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Mr. George Gray and company, in *The Fighting Parson*, are meeting with their usual success here. It is their first visit to the town, and the miniature drama has proved a powerful attraction. Other items in an excellent programme are turns given by Lily Lassah, a pretty and graceful comedienne; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, in their amusing sketch, *A Desperate Remedy*; Lilian Verdi, mimic; Will Driscoll, comedian; and Maurin's fountain.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is presenting *Public Opinion* here this week. Spencer Traughton, C.B., is carefully embodied by Mr. Chas. B. Bedells, and Lord Percy Kilgour finds an able exponent in Mr. Templer Powell; Mr. Frank Hill as the Hon. Mr. Justice Mulley and Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox as Sir Babington Mulley are also clever character impersonations; whilst Mr. Thomas Sidney gives a good account of Horace Wibsey, and Mr. S. Irwin Barrett contributes an admirable study of Viscount Pomfey. A delightful Lady Diana Goldershaw is Miss Lilias Earle's contribution; and Misses Margaret Marshall as Pansy Bligh, Miss Hilda Honiss as Phyllis Dagenham, and Miss Amy Coleman as Charlotte are also good. The title of the curtain-raiser is *The Other Heir*, a clever little play, which is specially noticed in another column.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*The Youngest of Three*, played by Mr. H. F. Maltby and company, is proving an attraction here this week. Mr. Maltby makes an excellent George Wendover; Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves gives a creditable rendering of Gerald Wendover; whilst a capital portrait of Philip Radford is supplied by Mr. A. E. Wyn Weaver. Miss Beatrice Marsden is fully equal to the part of Lucy Dulley; and Miss Janet Hodson (Anne Dulley) and Miss Mara Maltby (Florence Dulley) also play their parts most satisfactorily: Jane is quite safe in the able hands of Miss Nancy York. *Hounslow Heath*, a tragic episode in one act, is the curtain-raiser.

PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The Three Guitanos, eccentric acrobats and pantomimists, head a good bill here this week. In smaller type appear the names of Madge Grey, a clever dialect comedienne; Bob Hamilton, Scotch comedian; the Westwoods, trick cyclists; F. Warden-Reed and Miss J. Stevens, in a dramatic sketch, entitled *The Right Road*; Larola, who does some clever balancing tricks; Winnie Derson, comedienne; the Brontes, in a sketch; Rose Cabani, a pleasing comedienne; and Harry Anderson, the popular vocal comedian.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—The visit of Mr. Dickie Clare's company has, in *Lucky Liza*, proved a decided success. In Miss Madge Brownie is found a sprightly exponent of Eliza Bird; a humorous Peter Pettitoe came from Mr. T. W. Benson; and the Paul Pettitoe of Mr. Leonard Maitland was most acceptable; Mr. George Minto, as the Judge, was excellent; a charming Virginia Blatherwick was found in Miss Vesta Brownie; Mr. Dickie Clare, assisted by the remaining members of the company, was responsible for the humorous support to a highly enjoyable entertainment.

THE GAIETY.—Proprietor, Councillor John Grantham; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur James.—The principal turn is supplied by Charley Dixon, comedian. Bert Terrell, Tyrolean artist, has proved a strong attraction; whilst the dainty songs of Kate Lynd find much favour. The Gaiety Bioscope displays a new series of pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. William Tudor.—The genial proprietor has a capital show of pictorials, augmented by some good variety turns.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Melvin.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company is here in the successful play, *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. A. E. Anson excellently fills the part of Jack Frobisher; Miss May Taverner gives a well studied rendering of the character of Lady Alethea Frobisher; Mr. Alfred S. Barber plays with much humour the part of Hankey Bannister; Mr. A. W. Tyrer is good in the thankless part of Harry Dallas; Mr. Cecil Warde is painstaking as the Marquis of Steventon; Miss Nona Wynne portrays the part of Lady Lucy Derenham in a pleasing manner; and Miss Marguerite Cellier is well placed as Lady Westerby.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—Park's Eton Boys head the bill here, and other turns include Morimura, a Japanese illusionist; Annie Casey, comedienne; Harry Bancroft, vocalist; Frank Cass, comedian; Miss Fatmah Diard, American Prima Donna; Will English, coloured comedian; Beautiful Lillian, trick cyclist; Rappo and Ella, wonderful equilibrists; Gertrude Moore, in a singing and dancing speciality act; Charles Chard, comedian; Goggin and Davis, in a versatile comedy acrobatic act; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOSTON.—PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. Saphrun.—The Cee-Mee Troupe, in their sensational comedy aerial act, head the bill here this week, and do some daring acts on the flying trapeze; Sanger and Coleman are very good in their scena, "The Belle of the Phonograph; Almero on the silver wire is well received; and Geo. Raper creates much laughter with his songs and patter; Old Joe, Battle and Breeze, The Leolas, and Henry Nawtrof and Co., in a farcical tabloid comedy, *Where's Your Ticket?* all receive much applause.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche, who are paying a first visit here in *What the Butler Saw*, opened on Monday to an appreciative house. As Pink, the butler, Mr. Rignold has a part which gives him a full opportunity to display his undoubted humour; Miss Ada Blanche, whose dresses are really beautiful, is very successful as Mrs. Barrington; while as Mr. Barrington Mr. Charles Fawcett contributes largely to the success of the piece. Mr. Reddick Anderson is a capital Sir Charles; Mr. George Ascott is good as the peppery General; Mr. Harry Rignold's Abraham Welstein is amusing; so, too, is Miss Annie Goward as Mrs. Hake. Other excellent performances come from Mr. Louis Lingard, Mr. Alec Alves, Mr. Roy Byford, Miss Marie Daltra, Miss Hylda Davies, Miss Vera O'Connell, Miss Violet Gould, and Miss Dorothy Garth.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Musical comedy again constitutes the attraction, Mr. Frank Curzon's company being on a first visit with *The White Chrysanthemum*. Mr. W. H. Rawlins plays Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage with humour; Mr. Horace Mills is droll as Lieut. Chippendale Belmont, and, with Mr. Harry Paulton as Private Perks and Mr. O. E. Lennon as the versatile Chinaman, Sin Chong, the fun is uproarious. Mr. F. Pope-Stamper scores a success as Lieut. Reginald Armitage; Miss Katie Vesey, who dances gracefully, is a bright Cornelia; as Betty Kenyon, Miss Daisy Le Hay is delightfully coy; and Miss Nora Guy makes a charming Sybil.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—*Revenge*, another of Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's romantic plays, is here. Mr. Hill-Mitchelson, with fine effect, fills the part of the villainous Prince Orloff; Draga Vanessa affords Miss Amy Ellam fine scope for her dramatic abilities; as the injured Captain Loris Vanessa, Mr. H. Bonhote Wilson earns the sympathies of his audience; Mr. Francis Serle is a diverting Count Mussant; and the parts of the King and Queen are powerfully filled respectively by Mr. Jerrold Ord and Miss Violet Carlyle. As Olga, Miss Ada Douglas evinces dramatic skill.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The Boissets are on a return visit in *The Bricklayers*; Beatrice Willey contributes ballads; sprightly and tricky dancing is a feature of the duets by the smart Knick-Knacks; the Brothers Redmond are popular in their acrobatic comedy turn; and a fine mandoline performance by the Di Pace Brothers wins marks of favour. In their feats of modern necromancy, Kahn and Kahn are exceedingly smart; an excellent entertainment is submitted by Prof. Dunning, ventriloquist; Marion Scott, comedienne, gives an acceptable turn; originality and humour mark Barney Armstrong's style as a Scotch comedian; and the American Bioscope shows some fine films.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. R. H. Foster.—Dora Martini does some clever tricks on the high trapeze and suspended rope; and another successful contributor is Harry Taft, a good whistler; the Steinway Quartette entertain with a good selection of sea songs; Charles Gardener is acceptable; in a bright turn as dancers and baton swingers, the Zampis meet with success; the Leotard Brothers are good clowns, clever acrobats, and exceedingly smart hat throwers; Charles Dare's Minstrels give an admirable entertainment; Musical Silvo discourses charming music, and interesting pictures are exhibited by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

BRIDLINGTON.—PALACE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. J. W. Delmar.—The new and enterprising manager, is this week offering a capital bill, at the head of which is Miss Daisy de Roy, a charming and talented comedienne, whose songs are finely rendered, and evoke many encores. Miss Violet Robson sings with great taste and feeling; Mr. Fred Field's baritone voice is rich, and his songs are well rendered; Soros, the man of mystery, gives a clever exhibition; and the Sayes are a couple of excellent burlesque artists, the lady's dancing being a great treat. The well-written sketch, *The Painter's Dilemma*, is capitally played by Misses Edna Reed and Mabel Wood and Mr. Clement Burge. The American Bio-Motograph shows some admirable pictures.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company is here this week with *Beauty and the Barge*. Mr. Blake Adams is the life and soul of the piece as Captain Barley, and keeps the audience in the happiest of moods; Miss May Fairclough makes a bright and winsome Ethel Smedley, whose lover Lieut. Boyne, has a capital exponent in Mr. Edward Coventry; Miss Mary Pemberton is a pleasing Lucy Dallas; Mr. Charles A. White, as John Dibbs, and Miss Ruby Wyndham as Mrs. Baldwin, submit amusing and clever character studies; Mr. Walter Pemberton is well suited as the irascible Major Smedley, and able support is given by Mr. Pennington-Gush (Herbert Manners), Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite (Mrs. Porter), and Mr. Fred Knight (Tom Codd). The farce is preceded by *Jerry and a Sunbeam*. At Thursday's special matinée Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company, from the Garrick Theatre, London, appeared in *The Morals of Marcus*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. Bede Montefiore's company opened here on Monday with *The Streets of London*. Mr. William Rokeby gave an admirable portrayal of Badger; Mr. Riddell Robinson's Gideon Bloodgood, and Miss Dorothy Cacey's Alida Bloodgood were well played; Mr. Clifford Armitage was effective as Captain Fairweather; Miss Winifred Ingham's Lucy and Mr. Charles Kean's Paul were able enactments; and Mr. Richard Palgrave made a capital Mark Livingstone. Very entertaining light comedy was provided by Mr. Jerrold Manville (Jonas Puffy), Miss Florence Moore (Dan Puffy), and Miss Adelaide Gracey (Mrs. Puffy). The drama was well staged.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard. A capital programme is sustained here this week. Imra Lorraine is seen to great advantage in a series of beautiful tableaux vivants; Theo Bouwmeester, Dutch actor, successfully assumes seven characters in *Who is Guilty?* Andy Meier and Belle Mora submit a good turn, which includes singing, dancing, comedy and ball punching; Harry Ray and Lillie Calden are a pleasing pair of comedy artists; the Karno Trio are amusing in *The Travellers' Rest*; the Sisters Brand are charming duettists and dancers; Gwennie Haste is warmly applauded for her singing and dancing; Lily Watson sings and dances herself into favour; Charles Ridgwell is good character comedian; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—There is an excellent company here this week. Fred Wright, jun., the popular Gaiety Theatre comedian, achieves distinct success with his songs; Will Gardner, America's champion skate dancer, gives a fine turn; the Kentucky Four are entertaining in plantation songs and dances, Topsy, the whirlwind dancer, being especially effective; Otto and Olga are pleasing comedy instrumental and burlesque operatic artists; Tom Woottwell is a droll comedian; Charles Prelle's highly trained dogs perform interesting and clever feats; Raie Walters sings in pleasing style; Jenny Johns is a smart comedienne; Claude Fieldman's troupe of clever juveniles are well received; H. J. Kisbey, "the callboy," is popular; Harris and Worth are diverting talking and singing comedians; and the Barrascope pictures are amusing.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Macowan's company is here this week with *Monsieur Beaucaire*. Mr. Macowan gives a fine impersonation of Monsieur Beaucaire; Miss Violet Sterne makes a graceful and pleasing Lady Mary Carlisle; Mr. Murray Hawthorne's Duke, Mr. J. C. Taylor's Major Molyneux, Mr. P. R. Forman's Captain Badger, and Mr. R. Entwistle's Beau Nash are capitally represented.

NEW PALACE PIER.—Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson and company are here this week with *The Perfect Lover*. Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson submits a clever and powerful rendering of the character of Lilian Tremblett; Mr. Harold V. Neilson acquits himself admirably as Joseph Tremblett; and Mr. Lewis Willoughby is highly successful as Lord Cardew; Miss Elizabeth Watson makes a capital Susan Leeson; Mr. John Detliv shows clever acting as John Collis; Mr. W. Lemmon Warde's William Tremblett is well played; Miss Dorothy Milne is a pleasing Martha; and the remaining parts are ably sustained.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. James Welch and his full company are here with the amusing farce, in three acts, *When Knights were Bold*, the staging of which is on a very liberal scale. On Monday evening there was a large attendance in all parts of the house, and the large audience evidently fully appreciated the smartness and really funny qualities of the play. Mr. Welch acted cleverly as Sir Guy de Vere, he was always very amusing, and in the second act was excruciatingly funny without appearing to try to be so. Miss Audrey Ford acted suberbly as Rowena, maintaining a naturally dignified deportment throughout; Miss Daisy Cordell was well placed as Miss Isaacson; Mr. Edward Sass distinguished himself by a clever performance of Sir Brian Ballymote; Mr. Henry J. Ford did excellently as Charles Widdicombe, Mr. Arthur Grenville made a capital character part of Isaac Isaacson; Mr. Chesney was successful as the Dean of Beechwood; the Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave was impersonated with the necessary dignity by Miss Emma Gwynne; the parts of Millicent Eggington, Marjorie Eggington, and Kate Pottleberry were nicely taken by the Misses Estelle Winwood, Enid Sass, and Mabel Wentworth; and Wittle, Barker, and Alice Barker had good exponents in Mr. George F. Tully, Mr. Gordon Tompkins, and Miss Annie Chippendale; the Herald have a dignified representative in Mr. Leopold Profeit.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—Mr. Frederick Melville's company is here with the successful drama, *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*, the play being staged in a very effective manner. Miss Beatrice Homer displays much power and acts excellently in the title-rôle; Mr. Philip Dainen distinguishes himself by a fine manly impersonation of Jack Merriman; Mr. Leyton Cancellor acts carefully and consistently as Hubert Gold; Mr. Allen Davenport is highly satisfactory as Tom Redvers; Miss Margaret Watson is pleasing as Morita; Miss Nell Oliver acts decidedly well as Rose Courtney; and the comic parts of Aggie Brown and Tubby Herrick are capitally taken by Miss Nellie Jackson and Mr. Tubby Edlin.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—Mark Sheridan, patter comedian, heads the bill, obtaining much applause for his clever turn. The Villions do an exceptionally smart act as acrobatic and comedy cyclists; Maud Mortimer, vocal comedienne, presents a pleasing turn, her songs are selected with taste, and she does them full justice; Lily Langtry, comedienne, is always a favourite here; Espinosa and Neilson are clever and expert in various styles of dancing; Nash and Noel, comedians and dancers, obtain applause; Florence Leonard, soprano vocalist, is successful; Harry Morgan, coon comedian and dancer, is appreciated; Matt Wilkinson and company score with their sketch, *The Registry Office*; and the performance concludes with interesting animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Harry Champion, comedian, heads the programme and obtains much applause for his songs; Herbert Darnley's company have a capital sketch, *The Skirmishers*; it is in four scenes, and is really funny; Marie Santoi and her merry little Japs present a charming musical scena, *A Japanese Tea Garden at Night*. The sketch is tastefully staged; Miss Santoi is very successful with her songs, and some smart dancing is introduced. Other successful artists are Levaine, in his wire speciality; Martinett and Wallace, coloured musical comedy artists; the Sisters Stratton, pleasing duettists and dancers; the Seven Wulfrunas, in their smart acrobatic act, *Fun in a Café*; and Fred Land, an amusing eccentric comedian. The performance concludes with a good display of animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Hardie and Von Leer's original company, in the celebrated play, *Two Little Vagabonds*, is here again. Mr. William Fazan forcibly presents George Thornton; Dick and Wally are cleverly portrayed by Miss May Hart and Miss Margaret Nybloe; the Gaffer has an excellent exponent in Mr. John F. Traynor; Miss Laura Hansen as Marion Thornton and Miss Mildred Hodson as Barbara Scarth are successful in their work; Dido Bunce and the Cough Drop are clever studies by Mr. Ernest K. Nelson and Mr. Fred Archer. Good work is done by Miss Maria Pritchard as Biddy Mullins, and also by Mr. Henry Watson and Mr. Edmund Cuthbert respectively as Captain Darville and John Scarth.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A thoroughly enjoyable performance is that of Mr. George Dance's company here this week, in *The Little Michus*. The delightful music of André Messager is most ably rendered, and the fun is kept merrily going throughout the evening. Miss Alice Coverick sings prettily as Marie Blanche and a charming actress is Miss Ethel Bryan as Blanche Marie; General Des Ifs is a funny personage as presented by Mr. Foster Courtenay; Mr. Gilbert Childs is an amusing Bagnolet, and Mr. William Everard a handsome Gaston Rigaud; Miss Florence Hylton is an excellent Madame Michu; Mr. Leon Simpkin contributes to the fun as Pierre Michu; Mr. Robert C. Harcourt is good as Aristide; Miss Bessie Mackenzie sings well as Mlle. Herpin; and the excellent dancing of Mlle. Marjorie is deservedly encored. The excellent chorus and orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Otto Manns.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The star turns here are a native choir from Jamaica, who are very well received, and Karl Ohm's Animal Hippodrome, in which ponies, bears, monkeys, &c., give a very pleasing performance; T. W. Johnson is a smart comedian and dancer, and the Four Sherrys are clever Risley acrobats; Molly Wolstenhulme, vocalist, is good; the Carina Sisters give a pleasing musical performance; and the New Empire Theatrescope is welcome.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE (NEW HIPPODROME).—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. G. Arkell.—Miss Bertha Norwood, vocalist, sings in first-class style; Frank Coyle, the continuous comedian, causes much amusement; the Sisters Nelson sing well and dance cleverly; a clever and daring show is given by Kyoto, his various tricks fairly taking the house by storm; Frank Cumminger proves himself a clever sand dancer; and J. C. Morris is a droll turn. Special mention should be made of Celest, who is quite a marvel on the wire. Animated pictures conclude an interesting bill.

BURY (LANCS.).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. George Dance's company is playing *The Orchid* here this week. Mr. Bertie Wright is as amusing as ever as Meakin; Mr. J. R. Val dances capitally as Zacchary; Mr. Sinclair Holden gives a good impersonation of the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour; Mr. Edward Maisby is funny as Comte Raoul; Miss Dorothy Firmin as Lady Violet Anstruther and Miss D. Desmond as Josephine Zaccary both contribute greatly to the enjoyment of the piece. The scenery and dresses are good.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A grand entertainment here is headed by the Lukushima Troupe of Japanese artists, who are marvellously clever; Alice Raymond is a good cornet player; Fenton Cross, who appears twice, produces some excellent pictures with sand and smoke, and his conjuring tricks are capital; Elsie Claire, vocalist; Will Vay's Comedy Juveniles; the Cellos, musical entertainers; and the Bijou vocalists and dancers make a very fine show.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—The Eight Lancashire Lads, a good combination of singers and dancers, are the chief attraction here. Other turns include Tod Gowan, vocalist; Solida and Vane, ragtime dancers; Smarte Brothers, in a sketch entitled *The Jolly Sportsmen*; Howard and Townsend, vocal duettists; Nancy Renshaw, negro comedienne; O. B. Krebo, juggler; Selby and Myers, comedians; and J. T. Macmillan, Scotch comedian.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS. — ATHENÆUM HALL. — Manager, Mr. E. Arnold Crack.—*The Girl from Kay's*, played by Mr. George Dance's company, is a great attraction here. Mr. J. W. Hooper as Hoggenheimer keeps the audience well amused, being ably seconded by Mr. Harry Jennings as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle; Mr. Stanley Ravenscroft acts capably as Harry Gordon; Mr. Louis Edmonds gives a good performance of Mr. Chalmers; and the rôles of Theodore Quench and Joseph are successfully taken by Mr. Edwin Forde and Mr. Claude Dampier. Miss Marie Greenhouse is a winsome Norah; Miss Jessie Fraser is smart in the title-rôle; Miss Grace Murray makes a satisfactory Mrs. Chalmers; and Miss Irene Vere, a charming Ellen, dances delightfully.

CAMBRIDGE — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L. — The Triple Bill company opened here on Monday night. The first piece given was *Faithful James*, the parts being played by Messrs. Colin Brice, F. Camlin, Harold Chapin, and Harry Welchman; and Miss Mary Conroy and Miss Lilian Maynes. The comedy was followed by the one-act drama, *The Gipsy*, in which appeared Mr. H. Camlin, Mr. Harold Chapin, Miss Elsie Chapin, and Mrs. Alice Chapin, the third item on the programme being *A Pantomime Rehearsal*, in which the company could not appear to advantage owing to the bad behaviour of a certain section of the undergraduate audience, but Mr. Colin Brice, as Lord Arthur Pomeroy, received well-merited praise; the other parts being satisfactorily rendered by Mr. Harry Welchman, Mr. Alvin Sawyer, Mr. Harold Chapin, Mr. Clifford Standin, Miss Lillian Mayne, Miss Mary Conroy, Miss Myra Douglas, Miss Elsie Chapin, and Mrs. Alice Chapin.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—Mr. Charles Macdona introduces *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)* to Cardiff this week with great success. The title-rôle is in the excellent hands of Mr. Morris Harvey, who quickly makes himself popular by his faithful, easy-going rendition of Mr. Popple. Mr. Herbert Dickerson gives a satisfactory account of Norman Popple; and Messrs. Augustin Symonds as George Hennay and Fred F. Allen as Henry Doring, also lend material assistance in the fun-making. La Bolero, the actress, is played by Miss Mamie Brickwell, who captivates the house by her tuneful singing and her sprightly rendering of the part; Miss Lulu Louden acquits herself with much credit as Louise; while Miss Louie Rene (Mrs. Doring), Miss Stella St. Audrie (Mrs. Hennay), and Miss Claire Pridelle (Violet), are others who are greatly responsible for the success of the piece.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—The drama, attracting enthusiastic audiences at the popular King's this week, is *I Defy the World*, a piece always popular with Mr. Samuel James's patrons. The company is an all-round strong one, and the staging of the drama calls for special mention.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—A strong programme is presented at the Queen-street house, headed by the talented Harmony Four, whose humorous musical performance is so popular. Lil Hawthorne is still as dainty and charming a songstress as ever; Whit Cunliffe's catchy songs render him a great favourite; Paulinetti and Pegue present a unique gymnastic performance; a very pretty scene, entitled *The Spider and the Fly*, is provided by Talbot and Pearce, two capable vocalists; and the ventriloquial entertainment of Clemart is above the average. Moon and Morris, comedians and dancers; Will Mitcham, musical comedian; and Maud Ross, a pleasing comedienne, also contribute excellent turns; while the bioscopic pictures of the Glamorgan v. South Africa match brings the performance to a close.

CARLISLE.—H.M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—*The Private Secretary*, again introduced by Mr. Eugène C. Stafford, is paying a return visit. Mr. Donald Price-Evans appears in the title-rôle with great success; Mr. W. Hargreaves once again causes roars of laughter as Mr. Cattermole, a part he has made quite his own; Mr. W. T. Elworthy gives a capital performance as Mr. Marsland; Mr. Vivian Gilbert has made an excellent study of Sidney Gibson, which he plays without undue exaggeration; Mr. James P. E. Hussey acts Harry Marsland with fine spirit and good taste; Mrs. Alfred Davis repeats her always enjoyable impersonation of Miss Ashford; and Miss Cecily contributes a capital character-sketch of the landlady. Mr. Randolfe Reade as Douglas Cattermole, Miss Berth Elliott as Eva, and Miss Dora Gray as Edith make the most of their opportunities, and add much to the success of the performance.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Limited; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Another capital bill is delighting large audiences this week. The "Gordon Highlanders," who are the chief attraction, give a wonderful exhibition of quick drill and wall scaling; Alf Gibson, with his quaint style and songs, has every reason to be gratified with his reception; Helm and Cozens, in their comedy act, *The Doctor and the Patient*, are responsible for much laughter; the Henriques do some clever acrobatic work; Agnes Hansen, a pleasing soubrette, meets with much favour; and the Woolhafs contribute a versatile turn which is much appreciated. A distinctly smart and novel act is given by Rose and Grayson, whose mélange of music, singing, and dancing meets with warm approval. The ever-popular Pepiscope, with some excellent pictures, concludes an enjoyable entertainment.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—*A Country Girl* is on a return visit here, the company being one of the many sent out by Mr. George Dance, the business-management being in the hands of Mr. George Blant. Mr. Coningsby Brierley works hard and with capital result as Barry; and Miss Cissie Sephton is a good Madame Sophie. Mr. John M. Hay has a fine appearance, and proves popular as Geoffrey Challoner. The two old men, Sir Joseph Verity and Granfer Mummery, are well represented by Messrs. Arthur Jackson and H. A. Mather respectively. Miss Ernestine Desborough finds much favour as the Princess; the part of Marjory Joy is in the safe hands of Miss Barbara Babington; and Miss Elaline Thorne makes an excellent Nan.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Low Lake and his company of comedians top the bill here; Maxford and O'Neill have some smart patter; by no means the least interesting item of the programme is the contribution by means of Lacey's Ernscope, "The Bride and the Bicycle" being particularly amusing.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank E. Donne.—Leslie Race is billed to appear here, but in his absence Mansel Fame gives a couple of well-received songs; Fraser and Haley are a pair of vocalists who score with "Peeping Eyes"; Professor Fuller mystifies the onlookers with his "Astarte" illusion; Elsie Robey causes much laughter in *The Slavey's At Home*; Rich and Rich are a smart pair of cross-talk comedians; Wm. Hollee, Nannie Goldman and company appear in *The Little Charwoman* with good results; Mabelle May executes some spirited dances; and the Edisonograph has fresh pictures.

CHORLEY. — GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hemingway.—The drama *The Throne of Terror* is being presented here this week. Mr. W. J. Miller is effective as Maximilian Robespierre, Mr. Arthur Harley capably undertaking Comte de Roquefort; Mr. Roy Milton excellently renders Captain Eugene de Lisle; as Jonjou Mr. Bert Ellis is particularly humorous; Marguerite de Roquefort is charmingly depicted by Miss Katherine Maude Davies; Miss Ethel Lanyan Maude portrays Victorine D'Almonte with much power; and Miss Georgie Whyte vivaciously plays Peppietta.

COATBRIDGE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Coatbridge Theatre Company; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Commins.—*East Lynne* is being produced here this week, under the direction of Mr. Richard Dalton, and on Monday evening the house was comfortably filled. Mr. Vincent Clive cleverly portrays Archibald Carlyle; Mr. Eric Mayne provides an excellent character study of Francis Levison; Mr. Eric Maxon pathetically delineates Richard Hare, and Justice Hare has an able representative in Mr. Frank Liston. Miss Dorothy Grimston excels in the dual rôle of Lady Isobel and Mme. Vine; Miss Ella Thornton makes a good Barbara Hare; and Joyce is admirably undertaken by Miss Eva Haydon.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona;

singing of Scotch songs being excellent; Mlle. Von Ella, illusionist, gives a very clever performance; Salmon, trick cyclist, introduces new and very clever feats; Cavalli, ventriloquist, creates a great deal of laughter with the help of one lay figure, and his dialogue is good; Wellesley Lynn, impersonator, pleases in his songs; Stephens and Rennior, comedians, sing parody songs, and one gives a sand dance; Lilly Loyadale, who possesses a well-trained soprano voice, sings two songs in a cultured style; and Ernie Myers, patterer and comedian, submits capital humorous songs.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—A numerous gathering witnessed a return visit of Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer and company with a répertoire of plays, including *Mary Queen of Scots, East Lynne, Nell Gwynne, Jane Shore, Sapho*, and *From Washerwoman to Duchess*. As Mary Queen of Scots Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer combines all the necessary qualities with marked success, and was loudly applauded on Monday night. Other characters were in capable hands.

The Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—A thoroughly enjoyable programme is submitted to the patrons of this capital house. Sibb and Sibb are exceptionally clever gymnasts; Hymack gives a turn which is both puzzling and amusing; Ella Shields is a big favourite as a coon singer; Joe Peterman and company give a sketch entitled *The Pawnbroker*; Lugio's sextette, in *A Serenade in Naples* are aided by some excellent part singing; Lawrence Barclay is a capable comedian; and Clackamus, an American comedian; and Lade Henderson, descriptive vocalist, with the usual pictures, are other attractions of the bill.

The Empire. — Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Dance. — An attractive programme is provided at this undoubtedly popular house, and the bill is headed by Mr. Willie Edouin, who appears by special permission of Mr. George Edwardes. Boris Lenski, the Dutch violin virtuoso, delights everyone by his brilliant solos; Wyndham and Kitty give a daring performance on the tight wire; Charlie Kitts and Rhoda Windrum cause much amusement in a sketch entitled *The Cuckoo*; Sidney Dolf, a clever comedian, introduces smart juggling; Horace White is an exceptionally clever ventriloquist; and Vernon's Vioscope gives a set of up-to-date pictures.

CRADLEY HEATH.—Empire Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton. — Hardie and Von Leer's No. 1 company is playing *Two Little Vagabonds* to full houses nightly. Mr. Douglas Vigore capably enacts the part of George Thornton; and he is ably assisted by Miss Valerie Crespin as Marion Thornton. Miss Lucy Beaumont and Miss Gladys Vernon as Dick and Wally evoke sympathy; Miss Lillian Stewart makes a pleasing Barbara Scarth; as Sister Randall Miss Lena Vernon is well placed; Mr. Edward McLean is an effective Captain Darville; and Mr. Richard Hicks a good John Scarth. Mr. Maurice Holmes as the Footman raises many laughs; and Miss Violet Vivian handles a difficult part well as Biddy Mullins. Mr. Lionel Ellis, Mr. Frank Gordon, and Mr. Gerald Valentine are responsible for the three roughs, Bill Mullins, Dido Bounce, and the Coughdrop. The part of Dr. Lynn is in the able hands of Mr. J. Goodman, and that of Joe Gargoyle is made the most of by Mr. Geoffrey Dering.

CREWE.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. James Cardwell's juvenile pantomime company is appearing here in *Beauty and the Beast*. Miss Dolly Dodds as Beauty is a general favourite; Miss May Gibson captivates everybody as Silverstar; and Miss Kitty Trewhitt is a dashing Prince Charming. Miss Daisy Fielder is well suited as Will Scarlett; and Miss Isa Gibson is a charming Maid Marion. Miss Edie Camm as Marjorie Daw gives a talented display; and Miss Beattie Townshend is good as Evilheart. Master Jack Harrison is amusing and clever as Baron Hardup; and the Brothers Armstrong are capital as the two sisters, Dressalinda and Marrigolda. Messrs. Doyle and Gibson keep the audience in a good humour by their quaint jokes, and do well as Flip and Flop; and Wee George Wood is remarkably clever for his age. Specialities by the Margueritta Quartette of Dancers, the Barefooted Troupe of Dancers, Miss Edie Camm (bâton swinger), and Wee George Wood, are also introduced.

CROOK.—Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wallace Davidson. — *The Price of Her Soul*, played by Messrs. Shinton and Greenwood's company, is drawing large houses here this week. In the character of Lord Mandeville, V.C., Mr. John B. Shinton is seen to great advantage, and Miss Ada M. Ryder submits a delightful rendering of Countess Inez; Mr. Annesley Hely, as Major Skoboloff, is well to the fore, and Mr. Archie Gear is a capable Demetrius Lanovitch; Miss Kate Walfred's conception of Olga is good, and Miss Grace Garside could not have been better placed than as Lady Jemima; Miss Olive Chesman is a clever Nadine.

CROYDON.—Grand Theatre. — Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—*The Freedom of Suzanne* is being capitally played here by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Miss Mabel Love is a host in herself, and makes a bewitching and entertaining Suzanne Trevor; Miss Annie Stalman is praiseworthy as Lady Charlotte Trevor; Miss Charlotte Mead is suitable as Mary Minching; Miss Violet Ley makes a charming Lady Isabel Bury; Miss Dorothy Lart is bright and attractive as Mrs. Tustail; and Mrs. F. Turner scores as Mrs. Putman. Mr. Percy Hutchison submits a scholarly rendering of Charles Trevor; Mr. F. G. Thurstans is capital as Fitzroy Harding; Mr. Patrick Quill is commendable as Sir Horace Hatton; Mr. J. Hastings Batson does well as Lord Dacher; Mr. Townsend Whitling is competent as Captain Harry Cecil; and Mr. Richard Neville is good as Tommy Keston. The curtain-raiser, *Mary's Secret*, is excellently enacted by Mr. T. Whitling, Mr. F. C. Thurstans, Miss Dorothy Lart, and Miss Violet Ley.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company, in *The Village Blacksmith*, is attracting appreciative audiences here this week. The title-rôle is in the excellent hands of Mr. Sam Livesey; Mr. Joseph Carter plays forcibly the part of Captain Leo; Mr. Edwin Maydew as Lucas Marlow earns distinction; Mr. Thos. E. Marshall as Jeremiah Parkins is exceptionally good; and Mr. George V. Campbell as Billy Twigg is responsible for much laughter. Miss Bertha Hanbury as Harry Strong wins applause; Mrs. T. C. Livesey figures satisfactorily as Sal Parkins; and Miss Maggie Edwards as Kate Strong, the blacksmith's wife, acts with grace and sincerity.

Empire Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—The bill of fare here is quite up to the mark. Arthur Conquest and company make a big hit in the realistic pantomimical sketch, *The Sioux*; the O'Natis troupe of jugglers are clever; the Sisters Edwardes are neat dancers; Albert Whelan, Australian entertainer, is received with approbation; Farley, Rennie, and Farley are droll in *Fun at a Railway Station*; Fred Elton is applauded for a speciality act, "On Board an Ocean Liner"; Venie Clements is an entrancing comedienne and dancer; Mlle. Omega is great in her wire act; and the King's College Boys in "Excepts from Opera," score a success.

DARLINGTON. — Theatre Royal and Hippodrome.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Messrs. Polini and Maitland's company in *The Coal King*, is the attraction this week. Mr. L. Maitland plays the part, Tom Roberts, in a very able manner; Miss Grace Shirley, the heroine, is in the capable hands of Miss Gertrude Valentine; Mr. Robert Smith, in the part of Sir Harford, is admirable; the heavy lead is played by Mr. Escott Robson, who makes the most of the part; Mr. Alfred Terris, as Jim Williams, is extremely droll; Miss Sybil Coghlan makes a capital Araminta Green; another good character is Mad Ann, played by Miss Sinna St. Clair in capital style. Two tons of coal are given away this week to the poor. Since last August, Messrs. Polini and Maitland have given away over 100 tons.

DARWEN. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company made a welcome reappearance here the early part of the week in *A Country Girl*. Miss Hettie Peel was a frolicsome Nan, and she has a good voice, which she uses to advantage; Miss Violet Leslie looked sweet and pleasing, and sang tastefully as Marjorie; Miss Madge Campbell was excellent as Sophie; and Miss Adelaide Clifton proved herself a capital Princess Mechelanah. The rôle of Geoffrey Chaloner was in the capable hands of Mr. Martin D. Pitts, who also sang well; Mr. Bernard Vaughan was a stately Rajah; Mr. W. O. Billington was highly amusing as Sir Joseph Verity; and Mr. Frank Weir deserves special mention for his conception of the part of Barry, his mannerisms were exceedingly funny. The chorus and the augmented orchestra were quite in keeping with the production.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. Henry Swinerd's company is here this week with the musical comedy *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Miss Ida Ressanby is successful in the title-rôle, singing several excellent songs. An outstanding feature of the performance is the playing of Mr. Will Brereton, a comedian of conspicuous ability, his songs and dances are unusually good, and his patter and gags most amusing. Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith sings may capital songs; Miss Marie Vere figures agreeably as Ruth Montrose; and Mr. Walter Ashley is a manly George Fielding. Possessed of a capital voice, he uses it to the best advantage. Captain Dudley is in the able hands of Mr. Henry C. Ward; whilst another character worthy of mention is that of Hawkins, creditably acted by Mr. Arthur C. Hartley. The Misses Mabel and Lillie Blake introduce a number of smart dances.

Palace.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Daisy Jerome made her bow on Monday night to two large audiences, and created a distinctly favourable impression. Another good turn is that of Louis Hardt, whose muscular feats and artistic poses are decidedly interesting. Geo. Davis and company evoke endless merriment in their sketch, *Jack's Uncle*, which is well staged and acted. H. O. Wills, one of the most amusing of comedians, is deserving of all praise; Wake and Dean are thoroughly entertaining in song and talk; and the Three De Veres introduce a good comedy speciality of the acrobatic order; while Lily Vane contributes an acceptable turn of song and dance. On the Palace Bioscope "Whaling in the Atlantic" constitutes a most interesting picture.

DEVONPORT.—Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King.—The American Indian drama, *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*, is the attraction here this week. Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk takes the leading part in the production, and to her in great measure the success of the piece is attributable. Mr. C. W. Charles, as General Stockton, the Colonel of a United States Cavalry Regiment, has a fine martial carriage and bearing; Mr. Guy D. Hackney is an accomplished comedian, and is accompanied by a well-trained canine friend called Pinkie. Other members of the capable cast are Messrs. Danny Ryan (comedian), P. Boletti, E. Leroy, and J. Shawcrop, and the Misses J. Hart and W. Goepel.

DEWSBURY. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—Servais Le Roy presents here this week an extraordinary novelty, defined as a modern mystical play. Mr. W. Scott-Phipp is in charge of the business interests of the company, which includes a number of well-known competent artists. The piece has been "written round" the famous trio of "black magicians"—Le Roy, Talma and Bosco—who, by means of weird and sensational experiments completely baffle and bewilder the mystified audience. The tricks performed are as unique as they are astounding, and the celerity, finish, and *aplomb* characterising the methods of these modern necromancers stamp them as unrivalled artists in the art of trickery and illusion. Servais Le Roy utterly stupefies one with his feats of legerdemain, rapidity, minute thoroughness, and polish being the salient features thereof. In the rôle of the hypnotist Chartier, Le Roy furnishes a sensational scene, wherein one of the characters in the play is put under control, and immediately made to float in mid air, and in quick succession to vanish instanter, leaving the stage tenantless—a remarkable illusion savouring of the occult. Handsome and physically well-built and proportioned, Mlle. Talma looks as much as she proves herself to be—"the Queen of Coins." The wonderful facility with which this lady palms silver coins startles one. Her nimble fingers make the coins come and go, appear and vanish, with uncanny adeptness. Bosco, as usual, justifies his nomenclature of "the genial one," and one of his numerous jests is to endeavour to stow himself within a barrel of a circumference hopelessly inadequate for his ample proportions, whereupon, ludicrously unsuccessful, he retires quite at ease, promising to bring in another barrel. This diverting trick he terms the "Flight of Cupid!" Miss Marie Ault in the rôle of Annie Jones, a pert and loquacious maid, shows a strong sense of humour; a diminutive comedian, Mr. Willie Atom, is grotesque as the call-boy; Mr. Stafford Smith plays Lord Kinton admirably; Professor Le Gros is well interpreted by Mr. Frank Melrose, Robert Fenton being presented by Mr. Henry Danson, who is rather too immaculately attired for a wax-work proprietor. Considerable amusement is caused by Mr. Thos. Burdett in his assumption of Herr Hachenspreight, a trombonist; Mr. Robert A. Innes impersonates with considerable ability Rufus Merivale; Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner is a sympathetic and agreeable Lucie; Miss May Harley as the lady clerk, Mary Gray, does well.

Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon.—Brilliantly skilful and artistic is Slippere, the blind pianist; Miss Ramsay proves herself a most valuable assistant; a basso vocalist of power, depth, and range is Harry D'Albert, late of the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co.; Jean Kram judiciously intermingles comedy business with juggling feats; and other artists are Lestre and Player (comedy duettists and patterers), Sam Shipley (comedian and dancer), Fields and Lewis (burlesque artists), the Lorraines (clever banjoists and dancers, who harmonise excellently), Bean and Belle (operatic duettists), Bella and Minnie Terry (duettists), and the animated pictures complete.

DONCASTER.—New Theatre and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*The Spring Chicken* was well received on Monday. Gustave Babori was excellently played by Mr. J. S. Durant; Boniface was a successful embodiment in the hands of Mr. Harry Averell; and Mr. Ralph Holland scored as Baron Papouche. Mr. Edwin Dodds was alert as Felix, the head waiter; and Mr. Lewis Wigley did well as Stephen Henry. Yeoman service was done by Mr. Moon Taylor in the rôle of proprietor of the Crimson Butterfly; genial and affable was Mr. Fred Payne as Mr. Girdle; and Miss Nellie Kavanagh gave a faithful rendering of Mrs. Girdle. Miss Poppy Poole as Baroness Papouche, Miss Florence Lee as Dulcie Babori, Miss Lilian Erroll as Emmy Lou, Miss Nancy Reeve as La Belle Cissy, were all pretty and accomplished artists.

DOVER. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—*A Destroyer of Men* is here. Mr. James Hare submits a powerful embodiment of Karl Mischla; Mr. Hill Cremer is excellent as Paul Starevitch; Mr. Chas. Bickell wins sympathy for his able representation of Michael Machila; Mr. Harold B. Lewis is admirably suited to the rôles of the Count; a special word of praise is due to Mr. Frank Orchard, a sufficiently villainous Fedor; Mr. Arthur Swain is successful as Sergt. Krans; and Mr. Ross Warren is loudly applauded for his amusing antics as Coco. Miss Alice Buckland as Mina is popular; Miss Gladys Lloyd is a refined and charming Vida; and Miss Irene Clifford as Olga plays with good dramatic effect.

The Empire.—Proprietors, The Vaudeville Syndicate; Manager, Mr. B. H. Harland; Secretary, Mr. C. R. Stanfield.—Percy Galino heads the bill with a clever pot-pourri act; Ethel York is a charming comedienne; G. H. Keith contributes some pleasing numbers; and Bernard and Weston convulse the crowded houses with their comicalities as patterers; Miss Amy B. Ellis and her company present the sketch *Justice*, which gives Mr. J. H. Brownson an opportunity of showing his histrionic powers, of which he takes full advantage. Raymond's Bioscope shows some excellent films.

DUBLIN.—Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The successful musical comedy, *Sergeant Brue*, as presented by Messrs. E. Lockwood and R. Crosman's company, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Arthur Reynolds in the part of Sergeant Brue is responsible for much hearty laughter, and Miss Hebe Bliss is an effective vocalist and acts in a charming manner as Lady Bickenhall. Mr. Charles McLagan displays clever comedy as the criminal Crookie Scrubbs, and Miss Mary Hay elicits the admiration of the audience for her excellent singing as Aurora Brue. Mr. Charles Sims gives a characteristic rendering of Mr. Cranks, and Miss Marion Hargreave is particularly good as the servant Daisy. Michael Brue is ably presented by Mr. E. Percy Rogers, and Miss Mabel Keith as Mabel Widget. Miss Lilian Pickering as Vivienne Russell, Miss Vera St. Clair as Louise Claire, and Miss Ethel Ford as Eva Graham are equally successful as in their respective rôles. Mr. Ernest Mozar is capital as Gerald Treherne, and the part of Matthew Habisham is well sustained by Mr. Henry Soutar.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—Mr. Martin Harvey and company commenced a short season here on Monday, when *The Corsican Brothers* was presented before a large audience, which included the Lord Lieutenant and Countess Aberdeen. Mr. Harvey, on making his appearance, had a spontaneous and hearty reception. His rendering of the dual rôle of M. Fabien dei Franchi and M. Louis dei Franchi was a masterly performance, and elicited loud applause, and Miss Coleridge gave a meritorious embodiment of the part of Mme. de Lesparre. Mr. Vincent Sternroyd displayed conspicuous ability as M. de Chateau Renaud, and Miss Mary Rorke was dignified and effective in the rôle of Mme. Savilla dei Franchi. Mr. George Cooke was commendable in the part of M. le Baron Martelli. Mr. Alfred Mansfield played with skill and ability as M. Alfred Meynard. The part of Colonna was in the capable hands of Mr. Fred Wright, sen., and Mr. Albert E. Raynor was an excellent M. le Baron de Montgiron. The play was magnificently staged, and the scenery and effects deserve special mention. At the end of the play Mr. Harvey was called before the curtain with a vigour and pertinacity which made it impossible for him to refuse. He could find no words adequate, he said, to thank them for their splendid reception. He was glad the old play had been so favourably received. They said at the Théâtre Français that when a play held the stage for twenty-five years it was a classic. *The Corsican Brothers* was well entitled to that praise, and its popularity seemed to be still on the increase.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—Mr. James Willard's company is appearing here this week in *A Woman's Pluck*, and doing excellent business. Mr. Austin Mortimer as Dick Darrell contributes a finished piece of work, and Miss Grace Lester, in the rôle of Grace Daremont, plays with rare dramatic force. Mr. Fred Norburn efficiently fills the rôles of Mark Scanlon and Tim Daremont, and ample fun is provided by Miss Tina Shaw as Bertie Daredevil. Mr. Frank Etheridge is convincing as Sir Noel Fordyce, and Miss Violet Carr gives a fine portrayal of Jessie Pope. Mr. Harry T. Wood presents a capable picture as Winston Dale, and Miss Margaret Smart is exceedingly good as Gertie Fairfax. Others who do well are Mr. Harry Emerson as Matthew Pope, Mr. Dickey Bird as Roger Pippin, Mr. Highman Tyson as Rev. John Raymond, and the Misses Helen Elmar and Kitty Johnstone as Lady Daredevil and Polly Primrose are both acceptable in their respective parts.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The chief attraction here this week is the musical comedy entitled *Dandy Duke*, which causes plenty of laughter from start to finish. Ford and Barris, in an excellent singing and dancing turn, are well received, and Rita and Roma score successfully as vaudeville artists; Woodhouse and Wells show themselves to be clever comedians and dancers, and the Darnton Sisters are particularly good as duettists. Will Vokes has some good points as a comedian and dancer, and Lilian Rowe is an accomplished ballad vocalist. Phillips and Terry, in their vocal comedy act, elicit applause, and Beatrice Renee is an engaging comedienne and dancer. The Empire pictures are also interesting.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The star turn here this week is the O'Brien Brothers, in a daring triple bar performance, which is loudly applauded. another excellent turn is submitted by Ike Scott and Son, versatile comedians, and Lil O'Gorman is a vocalist and dancer of much merit. The Bristons, comedy acrobats and cyclists, evoke much amusement, and Frank Caffrey is a comedian above the average. The Gondolier Glee Singers are highly successful, and other admirable turns are provided by Jack Lennol, an amusing comedian; Isa Stirling, a refined vocalist; and Playfair and Nikola, papiergraphists. The Bioscope projects many new and entertaining pictures.

DUDLEY.—Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—*Are You a Mason?* opened here on Monday to a delighted audience, who thoroughly appreciated this screamingly funny farce. Amos Bloodgood, in the hands of Mr. E. H. Patterson, and Frank Perry, in those of Mr. Howard L. Tracy, create an immense amount of fun as the sham Masons; and Mr. Ernest Cossart, as George Fisher, is a distinct success both in "petticoats" and out; Mr. Frederick Jacques gives a good character-study as Hamilton Travers; Miss Adelaide Grace is an imposing representative of Mrs. Bloodgood; and the Eva Perry of Miss Mabel Durant is full of grace and dignity, while her two daughters, Annie and Lulu, are prettily played by Miss Babs Stuart and Miss Madge Merrique. The farce is preceded by a one-act play, entitled *The Ruby Heart*.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—The programme here this week cannot fail to please the taste of the numerous patrons of the hall. The Bros. Bright, gymnasts du Salon, are at the head with a very superior performance. That very quaint comedienne, Miss Amber Austa, has a hearty reception for her clever turn; the Fimans have a very amusing sketch, entitled *The Fire Station*; Sphinx and Sphinx are magicians that mystify; Phil Rabey, comedian, has some good songs; and Will Haines is a descriptive vocalist who proves himself popular; the bottom of the bill is occupied by Empress, the lady handcuff expert, who very cleverly extricates herself from all sorts of positions. The Empire pictures complete the programme.

DUNDEE. — Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—*The Prince Chap* is the attraction here. Mr. H. R. Roberts acts the part of William Peyton in most convincing fashion; Mr. George Shelton gives a very effective rendering as Runion; Miss Marie Wright as the boisterous Puckers creates much merriment; Mr. Wilfred Draycott is an excellent Earl of Henningford; and Messrs. Greenaway, Robson, and Berlyn, the latter as a German student, are a capital trio of artists. The part of Claudia in Act I. is splendidly acted by little Betty Green, in Act. II. by Miss Geraldine Wilson, and finally by Miss Laura Lawrence. Miss Ethel Hollingshead as Alice Travers and Miss Kathleen Kellie as Mrs. Harrington are good in their respective characters. A curtain-raiser, entitled *The Girl from Biarritz*, is also played.

Palace Theatre. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—The Daunton-Shaw troupe of cyclists give a thrilling performance; a capital scena is presented by the Ten Dixie Girls, who are expert dancers; the Four Jumels excel in a musical entertainment; Major Moss and Son are vocalists of much ability; Calile and Walker give a clever comedy act; T. C. Callaghan, comedian; Ethel Loftus, comedienne; Little Rose Pink, serio; and Vernon's Pictures complete the programme.

Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—An exceptionally fine programme is submitted by Mr. Williams this week. The Bros. Lauri perform some original acrobatic feats; the St. Johns are excellent musicians and capital dancers; Les Prunellas introduce a clever speciality act; Mr. George Melvin scores as a Scotch comedian; Michael Kemble is an excellent baritone vocalist; the Prison Scene from *Maritana* is rendered by a clever trio of vocalists; Lang and Beal create great hilarity with their comedy act; La Belle Helene on the tight wire, and Mlle. Lockhart on the reversing globe complete an excellent programme.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—A sensational drama, entitled *What Men Dare*, is located here. Mr. Percy Norman's impersonation of Fender Drugin is capitally done; Miss Maud Buchanan is a fine Olga Levin; Mr. Angus Alexander is seen to advantage in the part of Richard Wilson; and a clever rendering of Mary O'Brian is given by Miss Ida Mackay.

DUNFERMLINE.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—Mr. Charles Windermere and his comedy company opened a six nights' engagement here on Monday, when *Facing the Music* was produced. Mr. Windermere's clever acting as "the other Mr. Smith" is very funny, and deserves the full measure of applause lavished on it; Mr. C. Casson Freer is an admirable Rev. John Smith; Mr. Gordon Phillott acts with the requisite "go" the part of Dick Desmond; Mr. G. W. H. Wynne is successful as Colonel Duncan Smith; Mr. Henry Nelson is a capable Sergeant Duffell; Miss Kathleen Willoughby ably sustains the part of Mabel; Miss Clare Manifield makes a charming Nora; Miss Mary Buckstone does full justice to the part of Miss Fotheringay; and Miss Evelyn Shelly gives a splendid rendering of Mrs. Pointing. *Where is William?* is billed for the latter three nights of the week.

EASTBOURNE. — Pier Pavilion. — Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Messrs. Harry and Fred Poole's Myrioramas are the attraction here this week. The pictures and effects are, as usual, consistently excellent, and capital variety turns are introduced. The Snow and French Family are expert cyclists, skaters, and tumblers; Houstan, the Chinese magician, is quite in the front rank of conjurers; Learto and his dog, Babs, are original and amusing; Mr. Harry Dowsett is in great demand as a comedian; and Miss Florence Hamilton sings in good style. Mr. Fred Poole is the bright and interesting guide.

The Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—There is a good variety bill offered here this week. The Whitworth Cycling Girls and Campkin are clever amusing cyclists; the Elvio Comedy Trio are smart and original in their absurdity, *Those Troublesome Slaveys*; Miss Maud Prenton has a charming voice; Mr. Victor Courtney is a realistic mimic and clever musician; the Three Careys sing well; Miss Rene Ring scores as a comedienne and dancer; Lady Fauntleroy pleases the audience as a ventriloquist; and the new Hippodrome pictures and Mme. Collard's dogs complete the bill.

EDINBURGH. — Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—The success of the present revival of *The Lady of the Lake* must be a matter for congratulation to the management of the Theatre Royal, which has been so long identified with admirable presentations of dramatic versions of Sir Walter Scott's works. Scenery, dresses, and grouping are alike good, and convey to the spectator a vivid impression of the great poem which gives a setting to some of the romantic escapades of King James V. There is some fine acting in the piece. Mr. Leo Stormont is appropriately vigorous and picturesque as Roderick Dhu; and Mr. Ernest E. Norris wears his suit of Lincoln green agreeably, and plays with a chivalrous manliness as King James. Mr. Geo. Barran is a stately, impressive Earl of Douglas; and Mr. Chris Walker is a dignified Allan Bane; Mr. Ernest Lodge is an effective Brian, and Mr. G. Hunter and Mr. Forrest Niven are excellent in the parts of Red Murdoch and Malise. Miss Ada Horner is a graceful, tender Ellen Douglas; and Miss Evelyn Pascel is a pleasing Lady Margaret. The appearance of Miss Dorothy Chard as Blanche of Devon arouses confident hopes for the success of the young actress in her profession. Gifted with a charming face and figure, and possessed of a flexible and expressive voice, Miss Chard displays dramatic insight and power which make her performance both truthful and touching. The choruses are extremely well rendered, and the dancing of the Lottie Stone Troupe imparts additional life to the scenes in which they figure.

Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard Wyndham, Ltd.; General Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—The return visit of Mr. George Edwardes's company with *The Little Michus* was warmly welcomed on Monday evening. The piece is full of brightness and sparkle, and it has once more the advantage of being performed by a well-chosen combination. Mr. Eric Thorne, in his old part of General Des Ifs, displays his wonted energy and resource as a comedian who keeps his audience in a constant flutter of amusement. The Bagnolet of Mr. Jack Cannot is another admirable bit of light comedy work; and Mr. Leonard Mackay, as Aristide Vert, acts and sings with judgment and vigour; Mr. W. Talleur Andrews and Mr. Willie Ward, jun., are also well cast as Gaston Rigaud and the Market Man; Mr. George Miller and Miss Florence Parfrey are excellent as Pierre and Madame Michu. Special mention must be made of the dancing of Miss Vivien Talleur as Mlle. St. Cyr; and the numerous other feminine rôles are gracefully and capably filled. Last, but not least, Blanche and Marie find very charming and delightful representations in Miss Iris Hoey and Miss Thelma Ray, who make two most attractive Little Michus.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—The comedy element is strongly represented here this week in an otherwise well-varied programme. Dutch Daly, the droll ranconteur, receives a cordial greeting, and his concertina playing gains a double encore. Mr. Walter Curtis provides a diverting turn which keeps the audience thoroughly amused; Miss Minnie Cunningham is among the daintiest of comediennes, her rendering of Irish songs being particularly enjoyable. *Casey's Court*, a clever farcical sketch, introduces Mr. Bob King and a troupe of midget performers in some very quaint and funny scenes provoking continuous laughter. Maxwell and Frances present a novel comedy act; and the Maples make some palpable hits with their humorous knockabout business. Mr. G. H. Elliot, the chocolate-coloured coon, sings well and finds deserved favour with his hearers; Lora, a young girl in the guise of an overgrown parrot, assists in a kind of second-sight séance, and also, when blindfolded, manifests marvellous powers of memory in the matter of endless rows of figures. Selma Braatz justifies her assumption of the title "the lady Cinquevalli" by her dexterous and graceful juggling; the Two Finneys give a pleasing exhibition of submarine feats in a water tank. A capital series of bioscope pictures completes the bill.

Cooke's Circus.—Proprietor, Mr. John Henry Cooke.—The programme here this week contains many stirring equestrian numbers. Mr. Leicester Alfred Cooke makes a decided hit with his nautical act, *Westward Ho!* and also introduces a performing mule, the antics of which are very clever and amusing; the Saletos give a series of spirited head and hand balancing feats; and the Humels, in their excellent double equestrian performance; Miss Iona Ginnett's admirable exhibition of her Arabian steed, and the Pischel Troupe of acrobats are loudly applauded; Frank Anderson's Nimble Nippers are irresistibly funny, and Little Bishop and Pete Simple contribute largely to the hilarity of the audience. Mr. John Henry Cooke has been enthusiastically called each evening.

EXETER. — Theatre Royal. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company is paying a visit here this week, and opened on Monday with the charming opera *Carmen*. The title-rôle was filled by Miss Rosena Beynon; her splendid voice was heard at its best, and she acted with a spirit which made her the gipsy to life. Mr. Charles Carter as Don José did well, and rendered his numbers in fine style. Miss Lucie Lever was excellent as Michaela, her voice being much admired. Mr. Marshall Vincent as Escamilla was decidedly good, and he was recalled for his chief number, "The Toreador." The week's bill includes *Cavalleria Rusticana, The Lily of Killarney, Tannhäuser, Lohengrin, Faust*, and *The Bohemian Girl*. The orchestra and chorus are under the experienced directorship of Mr. Harrison Frewin.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—Playgoers at this theatre have a week of rich fare. On Monday evening Mr. Henry E. Leigh's company appeared in the farcical comedy, *The 'Varsity Belle*, which kept the audience in a continual ripple of laughter. Mr. James Danvers, in the character of Professor Septimus Stoney, was particularly good. In the title-rôle, Miss Josephine Ellis was warmly applauded for her vivacious representation of the part; the cast also included the well-known names of Mr. Ed. Chester and Mr. Morrice Holmes, who pleased the audience to the full. On Thursday evening, Mr. Herbert Ralland's company was announced to present the ever-acceptable *La Poupée*.

FLEETWOOD.—Queen's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—This week Messrs. Elliman's No. 1 Company is presenting *A Heart's Desire*. Mr. Cecil Gray is an excellent Lord St. Ives, Mr. A. W. Beresford-Carl a good Eric May, Mr. J. R. Tyrrell a capable Hon. Bertie Beresford, and Mr. J. Denman an effective Coombes. Miss Drenkie Newcome, as Julia, contributes some good singing; and Miss Kittie Beatrice Russell, as Gwendoline, and Miss Barley-Clarke, as the Hon. Elsie Beresford, are successful; Miss Dorah E. Eastlake capably takes the part of Oliza.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland. — Mr. Edward Marris's No. 1 company is here this week with *The Dandy Doctor*. Mr. James Salter causes much hilarity as Melchesadeck Brown; Mr. Herbert Pearce scores a success as Colonel Pendred; Mr. Walter Nugent is a smart Arthur Vandyke; Mr. Leslie Martin works hard as Bertie Bolingbroke; Miss Effie Vincent as Ivy Pendred acts in a charming manner; Miss Ethel Dunker makes an impression as Miss Vandyke; Miss Bell Hamilton plays the part of Miss Lorraine in an able manner; Miss Dollie Payne and Miss Rosie Chandler are good in their respective parts as Henson and Marie; and Miss Florence Smithers, in the rôle of Jane, plays in her usual vivacious way.

GAINSBOROUGH. — King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Stear.—One of Mr. Morton Powell's companies, under the direction of Mr. Horatio Sinclair, appeared here on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in the sensational drama of *The Woman Who Gambles*. Miss Gertrude Hunt gives a powerful rendering of the Countess Natalie, and Mr. Horatio Sinclair is a good exponent of the character of Baron Cratziaw; Miss Florrie Halton as Cora Gouldhart and Mr. Reginald Fox as Lieut. Czarteriski are excellent; Mr. James Duncan as Count Otto plays the part in a manly manner.

GATESHEAD.—Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. France.—Mr. Chalmers Mackey's company is appearing here in *The Wearin' o' the Green*. Mr. Mackey as the rollocking Barney O'Hea creates considerable mirth, whilst his singing and dancing are much admired; Mr. Charles Homer cuts a handsome figure as Shamus McDermott, and his Irish songs are appreciated; Mr. David McFarlane presents a well-studied portrayal of Connor Martin; and Mr. Haughton Macaulay depicts with credit the rascally Michael Kenny. Mr. St. John Stuart is excellent as Gerald Courtney; Mrs. Chalmers Mackey is a delightful Norah McGrath; Miss Adele Liddon is well suited to the rôle of Mrs. McDermott; and Miss Nana Flensberg is a lively Biddy M'Ginn.

King's Theatre.—Licensee, Mr. E. Johnson; Manager, Mr. H. Arnold.—The principal attraction here is Mr. Claude Ginnett and company in *Rejected Remounts*, which causes a deal of amusement; the smartest and most daring acrobatic act ever staged here is that put on by the Borghetti Troupe; perfection in animal training has nearly been reached by Dandy George, whose canine assistant, named "Rosie," goes through a marvellous performance; paying a return visit, Harry Wenburn, with really funny songs, is more popular than ever; a very amusing trio are Wild, Willie, and West, described as bounding navvies; a burlesque actress of great ability is F

Mr. Richard Ferris's interpretation of Sir Richard Wharncliffe is a piece of clever acting; and Mr. F. Thorpe Tracey as Timothy Nias and Mr. Norman Hall as Horatio Spanker are also successful. Miss Kate Froude as Kate d'Arville is all that could be desired; and the Madge Merry of Miss Edith Carr gives great satisfaction; Anna Nias has a clever representative in Miss Florence Lovell; Mr. J. Leoni plays with tact as Jacob Simpson; and a capable performance is that of Miss Irene Tracey as the Kipper.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Glenville and Ormond's company is here in the popular American drama *The Still Alarm*. Mr. Matthew H. Glenville as Jack Manley gives a capital representation of the part, and in conjunction with Miss Maud Warburton as Elinor Fordham is responsible for much of the success achieved. The other characters are in the able hands of Messrs. George Arthur, Tom Beasley, Fred Ormond, Lewis Gordon, and Misses Mabel Veriton and Hettie Zillwood. The piece is excellently staged, and the well-trained fire-brigade horses form quite a pleasing feature.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Miss Frances Delaval and her clever company are this week appearing here in the new drama, *Her Lost Self*. As Philippine Marcel Miss Delaval has a part that affords much scope for her dramatic ability; and Mr. Herbert Cecil is well placed as Wilfred Daventry; the callous Norman Esmond is cleverly acted by Mr. G. Osmond Tearle; Mr. Leslie White as Paul Kimberley and Mr. Fred Lillywhite as Victor Elsworth give able performances; Mr. L. W. Halfpenny is an amusing Abraham Cohen; Miss Hetty Stewart as Bridget and Mr. Jimmy Stewart as Tom Flyaway also give some clever comedy; Mrs. Edmund Lyons as Rachael Cohen, Miss Clare O'Sullivan as Lucille, and little Miss Min Johnson as Dorothy all sustain their parts in admirable style.

NEW GAIETY.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Barker.—Mr. J. A. Newton's company is here in *A Trip to the Highlands*. Miss Ellinger, Mr. J. B. Montague, Mr. Wal Croft, and other accomplished artists are retained, and repeat their former successes, whether as actors, singers, or dancers.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Mussett.—Carl Hertz mystifies his audience with his clever illusions; the Boccaccio Minstrels and Vocalists are a great success; and the same may be said of Little Tina, the clever child mimic. The Mezzettis present an extremely smart and humorous horizontal bar act; the Rio Brothers are one of the cleverest gymnastic combination yet seen at this hall. The remaining turns are the Henry Taylor Trio, expert equilibrists; the Eight of Hearts, singers and dancers; Lillian Warren, pictorial songstress; and Dave O'Toole, comedian. The Urban Bioscope gives an up-to-date series of pictures.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and Mr. E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The attraction here this week is Milton Ray's company of comedians, in the musical farcical comedy *The Cruise of the Calabar*. The cast includes the ever-popular comedian, Mr. Arthur Milton, who has met with a great ovation. He is well supported by the other members of the company. The Horne Bros. are seen to much advantage in an amusing boxing act; and the Cattaneo Troupe are marvellous comedy acrobats. A clever turn is submitted by the Welsh Wanderers, a troupe of genuine "Penillion" singers; and the Hope Sisters are pleasing duettists and dancers. Other acceptable turns include the Three Romas, gladiatorial marvels, Arthur Pearl, comedian, Amy Marsden, comedienne, and Vandinoff, lightning oil painter.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—George Leyton is again giving his dramatic scena, *The Wreck of the Birkenhead*, and is most heartily received; Fred Karno's company appears in a rough-and-tumble sketch, entitled *The Smoking Concert*; Maidie Scott, a young comedienne of much originality, made an instantaneous hit with her various songs; Bennett and Martell cause roars of laughter with their smart patter and knockabout fun; Mlle. Renee gives an enjoyable musical turn; the Crown Trio are well received; Dorothy L. Clark also contributes some enjoyable songs; and the Tally-Ho Trio give a combination of song and humour. Stanley and Vandyke, in a lively sketch, complete a first-rate programme.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—Extra value is the rule here, and the programme is an exceptionally long one. Chung Ling Soo, the famous Chinese conjurer, again mystifies the audience completely with his marvellous tricks; Matthew Brodie and his company appear in a strikingly dramatic and pathetic little play entitled *A Drummer of the 76th*, in which this clever Scotch actor gives a fine performance as Napoleon; Sid Cotterell and company appear in the amusing sketch *The Substitute*, and cause roars of laughter; Mulvey and Miriam do well in their studio scene; Walter King as the "candy-man" is entertaining in his doleful way; and the Haytors give a lively interlude in a scene with a cabby; Williams and Warden are smart Irish cross-talkers; Rogers and Weston give a Hebrew turn; and Raleigh Abrahams and company contribute a boxing absurdity. Despite the long bill room is found for the Bioscope.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Harry McKelvie.—A capital programme here includes the Cleveland company, in a potpourri of dancing, acrobatics, and comedy juggling; in *The Doctor's Deputy* Del and Hal keep the house in a merry mood; Zeta Grey and party are seen in a bustling sketch, *The Lancashire Lass*, in which the fine operatic singing of the lady is the outstanding feature; Harry Rogerson appears as a "tired" comedian; while Sammy Shields has again a great reception; Harry Edson and his clever dogs are a distinctly enjoyable item; the Yankee eccentric, Raglus, has had a good reception; Lottie Lennox has returned with some new songs and old favourites; La Diabelo appears in a daring and sensational bicycle act on the Devil's wheel.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr. Wm. Biggam.—At the Harmonic's three halls John Clyde and his sketch party made a hit with *Our Sons' Wives*; Pete and Minnie Lee, big favourites here, again gave their black and white speciality turn; J. B. Preston did well in several new and clever songs; and Chorley and Connor again showed their ability as comedians. The Three Smiths gave a varied song and dance turn; Bill Walters is a versatile negro comedian; Cambo's musical items were much enjoyed; Minnie Osborne sang and danced with notable success; and songs were contributed by Myra Norman and J. M. Aitken.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale's répertoire company is here this week. On Monday evening *The Sleigh Bells* was capitally enacted. Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale gave a good delineation of the rôle of Mathias; Mr. Fred Wilberforce appeared with good effect as Christian; Mr. Cotton Holmes was successful as Mons. Bussey; Mr. T. G. Westland as Fritz and Mr. George Liddle as Kaspar were very amusing; Mr. Arthur Rose in the dual parts of the Judge and the Polish Jew was well placed; Mr. David Beattie made a capable Father Hermann; Miss Violet Macree was seen to advantage as Mme. Mathias; Miss Nancy Roberts did well as Annette; and Miss Elaine Grant was commendable as Lucille. *The Vicar of Wakefield*, *David Garrick*, and *The Lady of Lyons* are also billed for the week.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE (late Theatre Royal).—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Rea.—The Tokio Troupe of Japanese Jugglers are warmly applauded for their clever and daring feats; Ossi Souplessi is one of the most supple contortionists that has ever appeared here; Miss Evelyn Taylor sings a couple of pleasing songs in effective style; and Fred Keeton convulses the audience with his comicalities. Conan and Doyle patter to an accompaniment of laughter, and win a recall for their neat dancing; the Three Sisters Lee are smart vocalists and acrobats, to say nothing of their dancing; George Bernard is at once popular as an actor-vocalist; and Angeline is a lady juggler who dances whilst performing her feats; Chas. Valvo appears as a military officer, and in a ventriloquial entertainment scores well. The Bioscope is this week showing a capital film of the Springboks v. Gloucestershire, taken by Mr. J. R. Poole on Saturday last.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John E. Tomlinson. A return visit is being paid here by Mr. Frank Ayrton's company with *The Power of Gold*. Mr. Charles Whitlock as Hodgi Zambra acts with force and skill; Mr. Frank Ayrton as Sammy Smudge scores a decided success, being ably supported by Miss Madge Seymour, a vivacious Norah Donnelly. As Paul Judson, Mr. Richard Oliver acquits himself admirably; Mr. Albert Sefton sustains well the part of Mark Horley; Mr. Wilson Wyte is amusing as Mark Anthony; and Mr. Frank Holyoake is a capital Dr. Saunders. Miss Lilla Wilde is highly successful in the difficult rôle of Lady Brandon; Miss Georgina V. France gives a charming portrayal of Meg Judson.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr Lester Collingwood's company is paying a return visit with the realistic play, *When London Sleeps*. The hero, David Eagleheart, is capitally played by Mr. Sam Arthur, ably assisted by Miss Mabel Scudamore as Queenie Carruthers; Carrie Jones, the circus rider, is admirably depicted by Miss Bessie Frank; Mr. D'Arcy Kelway is excellent as Sammy Blyth. Other parts well acted are Capt. Rodney Hayes by Mr. C. F. Wentworth; Furnaby Fuller by Mr. Charles B. Sutton; Bob Jones by Mr. F. E. Thomas; Hon. Bertie Broomhead by Mr. Frank Howard; Mark Blackwood by Mr. Harry Barham; Hilda Carode by Miss Bessie Frank; Maudie de Freir by Miss Daisy Clifford; Signorina Robertino Jonesio by Mrs. Edgar Colona; Leila by Miss Josephine Melbourn; and Adele by Miss Helen Holmes.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The new comers are Frame, the renowned Scotch comedian, whose songs are received with enthusiastic applause; the Sutcliffe troupe of piper dancers and acrobats in a clever turn; Carl Lynn, animal impersonator; the Hexell Team, depicting a coster's outing; and Miss Viviana, the dancing girl.

GREENOCK.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. Edward Marris's No. 1 Company, under the direction of Mr. W. H. Kirby, in *Somebody's Sweetheart*, is the attraction here this week. The untiring vivacity and delightful singing of Miss Molly Hackett in the title-rôle is generously recognised, and Mr. W. H. Kirby makes a conspicuous success with a really mirth-provoking performance as Martin Blabs. Mr. E. H. Bertram's fine voice is heard to advantage in the part of Stenton Ashleigh, and the character of Freddie Ashleigh is in the capable hands of Miss Millie Gordon. Mr. Douglas B. Watson scores as Stephen Leverton, and the parts of Lem Lee and Old Joe are capably sustained by Mr. J. Templer Ellis and Mr. Reg. Hugh Humber. Miss Cordelia Knight acquits herself with distinction as Zora, Miss Norah Melton makes an excellent Mrs. Ainslie, and the smart dancing of Miss Rosie Chandler and Miss Dolly Payne, as Molly and Kitty, deserves special mention.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The bill here includes the Vasilescu Troupe of comic bar performers, who submit a smart gymnastic turn; Rose Rose and Rosert, in their comedy scena, *Always Moving*, are a decided success; the Sisters Loftus are charming vocalists; Ferris and Farnley score with their patter; and the Two Whites are popular comedy artists. Andie Burn, comedian; and the Brothers Ralston, vocalists, are also on the bill, and their performances are appreciated. The Empire pictures complete the show.

PAVILION THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. White.—The company here includes the Selbinis, who give a remarkably clever exhibition of their skill as daring trick cyclists; Forest and King, described as "the two pieces of elastic," are very smart; Garden and Zesch, society entertainers, furnish a delightful entertainment; Cissie Schofield is a clever comedienne; Esme Gordon, comedienne and dancer, deserves mention; and Baroux and Bion submit a good acrobatic and knockabout turn. The Paviscope pictures are also interesting.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. H. J. Curry; Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry.—*Oliver Twist* has been presented by Mr. Tree's company, with Mr. William Mackintosh as Fagin, a study of character that has won universal admiration. Mr. Cecil A. Collins met all requirements as Bill Sikes, and Miss Marie Polini was a popular figure as the unhappy Nancy. Mr. Tom Macfarlane as the Artful Dodger was admirably suited to the part; Mr. T. P. Haynes accomplished some excellent character acting as old Grimwig.

CURRY'S TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. North.—Conway and Leland, although only boasting of one leg apiece, have accomplished as difficult feats as many two-legged performers; Nelson's Newsboys contributed excellent songs and smart dances; Marguerite Broadfoote, a comedienne with a dainty and original style, scored heavily; the Alberto troupe displayed skilful feats of equilibrium; and others appearing were Bert Woodward, a clever cyclist; J. H. McCann, roller skate dancer; Harrigan and Holt, comedians and dancers; Ted Young comedian; and Ada Twibell, burlesque actress.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Ailton.—A sensational dramatic sketch, *The Maniac*, has achieved considerable popularity here. The principal character, a mad inventor, was vividly portrayed by, Mr. Melville Bickford. The Great Penstone displayed exceptional ability as an illusionist, his tricks being both novel and mystifying. The Two Errols, in a leaping speciality, exhibited remarkable jumping powers; while others contributing to the programme were the Sisters Transfield, clever instrumentalists; W. G. Webber, bass vocalist; Conway and Garland in *Left in Charge*; Grace Langley, comedienne and dancer; and Mabel and Winnie Brooke, comediennes.

THE HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree. — The ever-popular story of *Dick Turpin* has been presented in the form of an equestrian sketch by Mr. George Ginnett's company. Mr. Ginnett himself represents the highwayman. Juan and McQue contributed highly amusing patter, and Alf Bishop's quaint comedy was acceptable. Babs Lloyd, a charming dancer, was highly popular, and the programme also included Marie Ray, ballad vocalist; Rena and Rex, in a duologue; and Nellie Van, comedienne.

HALIFAX.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—The visit of Mr. Walter Melville's company in *A Girl's Cross Roads* has aroused much interest here. Miss Nannie Meade's conception of the drunken hag Barbara Wade is remarkable; Mr. Wilson Gunning gives a clever character study of Jack Livingstone; Mr. Chas. Franmore depicts with much feeling the rôle of Farmer Meadows; Mr. Gerald Jowan is a plausible Cuthbert Lumley; and Luke Ramsden and Dr. Weston have able representatives in Mr. Fred Withers and Mr. Frank Brunell. Miss Jessica Black cannot be too highly commended for her assumption of Constance Cornell; and much fun is caused by Mr. Fred Ingram (Toby) and Miss Lena Delphine (Tilly).

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—The principal attraction here is provided by the Flying Eugenes in gymnastic sensations; Dan Paulton, eccentric comedian; and Rosie Sylvester, a chic comedienne, are also very favourably received. Massona proves his capabilities as juggler; and Howard Stephens and company in *The Mummy and the Maid;* Frances and Melli, grotesque clowns; Lilian Doreen, vocalist; Cribb and Cribb; Goodfellow and Gregson, the hilarious couple; and Mason and Bart, in a comedy bar act, are heartily applauded.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—Harry Weldon is as quaint as ever; Henry Cot and Colibri, the giant and midget, provide a curious item; plenty of comedy is supplied by the Bros. Ethairien; a smart coloured entertainment is presented by Rastus and Banks; clever dancing is exhibited by Les Belles Americaines; and Gracie Bard, coon delineator; Angelo, lightning cartoonist; and the Davenports are all successful.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—Miss H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company opened on Monday in *Leah Kleschna*. Miss Bessie Rignold is seen in the title-rôle, and her impersonation is an admirable one; Mr. Paul Belmore as Kleschna is all that can possibly be desired; as Raoul Mr. Hamilton Deane is distinctly successful; and Mr. William F. Grant's Paul Sylvaine is a capital piece of histrionic art; Mr. Roland Daniel is a capital Valetin; and Mr. Campbell Goldsmid as Schram is deservedly successful.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—Miss Winifred Hare holds the premier position here this week, and is decidedly successful in her well-rendered items. The Bounding Pattersons provide a turn of exceptional merit; The Toreadors, in their bull-fighting act, are much appreciated; Norman B. Osborne is a young ventriloquist who is quickly coming to the front; Dion Wade is most amusing; Florence Esdaile has a nice voice, which is heard to much advantage; The Athlones, Sandow's lecture models, are excellent; and the Grand Pictures are interesting.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding Smith.—During the fore part of this week Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company have presented a powerful company in *Lucky Durham*. The honours of the evening rested with Mr. Edmund Kennedy, whose fine acting as John Durham held the large audience spellbound. Mr. Arthur Leigh had a part which suited him "down to the ground" in the rôle of the Hon. Reginald Steighton; Lord Mountfallen was very ably portrayed by Mr. Forsyth; as was also Mr. Vallerton by Mr. A. E. Walker. Special mention must be made of Mr. Powell James, who took the part of Arthur Walcombe. Miss Alice Belmore was charming as Helen Vallerton, and the same may be said of Miss Dulhunty as the Hon. Margaret Steighton. Mrs. Durham, as played by Miss Gourlay, was a fine characterisation; Miss Frances Wolveston, too, gave a capital performance as my Lady Mountfallen. All the other characters were in very capable hands. For the latter part of the week *Mollentrave on Women* was announced.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—Captain Bevan's Gordon Highlanders were announced as "top turn," but, having disappointed, their place on the programme is occupied by the Six Imrie Juggling Girls, whose dexterity with the Indian clubs gains for them a flattering reception; charming Dorothy Dundas, a sweet soprano, at once established herself a favourite; the musical entertainment by Martinetti and Grossi is decidedly novel, the way they turn plant pots, bicycles, beef joints, &c., into musical instruments is most amusing; the Nettas, vocalists, harmonise splendidly; in "Father's Idiosyncrasies" Bert Weston reels off many jokes, ancient and modern; the Custances do some brisk work in a comedy duologue entitled *A Game for Two;* and other items are George Gulliver, ventriloquist, Charles Austin, comedian, and the Bioscope.

HASTINGS. — GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—On Monday Mr. Allan Wilkie, supported by a capable company, opened a week's visit here. *Othello* was the play chosen. A very impressive performance of the Moor was supplied by Mr. Wilkie. Mr. G. Alexander Marsh played as the deceitful Iago with much realistic force; Mr. Herbert Morgan submitted a good reading as Cassio; Miss Carrie Baillie as Desdemona gave evidence of much histrionic ability; Miss Ine Cameron played forcefully as Emelia in the last scene, and Miss Gertrude Gilbert made a picturesque Bianca. *David Garrick* and *The Bells* were played on Tuesday. *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Fool's Revenge*, and *Hamlet* were billed the remainder of the week.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. W. Hunter.—*Nicholas Nickleby* is being produced here by Mr. J. D. Hunter and his talented company. The principal incidents in Dickens's novel are brought into prominence, and the scenes are most effectively staged. The unthankful part of Ralph Nickleby is well taken by Mr. Maule Cole; Mr. E. C. Lilly gives a finished interpretation of the title-character; Mr. J. D. Hunter presents a capital character of the cruel, unprincipled Wackford Squeers, the fidelity of the sketch being at once recognised; and Mr. Thomas Boucher creditably sustains the part of Newman Noggs. A perfectly admirable sketch of Matilda Price is given by Miss Cherrie Wardroper; Miss Blanche Bayley gives one of her best impersonations in the character of Fanny Squeers; and Miss Eva Bayley as Mrs. Squeers realises very truthfully the author's idea.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; General-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—The attractive burlesque vocalist, Miss Lillie Andrews, opens a good programme; Miss Clara Victor sings in a pleasing manner; the Hippodrome Bioscope is remarkably interesting; Roy Cochrane and company engage in a dramatic playlet, *Turned Adrift*; Weldon and Wynne make a welcome reappearance, their comical juggling creating great amusement; Jenny Grey is a graceful and expert danseuse; and A Scottish farcelet, entitled *The Downfall of Julia*, is introduced.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Grainger.—This week Miss Grace Warner is paying a first visit in *The Crimson Clue*. Mr. Geo. Gordon's impersonation of Michael Stanton rivets attention; Mr. Reginald Brown plays the twin brothers, Jack and Harry Esmond, with success; Mr. W. Bird is a dignified P.C. 69 Edward Croker; Mr. J. L. Leigh as Billy the Rotter keeps the house convulsed with laughter; Mr. Arthur Page as Crazy Jim is very good; Miss Anna Corri plays Miss Tabitha Esmond with feeling; Miss Kathleen Cranston's Mother Scrooge is a fine performance; Miss Esther Dean is a vivacious Musette; and Miss Grace Warner's interpretation of Sal Scarlet, alias Scarlet Sal, is both powerful and artistic.

HOYLAND.—METROPOLE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. R. Baker.—On Monday Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly presented *The Trail of the Serpent*. Mr. Bradford Crosby is a manly Gerald Kingston, Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly an excellent Ralph Hammond, Mr. Vincent Kelway a good Gipsy Jake, and Mr. Leo Whamboult an aristocratic Sir Gerald Kingston. The humorous element is introduced by Mr. Robert Cromwell as William Higgins, ably assisted by Miss Gladys Newcombe as Rose Wilson. Miss Marie Barrat as Ethel Maynard is capable, and Miss Nana Cameron, in the rôle of Rachel, displays ability.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Messrs. E. Lockwood and R. Crossman's company is playing *Sergeant Brue* here with much success. Mr. E. Russell is smart and alert as the Sergeant; Mr. T. A. Shale is responsible for brilliant comedy work as Crookie Scrubbs; Miss Kitty Dale is a dainty Aurora; and Miss Lily Lingard a bright Lady Bickenhall.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The Novello Family, who head the bill, provide a clever and original entertainment. Other turns are supplied by Fred Hallam, comedian; the Three Rubys, smart lady gymnasts; Drew and Alders, in their acrobatic speciality; Lesley, Bell, and company, in a brightly played sketch, *A Little Bit of String;* the Sisters Selwyn, duettists and dancers; T. W. Harris, light comedian; the Morton Comedy Trio of vocal comedians; and a clever film on the Biograph.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*The Lion and the Mouse*, toured by Mr. Walter Maxwell, bids fair to achieve no ordinary success in this city, largely due to the remarkably clever work of Miss Christine Silver, who as Shirley Rossmore carries the house with her. Mr. Leslie Carter, cast as John Ryder, affords every assistance in the principal scenes. Commendable is the reading of Mr. Stephen Wentworth as the son; the same may be said of Miss Elspeth Dudgeon as Mrs. Ryder. The remainder of the cast undertake their rôles with conscientious care.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Hall Caine's dramatised story, *The Prodigal Son*, met with an instantaneous success here. Mr. Hewetson caught the author's inspiration in his picture of the eldest son; Mr. Norman Partridge as the Prodigal was tender in his efforts to gain the respect and love of his daughter; Miss Alma Murray has but little to do as the mother, but that little is done with consummate skill; Miss Lily Hall Caine with eminent success doubles the rôles of mother and daughter. As Helga, Miss Cecil Cromwell filled a difficult task with taste and discrimination.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's Ltd.—General Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*The Girl Who Lost Her Character* is the attraction here. Miss Marion Turner is an acceptable Molly Vernon; the Rev. Robert Everton of Mr. E. J. Collins had many effective touches; Dick Punch, played by Mr. G. H. Asquin, was a pleasant piece of work.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—Harry Roxbury and company make a welcome re-appearance in *The Prince of Monte Carlo;* and other artists include Flo Hilton, Tom Burns, Geo. Rapley, Harry Zetter, Eugenie, and Johnny Holland and Co.

THE EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Slingsby.—Fasola tops the bill in a startling entertainment; Edie Anderson is a smart vocalist and dancer; Poole and Poole (natives of Hull) gain much applause; Lil Hartley, a popular singer of chorus songs, stays on a second week; Fox and Melville are interesting vocal song illustrators; Percy Johnson and Gus Granville complete the bill.

THE PALACE.—The Three Olympiers appear in a most artistic entertainment entitled *Beauty in Bronze;* a clever musical act is presented by the Stavordale Quintette; and the Risley act of the Kremos brings down the house. The remainder of the company includes Obo Bros., Mark Melford, Ambrose Thorne, Phil Hermann, and Pat Carey.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather—Mr. E. Lockwood's company is this week delighting large audiences with the musical comedy *Sergeant Brue*. In the title-rôle, Mr. J. Harold Carson keeps the house in one continual roar of laughter, and Mr. Maitland Dicker, a clever and resourceful comedian, makes Crookie Scrubbs a very entertaining individual. Mr. Robert Selby gives an excellent rendering to his lines as Michael Bruce, and Mr. F. Laceby extracts humour out of the part of Mr Crank. A charming Aurora Brue is found in Miss Florence Spurgeon; Miss Reydon Dallas scores heavily as Lady Bickenhall; Miss Dora Taylor renders good service as Daisy; and Miss Kathleen V. Grey makes a graceful Mabel Widget. Mr. Cecil Strickland is well placed as Matthew Habisham; and Mr. Harold Godwin is an efficient Inspector Gorringe. The chorus, under the conductorship of Mr. Edwin Thornton, acquit themselves admirably.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*Mysteries of the Thames* is being played here this week by Mr. F. Brooke Warren and company.—Richard Brandon receives ample justice at the hands of Mr. Andrew Money; and Miss Marie Ramuz is a good Kate Brandon; whilst Miss Violet Leal as Little Doris has many admirers; Mr. Gilbert Hall as Jack Hammond makes the most of his part. Mr. Dan Hardie is aptly chosen for the rôle of Peter Waggles; and Mr. Sydney Vereker as Bill Bosco gives a good performance. Miss Stephanie Baring appears to advantage in the double rôle of Helen Price and Grace Rochdale. Mr. F. Brooke Warren plays in a clever way the part of the villain, Capt. James Denbigh.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—*The Gay Parisienne* is being presented here by one of Mr. C. Macdona's companies. Mr. Will Harman as Ebenezer Honeycombe is humorous; Miss Evelyn Hughes is sprightly in the title-part; Miss Holford Beringer as Mrs. Honeycombe renders good assistance; Miss Madge Soutar is an excellent Ruth; Miss Ethel Twimey a pleasing Norah, and Mr. Edgar Ashwin a capital Tom Everleigh. Mr. Clifford Seyler does well as Pom-Pom.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock. — The chief feature of a strong programme this week is the sensational performance of Tom Grave, whose cycling feats are marvellous. Wilson Blacklago makes a favourable impression as mimic and humorist; Jessie Burke and Phil Smith contribute an amusing sketch; Mr. Charles Diamond is an accomplished harpist; and Miss Beatrice a refined soprano; Bob Baxter is a cheery comedian; Alma Obrey a pleasing vocalist; Shawlene a clever sifflleur; and Picton and Roxborough contribute a droll sketch.

KETTERING.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Payne.—This week we have a welcome return visit of Miss Lillian Bezant's company in *An Actor's Romance*. Miss Bezant is most successful as Dot; Miss Marion Ryder is a charming Phyllis; and the evil character of Florence Hastings is finely portrayed by Miss Florence Nelson. Mr. E. Eardley Howard displays ability as Harold Devonport; Mr. Harry Algar Lyons is good as Jack Woodford; and Mr. Percy Warlow is deserving of praise as Isaacs. Mr. Harry Wren is amusing as Charley Cummins.

VICTORIA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. H. Fowkes.—Mr. Mouillot's company is here in *The Blue Moon*. Mlle. Marguerite Maudin appears to advantage in the title-rôle, and Miss Dorma Morgan is well received as Evelyn Ormsby. Mr. Ainslie Burton as Moolraj is funny, and is ably supported by Mr. Chas. Stephenson as Private Taylor, who with Miss May Audrey as Millicent contributes largely to the success of the production.

KIDDERMINSTER.—NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—The boards are occupied this week by Mr. Lingford Carson's No. 1 Répertoire Company, under the direction of Mr. Chas. Draycott. In Mr. Carson's latest play, *The Modern Adventuress*, Mr. Chas. Draycott ably enacts the part of Pietro Donnelli, a sculptor; Mr. Morley Carroll is good in the rôle of William Delby, a banker; Harry Delby, his son, is in the capable hands of Mr. Sydney C. Cranston; and Mr. Ernest P. Far ably portrays the character of Wallace Danton. Miss Muriel Thompson gives a striking rendering of Violet Meredith, a most notorious character. *The Octoroon*, *The Heart of a Hero*, and *The Ticket of Leave Man* are also billed.

KIRKCALDY. — KING'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Burton.—A large and delighted audience greeted Mr. Herbert Ralland's company in *La Poupée* on Monday night. The piece is well staged, and receives justice at the hands of talented artists. First honours are due to Mr. Harry Brayne as Hilarius, his contribution being most commendable. Miss Mysie Devine is artistic in the rôle of Alesia, and sings well; Mr. Arthur Cozens is an unquestioned success as Lancelot, displaying the requisite amount of innocence; Mr. Walter Balfour gains much applause for his fine singing as Father Maxime; Mr. Fuller Allen makes the most of his opportunities as the Baron; and Mr. Arthur Dennis is successful as Loremois. Miss Edith Hunter capably undertakes the rôle of Mme. Hilarius; and as Henri Miss Dorris Dickens is very effective. The chorus is worthy of special mention. *The 'Varsity Belle* is announced for the last three nights of the week.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—Mr. Horace Stanley and company are this week paying a return visit with *The 10.30 Down Express*, which has attracted large audiences. Mr. Stanley as Sam Wagstaffe creates no end of fun, and is ably assisted by Miss Kate Kilpack as Peggy Potts. Mr. George Beverley plays with distinction as Jack O'Malley; Mr. Charles Burdon is capital as James Inderwick, the villain; and Mr. Edwin Clarke is a first-rate detective. Miss Elsie Capell as Bessie Leigh is a favourite; and Miss Evelyn M. Walton does exceedingly well as Letitia Leigh.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. John Porter and W. J. Fergusson.—Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, in their successful skit, *The Would-be Actors Rehearsing a Drama*, head the bill here, and are nightly received with acclamation by good houses. Signor and Mme. Borelli are capital musicians; and Ruby Dahl's life-size marionettes are amusing. Connie Mascott, comedienne; Three Sisters Thurban, instrumentalists; Marie Blythe, contralto; Lily Lena, comedienne; and Little Tim, comedian, not forgetting Walter Payne's animated pictures, complete the programme.

PALACE. — Proprietors, Messrs. J. and C. Fell; Manager, Mr. John Fell. — Another attractive programme is arranged here, and fairly large audiences assemble nightly. The star is undoubtedly Ancillotti and his thought-reading dog Pilu, which is really wonderful. Harry Gold, comedian, an old favourite, has a good reception; and Charles W. Lever is a quaint comedian. Little Violet, comedienne and sand dancer, is a very pleasing turn; whilst others who contribute successfully include Miss Flo Banks, comedienne; The Izons, comedy artists; Reed and Larne, comedians; Kloff and Ramsay, in a musical act; and the Edison-Swan animated pictures.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—The convict drama, *Sentenced for Life*, is being played here this week by Mr. Bulmer's competent company, and is proving a refreshing change after a good run of comedies and comic operas. Mr. R. Brancepeth Nevill admirably adapts himself to the duties of Sir Wallace Wilson and as Captain Paul Devrich Mr. Ernest Vaughan makes an uncompromising villain. The character of Lieut. Roy Stillwell is very capably enacted by Mr. Edward E. Louis; Mr. Morris Maud appears with great success as the Rev. Martin Orris; and Mr. Arthur Keand and Mr. Reg. Olroyd, as the two convicts, are extremely good. Adele Grey finds an able exponent in Miss Madge Douglas; Miss May Neilson, as Kate Rennell, and Miss Mary Dalby as Lady Stillwell also do well. Others assisting in the success of the piece are Messrs. James F. Firth, Archie Scar, Arthur Liversay, H. Walton, and Luke Warden.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is paying a return visit this week with *The Spring Chicken*, sumptuously redressed and fitted with many new and acceptable features. Mr. George Gregory is droll as the eccentric Mr. Girdle. Mrs. Girdle is a really clever study by Miss Irene Verona, whose vocal contributions are much appreciated; charming Miss Gertrude Glyn again graces the part of Rosalie, and her effort is a pleasing one; Miss Nancy Langtyre is delightfully piquant as the Baroness Papouche; Mr. John Brabourne merits commendation as the love-lorn Gustave Babori; while the Baron of Mr. Frank Hector is a decidedly clever and characteristic effort. Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., Miss Gertrude Gilliam, and Miss Nellie Lonnen are other prominent members of the company.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—The popular romantic drama, *Two Little Sailor Boys*, occupies the boards this week, and a condensed version in which all the best features are retained is filling the house twice nightly. Two promising young people, Miss May Day and Miss Frances Green, act the little heroes in a style that promises well for their future success: Mr.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—One of the most attractive engagements of the season here is the return visit of Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's excellent company in the successful play, *The Walls of Jericho*, which opened on Monday evening to a large and enthusiastic audience. Mr. Herbert Bunston repeats his masterly impersonation of the part of Jack Frobisher, and Mr. George A. Brandram scores his usual success as Hankey Bannister; as Lady Alethea Frobisher Miss Florence Jackson deserves the highest commendation for a performance of all-round excellence; Mr. Cyril Baleine is good as the Marquis of Steventon; both Miss Lydia Busch as Lady Westerby and Miss Molly Carton as Lady Lucy Derenham give attractive and clever embodiments; Mr. Sydney Hamilton as Harry Dallas and Miss Edith Cuthbert as Miss Mornington are excellent; Miss Rita Milman as the Duchess of Skye, Mr. Alexander Casey as Lord Drayton, Mr. Harry Pemberton as Lord Marchmont, Mr. Joseph Herbert as the Hon. Wilfred Renton, and Mr. E. F. Meads as Bertram Hannaford also deserve a meed of praise for capital portrayals.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—After the lapse of a considerable period the patrons of this drama house are being regaled with musical comedy this week in the engagement of Mr. C. Edwardes's company in *The New Barmaid*. Mr. Leslie Austin both sings and acts well as Captain Lovebury; Mr. Charles Adeson as Bertie White and Mr. Alexander Loftus as William White create great merriment, and Mr. W. E. Chewd as Mons. Bonsor and Mr. James Grant as Colonel Claymore also sustain their parts with the best results; Miss Amy Preston is clever as Ethel Joy, and as Dora Heath Miss Violet Osmund is to be highly complimented; Miss Grafton is smart as Brenda Louth. In the second act Mr. Charles Adeson, Miss Maud Goddard, Mr. W. E. Chewd, Miss Marion Vyner, Miss Emily Preston, Mr. Frank Collins, and Mr. Alexander Loftus introduce with success various specialities. The dances of the Star Trio are executed in admirable style, and add to the success achieved.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Isles.—The principal attraction here this week is Fred Karno's troupe of comedians, who are presenting *Mumming Birds* and *Early Birds*, the former on the first three nights and the latter for the remainder of the week. Mr. Karno's companies are great favourites with Palace audiences, and the success attained on previous visits was well maintained this week. Dan Crawley "gets there" every time with his three songs, and his popularity here increases; Lilian Lea, a vocalist of great ability, scores a big success; Katie Butler displays great versatility and drollery and is most successful. The Molasso Quartette of cyclonic dancers give a clever show, which is well appreciated; the Three Dumonds as itinerant musicians are very good; Lilian Bishop is an excellent male impersonator and smart dancer; Silent Tait, the eccentric wizard, scores with an entertaining turn; Jack Charman's singing is also a feature in a good all-round programme.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—Premier position here is occupied by Harwood's Juveniles in a novel scena, entitled, *A Children's Christmas Eve;* Frances Haskoll, the "Vocal Chameleon," is seen and heard to great advantage in a very pretty show; Daisy Morrell, a dashing and popular vocalist, daintily costumed, is successful with her well-rendered songs; Anna Kenwick, American comedienne, and an extremely clever dancer, is scoring a well-deserved success; Rowland Hill is an entertaining comedian, and George Hyam, comedian, causes much laughter. A special item is the retainment of Walter H. Pallsiter's Bioscope.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace and company are paying a welcome return visit here this week, with *The Love that Women Desire*. A finished performance is given by Mr. J. O. Stewart as Squire Abingdon, whose partner in crime finds an able exponent in Mr. G. Carlton Wallace. Mr. Fred Lloyd presents an admirable impersonation of Philip Carnaby; Mr. Leonard Montgomery is seen to advantage as Frank Hardy; Miss Lalla Stanhope plays cleverly as Sybil Thornburn; Miss Alice N. Livesay effectively portrays the rôle of Madge Abingdon; Mr. John Hignett as Dennis O'Rourke keeps the audience in continual laughter, being ably seconded by Miss Nita Imeson as Pattie Swift.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager Mr. John Darlison.—One of the latest musical comedies, entitled *After the Ball*, is being presented here this week by Mr. Charles Carey's company. Mr. Buckstone Clair appears with good effect as Martin; the acting and singing of Miss M. Sadie in the rôle of Nancy are popular; Mr. Percy Baverstock puts unlimited energy and humour into the part of a peppery old Colonel; Halliwell Merrit and Dick Seymoud are successfully impersonated by Mr. Algernon W. Lee and Mr. Norman Bowyer; and Miss Queenie Finnis makes a very delightful Nellie Mather. The smart dancing of Miss Eva Ellis and Miss Nellie James as Ruth Gay and Kitty is thoroughly appreciated.

LEVEN.—TOWN HALL.—Mr. Will Knott opened on Monday for three nights with his company of "Canadian Cavaliers." Varieties were supplied by Mr. Will Knott, comedian; Mr. Alf Walters, ventriloquist; Mr. Leonard Wylie, actor-vocalist; Miss Rosie Caine, a neat dancer; Miss Florrie Coyne, a clever girl violinist; and the Cavalier Sketch Company. Some capital pictures were shown on the bioscope.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—*The Blue Moon* made its first appearance in Liverpool at this theatre on Monday night, and was received with genuine expressions of approval. Mr. Robert Courtneidge sent a first-class company. A delightfully-rendered title part was sustained by Miss Florence Smithson, whose rich singing voice was listened to with every pleasure, several encores being demanded; the always popular Bert Gilbert as Private Charles Taylor, and Mr. Edward Lewis as Moolraj caused endless laughter, particularly the latter, whose mock conjuring came as a great treat; Mr. Leslie Gaze proved eminently successful in the character of Major Callabone; Mr. Herbert Clayton made an imposing Captain Ormsby, and sang several pieces with taste and judgment; Miss Lulu Valli was vivacious and graceful as Millicent Leroy; praise is due to Mr. George Mudie, jun., for his Bobby Scott; the rôle of the Prince was efficiently presented by Mr. Thomas Holding; and Miss Daisy Revett made the most of Evelyn Ormsby.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—The initial production in this city of the clever play *Raffles* has afforded the frequenters of the popular Shakespeare much satisfaction. Mr. Leonard Boyne richly earned the expressions of thanks he received for his tactful and convincing picture of the amateur "cracksman"; Mr. Lewis Edgard came in for a share of the honours on account of his carefully handled "Bunny"; Miss Hilda Stewart played with dignity and power as Mrs. Vidal; Miss Madge Murray left a favourable impression with the character of Lady Ethel; more could scarcely be expected from Mr. Clifford Brooke, who undertook Curtis Bedford; the Earl of Amersteth was in the good hands of Mr. Arthur Willoughby; a finished type of real burglar was submitted by Mr. Daiziel Heron, whose make-up and actions as Crawshay were excellent; Mr. Edmund Breon did his best as Crowley; Miss Amy Thomas looked sweet and dignified as Lady Melrose; Miss Hazel Thompson distinguished herself as Gwendoline Couran; and the small but important part of Marie was particularly well sustained by Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald. *A Lesson in Shakespeare*, supported by Messrs. Daziel Heron and Edmund Breon and Miss Hilda Wright, was an appreciated curtain-raiser.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The Melville dramas are always a big draw at the favourite north-end house, and this week *Her Forbidden Marriage* has been no exception to the rule. Miss Nellie Bonser gave an excellent rendering of the much-tried Lucy, playing with distinction; Mr. Henry Lonsdale presented a most effective George Maddison; the rôle of the rascally Charles Devereux was ably handled by Mr. Louis Hector, being well supported in his schemes by Lady Lancaster (Miss Octavia Noel); Mr. Fred de Vere made an exceedingly funny Timothy Tuttutt; the comedy being also largely contributed to by Miss Denny Fitzherbert as Patty; and acceptable work was done by Mr. Beresford Whitcomb (Sir George), Miss Barbara Gott (Mother Superior), and Mr. Leonard Maxwell (Geoffrey Broughton).

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—A programme of exceptional talent is this week billed, headed by R. A. Roberts, the well-known protean actor, in a new production, entitled *Ringing the Changes;* Florrie Gallimore is an old favourite, and her friends give her a gratifying reception; the Columbia Trio are finished singers as well as humorous; and the Elgars are worth listening to. Others who add to the evening's enjoyment include the Mayvilles, Josie Delaine, Wallace Whitney, and Beattie Foster.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Although *The Face at the Window* has for years visited this theatre, it continues to prove a big draw, and this week the "house full" boards have been much in evidence. Armadale and Warren's company have given the drama with all its old-time intensity, Mr. Lionel D'Aragon being the Le Loup, and Mr. T. W. Dunscombe again playing Paul Gouffet. Miss Eugene Magnus was pleasing as Marie De Brisson; a well-thought-out La Pinau came from Miss Marie Tennant; Mr. Alfred Warne had some good points as Henry Brisson; and a deal of taking comedy was provided by Mr. C. Alan Hineson as Peter Pottleberry, and Miss M. Leslie-Cudd in the rôle of Babette.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—For the first time in Liverpool *The Spider and the Fly* has been given at this theatre. Messrs. Carpenter and Cooper's company is a capital all-round one, all of whom do every justice to the interesting play. Mr. Stanley S. Gordon acts with distinction the part of Cyril Girdlestone; Miss Nina Vaughton is charming as Edith McAllister; Mr. Ellis J. Preston shows much talent in depicting the rascally Welby Girdlestone; Mr. Frederick Ross presents an interesting David Strong; two smart comedians, Messrs. Fred Terriss and Charles A. Preece, are particularly humorous as Romulus Roe and Remus Roe; Miss Amy Venimore as the despicable Stella Gray acts with power; Miss Marjorie May's Flipp is well depicted; Miss Lucy Murray is funny as Molly Blake; and a good sketch of a clergyman is submitted by Mr. H. C. Lancelly.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Miss Dolly Elsworthy, a favourite in Liverpool, heads the bill here this week with *Nell Gwyn, the Orange Girl*, in which she is supported by a strong company, including Mr. R. Purdie (Charles II.), Mr. H. Ash (Buckingham), Mr. A. Howard (Dick Harriden), Miss G. Stirroll (Lady Castlemaine), and Miss C. Rivers (Mother Gwyn). The piece has been hugely appreciated. Leo Dryden is also in big type, and has had a good welcome for his finely-rendered songs; Gus Garrick is as great a laughter-maker as ever; Elton and Elma had a clever comedy bar act; some sweet songs were sung by Alice Hollander; Cairns and Lynch were loudly applauded for their buck dancing in wooden shoes; Jack Hylton showed himself an eccentric comedian of high ability; the comedy clay modelling by Bicknelle was an uncommonly good turn; and Davis and Davis, refined comedians, were also in the list.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Mark Anthony heads the bill here this week, his funny songs and mimicry being keenly appreciated; James Lowrey, the singing furnaceman, is heard with pleasure; Martine and Son put in another week with their excellent illustrated songs; Newco and Sullo present a laughable sketch, *John Chinaman and Jonathan;* and also in the programme are Harry Hale, actor vocalist; and Blanche Marion, burlesque actress and dancer. The Tuesday matinées continue to be popular.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—Mr. Lingford Carson's well-written play, *Defending His Honour*, has proved a strong attraction here this week. Mr. Percy Boucher presented a humorous Dick Verison; Mr. Harry Tresham was a convincing Douglas Bryce; Mr. Sydney Grant held the heavy part of Stephen Graid with distinction; a fine sketch of George Duncan came from Mr. Cecil Ravenswood; Mr. Robert Wilton did credit to Richard Verison; Miss Evelyn Kington gave every satisfaction as Harry and Jack Bryce; Miss Beryl Ravenswood was the Mrs. Verison; and Miss Florence Palmer made a sweet Ethel Byrce. Some excellent pictures were shown by the Royal Bioscope.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery.—The "Royal" Stock company is here this week appearing in *Wife and Fortune*. Mr. Albert Sember, an able actor, plays well as Jack Weston; Mr. Frank S. Stickland is a sufficiently villainous Captain Desmond; Mr. Walter Foster does well as George Thornton; a humorous Tim Larks comes from Mr. H. G. Brandon; Mr. Vincent A. Briscoe does credit to the rôle of Mr. Keen, K.C.; Miss Lina Nazeby shows her high talent as Beauty Glitters; Miss Lillian Burns makes a sweet Mary Weston; and Miss Florence Barnes is humorous in the rôle of Becky Larks. Some excellent pictures are shown by the Royal Bioscope.

PARK PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Cline and Clark, a pair of smart black and white comedy artists and dancers, are prominent here this week; Hector and Paulus are clever comedy acrobats; the remarkable second-sight feats of the Violas have caused the greatest wonder; the Brothers Harrison have a laughable trifle, *Quaint Conceits;* Little Barney renders several taking songs; some remarkable conjuring comes from Cardo; and likewise in the list are Jennie Laurie, comedienne; and Flo Warner, burlesque artist.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Tom Foy, with his comedy sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, is the principal attraction here this week. *The Jolly Tars in China*, an exceedingly humorous trifle, is provided by Foy's comedians, who make their initial appearance in this city; some wonderful jumping is achieved by Santeron; the old favourite stump orator, Billy Richardson, is as amusing as of yore; Maston, described as the new mimic, does some good work; Patty Bella sings and dances in pleasing style; and Claude Tomlin, light comedian, also appears.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—The Holloways, with their wonderful wire act, are top here this week, astonishing everybody; Herbert Darnley's company of comedians have an uproariously funny skit, entitled *Muscles;* the merry dancing May Henderson is as great as ever; as musical eccentrics the Two Tees are particularly good; Carlton, a remarkable manipulator of playing cards, is likewise full of smart patter; Xley and Hamilton present a most acceptable burlesque opera; Edward Lauri and May Beatty, assisted by Nina Osborne, go through a lively musical mélange of opera, comedy, and farce, entitled *In Her Boudoir;* the Three Prestons cause great laughter with their act, *The Liftman's Rise;* and the Wedburns are "merchants of merriment."

HAYMARKET.—Mr. J. S. Childs.—Charles Bignell is foremost here this week with his humorous songs; the McKays, comedy duo and lightning oil painters, showing much skill, pay a first visit; the Ballot Brothers go through some clever balancing; incessant laughter follows the antics of Gertrude Rowan and Billy Moore with their absurdity, *The Song Monger;* Tommy Vaughan, negro comedian and clog dancer, proves popular; Little Dot Pardy shows much talent as a juvenile male impersonator; and Violet and Mack have some pleasing vocal duets.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—The big line here this week is Mrs. Brown Potter, with her company in *Mary, Queen of Scots*, a dramatic sketch, charmingly-mounted, which has been witnessed by delighted audiences. The Anartos, conversational jesters and musicians, are irresistibly funny with their act, *The Morning Mail;* Corbin's dogs go through a clever performance; Ella Retford shows herself to be a clever vocalist and dancer; some sensational cycling is accomplished by Arthur Kenny; the Three Sisters Sprightly are a capital turn; Leo Teli, the equine mimic, has an unusually interesting show; Hillman and Russell are humorous with the duologue, *The Somnambulist;* and Bugler Carr, the musical puzzle, is also in the programme.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Clifton and Gibson are here with their funny songs, stories, and patter; Fred Curran brings several laughable ditties; some smart conjuring is gone through by Prince Ishmael; George Tacius, double-voiced vocalist, has some acceptable pieces; Mackintosh and Royal are expert clog dancers; and others who appear include Young Hoctor, comedian; Sisters Russell, comediennes; and the Bohemian Boys, coloured vocalists and dancers.

LLANDUDNO.—PIER PAVILION.—Secretary, Mr. Sam Hughes.—Poole's Myriorama is occupying the boards here for six nights. The programme is as varied as ever, and good audiences assemble each evening. Amongst the artists are Mlle. Juanita M. Di Oliviera, with her trained cockatoos; Miss May Finch, a pleasing vocalist; "The Silly Selbys," in an eccentric musical act; the Veronas, lady dancers; Felix Somers, with "people we know"; McAskell, in a conjuring act; and the Paulasto Troupe, in acrobatic feats.

LONGTON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. L. Howard.—An enthusiastic audience welcomed Mr. J. W. Turner's Opera company on the commencement of its annual visit on Monday. The weeks' programme included *Satanella, The Bohemian Girl, The Puritan's Daughter, The Waterman, Il Trovatore, Faust,* and *Maritana*. Mr. Turner heads the list of artists, and, as usual, has with him a host of favourites, including Miss Christine Gomez, Miss Kitty Brownless, Miss Jessie Dennis, Miss Maude Esdale, Miss Beatrice Hill, Messrs. Sydney Clifford, John Ridding, F. J. Hargrave, Tom Griffiths, George Ridding, R. Cummings, and others, who, together with an efficient chorus, have given an excellent rendering of the several operas during the week.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Payne-Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards. *A Noble Brother* is the attraction here for the Fair week. As Jerry the Tramp Mr. Charles Carte gives a remarkable impersonation, and is much applauded for a clever piece of acting; Miss Doris Brookes acts with fine discretion and sympathy as Nana Leigh. Other parts are well sustained by Miss Alice Ballard as Mrs. Leigh; Miss Rose Conroy as Rosie Rapid; Mr. Howard Thorne as Colonel Leigh; Mr. Max Madden as Jack Elsworth; and Mr. Arthur A. Tomlin as Henry Travers.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—*The City of Sin*, under the direction of Mr. Alfred H. Elliott, is presented here this week for the first time. Mr. Conrad Heywood is distinguished by a fine portrayal of Paul Torraine, while Mr. J. Berresford Innes draws a fine picture as Mortain. Miss Edith Wallace does well as Alice Bertrand, and Miss Jenny Weston is well placed as Ilma.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. G. Gilbert—Mr. Joseph Poole's popular myriorama is on a welcome return visit. The whole entertainment is quite up to the usual standard of excellence, and the variety company includes the Four Rosairies (acrobats), Funny Johnny O'Rourke, Eileen and Mayne (musical act), Franco Midges (conjurors), Harry Mier (American comedy juggler), Three Boleros (funny bar act), Bert Berry (guide), &c.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's principal company in *Her One Great Sin* is occupying this theatre this week, and attracting good houses. Mr. Leicester Jackson as the spendthrift squire, Arnold Thornhill, is excellent; as is Miss St. Albans as Grace Warhurst. They are ably supported by Messrs. F. Hudson, J. Cecil, C. E. Lambert, H. B. Ford, J. Crondace, T Bollard, W. W. G. Dudge, Gerald Smythe, and C. Dale; and by the Misses Phyllis Damien, Louie Walton, Nellie Lambert, and Maudie Lambert.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Guttey.—Mr. and Mrs. Walters' company is appearing here this week in *Babes in the Wood*. Miss Gerty McQueen submits an admirable interpretation of Robin Hood, the same remark applying to Miss Fanny Adamson as Maid Marian; Miss Hilda Deacon is good as Dolly, and Ally Benson is capital as Flossie. Mr. E. Thirlway is effective as the Baron, and Messrs. Traynor and O'Connor provide plenty of fun as Blustering Bill and Wavering Wally.

EMPIRE.—Sole Lessee, Miss N. Harrell-Palmer; General-Manager, Mr. J. Rolmaz.—This week the Merrions (Will, Harry, and Fred) supply plenty of good wholesome fun.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—A good house welcomed Messrs. Gatti and Frohman's company in *The Belle of Mayfair* here on Monday, and a capital performance was acknowledged by quite a large number of calls. The music especially was much enjoyed, though the acting and vocalism were up to a high standard of excellence. Miss Alice Russon made a big success as Julia Chaldicott; while as the Hon. Raymond Finchley Mr. Vernon Davidson was an entirely pleasing lover. Mr. Charles McNaughton and Mr. Percy Yorke were excellent in the parental rôles; Mr. Wensley Russell was good as Hugh Meredith; and in the notorious pose of the Gibson Girl Miss Blanche Massey was a conspicuous figure. The scenery and dresses are, of course, highly pleasing; and an efficient orchestra and chorus are under the capable direction of Mr. Alfred C. Toone.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Lee.—The performance of *The Shulamite*, given here on Monday by Mr. William Greet's company, was deserving of a much larger audience than it obtained, for the rendering was admirable, and the play itself proved both powerful and entertaining. The principal success in this small but effective combination is gained by Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, whose impersonation of Deborah is characterised by fine accomplishment and emotional power of a high order. Mr. Charles Weir's depiction of the narrow-minded Simeon is also, if slightly artificial, strong and effective; while Mr. W. T. Lovell gives a studied delineation of Waring, the Englishman; Mr. Reynolds Denniston is quietly convincing as Jan Vanderberg; Miss Mary Griffiths presents an excellent Tante Anna; and quite a pathetic little study of Memke, the Kaffir boy, is offered by Miss Marcella Hudson. The play is preceded by the one-act piece, entitled *The Widow Woos*, in which (among others) Mr. Henry de Solla acts very well.

GAIETY THEATRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—The third week of Mr. C. P. Levilly's company at this theatre is occupied in the presentation of *La Poupée*, in which Miss Stella Gastelle is seen in her old part of Alesia—a very dainty performance. Mr. W. H. Powell as Hilarius creates considerable amusement; Mr. Aubrey Carr as Launcelot sings and acts with taste; Mr. Frederick Hobbs makes a success of the rôle of Father Maxime; Mr. Fred Seymour is capital in his old part of Loremois; Miss Kitty Cavendish is, as usual, tuneful and clever as Henri; and distinctly clever work is added by Mr. William Griffin as Baron Chanterelle. Mr. Vernon Reed as Balthazar, Miss Avis Grahame as Madame Hilarius, and the remaining members of the cast.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. E. Knight and George Denham's company is here this week in the domestic drama, *The Boom of Big Ben*, which is crammed with emotional incidents and interesting situations. Mr. Fred Powell gives a capital interpretation of Captain Joe Galloway, the bluff old sailor; and Miss Violet Ingram is clever and winsome as Marjorie, while Miss Rosabel Dodd as Olive Lorrette, a woman of pleasure, is well suited. Mr. George Denham does admirably as Gilbert, the erring son; Mr. Polson Turner as Siegenbach makes a subtle villain; and Mr. Renaud Lockwood gives a pleasing idea of Battleby, the civil engineer; Mr. John Brittain as Tony Prebble provides acceptable amusement.

METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Hallatt and Howard's company is here this week in the latter's successful drama, *Her Love Against The World*.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—Mr. Fred Jarman's company is here this week in a stirring Russian drama, *Under the Czar*. Heroic parts are ably rendered by Mr. Newton Buckland and Miss Francesca Strickland; Mr. W. T. Riley gives a vigorous depiction of the villainous Kovesky; Mr. Louis Weston as Paul Ignat and Miss Linda Riley as Paul's foster-mother are responsible for some enjoyable humour; and other notable parts are satisfactorily played by Mr. John R. Levey, Mr. J. Leicester, and Miss Rose May. The drama is well staged.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is paying a return visit here this week in Mr. Campbell's attractive drama, *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Miss Mary Fulton acquits herself well in the central rôle of Mary Haysel; Mr. Austen Milroy is excellent as Stephen; little Ivy Rocheforte acts nicely as Mary, Stephen's little sister, and afterwards as Eric; and a splendid performance is given by little Dot Moss as Hannah Spry. Admirable also are Miss Jennie Douglas-Hicks as Maria Haysel; Miss Nellie Hook as the entertaining Eliza Muggins; Mr. Charles Fancourt as the heroic vicar, Alan Grey; Mr. Woodley Hulse as Capt. Thornton, and Mr. Hugh Brady in the humorous rôle of Barney O'Reilly.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's principal company in *Florodora* succeeds this week Mr. Flanagan's production of *Ivanhoe*, which finished its run on Saturday last. A very good performance is given, the greater part of the fun being provided by Mr. Daley Cooper as Tweedlepunch. Mr. J. R. Tate is smart as Cyrus Gilfain; Miss Nellie Bowman is charming as Angela; Miss Gladys Elvey makes a very pleasing Dolores, and sings well; Mr. R. Courtier Dutton does excellently as Frank Abercoed, vocally and otherwise; as Captain Arthur Donegal Mr. Harold Perry is smart and vivacious; and Miss Edith Housley presents an accomplished Lady Holyrood. The minor parts are capably filled, and the chorus and orchestra are invariably good.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—A remarkable attraction here this week is provided by Louie Freear and company in a "slavey" sketch called *Snooks*, in which, as Jemima, the popular comedienne has fine opportunities for characteristic work. Popular also are the Ten Loonies, in their elaborate and eccentric musical sketch *Dotty;* while excellent business is added by Little Ganty, well named "the lump of fun"; nimble Nat Clifford, the whimsical comedian; Madge May comedienne; Harry Carsdale, mimic; the Three Amaranths, charming girl acrobatic dancers; Halma, society juggler; and Cosgrove and Burns, a talented duo of singers and dancers. The Bioscope shows scenes in Bonnie Scotland.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wilson Barry.—Vesta Tilley, the popular male impersonator, is the bright particular star here this week, and, as usual, is delighting packed houses with new songs and old favourites, and meets with a very flattering reception. An excellent turn is that of Walter George's Light Opera Singers, otherwise the Smart Set, who are vastly entertaining. George Martinengo is a first-rate 'celloist, and is well received; Cullen and Carthy are capital comedians, with good patter and dances; and Mills and Nairn are seen to advantage in a laughable absurdity, entitled *A Lovely Liar*. Mabel Hind, character comedienne, dances nicely; Herbert Rule, a quaint comedian, is amusing; Dan Kennedy, comedian, sings a song; and the Eskimo Troupe in their scena, *Lapland*, are decidedly clever. Up-to-date events are portrayed by the Palace pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—The famous La Milo is the great attraction here this week, and "standing room only" is the cry at every performance. La Milo's poses are graceful and beautiful in the extreme. Cruikshank's caricatures, clever as they undoubtedly are, done between the poses, appear somewhat out of place, taking one from the sublime to the ridiculous at lightning speed. George Formby, the Lancashire comedian, sings three funny songs in his eccentric and inimitable style, and makes a big hit; the Barowsky Trio and Another are exceptionally clever acrobats and head balancers, with new tricks; Mabel Bright and company in scena, *Girls Will be Girls*, dance and sing in a captivating manner; Fred Russell, with Coster Joe, is a clever and entertaining ventriloquist; Howard and St. Clair are as funny as ever; and the Brothers Corcoran, the musical shipwrights, are well received. Hengler's spectacular absurdity, *Harum-Scarum*, remains in the bill; two enjoyable vocal items are rendered by the choir; and some interesting pictures are shown on the bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Klio, a living study in sculpture, is again drawing crowded houses here this week, her poses being very effective. Fred Cary, a comedian full of humour, has an excellent reception; Albert Athas and Lizzie Collins cause much amusement with their speciality act; Lily Black is a charming vocalist with taking songs; Nell Richardson, comedienne, sings two pleasing songs; J. W. Rowley, an old favourite here, is very funny; Ella Dean, descriptive vocalist, is well received; the Sisters Walton, singing mill girls, are appreciated; and last but not least Sylvia Cavalho, supported by Harry Bates, is seen to advantage in a comedy episode, entitled *The Husband of Peggy*. Raymond's Vivagraph pictures are excellent.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Billy Williams, who tops the bill here, is a capital comedian, and is encored at every performance. Clown Zertho's dogs are wonderfully clever; T. E. Johnstone, actor-vocalist, is good; and Peakman and Walsh are comic jugglers. Other smart turns are given by Monty Walker, the Yorkshire comedian; Walter Wade, vocal comedian and mimic; France and Francis, acrobatic comedians; Maud Vera, coon artist; and the Kimberley Boys, comedians. "The Swell Cracksman" is depicted on the Bioscope.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The chief turn here this week is Mackinnon's Scottish Meisters in their vocal scena, *Ancestral Spirits*, the singing being particularly good. Some expert and comic juggling is done by the Canary Family in their speciality. *The Flying Kitchen;* and the Three Sisters Hayden are delightful vocalists. The Four Keith Mersons in a new sketch, *The Mountain Climbers*, are extremely clever and amusing, and are loudly applauded. Tom E. Hughes and Hardie Parm, comedians, are good in their particular line; and Earl and Melville are good in patter and dance. Vocal contributions are given successfully by Farrimond and Little Bert, and the Bioscope picture, "What the boots saw," is perhaps the best seen here.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—*The Duchess of Tooting*, that bright and laughable sketch by George Sheldon, in which Stephen Adeson makes a hit, is to the front here this week. Billy, James De Voye's famous talking horse, is remarkably well trained; Carr and Rose are a very humorous couple; Brothers Esdale are smart in song and patter; and good turns are also those of the Falcons, clever and amusing hand to hand balancers; Haig and Novel, comedy artists; Oliver Conroy, comedian; the Sisters Bartholomew, duettists and dancers; and Vera Mayne, Canadian comedienne. "The 100 to 1 shot" depicted in the Bioscope is interesting.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Captain Cecil Clayton; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Good houses were the rule the first three nights of this week, when Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company presented *Florodora*. Mr. Gus Danby is very funny as Tweedlepunch; Miss Daisy Lake as Dolores possesses a fine voice and uses it to advantage. Mr. Colin Johnston is a capable Cyrus Gilfain; Mr. C. A. Road Night gives an admirable rendition of the part of Leandro; Capt. Arthur Donegal is in the capable hands of Mr. H. Carnelley Joye; Mr. Howard V. Cropton submits a capital interpretation of the part of Frank Abercoed; Miss Rosa Sullivan is warmly applauded as Lady Holyrood, and Miss Dorothy Dempster is good as Angela. The chorus is powerful and well balanced.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. H. Darnley and T. Jennings; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Jennings.—Newham and Latimer, who top the bill here, receive great applause for their burlesque turn; Miss Ida Kathrena gives a pretty scena, *My Dancing Doll;* and Miss Dolly Sellek sings some pleasing songs, which take on. The Sisters Ward give a good turn; Miss Ethel Dove receives great applause, as also does Alf. Brookes, comedian. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope depicts an interesting series of up-to-date pictures.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. E. Michael; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—This week Mr. A. Austin-Leigh and the stock company have been appearing with success in the comedy, *A Pair of Spectacles*. Mr. G. W. Elton has been exceedingly good as Mr. Benjamin Goldfinch, and Mr. A. Austin-Leigh has played Uncle Gregory in a manner that has left nothing to be desired. Miss Marie Scharning has appeared to advantage as Mrs. Goldfinch, and Mr. Percy Goodyer has sustained the rôle of Percy, the son, with plenty of animation; as Dick, the nephew, Mr. Harold West has been good, and Miss Helena Millais is delightfully piquant as Lucy Lorimer. The remaining characters are satisfactorily sustained by Mr. Thomas Ford, Mr. H. G. Mason, Mr. C. Alexander, and Miss Vera Hood.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—There is plenty of go and animation about the programme here this week, the turns being opened by a bright performance by Mlle. Onra in her picture act on the silver wire; Arthur Croxon, comedian and mimic, is good; and Will Codwin and Co. present the song-scena, *Repentance*, most successfully. Clara Walters is particularly smart as a trick pianist and speciality dansense; Arthur Slater is a whistler who has few equals, and his mimicry of birds, and tuneful rendering of operatic selections elicit enthusiastic recognition; Maxadler's thrilling spectacle, *Balaclava*, from the drama, *The Two Hussars*, presented by Harry Bruce and his company, makes a stirring finish to an all-round enjoyable programme, the interest in which is added to by the excellent bioscope pictures shown again this week.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond. An excellent company appears here this week. Miss Ethel Mordaunt is a charming balladist, and her songs are well received; Mr. Harry Royde, a very eccentric comedian, causes roars of laughter; Miss Josie Watson is a popular serio, her songs being highly relished; the Maynard and France company produce a capital sketch, *A Slave's Devotion*, which is well played and excellently staged; Miss Topsy Levane (Mrs. Phil Reymond) is in her second week, and a bigger favourite than ever, her new songs being very successful; the Elshaw company conclude with a screaming comedy sketch, *Rhubarb*, which fairly convulses the audience.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Lewis Gilbert.—Messrs. Granville and Thorne's company is here this week with *Napoleon the Great*. Napoleon is artistically presented by Mr. Hugh Montgomery; Colonel Laveréness is made sufficiently villainous by Mr. Henry Earlesmere; Colonel Meuron is capably played by Mr. Phil Harpur; Pierre is a very humorous character in the hands of Mr. Frank M. Thorne; Paul is skilfully represented by Mr. Bartlett Garth; Mons. Fouche is capably drawn by Mr. G. Acton Dix; and Sergt. Choupin is satisfactorily played by

clever acting in the Sautmarket did him every credit; Dougal Cratur was true to life as played by Mr. John Stevlin; Miss Marion Lind was a decided success as Helen Macgregor, and Major Gallbraith could not have been left in more capable hands than those of Mr. Alex Hamilton. The cast is a large one and well balanced, the scenery is wild and characteristic, and the production, on a whole, well worthy of generous commendation.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing - Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—*Mr. Popple, of Ippleton*, with Mr. G. P. Huntley in the title-part, is being presented at the Theatre Royal this week by a fine company sent by Mr. Chas. Macdona. A most diverting character study is given by Mr. Huntley, and there is uproarious laughter pretty nearly all the time the popular comedian is on the stage. As Louise, Miss Nellie Hodson proves a distinct success, her songs and dances being invariably encored; and to Miss Millie Legarde as La Bolero much praise is also due, her acting being admirable, and her songs admirably rendered. Excellent support to a piece that is attracting large audiences is also given by Miss Eva Kelly as Violet, Miss Kate Forster as Mrs. Doring, Miss Ella Daincourt as Mrs. Hennay, and Mr. Q. B. Hunter as Pat Fenton, and others in the lengthy cast.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clarke,—Mr. Frederick Melville's company with *Between Two Women* is paying a visit to the Palace this week, and performing to good houses nightly. The part of the Earl of Millard is well filled by Mr. Fred Goddard, and that of his son, Harry Millard, is in the able hands of Mr. Jack Wilcox; the Rev. Phillip Carton is excellently portrayed by Mr. Godfrey Tearle, and Mr. Walter Thornton impersonates James Durward in an excellent manner. Miss Molly Malone, as Violet Thornton, is the great success of the piece, and admirable support comes from Miss Nellie Fletcher as Carmen de Severeaux. The company is a large one, and works together with success.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—A crowded house was present on Monday evening to witness *The Silver King*. Messrs. Polini and Austin Melford have carefully selected their company, and were well rewarded by a fine reception. Mr. Fred D. Davies, as Wilfred Denver, lends a dignity to the part that becomes it well; and as Nellie, his devoted wife, Miss Daisy Scudamore wins golden opinions; Mr. Edward J. George's Daniel Jaikes is well done; the unctuous villain, Elijah Coombe, is faithfully represented by Mr. Arthur Wright, and the Spider, in the hands of Mr. L. St. George Lowther, loses none of his cunning. Other parts are admirably filled by a good company.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—Mahout, the Albanian wrestler, is the big attraction at this popular resort this week, £5 being paid over to a local charity on behalf of the wrestler, who failed to defeat an opponent in five minutes, as agreed. Nellie Wallace, the quaint comedienne, provokes much mirth; the Griffiths Bros. give a side-splitting comedy act, of which a wrestling match is the special feature, and score heavily; a clever and humorous turn is that supplied by the Motramos, who perform well on their various musical instruments. Marvellous balancing feats are effected by Frank Maura; Syd May gives some good imitations; the Ten Genis execute somersaults from alarming positions, and are very smart; Fred Clements is a fast-improving comedian; and Beattie and Blanche, comediennes and dancers, and Jessie Burnett, comedienne, all contribute to a good evening's entertainment.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Miss Ada Reeve holds premier position here this week, charming her audiences with her daintiness, whilst her graceful dancing adds to her success. An interesting acrobatic turn is that supplied by the Emilions, who score heavily; another tumbling act is that of the Three Panamas, who are exceptionally smart; the Two Bees cause roars of laughter in their sketch, *The Man in the Moon*; and *The Battle of the Belles* is a rollicking absurdity played by Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls' company of six; Bert Williams, ventriloquist, performs with well-merited success; and a good song is sung by Harry Herbert, comedian; the Brothers Curran's display of the fistic art has many admirers; and Satsuma, magician, mystifies everyone with his clever feats. The Barrascope pictures complete a mammoth programme.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mrs. Morton Powell's company is playing here this week in *When It Was Dark*. The Rev. Basil Gortre is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Cyril Austin Lee; Constantine Schwabe, the villain of the piece, is quite a success in the hands of Mr. Geo. H Pitt; Mrs. Morton Powell as the heroine, Helena, wins admiration; Miss Eva Moss acts capably, and is admirably supported by Mr. Riddell Robinson.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Alexandre and Hughes introduce humour and witty repartee that cause intense amusement; the New Macs are popular with quaint patter; and a clever turn is that of Ray Wallace, mimic. The Albert and Edmunds troupe presents a diverting sketch; the Imperial troupe of lady dancers give a smart show; Geo. Brooks contributes some taking songs; the Sisters Dowell are appreciated; Edwin Brett and Emmeline Orford appear in a descriptive duet, "Sweethearts just the Same"; and Lizzie Daniels is warmly applauded.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Mr. George Dance's premier company is presenting the musical play *The Duchess of Dantzic* this week. Miss May Glenn gives an admirable interpretation of Catherine Upscher, and her songs are well received; Mr. Gilbert Yorke submits an excellent portrayal of Napoleon; Mr. Ernest Torrence is good as Lefebvre; and Mr. Steve Fitzgerald is amusing as Papillon. The chorus is highly effective, and the augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Edward Whitehall, work well.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Representative, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—Hall and Earle are clever and amusing eccentric acrobats; Webb and Branston are high-class vocalists; Marie Reeve, comedienne, gains favour in song and dance; A. G. Spry, comedian, proves himself a favourite; Lozelle is a gymnast of the sensational order; Will Souls gives a laughing song with successful results; Wragg and Wragg are applauded for a display with sword, lance, &c.; Miss Hulo Hodgson with Mr. Harry Lowther and company present a farcical episode entitled *Barmaids*; and some excellent pictures are thrown on the screen.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross and company, with *The Manxman*, is proving a great attraction here this week. Mr. Cross gives a finished performance of Pete; Mr. James Dillon's rendition of Cæsar Cregreen is powerful; Mr. Sydney Kearns is a good Phillip Christian, and Mr. Herbert Lett a smart Doctor Mylcreest. As Ross Christian, Mr. Dudley Stuart acquits himself satisfactorily; Mr. Richard Hutton is clever as Professor Mawley, and Mr. Edward Cartell gives a good rendering of Monty Missitt. As Kate Cregreen, Miss Minnie Watersford is very artistic; Miss Mona Spearing acquits herself admirably as Miss Christian; Miss Dorothy Duncan makes a capital Nancy, and Miss Kittie Livesay is pleasing as Bella Kelly. The performance concludes with a series of animated pictures.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The programme here is headed by Messrs. Baroni and Kemp, smart lightning change artists. Kavados, equilibrist, &c., gives a clever performance; Flo Melville, comedienne, is pleasing; Carl and Carr, comedians, meet with success; Master Ralph Moore, soprano, renders his songs in good style; Spriggs and Gouney, American comedians, go well, and the Bio-Photoscope meets with its usual success.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Managen Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. J. H. Clyndes and company in *A Royal Revenge* are here this week. In the double parts of Estvean Alvarez and Pedro de Castro, Mr. J. H. Clyndes is highly successful; Mr. Walter Kenion as Michael Sancha is good both as an actor and a singer; Mr. John Foxhill is capable as Nicholas Vargas; and the same may be said of Mr. George Foster as Manuel Mondega. Mr. Arthur F. Dudley is a commendable Azan; and Mr. H. W. Bradford a good King of Spain. Miss Enid Edoni is a charming Inez; Miss Aimee Gratton Clyndes an excellent Cosa Casilda; and Miss Emmeline Roselle a pleasing Paquita.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. F. W. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—At the head of the strong programme presented here this week is Miss Ella, with her group of lions; Geoffreys and Benson create laughter in their sketch, *Spoofed*; Eno as a mimic gives some clever impersonations; Miss Rosie Lloyd is popular in her songs; Tom Fancourt and Jenny Ruby are exceedingly funny in their act, *Out of Barracks*; the Howards display ability as cornet players; Carl Howard is very good as a conjuror; and the Brothers Hayes score as comedians. The Hippo Bio is also a good turn.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robt. Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*Veronique* is paying yet another visit here, and the crowded audiences, full of enthusiasm, are ample proof of its great popularity. In the title-rôle, Miss Ruth Lincoln is simply delightful, her vivacity, dainty presence, and artistic vocalism compelling the highest admiration. Mr. Roland Bottomley makes an excellent Florestan, and shares popular favour with Miss Lincoln in the "Swing" song and "Dear Little Donkey" duet. Mr. Leslie Holland displays his versatile humour to the best advantage as Coquenard; Mr. Fred Lyne adds also to the merriment by his comical impersonation of Loustot. Miss Ethel Negretti makes an ideal Agatha, playing with the right touch of gaiety; Miss May Elsie acts capitally as the deaf Aunt Benoit; and Miss Lena Maitland is charming as Emerance, her song in the last act being rendered with exquisite taste and feeling. Miss Gracie Sinclair as Denise wins golden opinions, and Mr. Courtney Comber gives a bright interpretation of Seraphin. Praise is also due to the florists, Misses Beatrice Hodson, Louie Beckman, Mabel Thornton, Frankie Fowler, Cissie White, and Blanche Grahame. The chorus is exceptionally good under the guidance of the conductor, Mr. Victor Campion.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—Mr. Bert Coote's company is appearing here this week in *The Fatal Wedding*, which once more proves its attractiveness. A very capable company includes Mr. Wilson Howard, who, in the part of the invertebrate husband, uses his great abilities to good effect. Mr. Guy Hastings makes a very good Curtis, and is ably seconded by Miss Leah Marlborough as Cora. Plenty of fun is extracted from their parts by Miss Blanche Stanley as Bridget and Messrs. Edward Morgan as Toto and Walter Westwood as Schwartz, the dialogues between the two latter being particularly amusing. As the long-suffering wife of Howard Wilson Miss Katherine Clarke looks very charming, and early excites the sympathy of the audience. Miss Madge McCalla must be highly complimented on her acting in the child part of Jessie. Among the specialty turns introduced in the third act, the singing and dancing of Miss Dolly McCalla is very noticeable; whilst the clog-dancing of Master Walter Aubrey evokes unstinted applause. Miss Ivy Westaby sings very sweetly, and the step-dancing of Miss Winnie Crisp is most enjoyable.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles H. Bowmaker.—The height of sensation is reached in a performance on bicycles by Wizard Stone and Irene Stone in a huge globe, the former of whom successfully loops the loop amidst a scene of intense excitement, receiving a great ovation when the feat is accomplished. An exceedingly smart musical entertainment is given by the Leslie Bros., and their comicalities are a source of infinite amusement. Donaldson Bros. and Ardel add to their popularity by the pantomimic sketch, *A Zoological Comedy*. Albert Christian renders several songs in a manner which gains him approval; and the illustrated songs of Preston and Balmain obtain a large share of applause. Gertrude Bradshaw supplies an enjoyable song, as also Kate Cohen. both ladies meeting with well-deserved recognition. Nora Emerald, comedienne; Frank Darwin, actor-vocalist; the Caselli Sisters, dancers; and films on the American Bioscope complete the programme.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Miss Lena Stanton's company is presenting *Little Boy Blue*. Miss Stanton makes a charming Boy Blue, and evokes the heartiest applause for her songs, which are given in excellent voice. Miss Nora Neville as Dolly Dickory sings and dances in a graceful style; Mr. Bruce Green elicits roars of merriment in the rôle of Dame Dickory; and Little Keeno, who has already won fame here, keeps up his reputation as Jack Lively. Mr. Adrian Romer gives a good conception of Squire Longacre and Mr. Will Terry of Lawyer Copall. Some pretty dances are contributed by the Orient troupe of dancers.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—The Royal Carl Rosa Opera company is paying its annual visit this week with a series of old favourites and new operas. On Monday *Carmen* was staged. Miss Doris Woodall appeared in the title-rôle, and used her rich voice with good effect; Mr. Julius Walther was the Jose, and he gave an admirable rendering of the character, he and Miss Woodall having to respond to several recalls. Miss Elizabeth Burgess sang exceedingly well as Micaela, as did Miss Ina Hill as Frasquita and Miss Dorothy Mayfield as Mercedes; Mr. Chas. Victor sang the numbers allotted to him as Escamille very well; Mr. Alec Richard as Zuniga, Mr. Arthur Thomas as Morales, and Mr. A. Felton as Lillas Pastin, admirably filled their respective parts. Messrs. Clendon and Hyde were two capital brigands. *Faust* was selected for Tuesday, with Miss E. Burgess, Miss Douglas Wilson, and Mr. E. Davis and Mr. A. Winckworth as principals. The week's répertoire includes *Tannhäuser*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *Il Trovatore*, *Maritana*, and *Fidelio*. A first-class chorus and orchestra are ably conducted by Mr. W. Van Noorden and Mr. E. Goossens, Miss Annie Elliott being the principal dancer.

COLOSSEUM. — Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—A large audience witnessed the performance of *An Abandoned Woman*, by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company, which is a strong one. Mr. W. Foster is a very good Captain Herbert Seaton, Mr. B. J. Leill makes Phillipe Malvoisin a capital villain, and he is ably assisted by Miss Georgette Thierry in the part of Ninan; Mrs. Harry Foxwell is a sympathetic Eleanor, while little Frances Maddocks is excellent as Mona; Mr. Harry Foxwell as Paddy and Miss Elsie Dean as Sally keep the audience in a good humour; Miss Lily Addison scores as La Celeste; as does also Mr. Will Glaze as Sammy; Mr. G. Gormley is a capable Sir Marmaduke; and other parts are played by Messrs. Wright, Abott, Forbes, and Quinn.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—D'Arc's wonderful marionettes are an attraction here; the Carpos Brothers give a smart novelty acrobatic turn; Gillin earns much applause as a unique ventriloquial humorist; and the Sisters Marlon are capital vocalists; Emilie Warren is a charming soprano vocalist, and Prince and Milner are a pair of accomplished artists; George French, comedian, creates much laughter with his songs and funny patter. Hill and Whittaker, although billed, did not appear on the occasion of our visit. The Royal Dottoscope concludes with a capital picture entitled "Reedham Orphanage Drill."

HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—J. W. Hall, comedian, is here this week, and he keeps the house in roars of laughter; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shelley appear in a successful sketch, *Miss Summerson's Baby*; Fanny Humber provides an excellent turn with songs, dances, and solos on various instruments; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic, gives a good vocal and mimetic entertainment; and Steeley and Dowton are smart in their burlesque interlude. The Three San Remo Girls are capital comediennes and dancers; and Horace Monto proves himself to be a capital speciality artist. The programme is concluded by the Dottoscope with some funny pictures.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. George Dance's principal company is paying the most welcome of return visits this week with *Veronique*, which is being received with even more favour than on the first visit. Miss Agnes Tandy sings and acts delightfully as Madame Coquenard; Miss Edith Devonshire obtains a well-merited encore for her song in the last act as the Countess; Miss Neste Laurel is a dainty Denise, and dances most gracefully; while Miss Nellie Wigley has captivated all hearts with her most charming impersonation of Veronique. Mr. J. Warren-Foster acts and sings with excellent effect as Florestan, Mr. Tom Seymour makes a mirth-provoking bailiff; Mr. Scott-Cullen is smart as Seraphin, and Mr. Ellis Holland causes much laughter by his intensely funny acting as Monsieur Coquenard. The chorus is strong and tuneful, and the orchestra did full justice to the music under the skilful direction of Mr. C. Lochuane.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Miss Ida Millais' company is appearing here in *No Man's Land*. Mr. A. G. Lytton is the Dick Marsden, and his powerful representation is most convincing; Mr. Henry Herne as Harry Oaklands gives a capable piece of acting; Mr. H. P. Warburton is quite satisfactory in the dual rôle of Gilbert Bathurst and Captain Norman Bathurst; Mr. William Maillalieu creditably sustains the part of Dr. Buxton; Silas Moore is ably impersonated by Mr. Frank Denis; Mr. Alfred Byron gives a humorous portrayal of Thompson Poodle; and capital are the assumptions submitted by Mr. Newton Pearce as Solomon Jacobs, Mr. J. B. Thomas as Ikey Moss, and Mr. Edward Adams as Owen Rushton. Miss Ida Millais wins admiration by her clever handling of the rôle of Mary Bathurst; Bessie Poodle is well and humorously accounted for by Miss Nancy Mitchell; and Mrs. Poodle is admirably played by Mrs. Maillalieu.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Manager, Mr. Frank Wilson.—An attractive programme is again submitted here, which includes the Mirthful Mystifiers, who evoke many a hearty laugh by their funny sketch, *Three of a Kind*. Laura Lorne and Nell Rene have a refined musical act; Les Valdos are quaintly entertaining as motor-bus men; Beatrice Bonnie gives her songs in artistic style; Cissie Curlette is a mimetic vocalist of real power; Dick Williams is warmly applauded for his banjo-playing; Sandy and Carl, comedians and burlesque boxers, create amusement with their funny act; Stylo furnishes an extraordinary juggling and marvellous hoop manipulating act; and the Hippodrome Bioscope, which is interesting, completes the bill.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—The premier attraction at this house is supplied by the engagement of Charles Vandyke and company, who supply an interesting and amusing sketch, entitled *Nicodemus*. Barney Noble, popular raconteur, has a flattering reception; Yettmah, the Japanese magical fantasist, gives a remarkable turn; Martin Melia, Irish comedian and clog dancer, wins applause; success is attained by George Gray, Scotch comedian; Miss Florence Hill, a fine singer, meets with well-merited approval; Nancy Lill is a pleasing contralto vocalist and expert dancer; and an enjoyable item is provided by the Empire Animatograph.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Mr. George Stephenson's company is drawing good houses this week in the musical comedy, *Kitty Grey*. Miss Hilda Guiver is entrusted with the title-rôle, and is accorded a warm reception for the charming manner in which she discharges so important a trust; Miss Dorothy Sephton is also greeted with unstinted applause for her highly successful portrayal of Lady Binfield; while Miss Nellie Laurine's Mrs. Bright is very popular; Mr. Leslie Steward's Lord Plantagenet is an outstanding feature of the performance; Mr. Lauri Lisle is prominent as the King of Illyria; Mr. Gordon Leslie makes a decided hit in the rôle of Sir John Binfield; Mr. Jerrold Hays and Mr. P. Allerton Turner are creditable exponents of the Comte de Trenitz and Poulichet, and Messrs. Oswald Griffiths and G. Hathaway do well as the King's attendants, Carl and Fritz; Messrs. A. Harrison, V. Wakeman, and Wallett Waller appear as Eugene, Joseph, and Robert respectively; Miss Elsie Skillings is seen to advantage as Sadie de Poulson; Miss Helen Branscombe and Miss Maud Howard are adapted to the parts of Lillie and Mabel.

PETERBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company is providing a strong attraction here this week with *Driven from Home*. Mr. Felix Pitt gives a forcible portrayal of the part of Anthony Raybrook; Mr. Clement Wakefield is quite at home as Walter Hatherleigh; Mr. Frederick Sandy is good as Geoffrey Waring; and Mr. Percy Dawsone does well as Willie. Mr. Harry Cornwall is a capital Jabez Thomas; Miss Florence Creagh gives a fine impersonation of Laura Raybrook; Miss F. Trevoir is well placed as Barbara Ashdown; and Mrs. Madge Muriel makes the most of the part of Jane.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—Large numbers assembled at the Royal on Monday to witness *Brigadier Gerard*, and were very demonstrative in the approval of the fashion in which the piece was presented. The brave, though egotistical, Captain Etienne Gerard, was admirably played by Mr. Loring Fernie; Mr. George Mallett furnishes a study of Talleyrand precisely in accordance with the description of the most reliable historians; Mr. Arthur Somers has a fine make-up as the Emperor Napoleon, and proves himself an actor of first-rate ability; Mr. Edwin Bennett makes a hot-headed Major Olivier, and Messrs. Penn Hamilton and James Crowe as Talleyrand's agent and secretary respectively render able assistance. Miss Maud Hoffman as the Comtesse de Roquelaure, attains a very high plane of dramatic art; Miss Gertrude Beattie as Cignes makes a satisfactory maid.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. C. F. Williams; Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—An exciting drama by Mark Melford, entitled *Secrets of the Police*, is the attraction this week. Mr. Edward Lloyd is very creditable as George Jarman, an incorrigible; Mr. Clavering Craig successfully impersonates William Jarman, a Superintendent of Police; Mr. Alfred Brandon is realistic as Frank Grey, a reformed rascal; Mr. Tommy Gough, as Osmond Hare, is an ideal betting man; Mr. Larry Clements as Happy Armstrong, a happy-go-lucky Irishman, raises many a laugh; and Miss Ethel Kay fills her customary rôle as heroine in the part of Rosa.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—*Casey's Circus* is the principal attraction, and the turn keeps the audience in a roar of merriment; Harry Freeman has lost none of his old popularity, his songs being rendered with their customary breeziness; Nina Gordon, the Scottish mimic and society entertainer, furnishes realistic representations of well-known comedians; the Jalvans have an interesting pot-pourri turn, consisting of top-spinning and conjuring; the Vivians have an uncommon and attractive musical playlet, entitled *A Reverie*; Lidden and Howard (pianoforte experts), Walter Clyde (tenor), and Vernon's pictures complete the entertainment.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company, in *The Drama of Life*, is proving a great attraction here. Mr. Edward M. Hamilton as Harry Beech acts with great power; Mr. John J. Hooker is distinctly good as Walter Beech; Mr. Harwood Roberts scores as the aristocrat; Mr. Edward Van Biene as Count De Fôi plays well; Sylvia Beech is admirably portrayed by Miss Kate Hallam; Miss Florence French submits a good assumption of Lady Jane Wilde; Betty Black is capably impersonated by Miss Nellie Birchenough.

PORTH.—THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—This week an excellent programme includes the Evalos, jocular jugglers; the Sardous, illusionists and mystifiers; Onda Bros., on the comedy bars; Craig, Roze, and Craig, novelty gymnastic experts; Sydney Bach, the Welsh landlady at the piano; the Lynches, illustrators of sweet songs; Allan Hanbury, patter comedian; Ray and Miles, comedy jugglers; Will Rain and company in a funny sketch, entitled *Motor Mania*. The pictures shown on the Bioscope are exceedingly pretty.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—*The Catch of the Season* is here for a week on a second visit, the musical comedy being presented by Mr. George Dance's company. Miss Zena Dare gave a bewitchingly graceful and vivacious portrayal of Angela; Mr. Frank Lincoln, as the Duke, was most successful; Lord Dundreary found an able exponent in Mr. E. H. Kelly; Mr. Julian Cross impersonated Sir John Crystal naturally and with distinction; Mr. Alfred Lloyd was effective as Mr. W. Gibson; and Master Grata was amusing and capable as Buckett. Miss Belle Napier made a delightful Lady Caterham; Miss Ida Mann did extremely well as Lady Crystal; and the Hon. Sophia and the Hon. Honoria were well depicted by Miss Margaret Savill and Miss Jane Eyre. The Duchess of St. Jermyns being well taken by Miss Gwynneth Galton.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. Frank E. Burdett's company, with *The Indian Mutiny*, is attracting good houses here. Mr. George Steel gives a finished performance of Lieut. Manley; Capt. Manley is ably impersonated by Mr. Cecil Anderson; Mr. John Davidson is well placed as Major Ingleby; Mr. Cecil Morand as Terry O'Brien creates plenty of laughter; Mr. Villiers Stanley in the character of Nebu Singh, plays well; Mr. Charles Boult gives a capital interpretation of Ra Goonga; and Miss F. Melrose Millett as the Brahmin priestess is very praiseworthy. Miss Lillie Grey as Mrs. Major Ingleby and Miss Agnes Kingston as Kate Ingleby play their respective parts well.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—A good all-round company fills the bill here for the week. Arthur Lennard, the popular singing comedian, with all his latest songs, scores well and gains several encores; Lucy Coventry is a hard-working and clever comedienne and danseuse; Harry Hilton is an expert magician and card manipulator; Bonnetti and Corrie create roars of laughter; Sid Bandon, character comedian, has a capital reception; the Sisters Morgan, duettists and dancers, are a smart pair; Robins and Collier are humorous in their comedy act, *The Lady and the Porter*; the Mackweys are a pair of clever knockabouts on the wire; Lizzie Fletcher, soubrette, and Payne's Bioscope also increase the attractions of the programme.

PRESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—On Monday evening Baron H. Harris's company commenced a week's engagement here with *The Prince of Pilsen*, to which a hearty reception was accorded. Mr. Harry Kilburn's droll impersonation of Hans Wagner kept the audience in continuous laughter; Mr. Frank Crimp gave a spirited interpretation of Carl Otto, rendering his songs with pleasing expression; Lieut. Tom Wagner had a thoroughly capable representative in Mr. Roy Sydney; Mr. Bernard Russell created much merriment as the Earl of Shrimpton; Mr. Ernest Gifford was entirely successful as the mercurial François. Miss Florence Beech made an attractive Edith Adams; Miss Connie Leon submitted a clever and diverting portrayal of Sidonie; Miss Molly Wynne was a lively exponent of Jimmie; Miss Dorothy Grasdorff filled the rôle of Nellie Wagner in a charming manner; and the part of Mrs. Maddison Crocker was brightly played by Miss Sophie Harris, whose artistic singing was greatly appreciated.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—An excellent attraction is provided here this week by Mr. Frank Lindo's company in the domestic drama *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr. Lindo impersonates Stephen Armitage with his usual dash and ability; Mr. F. Miles Hodgson, as Lucas Lyle, makes the most of a difficult part; the David Armitage of Mr. D. Doyle is a fine portraiture; Capt. Gerald Gambier is a clever representative of the Duke of Ancaster; and Mr. Danvers acquits himself well as Doctor Granby; Mr. George Overs ably fills the rôle of Dick Redmayne; Mr. T. Lewis as Solomon Keary and Mr. Helsby Wright as the "Gaffer" leave nothing to be desired. Miss Marion Wakeford as Joan soon wins the sympathy of her audience, and little Miss Daisy Rochefort as Dora gains well-deserved applause. The leading comedy parts of the Hon. Percy and Sybil Fay are capitally acted by Mr. Jack Patrick and Miss May Rochefort respectively; and Mr. Ernest C. Owens as Lord Silvermore and Miss Cecil Warde as Lady Summerton also contribute appreciably to the success of the performance.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—At the head of the bill this week is Harry Gray, the Australian comedian, who scores a great success with his funny songs and stories. Edie Gray and Coons deservedly gain loud applause for their delightful vocalism; Lachie Thomson's Topweights give a clever exposition of boxing, wrestling, and club swinging; the Katos' "Komikal Kidgets" are vastly amusing; the Sisters Volbecque, comedy duettists, are accorded a good reception; Mephisto and Marie perform some remarkable feats of contortion in a drawing-room act. Others who contribute successfully to the programme are Johnson and Bert, and George Edney.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—A return visit of Adela Hill and Robert Ayrton's company, with *A Gambler's Daughter*, is meeting with success. The unrivalled popularity of Mr. Robert Ayrton as Desmond O'Dare still continues; and Mr. Alfred Saunders as Solomon Solomons is an excellent character study; Mr. Milton Curtis scores as Ralph Gillman; and as Dick the Weasel Mr. Alf. Stretton is seen to advantage; while as Stephen Brand Mr. Arthur J. Lennard is well placed. Miss Adria Hill acts the dual rôle of mother and daughter very effectively.

RAMSGATE.—THE AMPHITHEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's all-round clever company is giving effective performances here of *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Miss Mildred Eversleigh proves herself an accomplished actress in the rôle of Alma Kingsley; and Mr. Fred Emery as the hero is excellent. Villainy finds a capable exponent in the Capt. Darrell of Mr A. Helsby; and Mr. E. Bikker fills the part of General Kingsley with marked success. Miss Kathleen Magee is very good as Margaret Rivers; Miss Edie Macklin quite charming as Molly Meadows; and the "two little drummer boys" are portrayed skilfully by Miss Lily Beverleigh and Miss Maggie English. The remaining parts are handled with skill.

RAWTENSTALL. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur De Frece.—This week we have here an exceptionally good variety company under the management of Billy Watson, the well-known comedian. Mr. Leo Vincent gives an excellent ventriloquial display; Mr. Jem Hegarty is a smart comedian and sifflеur; Miss Nellie Gannon contribute some excellently-rendered songs; Mr. and Mrs. Billy Watson appear in a laughable absurdity; the Martellonis, lady acrobats and vaulters, give a marvellous display; Miss Peggy Fame sings a capital ditty, and also a song and dance; Mr. Dawson Dewick gives a popular turn; the Three Royal Temples contribute a good musical turn; Mr. Harry Wright is well received; and the Waldrons conclude the programme with an absurdity, *The Silly Burglar*.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Michael Dempsey.—An excellent company, under the direction of Mr. W. W. Kelly, is appearing this week in *A Royal Divorce*. Mr. Frederick Victor gives a realistic impersonation of the Emperor; Miss Edith Cole acts in powerful style as Josephine; Mr. Percy H. Vernon gives a successful rendering of Talleyrand; and Miss Agnes Imlay as Marie Louise, Miss Helen Richmond as Stephanie, Miss Gertrude Entwistle as Blanche D'Hervas all deserve special mention.

ROCHDALE.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—A fine performance of Mr. Pinero's play *His House in Order* was given by Mr. George Alexander's company on Monday evening. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart gave a masterful portrayal of Hilary Jesson; Mr. J. Edward Pearce, as the cold, methodical Filmer Jesson, M.P., acted his part to the life; Mr. George Fitzgerald as the pompous Sir Daniel Ridgeley could not be better placed; Mr. Ernest R. Holloway portrayed with effect the narrow-minded Pryce Ridgeley; Mr. Lloyd Lowndes made the most of Major Maurewarde; Miss Moyna Hill as the boy Derek Jesson was quite fascinating; Miss August Haviland acted splendidly the part of Lady Ridgeley; Miss Elaine Sleddell as the cheerless and irritating Geraldine Ridgeley was everything that could be desired; Mlle. Eve Grand was effective as Mlle. Thome; and Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay showed fine histrionic powers by a clever delineation of Nina. The play is lavishly mounted, and was well received.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Co.—A capital company is engaged here this week. The Maisanos extract music from all kinds of implements; Bros. Babusian, as staircase performers and balancers, submit a startling turn; other items on the programme include Royal, champion clog dancer; Harding and Preston, comedy artists, &c.; the Lovelaces, American song illustrators; Hampson, with his dogs and pigeons; Holme, vocal comedian; the Belmores, duettists and dancers; and Vernon's Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Crowded houses are the rule here this week, attracted by a splendid bill of fare. Heading the list is Tschernoff, with his wonderful performing ponies and dogs; Austin and Cowan, vocal entertainers, have had a gratifying reception; Maggie Rimmer, singer and dancer; Madeline Rossiter, comedienne and dancer; Roze and Calvert, in a comedy act; Charlie Craston, comedian; Tom Carolan, comic and song writer; and the Empire Bioscope complete the programme.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is filling the bill here with *The Midnight Wedding*. Mr. Paumier gives a manly representation of Paul Valmar; Mr. Clinton Baddeley is seen to advantage as Captain Rudolph; Mr. Fredk. W. Freeman scores as the Crown Prince Leopold; and Mr. Ulick Burke is deserving of mention as Lieut. Eugene; Father Garrard is well portrayed by Mr. W. S. Hardy; and Messrs. James E. Page, Percy Compton, and Algie Spalding are responsible for a good deal of amusement as Sergeant Max, Corporal Otto, and Private Bobo. Miss Ada Champion is a smart Kathie; Miss Florence Hunt is seen to advantage as Rose; Miss Annie Saker gives a clever and pleasing rendition of the dual rôles of Second-Lieut. Karl Heisburg and Princess Astrea.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—For the first three nights of this week Miss Rose Faith and her London company appeared in *No Cross, No Crown*. Miss Rose Faith as Clare, the second Lady Luttrell, was excellent; Miss Gwen Stuart in the rôles of Lady Margaret Luttrell and Mistress Gray was very good; Mr. W. Cainden gave a robust and artistic rendering of Sir Francis Luttrell; as Austin Blake, Mr. Herbert de Ville submitted an able interpretation; Mr. Harrison Chapman was a capable Professor Nebb; and Miss Ada Clamson an interesting Doris Luttrell.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, J. Bannister Howard,

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—*Honour thy Father* is the drama presented here this week by Mr. T. Morton Powell's company, under the management of Mr. Frank Eden. The arduous rôle of Gabriel Garth is vigorously drawn by Mr. Walter M. Cameron; the sailor, Jack Halyard, is played in robust style by Mr. Bertram Ross; the rascality of Duncan Bly is effectively shown by Mr. W. R. Winning; Mr. Fred Rolls as Mike stands out prominently as a clever comedian; Mr. W. H. Melrose as Ned also is successful in his efforts to please; Mercy Merry is well played by Miss Winnie Donovan; the erring Lilian Garth is successfully portrayed by Miss Mabel Coleman; Miss Lizzie Morley is a delightful Poppy; and Miss Kate Newton a satisfactory Gertrude Garth.

SHEERNESS.—The Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—A capital all-round bill is submitted here this week, and includes Edward Cranston and Co. in their racing sketch, *Terry*, which obtains much appreciation. My Fancy, aptly described as the queen of sand dancers, is well received. Hans and Lux, comedians and patterers, provide an amusing turn; the Claymores, dancing club jugglers, are accorded a good reception; Kitty Malone, comedienne, wins hearty applause; and Harry Bold, eccentric comedian, also scores. The usual display of pictures projected by Vernon's Bioscope completes the programme.

SHEFFIELD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Mouillot's company opened on Monday night in their delightful musical play, *The Geisha*, which was again received with cordial applause by a large audience. Miss Louie Collier made a charming and tuneful O Mimosa San, and Miss Florrie Saunders as the lively Molly Seymour acted in a graceful manner. Miss Violet Kenyon looked piquant as Juliette, and Miss Aubrey Ashton was an aristocratic Lady Constance Wynne. Mr. Edward Carlton as Wun-Hi caused roars of laughter; Mr. Cyril Thornton was the typical smart young naval officer as Reginald Fairfax; Mr. J. Mansell Stringer was first-rate as Captain Katana; Mr. A. J. Nicholls was the Governor's factotum; and Mr. Lionel Braham made a humorous Marquis Imari.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Moody-Manners' Grand Opera Company is again here for a short season. The company is unusually strong in the chorus department, the regular forces being strengthened by the voices of sixty local vocalists. The principals include Mr. Joseph O'Mara, Mr. Charles Magrath, Miss Fanny Moody, Miss Toni Leiter, Mme. Zelie de Lussan, Mme. de Vere, and Mr. Charles Manners. On Monday a very enthusiastic house received *Tannhäuser* with acclamation, on Tuesday *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was revived, and the operas billed for the remainder of the week were *Lohengrin*, *Faust*, *Eugen Onegin*, and *Maritana*.

Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Mr. Geo. Testo Sante's company began a return visit on Monday in the domestic drama, *The Life of a Showman*, which again delighted the patrons of the local home of melodrama. Mr. George Testo Sante was a frank, manly representative of the gallant van-dweller, Brian Loader, and his fine struggle with a dozen "ruffians" brought down the house. The Brothers Testo, musical clowns, did a clever act in the circus scene, and others who worked loyally for the general success were Mr. F. R. G. Richardson, Mr. Harry Lloyd, Mr. Charles Sams, Mr. J. Roberts, Mr. Edward Warden, Miss Grace Harlington, and Miss Amy McNeill. The piece was effectively staged.

Empire Palace.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—An exceptionally good all-round company is engaged this week, the artists being Bella and Bijou, the popular society duettists and comedy entertainers; the Lyons Trio of pantomimists in a funny comic ballet entitled *The Lady, the Parson, and the Waiter*; the De Wynne Brothers, who perform daring feats of strength with skill and laughter-provoking sang-froid; Fielding and Rose, in selections from popular musical plays and comic operas; Miss Flo D'Orville, a pretty and tuneful serio; Miss Rosie Archer, a pleasing mimic of music-hall celebrities; Lambeth and Robertson, in a humorous Scotch comedy skit; Mr. James Heron, with illustrated songs; and that old favourite, Mr. Pat Rafferty, Irish comedian. In addition there is the American Bioscope, with humorous films.

Grand Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Engaged here are La Maxim Girls, dancers and vocalists; the Brothers Durant, comedians; Mr. Gus Hindell, comedian; the Sisters Redfern, duettists; Pallister's Bioscope, Harley and Hardon, and Miss Flo Chevalier, the popular burlesque actress.

Central Hall.—In addition to the pictures, there are engaged here Mike Cray and his clever dog; and the Misses Dolly, Agnes, and Maud in a refined entertainment.

SHREWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—Mr. Herbert Hollester's powerful and talented company is here this week with the hardy old drama, *Lights o' London*. Mr. C. F. Collinge is a manly and thoroughly capable Harold Armytage; Miss Jennie Burgoyne plays with ability as Bess; Mr. Herbert Lewis and Miss Violet Temple are an amusing pair as Jarvis and Mrs. Jarvis, their diverting efforts being well supported by Miss Renée Douglas as Shakespeare Jarvis. Mr. F. Dalton is a capital Jim; Mr. Sydney N. Hallows as Squire Armytage merits praise; Mr. Raymond Thomas as the villain works conscientiously and well; Mr. F. V. Lloyd makes an excellent Marke; Mr. Herbert Hollister a bluff Seth Preene; and Mr. H. W. Forster a successful solicitor. Mr. Tom Raymond is a picturesque Man in the Park; Miss Rita Wallace a clever little actress as Joey; Miss Constance Davey plays with conscientious care the part of Hetty Preene; and Miss W. Eves in the character part of Sal makes a good study.

SMETHWICK.—The Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. C Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*Her Second Time on Earth* was well received on Monday night. A capital company is headed by Miss Hilda Beverley, who gives a really fine representation of the part of Dora Grey; Mr. John Nolan is a capable Captain Jasper Norman; Mr. Frank R. Robertson proves a distinct favourite with the audience as Jack Carlton; the part of Beppo is finely represented by Mr. Leonard Aardale; Mr. Will Corrie creates much merriment as Teddy Butterfly, and is ably assisted by Miss Marie Kildare as Kitty Rosebud; Miss Dorothy Hildebrande is a graceful Laura Norman; the rôle of Elizabeth Burk, a drunken woman, is admirably sustained by Miss Polly Marsh; while Mr. Fred Yarnold is well placed as Doctor Ridley.

SOUTHAMPTON. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. George Alexander's company is this week paying its initial visit with A. W. Pinero's comedy, *His House in Order*, which meets with a grand reception. Finer acting than that given by Miss Auriol Lee (Nina) and Mr. Frank Fenton (Hilary Jesson) has seldom been seen here, and they are heartily recalled at the end of each act. Mr. Cyril Harcourt is good as the impassive husband; Mrs. Kemmis (Lady Ridgeley), Miss Audrey Campbell (Geraldine), Mr. Adam Alexander (Sir Daniel), and Mr. George (Pryce) avail themselves to the fullest extent of the fine chances of character-acting given them.

Palace. — Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—Mr. Leonard Mortimer and company are very successful in a dramatic sketch, *The Undesired*, which is well played. Harry Tate's company is productive of merriment in *Motoring*; Letine is in the front rank as a male impersonator; Helen Martin, a delightful vocalist, scores a success in her native town; the Three Sisters Chester, banjoists, &c.; Chas Best in Macbunker, the mountebank; and George Bendon, the white coon, also prosper well.

Hippodrome.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Chief among the turns here are the marvellous Craggs in their acrobatic sketch *Billy*; they score a huge success. The droll Jack Camp is popular in song and story, and Ernest Montefiore and Co. are well received in the sketch *The Little Colonel*. Will Val Allen, a clever patterer and instrumentalist; Vincent, acrobatic table expert; Ruby and Laws, vocalists; Sinclair and Parr, vocal entertainers; and the Two Hartfords, trick cyclists, also contribute to a capital show.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — Empire Theatre. — Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—A first-class attraction is being provided this week by Messrs. C. M. Polini and Austin Melford, whose powerful company is presenting the drama entitled *The Silver King*. Special mention must be made of the very pretty scenery. In Mr. Herbert Ford a forcible and clever impersonation of Wilfred Denver is found; Miss Victoria Addison as Nellie Denver displays great talent; Mr. Tom Paulton is excellent as Daniel Jaikes, and imparts plenty of good humour that is appreciated; Miss Jessie Upted as Cissy Denver is decidedly good. The Spider is well embodied by Mr. Charles Baird, who is ably assisted by Mr. Henry Osman as Elijah Combe, Miss Mabel Gardner causes merriment in her rôle of Mrs. Gamage; and the remaining characters are well sustained.

The Kursaal.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. E. T. J. Bacon.—Owing to this place of amusement being let for a local attraction it is only possible for the usual variety programme to be given on three nights of the present week. Miss G. Stevenson contributes on the piano; Mr. Tom Carpenter and Miss Eileen McCarthy, two great favourites, are more entertaining than ever with duologues and songs; Mr. Will Sutton maintains his reputation in his well-rendered songs; Miss A. McKelvie possesses a rich soprano voice, which gains considerable recognition; whilst the Merry Carpenters are mirth-provoking in their musical comedies. The whole concludes with the amusing sketch entitled *The Automaton; or, Boggles' Blunder*.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House, Winter Gardens, Ltd.—Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—After a long run of musical comedy, the presentation this week of the stirring romantic drama, *The Breed of the Treshams*, by Mr. Frank Bertram's excellent company, comes as a welcome change to the patrons of the Opera House. Mr. H. Tripp Edgar submits a realistic and powerful impersonation of the dashing cavalier of fortune, Lieut. Reresby; Miss Celestine Bertram is a commendable exponent of the part of Batty; Miss Florence Tressilian artistically and cleverly impersonates the rôle of the Hon. Margaret Hungerford; Mr. Cecil C. Klein essays the character of Count Francis Tresham in a highly commendable manner; Mr. Oswald Lingard plays the austere Viscount Dorsington with sufficient asperity and brusqueness; Mr. George Traill is distinctly successful and alert as Colonel Sir Henry Curwen.

Pier Pavilion, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Charles F. Johnson.—A good all-round programme is submitted here. The items for the current week include Jean Seul, illusionist; Robert Gilbert, assisted by Mlle. Blanche, with their troupe of performing dogs and cats; Maidie Berker, pianist; Charles Lestree, juggler and torch manipulator; The Brooklands, dainty comediennes and dancers; Will Letters, comedian; Albert Ventor, quaint comedian; the Celtics, as the "Three Vaudevilles," in their musical comedy act; and the bio-tableaux.

Albert Hall, Winter Gardens.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—Jake Friedman, the original one-man opera, who heads the bill here, submits a highly diverting performance, which is warmly applauded. The programme also includes Max Ruebens and Mlle. Dora, in Rubens and Doody's change scenic production, *Superba*; the Lizzette troupe of lady acrobats; Elsie Rubina, tight wire artist; D. W. Watson, cornetist and coach-horn artist; Jessie Buckle, contralto vocalist; Ada Gatley, swinging wire artist and juggler; Brady and Johnson, sketch artists; and the bioscope, with the latest films.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. John and Fred Coulson.—The *Prodigal Parson* is here this week, with Mr. W. V. Garrod as the Rev. T. Godley, a part in which he is popular. Enoch Jaggers is effectively portrayed by Mr. Hugh Carmichael, who is ably supported by Mr. Wm. Hayward as Ben Jaggins. Miss Vera Fordyce gives a sympathetic rendering of Fern Godley, and the comedy element is well represented by Mr. H. Newton as Phil Drive and Miss Lydia Hart as Gretchen Van Craus.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—The Midget Mimes, in *Casey's Court*, a comic pantomime sketch, introduce an entertainment full of fun and frolic; Derenda and Green are a couple of good juggling comedians; operatic songs and duets are well rendered by Les Voces; Boy Glen is a clever comedian and raconteur. The remaining turns are Lily Esplin, comedienne; Tom Parker, eccentric comedian; Fred Bronte, vocal comedian; Ryder Sloane, descriptive vocalist; and the Bioscope.

Tivoli.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. K. Hall and Jos. Sweeney; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—At the top of the bill are the Four Hearns, a clever comedy acrobatic quartette, who are well received. Another good musical turn is provided by Zanfretta and Napio; eccentric comedy is well represented by Walker and Lake; Jock Walker, Scotch comedian, and Ada Parker, coon vocalist, both score heavily; good vocalism is displayed by A. E. Clifford; and Phil Rees and the Bioscope complete the bill.

SPENNYMOOR.—Cambridge Theatre. — Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Herbert Vere.—Mr. H. F. Housden's company is presenting that gentleman's pretty drama, *A Woman's Past*, here this week. The play is meeting with much favour, and possesses more than the average share of human interest. As David Heath Mr. J. Myron Howard is a decided success; Miss Dorothy Wallace as Bessie appears to advantage; Miss Irene Carrington displays versatility in the rôle of Clara Darrell; Uriah Craven is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Clifton Earle; Mr. Hausden submits a careful reading of Clement Harper; and both Mr. David Phillips and Miss Doris Cameron succeed in giving pleasure as Frank Delauney and Dorothy Heath.

STAFFORD. — Lyceum Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—A treat is provided for local playgoers this week by the engagement of Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company. There is a change of programme each evening. The company is a very able one, and includes Mr. Hy. Herbert, Mr. E. Spencer Geach, Mr. Charles Francis, Mr. Gerald Ames, Mr. Plinge, Mr. Dagnell, Mr. Ross Shore, Miss Mary Webb, Miss Dorothy Green, Miss Rosa Burgess, Miss Mary Dibley, &c. Monday opened with *Much Ado About Nothing*, followed during the week by *Henry the Fifth*, *Hamlet*, *Twelfth Night*, *As You Like It*, and *Richard the Third*.

STALYBRIDGE. — Grand Theatre. — Sole Lessee, Mr. Louis Ellison; General-Manager, Mr. Eugene E. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. D. Oswald.—Included in an excellent variety programme is a sketch, *For King and Country*, in which fifty local children appear. *The Captain's Daughter* is another sketch which affords much merriment; Bella Leaburn is a dashing comedienne; Birkett and Wade cause laughter in their comedy acrobatic turn; and Henri Bekker, comedy conjurer, is clever. Knotto, contortionist; Chas. Rowen, comedian; the Susters Hula, vocalists and dancers; and "Scenes in the Zoo" complete the programme. On Thursday a special benefit performance in aid of the poor children's fund, organised by the local Buffaloes, was given under the patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress and the members of the Town Council.

ST. HELENS.—Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—General Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren and company are here this week with *Claudian*. The title-rôle is played by Mr. Maclaren, who gives a singularly intelligent and engaging portrayal. Mr. Douglas Earle is a capital Agazil; Mr. F. Owen Chambers acts with distinction as the Tetrarch; Mr. C. T. Challoner is excellent as Belos; and Miss Maud Garth is admirable as Edessa. Mr. Weston Hubbard makes a capable Alcares, and Miss Lilly C. Bandmann gives a charming and pleasing picture of Almida.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—There is pleasing variety in the programme here this week, the artists appearing being Radford and Valentine, comedy jugglers; the Brothers Hannaway, comedians; Miss Leah Arden, vocalist; Mr. Harry Levaine, comedian; Mr. Charles Morritt, magician; the Wonderful Blind Man, introduced by Mrs. Charles Morritt; Sisters Aindow, musicians; Brisker's Bioscope; and Hardie and Hardie's sketch company in *Those Dreadful Kids*.

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—The appearance here of Mr. Auguste Van Biene in *The Broken Melody* has attracted large audiences who have manifested marked interest in the performances, the gifted actor-musician as Paul Borinski charming everyone with his solos on the 'cello. Miss Lena Burnleigh acts with sympathetic grace as Mabel; and a clever and effective impersonation of the Duchess de Verviers is given by Miss Rosemary Rees. As Dickson Mr. Chas. A. Morgan is exceedingly good; and Dr. Magrath has a thoroughly capable representative in Mr. W. Thomson; Mr. Faulkner Cox amusingly presents Mortimer, a theatrical agent; and Mr. Henry Ludlow makes an efficient General Ivanoff. On Monday and last night (Friday) *The Broken Melody* was followed by the one-act comedy, entitled *The First Night*, in which Mr. Van Biene appeared as Achille Talma Duford.

Empire.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Black.—A big attraction is presented the patrons of this establishment this week in Yukio Tani, the famous ju-jitsu wrestler, and crowded audiences have been roused to a high state of enthusiasm over the various bouts. In addition there is a capital array of talent engaged, the Paolias, in a series of classical poses, commanding much appreciation. Lily Currie is a delightful vocalist; Fred and Maud Vipond are pleasing society entertainers; Mozetto is a smart juggler; the Kurios' comedy act is entertaining and clever; and the individual comedians, Tom Moore, Charles Milner, and Mr. W. B. Raby, sing amusing songs with satisfactory success.

SUNDERLAND.—Avenue Theatre. — Director and Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—The visit of Miss Minnie Palmer with Mr. Wentworth Croke's *My Sweetheart* company to the premier house on Wearside is interesting to the present and at the same time reminiscent to the older playgoers of one or even two decades ago. Miss Palmer plays her old rôle of Tina with much of the old vivacity and abandon that distinguished her early performances of the part; Tony Fauste finds a bright and hearty delineator in Mr. Robert H. Howard; Mr. Charles R. Hann submits an able as well as dignified impersonation of the rôle of Dr. Oliver; Miss Iris Lincoln is excellent as Mrs. Fleeter; and Mrs. H. E. Russell successful as Mrs. Hatzell. Mr. Fred W. Leonard is admirable as Joe Shotwell, and Mr. Henry Lesmere is entitled to praise as Harold Bartlett, while Mr. John P. MacCullum causes amusement as Dudley Harcourt. Mr. Alfred J. May does all that is necessary as Farmer Hatzell, and Miss Elsie Forster deserves mention as Peek-a-Boo.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. C. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—Messrs. Webb and Wilson Benge's company opened here on Monday with the military play, *The Two Hussars*. Mr. Wilson Benge as the hero, Harry Alford, gives a meritorious performance; Miss Danvers-Smith, in the dual rôle of Ellen Maythorne and Will Gunstock, soon finds the favour of her audience; Mr. Fred J. Webb capitally portrays the rôle of Captain Paul Villiers; Mr. J. Stuart is excellent as Colonel Manners; and Mr. G. Paradise submits a soldierly interpretation of the part of Sergeant McFinne. Miss Sadie Smith and Miss Lallah Price are well suited as Marie and Molly Cutts respectively.

Palace of Varieties.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—An interesting all-round bill is being submitted twice nightly here. It comprises Johnny Fuller, cat impersonator and wire-walker; Osborn and Brooks, in a musical comedy duet; The Don and Munro comedy team; Tony Iveson, the Ragman pianist; E. Rousby's spectacular novelty, "Around Paris," showing some excellent artistic effects; May Moore Duprez, America's Jolly Dutch Girl; Blake and Granby, comedy duettists; the Bouncing Dillons, gymnasts; and Vernon's pictures, showing the pathetic episode of "The Miner's Daughter."

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Edward Gray.—Mr. E. Graham Falcon's company opened here for three nights on Monday, playing *Blue Bell in Fairyland*. Mr. Jack Cromo is excellent as the Reigning King; the Footmen are made exceedingly droll by Mr. H. Vernon as Will, and Mr. Will L. Clements as Wont. *Blue Bell* is ably portrayed by Miss Lily Eyton, and Dickie is played in spirited style by Mr. Lawrence Emery.

SWINDON.—Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—This house was well filled on Monday to welcome a return visit of that popular Adelphi drama, *The Trumpet Call*, capitally staged and presented by Mr. Charles F. Cooke's company. It would be difficult to praise too highly Miss Doris Gilham's work as Astrea; Miss Elsie E. Hill submitted a telling portrayal of Cuthbertson's wife; and Miss Phyllis B. French was a lively Lavinia. Mr. Leonard Yorke played Cuthbertson with commendable judgment, and Mr. Chas. F. Cooke was capital as Sergt.-Major Milligan. Mr. Joe Bracewell was a great success as Professor Ginnifer; while Mr. Freddie Bentley and Mr. John Denys did particularly well as Tom Dutton and Dick Featherstone respectively.

TON-Y-PANDY. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ridgewood Barrie.—Mr. Fred Granville's company is obtaining a cordial reception in *For Better or Worse*. Mr. Scott Leighton gives a really fine impersonation of Captain Frank Hilliard; Mr. George E. Olive is convincing as Major Crawford; Mr. Willie Black evokes continual merriment in the humorous part of Horatio Ranter; Miss Ruth Nightingale as Olive Heathcote gives a sympathetic reading of the part; and Belle Baverstock is capitally played by Miss Chrissie Dunbar.

Hippodrome.—Director, Mr. D. Taylor; General-Manager, Mr. Curline Baldry.—After a lengthy closure, the above place was reopened on Monday to a packed house under the above management. Entering the building, everyone was struck with the tasteful decorations. Chief place on the bill is accorded to Dr. Carl Hermann, called "The Electric King." The Three Zaracs, on the triple bars, are a mirth-provoking trio; Chant and Chant, comedy duo, win much applause; and Steve Cooke does well. La Tosca gives a capital series of statuesque poses.

TORQUAY. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. A. Pearse.—Mr. William Greet's company, in *The Earl and the Girl*, opened to a highly appreciative house on Monday. Mr. Alfred Donohoe as Jim Cheese was excellent; Mr. Thomas Kennard as Dick Wargrave sang well, and Mr. Leslie Owen as the Hon. Crewe Boodle also contributed materially to the success. As Elphin Haye, Miss May Yates scored greatly; Miss Ida Stratham made a captivating Daisy Fallowfield; the Liza Shoddam of Miss Lena Hicks was a successful character-study; Miss Kathleen Gerrard was well placed as Mrs. Shimmering Black, and Miss Winnie Plumpton was appropriately dignified as Miss Virginia Bliss.

WAKEFIELD.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. William Greet's company in *The Earl and the Girl* is paying a welcome return visit. The company is good throughout. Great praise is due to Mr. William Cromwell for his excellent portrayal of Jim Cheese; Mr. Robert Hyett makes a good Dick Wargrave; Mr. Stanley Harrison is admirable as the Hon. Crewe Boodle; Mr. Arthur Cassidy acquits himself well as Mr. Talk; Mr. A. E. Coleby scores as Mr. Bunker Bliss; and Mr. Frank Cane is able as Mr. Downham. Miss Gertrude Simpson is charming and sprightly as Elphin Haye; Miss Florence Wix is amusing and natural as Liza; Miss Eva Berrington is smart as Daisy Fallowfield; Miss Helen Langton makes a dignified Miss Bliss; and Miss Nellie Grant is a pleasing Mrs. Shimmering Black.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Wee Mona, a clever juvenile vocalist and dancer, is always popular here; Vowles and Bryan are a smart comedy couple; Percy Curry, comedian, is highly diverting; Arthur Royce, comedian, gives a comical musical turn; Miss Bessie Willow is a dashing comedienne; and Collin and Irene, second sight artists, and La Belle Rosa, mandolinist, complete the bill.

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—An attractive programme is being submitted here this week. Professor Selkirk's juvenile spectacle, *In Bonnie Scotland*, performed by 100 Walsall children, proves a great draw. Rosali Jacobi, comedienne, is good; Miss Gladys Hooley, a brilliant violinist, successfully appears in Corri and Dereve's *Heart-Strings*; the pretty series of pictures so sweetly accompanied vocally by Miss Gracie Moore charms all; Cussac-Talma, illusionist, assisted by Mlle. Yvonne De Forge, give a marvellous performance; the Sisters Anetti are clever in their trapeze act; Frank Bernard and company, in the farce comedy sketch *Hello!* create roars of laughter; and the American Bioscope completes the bill.

Grand Theatre, Ltd. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Fred Benton and company are appearing here this week in *The French Spy*. Mr. Benton as Fritz gives a capital performance; Mr. Richard Fulton is successful as Captain Somers; the Count Romanoff of Mr. Max Coutts is all that can be desired; Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe makes an effective General Treploff; Mr. L. Chaseby does well as Lieut. Maxwell; Miss Gertrude Evans in the title-rôle acts with power; and Miss A. Harrison-Tate makes a capital Olga.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. Joseph Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company is here this week in the stirring drama, *The Temptress*. Mr. Sheen scores a big success as Bob Tanner, a circus clown; Mr. Claude Ashworth as Sir Oswald Fordyce is a dignified personage; and Mr. Wallace Campbell makes a manly Philip Welford. Mr. Richard Talbot is good as Jack Rivers; and as the unscrupulous Lucas Denbigh Mr. Weldon Atherstone acts with dramatic force. Mr. Fred H. Constable is well placed as Pedro Gonzales; and Mr. C. Turnton Fulford is an ideal cleric. A humorous Francis Fitz Fluke is Mr. Allen Carruthers. Miss Lydia Donovan as Stella, the lady temptress, makes the most of her opportunities; a charming Marion Fordyce is Miss Violet Sims; and as the much-wronged Madge Denbigh Miss Effie Bartlett wins all hearts. Miss Ivy Chandos is seen to advantage as Rhoda Brown.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Another capital company is here this week. The Brothers Dean score a big success, and their dancing is certainly a revelation in the terpsichorean art; Gus Harris maintains his big reputation; and W. H. Downs sings several songs in fine style. Myra Love is a charming comedienne; and Pat Duddy a comedian with quite a style of his own. The Brothers Lilian are smart acrobats; and Bayne and Hope score in their sketch, *David Garrick*.

WEDNESBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr. Kuner.—This week Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company, in the domestic sporting drama *Bound to Win*, is drawing capital houses here. Mr. F. G. Kimberley makes an excellent Harry Lindon, being ably assisted by Mr. Edward Bikker and Mr. Charles Vivian as Squire Forbes and Philip Ayre respectively. The comedy parts of Horatio Ruffit is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Allen Charles; and Mr. Dick Seddon makes an interesting Willie Wilkins. Miss Lottie Addison plays artistically as Gladys Orme; Marion Forbes is left in the safe keeping of Miss Violet Langley; and Miss Annie Lee as Flo Searching is warmly appreciated.

WEST BROMWICH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Manager, Mr. Herbert Vere.—For Wakes week this theatre has for its attraction Mr. Harry Starr and company, in a new musical drama, entitled *The Unseen Power*; he is also submitting during the week *Carl the Clockmaker* and *Otto the Outcast*. The first-named piece was played on Monday night, and the chief character, Frank Granville, with many disguises, was cleverly embodied by Mr. Harry Starr; Mr. William Miller did exceedingly well in the rôle of Harold Grenville; Mr. Edwin Firth gave a good impersonation of Antonio Romano; Mr. Will Hee scored as George Granville; Miss Katie Norris submitted a clever bit of acting in the character of Chris Granville. The humour of the piece was in the hands of Mr. Fred W. Graham, who kept the house in continual merriment. Miss Ella Crossley's Lucretia was decidedly smart; Miss Madge Blundell was well suited to the part of Anita Romano; and the same remark applies to Miss Cissy Hastings as Lucy. Miss Lizzie Jacobs played Jennie Shrub with decided ability.

New Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. M. Sylvester; Manager, Mr. H. W. Player.—A strong programme is submitted here this week. A smart show is given by the Virginians, who contribute songs and dances; Miss Rosie Reval is a good comedienne; roars of laughter greet Burg, Haud, and Wise, in their exceedingly funny sketch, *Ye Old Brown Cow*; Mr. Fred Terry submits some clever songs and dances; a smart turn of dancing is given by the Delones; Mr. Fred Earle has made himself quite popular here. The turn of the evening is that given by Hanvarr and Lee ("The Golfer and the Maid"); their exceedingly clever manipulation of the clubs, &c., evoke great applause; an extra turn is given by the Musical Schafers; and the Hippodrome pictures cause much mirth.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—Once more *A Message from Mars* is here with Mr. Wm. H. Brougham as the Messenger, a part in which he has become decidedly popular; Mr. Bruce Lindley gives a capital sketch of the Tramp; Mr. Herbert J. Bentley plays with well-balanced effect the part of Horace Parker; and Miss Minnie Ellis ably fills the rôle of Minnie Templar.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Julius Simpson.—Harry Pleon, on a return visit, appears in a series of his latest creations, which cause considerable amusement; the contortions of Juno Salmo, the Gold Mephisto, are weird and marvellously clever; the audience here never tire of Belle Braham, the charming song illustrator; Captain Slingsby, the clever ventriloquist, is also an old favourite, who is having fresh laurels added; which may also be said of Valazzi in his sensational and clever act of "Sloping the Slope on a Cannon Ball; sparkling and vivacious Bijou Russell dances straight into favour; the gymnastic act by the Jansons is skilfully performed; Bishop and Vale, acrobatic humorists and dancers, and some new films are well received.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company made its first appearance here on Monday in *The Convict's Daughter*. Mr. Bertram showed exceptional talent in his portrayal of Michael Grahame; Mr. G. Moreton-Williams gained the execrations of the audience by his impersonation of the rascally Jasper Thorn; Mr. Herbert M. King deserved unstinted praise for his interpretation of Harold Trevalyen; as Frederick Neville Mr. G. Nelson Wallace was decidedly good; Mr. S. Roberts was extremely comical as Patrick O'Laragan; Mr. Percy Robinson did good work as Frank Harper; and Mr. P. Paget is entitled to a word of praise as Detective Parr. Miss Nelly Clyde gave an artistic and sympathetic rendering of the heroine, Edith; Miss Phyllis Gibbon was delightfully chic as Betty Hyne; whilst Miss Rose Carew made an excellent Marion Thorn.

WEST STANLEY.—Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; Responsible Manager, Mr. John Cassidy.—A burlesque, entitled *The Honeymoon*, is proving a big draw here. Mr. John Haines is a typical blustering Colonel as Vandyke Brown; Mr. Leslie Earle gives a manly portrayal of Jack Armstrong; the rôle of Nathaniel Noodle is finely handled by Mr. Gilbert Payne; Mr. Harrow Farrow submits a telling impersonation of a "johnny" as Archy. The part of Emeretta Noodle is portrayed in a pleasing manner by Miss Rene Walton; Miss Nellie Dyson is good as Stella Le Brunn; Miss P. Fairley wins general favour by her sweet acting as Madge Armstrong.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Fred Little and Fred Darcy's company is here in *The Executioner's Daughter*. Mr. S. Radcliffe gives a pathetic portrayal of Mons. Roche; the rôle of Felix Marius is cleverly handled by Mr. Jaun De Alberti; Mr. W. Ruddle Brown is a great favourite as Paul Rovel; the part of Ketch is well played by Mr. W. S. Stephenson; Mr. Willie Hicks ably presents the rôle of Tom Holmes; Miss Nellie Howitt is a winsome Annette; the rôle of Christina is smartly performed by Miss Maria Ada Downing, and Miss Evelyn Robson submits a powerful representation of Felice.

WEXFORD. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. E. P. Ronan.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company is here this week, and on Monday produced the military drama *A Soldier of France*, which was received with enthusiasm. As Corporal Jean Mr. Arthur Hinton displayed great power, and his acting all through was marked with much feeling; Mr. Travis Green's impersonation of the repulsive Judas Dolara was conceived in the right vein, and he never appeared to strive after effect. Mr. Dan E. Clifford created much merriment in the part of Jollyboy; and Mr. Charles Langton as Lieutenant Louis was very good. Miss Jennie Clare was amusing as Margot; and Miss Lelia Zillwood was eminently fitted for the trying rôle of Pauline Lorraine, which she played with much emotion and restraint. A word of praise is also due to Master Freddie Cave for his clever portrayal of the child Louis Lorraine.

WHITEHAVEN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Clark; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Clark.—Messrs. Chas. W. Poole's Myriorama is the attraction here, and in addition to the fine series of pictures, the following varieties are included in the bill: Woolford's educated ponies and dogs; Dane's Marionettes; the Fordyces, juvenile singers and dancers; Maxey and Pete, comedy cyclists, and the biograph.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Kiddle.—Mr. Fred Willmot's two-houses-a-night experiment bids fair to be a great success. On Monday evening two large houses assembled, and an excellent bill was well received. The Six Brothers Luck evoked much amusement in their funny sketch *The Demon of the Cellar*. J. H. Wakefield's coon songs had a good reception; Bert Gordon's singing and playing were excellent; the Ringling Trio gave a wonderful exhibition of stilt-walking; the Lannons revealed themselves as dancers of the highest class and vocalists and comedians of no mean skill; Happy Attwood, in a novel make-up as a little boy, made the house laugh heartily; Georghan and Downs, song illustrators, were an acquisition to the programme, and the bioscope pictures were entertaining.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Company.—Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company is here in the musical play *Three Little Maids*. The Sisters Branscombe, otherwise the Three Little Maids, are charmingly and vivaciously represented by Miss Cora Lingard, Miss Daisy Sylverton, and Miss Eva Weigh, who sing their numbers admirably. Gretchen has a capital exponent in Miss Laura Wright, who, along with Mr. Charles Caffrey as Cupid, creates great merriment, and sings and dances with much vim. Lord Cheyne and Bryan Molyneaux are ably impersonated by Mr. Victor Kerr and Mr. Guy Williams resp

"THE SPELL."

A Tragedy of Truth, in Two Panels, by Rosamund Langbridge, with special music by Norman O' Neill, produced for the first time on any stage at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on Friday, Nov. 2.

Michael Hennessy .....MR. MARTIN HARVEY
Mrs. Riordan .....MISS MARY RORKE
Mary Riordan .....MISS N. DE SILVA

Mr. Martin Harvey's production of *The Spell*, which event took place at the Manchester Theatre Royal on Friday, the 2nd, adds for himself another rôle to those various popular ones which exemplify his versatility in the eyes of a large and admiring public. Whether the piece will occupy a permanent place in his répertoire or not is, however, an open question, for the atmosphere of *The Spell* is heavy and depressing, and only in the second "panel" has the actor an opportunity to realise in his lines something of the lugubriously weird character of the theme. That he fulfils the artistic need is beyond question; and, brief as it is, the impersonation deserves to be ranked high among the best of his achievements. But it is much to be doubted whether tragedy so unnaturally environed as that of *The Spell*, so unrelievedly impregnated with a supernatural element that makes too many demands upon credulity, can have in itself the life that is needed to ensure anything like a popular success.

The scene is the interior of a cabin in Galway. Mrs. Riordan cronches over the fire, seeing visions, and talking ominously and dramatically of the things she sees. In similar tones she is answered or questioned by her daughter Mary, a red-haired girl, who is terribly frightened by the witch-talk of her mother. Intensity is the prevailing note of the dialogue between these two. The mother—a reputed witch as it transpires—has observed her daughter's futile liking for Michael Hennessy, a man who, in common with other people, passes by the girl in contemptuous dread because her red hair implies a curse upon all with whom she comes in contact. To overcome Michael's repugnance and to appease the longing of her daughter's heart, the mother weaves a spell, by which Michael is to be there and then invaded and made, in spite of himself, to come to the cabin and look upon the girl with eyes of love. The idea is worked up, in dialogue, with an intensity more melodramatic than natural, until the girl is infected by an excitement that almost enables her to see the man coming over the hill and down the road to their door. He is coming quickly—he is flying to her. But Michael makes no dashing entrance. He just opens the door and stands within, a man obviously under a spell. A stage half in darkness and an auditorium with all the lights turned low contribute to the weird effect produced by Michael's rapt face as he looks upon the woman he is to be made to love and marry. His appearance is, in a quiet way, electrifying; it is the appearance of Mr. Martin Harvey. And he says not a word. The curtain descends upon this, rising again immediately upon an interval in which the courtship has gone on apace to the morning of the marriage. But Mary is troubled by qualms about the method of Michael's capture, and, believing that he loves her for herself in spite of the spell, is of the mind to tell him how he was made to come to her. Against this projected confession her mother warns her that to tell Michael the truth will break the spell. But Mary would rather have the truth than a lie. Michael, when he appears, is full of an uncanny ecstacy of love for the girl, whose red hair he sees now as golden, and whom he is so eager to possess that he can scarcely wait for the wedding raiment to be donned. Now, while her mother is preparing her (unlucky) green dress for the ceremony, is the time chosen by Mary for confession. It is done admirably, and Michael's reception of the confession is thrilling. His eyes and his brain begin to clear; he sees that her hair is red; that she is accursed; and that he has been entrapped by the evil magic of a witch and her abominable daughter. The hopelessness of escape from the contamination he has undergone and its product of future evil works him up to a frenzy—a frenzy curiously mental rather than physical. Suddenly he snatches up a knife, and the girl falls back from him—dead. It is a horrid upshot. It is a horrid exit he makes, too, retreating backward to the door, unable to take his eyes from the body, and conveying in his whole aspect the sense of the curse entailed upon a human creature drawn to this issue by the supernatural agency of the spell. The picture is completed after his disappearance by the mother's discovery of the end of her work.

The action is accompanied, practically without cessation, by Mr. Norman O'Neill's music, which winds along weirdly in perfect accord with the subdued lights and wailing dialogue. It is really more pregnant and convincing than the play, in which the efficacy of superstitious beliefs, granting their existence, is too emphatically taken on trust. The dialogue also frequently transcends the mental equipment of the characters. But a praiseworthy effort was made to supplement the excellence of Mr. Harvey as Michael by Miss N. de Silva, who imparted at times much emotion to her embodiment of Mary; and by Miss Mary Rorke, whose impersonation of the mother was evidently inspired by a keen appreciation of the portentous atmosphere of the play. As for Mr. Harvey's creation of Michael Hennessy, it is as if one had seen a strange and memorable picture.

MISS LILLIE SELDEN'S MANDOLINE RECITAL.

On Monday evening, at Bechstein Hall, Miss Lillie Selden, the clever child mandolinist, gave a successful mandoline and harp recital, under the patronage of Dr. W. H. Cummings, principal of the Guildhall School of Music, where Miss Selden has received her training as pupil of the noted teacher of the mandoline, Madame Fiammetta Waldahoff. Miss Selden is a remarkably gifted little lady, with a really wonderful command of the mandoline, and although this instrument seems a somewhat awkward medium for such music as an "Andante" of Mendelssohn's, and the fine "Adagio and Allegro" from Max Bruch's G Minor Concerto, it was in these pieces that Miss Selden made her finest effects and gained the heartiest applause. The memory of the child is no less remarkable than her precision of execution, shown in such varied pieces as Field's "Nocturne," Hubay's difficult "In the Spinning Room" and De Beriot's charming "Scène de Ballet," a capital example of Miss Selden's powers. Other solos given by this clever performer were "Danse Tzigane" (Nachez), Bohm's "Moto Perpetuo," and "Cossack Revels," by Tchakoff-Grix, also a Study in Harmonics, "The Bell Waltz," "At Twilight" (duo form of mandoline playing (unacompanied) and Hubay's popular "Hejre Kati. The silver medal of the Guildhall School was this year awarded to Miss Selden. Other interesting items included in the programme were a musical poem, "Spirit of Music," composed and recited by Madame Waldahoff, and accompanied by Miss Selden, solo mandoline, and four other mandolinists, pupils of Madame Waldahoff, also by 'cello, Miss Dorothy Crompton; harp, Miss Macdonald; and piano, Miss Amy Parsons. Miss Georgina Macdonald received much applause for her clever harp solo, "Ballade," by Hasselmans and the mandoline quartettes accompanied by 'cello and harp, of Michiel's Czardas, and "Mil in the Black Forest," by Eilenberg, greatly pleased the audience. A mandoline solo was given by Miss Lilian Branston, and another harp solo by Miss Macdonald. The accompanists were Miss Nelson Ward, Mr. W. R. Nicholls, and Miss Amy Parsons. Bechstein Hall was well filled, and the most encouraging reception given to Miss Lillie Selden.

"THE OTHER HEIR."

A Comedy, in One Act, Written by Ernest H. G. Cox, Produced at Her Majesty's Opera House, Blackpool, on Monday, Nov. 5.

Gerald Forester .....MR. ERNEST H. G. COX
Selby .....MR. S. IRWIN BARRETT
Alice Sefton .....MISS HILDA HONISS
Mrs. Simpkins .....MISS MARGARET MARSHALL

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A very enthusiastic audience accorded the warmest welcome to this clever little play on Monday night. The main outline of the story may be told very briefly. The curtain, on rising, reveals Gerald Forester, an erstwhile impecunious journalist, rejoicing over his sudden and unexpected good fortune. He has just received the very pleasing information from a firm of solicitors that a distant uncle has left him a big fortune, and he therefore decides that he can now afford an assistant, and at once rings up a typewriting firm, and instructs them to send a lady typist across to his rooms at once. Presently there enters a charming young lady, whom he naturally concludes is the typist, and with whom he falls desperately in love at first sight. He proposes to her, and is accepted, before she has had an opportunity to explain her mission. However, seeing how matters are progressing, she decides for the present to remain silent, and proceeds to inspect the typewriter (or type machine) in an adjoining room. Forester's servant then produces a letter, which he had forgotten to hand to his master. This turns out to be a letter from the lawyers stating that another will of later date has been found, and which contains a clause to the effect that, if he does not marry his uncle's ward, he will sacrifice the fortune and estates, which revert to the ward, who is on her way to call upon him. He is lamenting his bitter fate when the arrival is announced of another lady, whom he reasonably concludes is "the other heir." A complicated but cleverly-written scene follows, in which Forester tells her (the typist) that under no circumstances could he marry her, and which ultimately terminates in all being explained, and a happy ending. The audience testified their appreciation in the orthodox manner, and were not satisfied until the author came before the curtain and bowed his acknowledgments.

As regards the acting, beyond a pardonable nervousness on a first production, there was no fault to find. Mr. Cox as Gerald Forester did not miss a point. Miss Hilda Honiss played Alice Sefton with her usual charming grace, which made Forester's impulsive love-making quite excusable. Selby, the butler, was played by Mr. S. Irwin Barrett, and the part could not have been in better hands; whilst Miss Margaret Marshall turned the small part of Mrs. Simpkins into a clever character-sketch.

"THE CRUSADER."

Grand Opera, for Juveniles, in Four Acts, Written and Composed by George Tootell, Produced for the First Time, at Lytham Pier Theatre, on Tuesday, Nov. 6.

Wilfrid .....MASTER NORMAN SCOTT
Ralph de Courcy ..MASTER SIDNEY NIGHTINGALE
Bertrand .....MASTER LEONARD FISHER
Walter .....MISS ELSIE CLARKE
Margaret .....MISS MAUDE HOWE
Elfrida .....MISS RUTH BARLOW

Rather a novelty was presented to the public at Lytham on Tuesday, when Mr. Tootell produced his new juvenile opera, *The Crusader*. It is not often one sees children appearing in grand opera. The plot deals with a knight, one Wilfrid, who, struck by remorse at having, in a fit of passion, killed his best friend, goes, as a penalty, to fight as a Crusader. He is accompanied by Ralph de Courcy. Wilfrid leaves his betrothed, Margaret, with a promise to return in five years, and claim his promised bride. Ralph, however, having conceived a passionate love for Margaret, returns alone, and tells how, after fighting bravely, Wilfrid was killed. He consoles the unhappy Margaret, and at last wins her consent to wed. The marriage is about to take place on the last day of the five years, when Wilfrid returns, puts the wicked Ralph to shame, and claims his bride. The music, without rising to anything very great, is enjoyable, especially the introduction to the acts. The chief parts were ably taken by Miss Maude Howe (Margaret), Master Norman Scott (Wilfrid), and Master S. Nightingale (Ralph); whilst Miss E. Clarke, Miss R. Barlow, and Master L. Fisher were good as Walter, Elfrida, and Bertrand respectively.

"THE GREEN ROOM BOOK; OR, WHO'S WHO ON THE STAGE."

(*1907 Issue.*)

This valuable compilation, which is already the recognised Who's Who of the Stage and Year Book of the dramatic profession, is being revised and brought up to date for 1907. There will be over 500 new biographies of the principal actors, actresses, dramatists, managers, and critics of the day. The biographies in the 1906 edition have been subjected to careful correction—in some cases extension, in others compression or elimination—until it cannot fail to be regarded as the Debrett of the theatrical profession, and will be an invaluable work of reference to the playgoer and student of the drama, while it will be of the highest value to managers and agents desirous of making themselves acquainted with the répertoire and métier of artists whom they propose to engage. The various appendices will form a special feature of the volume for 1907, and will include a Review of the Drama of 1906, a complete list of all plays produced in the United Kingdom during that period, a revised list of the theatres, music halls, and fit-up halls of Great Britain and Ireland, with the population of towns, and the names of proprietors or managers; Programmes of the Year, by Mr. H. G. Hibbert; Full Account of the Ellen Terry Benefit; a Special Article on Dramatic Criticism, by Mr. J. T. Grein; a Directory of Theatrical Adrresses in which artists may register without fee; theatrical law cases for the year; theatrical events and news of the year; theatrical clubs, charities and institutions, with details as to officials, &c.; box plans of all the London theatres; and full obituary for 1906. Mr. J. M. Bulloch will also contribute an extended and revised collection of his interesting theatrical genealogical trees, under the heading, "Footlight Families."

Order in advance from your bookseller.

NOTE.—Recognised members of the profession will oblige by applying for forms and returning the same with professional particulars and addresses for registration. Intending advertisers must apply immediately, as space is strictly limited.—[ADVT.]

THE past season at the Spa, Whitby, having exceeded all previous records under Mr. Payne-Seddon's management, the owner, Sir Charles Elliott, Bart., has leased the entire property, together with the tennis lawns, croquet grounds &c., to Mr. Seddon for a term of years.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—May I ask you to be good enough to state that the credit for the rendering of the Alderman in *The Night of the Party* at the Castle Theatre, Richmond, last week, should be given, not to Mr. Edward Sawer, as announced in the programme, but to—Yours faithfully, EDMOND T. SAVERS, Theatre Royal, Deal, Nov. 8, 1906.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on the Saturday night of June 30. She had fulfilled an engagement at H. M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left the same night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared the following week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six-foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital. She was found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body.

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

Miss Stephens was a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon*,

Photo by Sydney Wood.

MISS DOT STEPHENS.

and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr. Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

Amount already acknowledged ..	£223	8	0
Mrs. Albert Chevalier	2	2	0
J. W. Chapman	1	1	0
John McInnes, per Miss Queenie Leighton	1	1	0
N. de Silva	1	1	0
Adah Barton	0	10	0
Florodora Company, per A. B. Spens	0	10	0
William Forbes	0	5	0
C. Hedley Clark	0	2	6
Roland Bottomley, sent to him for his autograph	0	2	6
The Fatal Wedding Co.:—			
Mr. Guy Hastings	0	2	0
Arthur Law Rayner	0	2	0
W. Devin	0	2	0
Blanche Stanley	0	2	0
W. Westwood	0	2	0
Mr. Jones (Seacombe), 1s.; Mr. Charles Burgess, 1s.; Leah Marlborough, 1s.; Katherine Clarke, 1s.	0	4	0

It is intended to purchase an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND.

On Thursday, Nov. 8, the Farcical Comedy, entitled "CHARLEY'S AUNT."

"Laughter holding both its sides" and merriment pressed down and running over is the result of the visit to this popular comedy for the week-end. It is only fair to add that the result of all this may be traced to the excellent all-round performance of Mr. Brandon Thomas's company, of which Mr. Alleyn M. Hilton is the capable manager. Mr. Stanley Cook repeated his admirable impersonation of Lord Fancourt Babberley, and quite early in the evening became the favourite of everyone; the rôle fitted him like a glove, and throughout the performance he kept the house in roars of laughter. Mr. C. B. Keston was a capital Col. Sir Francis Chesney, and his proposal in Act 2 was a capital bit of acting; an experienced actor, Mr. Walter Beaumont, made the most of his opportunities as Stephen Spettigue, and elicited a good deal of merriment as the gentleman in quest of an heiress; Jack Chesney was excellently played by Mr. Hastings Lynn; nothing could have been better than the light-hearted young undergraduate who makes love with all the ardour of youth and wins the lady of his choice; as Charley Wykeham Mr. Richard H. Mason did remarkably well, and played with no little ability. A word of praise is due to Mr. Sydney Compton, who portrayed the college scout Babbett to the life, and did much with an unimportant rôle; Miss Eva Boyne was altogether charming as Ella; Amy Spettigue was pleasingly played by Miss Kitty Carew; Miss Lilian Lait as Kitty Verdun added to the success of the evening; and a capital performance was that of Miss Lena MacNaughton as the real Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez. The play met with an enthusiastic reception, and was mounted with scrupulous care. Mr. Arthur Howard remains at the head of the house here, and has done much to popularise the theatre; his "bookings" have left nothing to be desired. A good word is due to Mr. C. W. Dowell's capital orchestra.

THE hundredth performance of *Amasis*, at the New Theatre, last evening, was agreeably commemorated by the presentation to each member of the audience of souvenir copies of the full vocal score and the book of the words.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

The first production of Signor Umberto Giordano's three-act opera, *Fédora*, was given at Covent Garden on Monday night before a full house. Giordano, early in his career, was successful with his opera, *Mala Vita*, and still more so with *Andrea Chenier* and *Fédora*, produced in 1898 at Milan. The libretto, by Signor Arturo Colantti, is founded on Victorien Sardou's famous tragedy, and the first act takes place in Count Vladimir's house in St. Petersburg, where his servants are, in their master's absence, spending a lively evening. They are interrupted by the Princess Fédora, betrothed to Vladimir. Shortly afterwards her lover is brought in mortally wounded, at first it is thought by a Nihilist, but suspicion falls on Count Loris Ipanov. Féodora swears to avenge her lover, and the curtain falls on this dramatic scene. In the second act, which takes place in Paris, a ball is proceeding in Fédora's house, a waltz being played, and after that a polacca. A French diplomat, De Siriex, then sings an air descriptive of Russian ladies. Olga, Fédora's cousin, follows suit with a song, anything but complimentary to the fair sex of France. Louis Ipanow, who has escaped to Paris after killing Vladimir, then appears in the ballroom, and, of course, at once falls in love with Fédora. She leads him on to a confession of the murder, which, after the guests have departed, she writes down, and gives to a police-inspector, and orders him to arrest Louis as he leaves the house. Louis returns, and tells Fédora that he shot Vladimir because he wrote a letter to his (Louis's) wife, Wanda, who has proved unfaithful. Fédora then transfers her affections to Louis. The signal is not given to the police outside, as she tells Louis she loves him, and that he is to remain with her. A villa in Switzerland is the scene of the third act, where Fédora and Louis are dwelling in great happiness. News comes, however, to Fédora that Vladimir's father has killed the brother of Louis because of a letter received from Fédora, and that a friend will bring this letter to show Louis. Fearing all will be revealed, Fédora takes poison, and in a final duet between the lovers the opera ends. Enough is shown in this story that so involved a plot is not entirely satisfactory, from an operatic point of view, in spite of many really dramatic situations. The music in this opera, though unequal, contains some happy moments, such as the dramatic air in the first act, where Fédora swears to be revenged on her lover's assassin, and the beautiful melody, sung by the lovers in the second act. The music also at the beginning of the last act is well conceived, and the last scene in the opera very dramatic. The cast was excellent. Signora Giachetti made an ideal Fédora, and Signor Zenatello sang the music of Louis superbly; while the characters of De Sirieux, Gretch, and the lively Olga were capitally sustained by Signor Scandiani, Signor Thos, and Signora Garavaglia. Signor Mugnone conducted most skilfully. At the close of the second act, the composer, Signor Giordano, was called on the stage and warmly applauded.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

On Wednesday afternoon Sir Alexander Mackenzie gave the first of his series of lectures on "Bohemian Music." Sir Alexander, during his lecture, gave several examples on the piano of early and little-known Bohemian music, and he was also assisted by three lady students of the Academy, who sang and played some of the music. At the commencement of his lecture, Sir A. C. Mackenzie said Bohemia had a really remarkable school of music of its own, which had even played a political part, and dated from the tenth century, but in these early days the priests had tried hard to stop Bohemian music, and the Kings of Bohemia favoured German music, but in Charles the First's time Italian music prevailed. The music of the French trobadours differed from the German; a specimen of troubadour music was then sung, the lecturer remarking on the charming and quite modern tune. Sir Alexander then played a short example that he said might have been written yesterday. Although the Church at that time was so bitterly opposed to music, the love of secular music became so strong that they were unable to stem the tide. The oldest known hymn-book contained a war song. Sir Alexander played an Invocation consisting of six lines, and another, "Lord, love us," which the lecturer remarked was not so good. Music at that time was not barred. Sir Alexander then mentioned the fact that some of the beautiful Bohemian folk airs are to be found in the compositions of Smetana and Dvorák. So great had the apathy of the Church become that the choristers came late and chatted and told anecdotes, and the nuns sat sewing, and after that people were forbidden to sing in the church. Only towards the end of the fifteenth century did folk songs improve; then the Church authorities issued folk songs in their hymn-books. In giving an example Sir Alexander remarked that one hymn began in the major and ended in the minor key. About the year 1598 Palestrina was at the height of his fame, and some time after opera became a most important factor and an opera-house was established at Prague and Glück's operas produced. After Mozart's time Bohemian music was established, and the modern brass band, though called a German band, was really Bohemian, and the difference between that and the Italian organ player was, Sir Alexander quaintly said, as that between Mephistopheles and Beelzebub. The lecturer might also have added the picturesque young Savoyard at one time seen in our streets, with his fearsome instrument, popularly known as a hurdy-gurdy. Sir Alexander briefly referred to the improved musical condition of our streets, but did not mention the motor horn or the modern piano-organ. In 1774 the German language was taught only in the schools, and in North Germany the schoolmasters had to teach music and even conduct; while good instrumentalists became so scarce that in 1804 it was impossible to get a good orchestra together. Some pleasing folk songs at this part of the lecture were then given, the accomplished Principal of the Academy causing much laughter by saying his hearers were to listen to the songs but not the words, "as they were his own, and he was not proud of them." In speaking of the difficulty Weber encountered in trying to produce an opera in Bohemia, as they would only speak their own language, which he did not understand, the lecturer remarked on the great difference in our own country, where any language but English was preferred. The lecture concluded with the singing of the National Bohemian Hymn, justly characterised by Sir Alexander Mackenzie as beautiful music, and with a reference to the epoch-making composer Smetana.

PRESENTATION.—Mr. Bernard M. Armstrong, nephew of the popular comedian of the same name, had a very nice compliment paid him the other evening on the occasion of his attaining his majority. At the close of the performance at the New Gaiety Theatre, Glasgow, on behalf of the entire staff, orchestra, company, leading patrons, etc., Mr. Jos. Baker, acting-manager, presented Mr. Armstrong with a handsome dressing case and a beautiful diamond scarf-pin.

PRESENTATION.—The ladies and gentlemen of Mr. J. Bannister Howard's *Silver King* North company have presented Mr. Frederic Adderley, the business-manager, with a travelling writing-case handsomely fitted and suitably engraved.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, OCT. 31.—Mr. H. B. Irving appeared as Lesurques and Dubosc in *The Lyons Mail* during the third week of his engagement at the New Amsterdam Theatre. The drama was preceded by *King Réné's Daughter*, with Miss Dorothea Baird in the title-rôle. During the same week three performances of *Charles I.* were given. The final week of the engagement was devoted to the following répertoire:—Monday and Tuesday nights, *Charles I.* and *Markheim*; Wednesday afternoon, *Paolo and Francesca*; Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday nights, *King Réné's Daughter* and *The Lyons Mail*; Thursday night and Saturday afternoon, *Markheim* and *Mauricette*. Mr. Irving and Miss Baird have been received with hearty appreciation and applause at every performance, and the critics, without exception, have recognised the high artistic merit and personal charm of their various portrayals. In fact, all signs point to this being the first of a series of very successful engagements in the Empire City.

"THE THREE OF US," a drama of Western life, by Rachel Crothers, has made a distinct hit at the Madison-square Theatre. The title refers to Rhy Macchesney, a young woman, and her two brothers, one of whom is on the verge of manhood while the other is a schoolboy. In a Nevada mining camp, where the three are trying to keep together until they can realise something on a gold mine, which has so far proved unprofitable, life grows irksome for Clem, the elder brother, and, in order to get away, he raises money by selling valuable information concerning the mine to Louis Berresford, a visiting Englishman. Steve Townley, who is in love with Rhy, has discovered a vein of gold. He tells his sweetheart, and binds her to secrecy; but Clem overhears the conversation. When Steve finds that his rival, Berresford, knows the value of the mine he suspects Rhy of treachery, and she, to shield her brother, cannot explain. The usual complications arise, the lovers are separated, and "the three of us" are on the verge of dissolution; but all the difficulties are finally smoothed away by Rhy Macchesney. Miss Carlotta Nillson as the self-sacrificing sister has scored a personal success of the first magnitude. Miss Eva Vincent is very amusing as an Irish servant; and prominent parts are well played by Messrs. Frederick Truesdell, Stanley Dark, and Henry Kolker.

"THE RICH MR. HOGGENHEIMER," the new musical play in which Mr. Sam Bernard is appearing at Wallack's Theatre, is built around the same character that made *The Girl from Kay's* so successful two years ago. Mr. Henry B. Smith wrote the book, and Mr. Ludwig Englander composed the music, there being interpolated numbers by Messrs. West, Kem, Jerome, and Schwartz. "Piggy" is now a married man, a happy, but at times a delinquent, husband. He has a son, and has chosen a wife for him; but young Hoggenheimer falls in love with a shopgirl during a visit to America. Consequently "Piggy's" plans are rudely shattered by a cablegram anouncing that his son is about to plunge into matrimony. So he pretends to have important business in America, and says good-bye to Mrs. Hoggenheimer. But when she finds that Flora Fair, an actress, is to be among the passengers, she secretly embarks on the same ship with her husband. Arrived in New York, "Piggy" disguises himself as a cabman, and undergoes tribulations whilst trying to drive his wife to her hotel. He fails in his efforts to separate the lovers, and finally gives his consent to the marriage. In this piece Mr. Bernard is even funnier that he was in *The Girl from Kay's*, which is saying a good deal.

"THE HOUSE OF MIRTH," a dramatisation of Mrs. Edith Wharton's novel of the same name, has scored a failure at the Savoy Theatre. The authoress had the assistance of Mr. Clyde Fitch in constructing the dramatic version of this widely-read story. Miss Fay Davis was personally most successful in her embodiment of the heroine; Lily Bart, and the other characters of the novel were ably represented, but the play as a whole was disappointing.

"THE MEASURE OF A MAN," a play, in four acts, by Cora Maynard, is the current attraction at Weber's Theatre. It depicts the shady side of "high finance," showing how Arnold King tries to "corner" the world's steel market by means of a certain invention and with the aid of Christopher Guthrie's millions. In the cast are Miss Percy Haswell, Miss Mary Hall, Mr. E. M. Holland, Mr. Robert Drouet, and Mr. George Holland, the latter being made up to resemble Mr. Pierpont Morgan.

AT the New York Theatre Mr. Chauncey Olcott is maintaining his popularity as an Irish singing comedian in a new play from the pen of Theodore Burt Sayre, called *Eileen Asthore*. The scenes are laid in and near Dublin in 1804, and Mr. Olcott appears as Richard Temple, a warm-hearted, impulsive young Irishman who has squandered his patrimony in extravagant living. Just as he is planning to enlist under Napoleon he meets Eileen O'Donnell, the typical Irish colleen of these compositions, and immediately falls in love with her. Deciding forthwith not to go to the wars in foreign parts, he sets seriously about the business of reforming, and after some months of probation wins the girl of his choice. Various other complications of a romantic character are introduced, but all ends in idyllic happiness.

MESSRS. KEITH AND PROCTOR have leased the "uptown" theatre known as the Harlem Opera House, long popular as a playhouse where the best attractions from the leading theatres could be seen after they had run their course on Broadway, and have converted it into a vaudeville house. The strong feature of the inaugural bill was Mrs. Langtry's appearance in the one-act play *Between the Nightfall and the Light*, which met with a very favourable reception.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

In the programme of the students' concert, given on Wednesday evening, the first item was a piano solo by Miss Ada M. Nicholas, the first movement from Beethoven's Sonata in A. Mr. C. G. Belle sang Coleridge-Taylor's air "Onaway, awake beloved" with a fair amount of success, and Miss Lilian Branston (one of Mme. Waldahoff's pupils) received much applause for her mandoline solo, "Witches' Dance." Miss Beatrice Weatherley neatly interpreted Mr. Orlando Morgan's song, "The White Dove," while Miss E. Barnes proved a skilful executant in her pianoforte solos of Max Vogrich's Staccato Caprice and the Intermezzo en Octaves, by Leschetizky. A very young vocalist, Master John Lowrie, was heard in Sullivan's song "The Chorister," and for his careful singing was warmly greeted by the audience. Teresa del Riego's pleasing ballad "The Waking of Spring" was admirably given by Miss Margaret Rumsey, and Mr. Henry F. Collett displayed skilful execution in his piano solo Scherzo (Brook). Another clever student, Mr. Bevington Rosse, sang Haydn's recit. and air "Rolling in foaming billows" (*Creation*) correctly and with good intonation, and Miss Edith Clapham's violin solos of Dvorák's quaint and charming Humoresque and Papini's Feu Follet were played in quite the right spirit and with great freedom of execution. Miss Inez F. Dicksee gave a song of Guy d'Hardelot's, and the concert concluded with the duet "Graceful Consort," from Hadyn's *Creation*. The accompanist was Miss Jenny Hyman.

OWING to the indisposition of Miss Ruth Lincoln, the part of Veronique was taken at Nottingham on Wednesday night by Miss Beatrice Hodson, who was accorded a hearty reception for her pleasing rendering.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Play, by Paul Kester and Charles Major, entitled
"DOROTHY O' THE HALL."

Miss Julia Neilson, Mr. Fred Terry, and their West End company, with all the original scenery, furniture, and effects from the New Theatre, returned to London this week after their triumphal tour of the provinces, and have been drawing houses full to overflowing at the Marlborough. Holloway has accorded the talented pair the warmest of welcomes, the curtain having to be raised many times after each of the four acts, even to the last, when they received quite an ovation. In the title-rôle Miss Julia Neilson invests her performance with a welcome atmosphere of humour which serves as an admirable contrast to the more powerful phases of emotion which occur in the play, especially in Act 2, where, to save the life of her lover, Sir John Manners, she discloses the hiding-place of Mary Stuart, Queen of Scotland. Miss Neilson's interpretation is, in all its aspects, perfect. Mr. Fred Terry, versatile and resourceful, fairly revels in the part of Sir John Manners, whose buoyancy, ready wit, and geniality he presents with unfailing ability, and scores, it is almost needless to add, a marked success. Mr. Horace Hodges is admirably placed as the jester, Perkin, making every possible point with his lines and clever by-play. Mr. J. Carter Edwards, who has a commanding stage presence allied to elocutionary power of a high order, is a most capable Sir George Vernon. As Sir Malcolm Vernon Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw gives a capital rendering of the part; and the same remark applies to Mr. Frederick Groves as the Earl of Rutland. Mr. Malcolm Cherry, Mr. W. A. Haines, Mr. Walter Edwin, Mr. George Dudley, and Mr. Alan Borthwick give adequate renderings of their respective rôles. Miss Miriam Lewes is to be warmly congratulated on her impressive rendering of the stately Elizabeth Tudor, Queen of England; and Miss Lilias Waldegrave is no less successful as the ill-fated Queen Mary of Scotland. Miss Claire Pauncefort renders excellent service as Lady Vernon, and Miss Mary Mackenzie as Jenny Faxton and Miss Marion Sterling in the part of Bess, the cook at Haddon Hall, are also admirable. The scenery, staging, and appointments deserve high commendation, and the effective incidental music, specially written by Mr. Raymond Roze, is admirably performed by the Marlborough orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Sydney Faulks.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
Shakespeare's Comedy, entitled
"THE TAMING OF THE SHREW."

A visit by the famous Benson company is an event anticipated with much interest in Hammersmith, and therefore no surprise was caused on Monday evening at this handsome theatre being well filled by an audience that followed Shakespeare's comedy with close attention and interest. And the reception on Monday was an excellent augury for the remainder of the week's business. Mr. Benson has surrounded himself with an exceedingly capable band of earnest Shakespearean students, although this particular play, farcical as it is, does not offer many opportunities for the display of elocutionary powers on the part of the performers. Mr. Benson evidently looks upon the whole as pure farce, and treats it as such, hurrying the action at headlong pace. By so doing the piece is rendered vastly amusing, and succeeds admirably. Mr. Benson makes a capital Petruchio, and wins applause by his vigorous treatment, both as lover and husband of the shrew, Katherine. As Baptista, Mr. E. A. Warburton gives a dignified representation, which is most acceptable. Mr. Murray Carrington is an excellent Vincentio; and Mr. George Buchanan affords every satisfaction as Lucentio. Mr. H. O. Nicholson plays well as Gremio; and Mr. Clarence Derwent represents Tranio with the requisite gusto. Mr. Percy D. Owen is an amusing Biondello; and Mr. Stanley Howlett acts well as Hortensio. Grumio, the servant, could be in no better hands than those of Mr. George R. Weir, one of the best of Shakespearean comedians. Mrs. Benson's Katherine is a performance of more than average merit, and well deserves the success gained. A charming embodiment of Bianca is presented by Miss Gwladys Wynne. The smaller characters are adequately filled. During the remainder of the week the other plays presented have been *Macbeth*, *The School for Scandal*, *As You Like It*, *Henry V.*, and *The Merchant of Venice*.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Farce-comedy, in Three Acts,
by Michael Morton, entitled
"THE LITTLE STRANGER."

"Welcome, *Little Stranger!*" is the text that has been suggested at the Camden Theatre this week by the attitude of laughter-lovers towards Mr. Michael Morton's three-act farce, produced at the Criterion early in the year. The precocity and audacity of Tom Pennyman, who impersonates the precious infant, and scares all and sundry by his cigarette smoking and other practices of youth in the adult stage, have evoked shouts of merriment at the fine house facing the Cobden statue. Master Edward Garratt plays the part of Tom Pennyman and the baby with a comic audacity that evokes shouts of laughter, especially in the last act. Mr. Charles Goold has in the part of Eames, the butler, a character that enables him to score most unmistakably; there is a delightful air of comic terror about the nurse of Miss Louie Tinsley, one of the few really funny women we have on the stage; and the Mrs. Dick Allenby of Miss Mary Allestree is an impersonation of much charm and distinction. Mr. Charles Steuart has a light and agreeable style, which is of much advantage to him in his rendering of Captain Dick Allenby; Mr. Hubert Druce's portrait of Sir George Peacock is duly splenetic; Mr. Charles Hanbury is most effective in the part of the Hon. Alec Howard; Miss Daisy Atherton is a decidedly interesting Effie Peacock; the Paul Vronsky of Mr. George E. Bellamy is characteristically mysterious; and there is much merit in Mr. H. Athol Ford's General Allenby, Miss Mary Stuart being well placed as the elder Mrs. Allenby. Mr. Cecil S. Lamb is the acting-manager for Mr. Charles Steuart, whose company it is.

The rollicking piece of absurdity was preceded on Monday by a comedy in one act, from the pen of Mr. Barton White, and entitled

"THE SECOND MRS. GRUNDY."

Jerry Grundy .....Mr. Hubert Druce
Phyllis Hewitt .....Miss Daisy Atherton

This is a pleasant enough trifle, though it does not boast much originality. The young couple, separated by stress of circumstances, and reunited after years through an accidental meeting at an out-of-the-way place, are quite old friends in the theatre, and one may easily understand therefore the hearty welcome given to them on Monday by the Camdentonians. Mr. Barton White may, nevertheless, be complimented on his clever treatment of a familiar plot, his dialogue being at times smart and always amusing. Jerry Grundy, an artist, is staying at a two-roomed cottage on the Welsh mountains, in the vicinity of Snowdon, and when we are introduced to him he is foghound, and has to make the best of what promises to be a long evening. Suddenly he hears a cry of distress, and, peering out into the mist, he discovers a maiden in distress. It is none other than Phyllis Hewitt, his sweetheart of four years ago, who has sprained her ankle. He makes her as comfortable as the scanty furniture will allow. Realising that he is alone, Phyllis is in a state of agitation lest the proprieties should be outraged by her stay all night in the isolated hut. Jerry, in order to keep her by his side, tells a fib, and asserts the existence of a Mrs. Grundy, who is sleeping soundly in the next room. Eventually, however, he has to own up, and, with the arrival of a search party, he secures a promise from Phyllis that "the love of years ago is worth the taking," and she will become "the Second Mrs. Grundy." Mr. Hubert Druce played with a light touch the part of Jerry, and the little touch of seriousness that he occasionally put into his lines was quite in the right vein. Miss Daisy Atherton charmingly realised the rôle of Phyllis Hewitt, a breezy English girl, possessing the breeziness and independence characteristic of the race. The curtain-raiser was quite successful, and if the author will only print it, there should be a demand for it from amateur societies. It is far above the inane stuff that is so often made to do duty for "playing the people in."

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Musical Play,
"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

The Belle of New York is an old favourite at Woolwich, and, to judge from Monday night's ovation, her popularity is far from being on the wane. Mr. George Musgrove has certainly got together a talented company, which is "presented" by Mr. J. Bannister Howard, and the play goes with a rush from start to finish. Miss Empsie Bowman makes a delightfully demure Violet Grey, acting nicely, and singing her songs with great expression. Miss Florence Hersee makes a great hit as the Pell-street Girl, throwing herself heart and soul into her work, and dancing and singing with a spirit and abandon really marvellous. As Fifi Fricot, Miss Lily Maxwell is supplied with a part admirably suited to her style, and certainly makes the most of her opportunities. Miss Winnie Brown has a striking appearance as Cora Angelique, and speaks her lines with distinction. Mr. Paddy Dupres is responsible for a richly humorous rendering of Ichabod Bronson, and though on Monday he was sadly hampered by a bad cold, he soon made himself a firm favourite. Mr. Max Copeland's polite lunatic is droll in the extreme, his elaborate broken English being as amusing as his weird gesticulations. Mr. John Doran is a manly Harry Bronson, and sings in good style, giving full effect to a fine resonant voice. Doc Snifkins is played with a good deal of dry humour by Mr. Alfred Sandor; and Mr. Walter Uridge is amusing as Mugg, the comedian. Finally, Mr. Frank Lawton repeats his never-to-be-forgotten whistling scene, and secures the most determined encores for every item in his programme, his fine performance with the "bones" in particular bringing down the house. The chorus is beautifully dressed and well drilled, and is as collectively tuneful as its members are individually handsome.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Play, founded by George Warren on Edgar Wallace's novel, entitled
"THE FOUR JUST MEN."

A thrilling melodrama has been evolved from this well-known novel with very little deviation from the original story, although the entire absence of any love interest, or, indeed, of even a single female character, has necessitated the introduction of two members of the fair sex. As is already known, the plot deals with the removal (as the Anarchists mildly put it) of Sir Philip Ramon, Bart., the British Foreign Secretary, in order to prevent the passing of a Bill for the extradition of foreign political offenders from England. The mysterious and self-constituted tribunal of the Four Just Men has already threatened Sir Philip with death if he will not withdraw his measure, but the baronet is obstinate, and although protected in every conceivable way by police, &c., his death is compassed by the conspirators sending a current of many thousand volts through his telephone at the time he is using it. Mr. H. A. Saintsbury is the chief of the four, George Manfred, and gives an impressive rendering of the part. He has a share in an extremely realistic duel in the first act, where he kills one of the Servian regicides, General Trelovitch, ably played by Mr. A. J. Hicks. Mr. Gordon Bailey is the taciturn Poiccart, chemist to the band, and he succeeds in making his rôle individual and convincing. As Leon Gonsalez, another of the plotters, Mr. Hubert Willis is a very Fregoli for changes of disguises, and the last of the four, Miguel Thery, is forcibly portrayed by Mr. E. H. Dobell. Mr. H. Elliott Ball makes the Foreign Secretary as sympathetic as possible; and Mr. Leonard Williams is an ideal lover as the revolutionary Manuel Garcia. Mr. Legai Robinson cleverly doubles the parts of Mr. Greenham, M.P., and Billy Marks, a pickpocket, the latter impersonation being especially good. Supt. Falmouth, the police officer who has charge of the safety of Sir Philip Ramon, is naturally acted by Mr. Charles Terric; and a good study of a senile legislator is given by Mr. Louis Scott as Sir Charles Barrington, M.P. Mr. Edward Russell as Mr. Blount, the editor of the *Megaphone*, an up-to-date daily paper, is well suited; the smart humour of the American widow, Mrs. Travers, is safe in the hands of Miss Alys Rees; and Miss Dorothea Desmond is agreeably girlish and impulsive as Juanita Ramon, the ward of Sir Philip, and in love with Manuel Garcia. The scenery is good, and the ingenious play receives the appreciation it well merits.

THE CORONET

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the version of "The Vicar of Wakefield," by W. G. Wills, entitled
"OLIVIA."

Miss Winifred Emery and her strong London company are this week appearing in the pathetic play *Olivia*, which is very prettily mounted and cleverly interpreted. The scene of the Vicar's garden is full of charm and rustic simplicity, and presents an exceedingly pleasing picture of country home life among the roses and honeysuckle. Miss Winifred Emery acts with great emotional ability, and her deep, thrilling voice is exactly suited to the portrayal of extreme mental anguish. In the scene in the room at an inn, where the profligate Squire coolly informs Olivia of their mock marriage, she rises to the greatest height of dramatic expression, "And bitter shame has spoilt the sweet world's taste, That it yields naught but shame and bitterness." We see her heart-broken, hopeless despair as through the very mirror of nature. Mr. Brandon Thomas gives a fine, sterling embodiment of the dear old Vicar of Wakefield, and his assumption of ungovernable passion striving for mental mastery with his natural mood of meek and pious resignation, "when the pasture fence is broken and his favourite lamb stolen," is a most effective and realistic bit of character acting. Mr. Eillie Norwood is capital as Sir William Thornhill, masquerading as one Burchell, and acts with authority and distinction, delivering his scathing denunciation of the dissolute young Squire in most impressive style. As the dastardly seducer, young Squire Thornhill, Mr. Franklin Dyall acts with breezy *bonhomie* and youthful exuberance of spirits, and does very well in the part. Miss Keith Lytton is excellent as the good-hearted but self-seeking and ambitious Mrs. Primrose. Mr. Harry Ashford as fiery Farmer Flamborough, Mr. H. Cannon George as the bookworm Moses, Miss Morel as Phœbe, and Miss Harriet French as a gipsy woman are all well in the picture. Miss Isabel Roland is a pretty Polly Flamborough, Miss May Chevalier is a winsome Sophia, and little Maudie Andrews as Dick and Master Bobbie Andrews as Billy are delightfully natural youngsters; nor must we forget to mention Mr. M. A. Wetherell as the picturesque scoundrel Leigh. Mr. Harry Ashford stage-manages, and Mr. F. J. Richardson is the business manager of the company for Miss Winifred Emery.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Drama in Four Acts, by Frank Bateman, entitled
"THE SAILORS OF THE KING."

It has long been known that anything appertaining to life in the Navy was sure of the warm interest of the British public, and it therefore was not surprising to find a large crowd assembled at the Shakespeare on Monday night to witness the performance of the thrilling drama *The Sailors of the King*. A warm welcome was extended to the members of Mr. Charles Harrington's specially selected company, who must have been extremely gratified by the enthusiasm that greeted them at the close of the performance. The plot of the play is rather unique, inasmuch as the villain is a naval chaplain, but the piece abounds with stirring situations and thrilling incidents that hold the audience throughout. The scenery, too, is all that can be desired, and the final scene of the "Launch of the Ship" is very novel and realistic. Mr. Charles Harrington as Admiral Drake gives an admirable study of a retired naval officer, and acquits himself with great success. Mr. Frank Stephens is well suited to the *rôle* of the hero, Lieut. Dick Drake, and his breezy acting has made a deep impression. Orrel Drake is ably impersonated by Mr. F. R. Stacy, who submits a refined performance of the villainous chaplain; and Mr. A. D. Anderson is responsible for a satisfactory representation of Chief Engineer Dent. Mr. Kenneth Black, junr., causes much merriment by his clever acting in the part of Barnet Fair, and is ably assisted in this direction by Mr. Fred Owen as Harris Wilkinstein. In the exacting *rôle* of the adventuress, Rebecca Crosby, Miss Sylvia Stella plays very powerfully, and her acting contributes greatly to the success of the play. Miss Madge North, as the heroine, Felicia Phrynne, plays with charm and intelligence; Miss Lily Prescott wins the sympathy of the audience by her representation of Daisy Dent; and Miss Hero Hathaway cleverly assumes the part of the young Quakeress, Penelope Penn. The play is produced under the direction of Mr. C. Harrington, and Mr. B. De Hague Body is the courteous acting-manager for Messrs. Bennett and Bennett.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Musical Play, entitled
"THE GIRL BEHIND THE COUNTER."

The visit of Mr. Frank Curzon's London company has drawn full houses to the Fulham Theatre this week. This is the actual company from Wyndham's Theatre, with Mr. Hayden Coffin and Miss Isabel Jay in the cast, and there is the additional advantage that the orchestra is under the bâton of the composer, Mr. Howard Talbot. Miss Jay is acting with all her wonted charm, and sings very finely, having to repeat more than one of her songs. Mr. Hayden Coffin has taken a position quite at the top in his particular line, and he is well suited in the part of Charles Chetwynd. He made an ideal operatic lover; his costume in the second act suited him to perfection, and he made love in the most tender and persuasive manner, while his singing was delightful, and worthy of his great reputation. In particular, the love duet with Miss Jay was quite a triumph of artistic singing and acting. As General Willoughby, Mr. J. F. McArdle scored a success. He provided a never-ending flow of amusement with his speeches and his business, while one of his songs, that about Sir Walter Raleigh, pleased the house so much that he had to give, not one encore, but several. Another successful maker of fun was Mr. George Barrett, who has a quaint manner of his own that was admirably suited to the character, that of the typical English waiter of the old school. Mr. Fred Allandale overflowed with Gallic vivacity as M. Duval; and Mr. G. Davy Burnaby contributed a smart little character-sketch as the inane Gushington. Miss Violet Englefield put in some clever work as Millie Mostyn; and Miss Violet Crossley, as Lady Willoughby, Miss Helene Rose as Ninette, and Miss Kathleen Courtney as Susie, all filled their parts worthily. Mr. Lionel Victor, in an "Edmund Payne" part, as the office boy, also showed a good sense of humour; and Mr. Ernest Laceby was a delightfully Teutonic commissionaire. The play is most handsomely dressed and mounted, and the whole production is of the highest class.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Play, by Maud Hildyard and Russell Vaun, entitled
"THE GREAT AWAKENING."

Miss Maud Hildyard is playing her farewell visit to Dalstonians this week previous to her Australian tour, and is appearing with considerable success in the play *The Great Awakening*, of which she is part author. Miss Hildyard plays the part of Lola Selby, alias Lady Merton. It is a character the representation of which affords considerable scope to an actress of experience and resource, and it is only fair to Miss Hildyard to say that she does not give the most critical among the audience even half a chance of accusing her of missing any point that will tell. As Lola Selby is a lady whose career, in any case, it is most interesting to watch, it can be taken for granted that Miss Hildyard renders the part even more than ordinarily engrossing. Mr. Martin Sands as James Selby, an escaped convict, who is also known by the alias of Pierce, aids materially in sustaining the interest of the story; while others who assist the same desirable end include Mr. Bernard Copping, who plays Sir Henry Merton, of Merton Abbey, and as Jack Merton, the baronet's son; Mr. Charles Linney as Guy Rogan, an adventurer; and Mr. Howell Travis as Richard Wilson, Lola's father. There must be added characters who supply touches of everyday life and reality to the piece; and among this section remain to be noted Capt. Harry Lambert, well played by Mr. Herbert Evelyn; Molly Morton, who has a vivacious representative in Miss Doris Digby; and Selina Worts, Molly's servant, which engaging domestic has a most capable exponent in Miss Isa Bellington. The cast also includes Mr. Willie Scott, Mr. Tracy Barrow, Mr. Godfrey Sheldon, Mr. W. Newell, Mr. W. Jeans, and Mr. E. Gordon. Mr. Martin Sands fulfils the duties of stage manager.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Operetta, in Four Acts, entitled
"BLIMELE."

The operetta, *Blimele*, as performed by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company on Monday evening at the Pavilion, brought together a large number of patrons, who demonstratively received with enthusiasm the musical fare provided, and although there is nothing particularly brilliant either in the dialogue or composition, yet the piece is made most acceptable by the abilities of the Yiddish artists, who spare no effort to please their very large following. As regards scenery and dressing, the management deserve all credit for the liberal manner in which the operetta was staged, while the popular acting-manager, Mr. Fred Brown, displays his usual unremitting attention and courtesy to all. Mr. J. Goldsmith was well suited, and must be accorded great praise for his studied and careful rendering of Reb Lipe; and Mr. N. Hamburger elaborated a very satisfactory and consistent impersonation of King August; while Mr. J. Fineberg gave excellent assistance to the play by his finished assumption of Berele. As Daniel, Mr. M. Gusofsky was successful, eliciting hearty and frequent applause, both by his histrionic efforts and his vocalisation. Mr. Isaacowitch as Count Yablonowitch acted exceedingly well, his commanding appearance specially suiting him for the part. Mr. J. Scherman was in capital form, and gave a smart and clever performance of Zeligel; while Mr. S. Schilling caused considerable amusement with his portraiture of Papa Maxim. Mme. Rose Waxman as Blimele was a great success. Her conception was a thoroughly true one, and her acting graceful and natural. Mme. J. Kayzer as Miriam powerfully illustrated the varied feelings the part demands, and deserved the applause she received. Miss Bryh was an admirable Zirele, and shared the honours of the evening; while a page was ably sustained by Mme. Goldstein. The chorus worked well, although the male members should give a little more attention to "make up" and "business," and the excellent orchestra is carefully directed by Professor F. Staub. During the week, *The Sailor in Danger*, *The Jewish Hamlet*, *Man and Devil*, *The Rich Beggar*, and *The Witch* have been played.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Domestic Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur Shirley, entitled
"THE MIDNIGHT MAIL."

The experiment of having two performances a night has apparently not proved sufficiently encouraging to warrant its continuance after a three weeks' trial, and on Monday the management reverted to the old system. Mr. Arthur Shirley's drama, *The Midnight Mail*, which was originally produced at the Lyric, Hammersmith, contains all the necessary ingredients to render it pleasing theatrical fare to an audience that would not in the least appreciate the more subtle forms of the dramatist's art. An interesting story, presented with all the skill of a clever and experienced playwright, with a big sensation scene to spice the whole, and a strong flavouring of homely sentiment—these are the salient features of Mr. Shirley's drama, which, performed by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company, has met with a decidedly favourable reception at the Islington theatre. Mr. Alfred Goddard is well placed as Harry Steyne, the engine driver, who, after losing his situation and attempting highway robbery, turns over a new leaf, and makes amends for the past by preventing a terrible railway accident. Mr. Goddard is a natural and manly representative of the character, and loses no opportunity of scoring. Mr. Fred G. Evison, in the part of the drunken stoker, Billy Brewer, brightens the play by his truly humorous portrayal. At the same time, he cleverly and impressively portrays the man's terror-stricken attitude after accomplishing his plan for wrecking a train, having been tempted to do the treacherous deed by the gift of money from the adventurer, known as Hassan Padisha, a part played with sincerity and earnestness by Mr. Arthur Gilroy. Mr. Robert Grey gives an excellent embodiment of Leonard Royle, the African explorer; Mr. H. Dobell Lyle supplies a very clever character-sketch of the old signalman, Jasper Thornleigh; and Mr. R. S. Morley is a genial representative of the kind-hearted police officer, Sergeant O'Flynn. Miss Ada Oakley as Mary Steyne, the engine driver's wife, excites the sympathy of the audience by her touching expression of the mother's love for her child, and her joy when it is restored to her arms. Miss Phyllis Dailley is a graceful and pleasing exponent of the rôle of Lady Phyllis Eustace; Miss Dolly Gilroy is appropriately pert as the schoolgirl, Patty; and Miss Mildred Carr is successful in the part of Nancy Brewer. Mr. Charles McCann renders able assistance as Donald Craigg; Miss Grace Chesterfield is good as Mrs. Mildmay, matron of the Waifs' Home; and the numerous other minor rôles are carefully sustained. The scene in which Harry Steyne, by waving a red light, stops the oncoming passenger train, is remarkably realistic, and is loudly applauded; and the tableaux representing the Waifs' Home, where the children sing a Christmas hymn, is also worthy of special mention.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Musical Pantomimical Comedy, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE SWISS EXPRESS."

The attraction at this popular South London house this week is the evergreen *Swiss Express*, of which it may be truly said, judging by its drawing power, that "age cannot wither or custom stale its infinite variety." The chief burden of the piece falls upon Messrs. Charles and Frederick Renard, who as the two eccentric servants, James and John, are the life and soul of the production, never letting the fun flag for an instant while they are on the stage. Mr. Johnny McElroy plays with infinite humour as the quack, Dr. Gull. Mr. George Martin is a dashing Ralph Rollingstone, and Mr. Alec Wylie is a very amusing specimen of the "gilded youth" as the dude, Dudley Green. Mr. Harewood Cooper admirably doubles the *rôles* of Jack Gadabout and Admiral Boombshelli, Miss Ida Ernest is vivacious and pleasing as the bride, Virginia, and sings "My Bungalow in Borneo" with much success. Miss Dora Moorhouse is excellent as Mrs. Septimus Squeeze, while the four graceful little ladies who comprise the Edene Quartette contribute greatly to the success of the evening by their clever dancing. The "trick" scenery in the first two acts is very effective.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Musical Play, in Two Acts, by James T. Tanner, entitled,
"THE CINGALEE."

Mr. George Dance's principal company is here this week in a charming production of *The Cingalee*, a class of play that always commands good houses in the riverside town. The company is a thoroughly capable one, and the mounting of the play is quite up to the high standard that usually characterises Mr. Dance's efforts. Miss Georgina Middleton, who is already favourably known to Kingston playgoers, takes the part of Nanoya, and gives an interpretation of it that considerably enhances her reputation. A pleasant portrait of Peggy Sabine is given by Miss Gladys Guy; Miss Marjory Clarke makes an excellent Lady Patricia Vane; and Miss Essie Perrin as Angy shows herself an adept in the terpsichorean art. Mr. Jack Chrichton as the Baboo lawyer Chambhuddy Ram succeeds in keeping the house in a continual state of merriment; Mr. Cyril Dane acquits himself well as the Hon. Harry Verreker; Mr. Helier Le Maistre is good as the nabob Boobhamba; and successful impersonations are also given by Mr. Grafton Williams as Sir Peter Loftus, and by Mr. Ethelbert Edwards as Bobby Warren. An excellent chorus and an equally efficient orchestra are admirably conducted by Mr. Peter Flitcroft.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Lilian Clare Cassidy, entitled
"IN HOLY (?) RUSSIA."

Whenever the theme of Russian society forms the peg on which their drama is hung the Marylebone playgoers naturally look out for thrills, and in this respect *In Holy (?) Russia* in no way disappointed them. As Micky Nolan Mr. J. Rice Cassidy is the life and soul of the piece, his whole performance being punctuated with geniality and good humour; Mr. Frank Copeland is manly and dignified as Sir Harry Beresford; Mr. Carl Rovinelli is intensely earnest as the misguided Laurice Steragoff; Mr. Frederic Loyd plays carefully as Count Gregory Petrolski; Mr. Terence Nerney shows a properly vindictive spirit as Michael Natolski; whilst Mr. Arthur Stratton as Colonel Richard Forrest ("Dick of the Guards you know. What! What!") is responsible for an admirably acted conception of a part that might have been easily overdrawn. Miss Mavis Lee Anderson acts Catska Lavotski with plenty of fire and energy; Miss Alice Marsden does exceedingly well as Mme. Natolski, Miss Edie Norman is well placed as Natalie Natolski, and Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy's embodiment of Reence Rubinoff is full of nervous energy and excitement, such as one would expect to find in a character so sorely tried as this unfortunate Siberian refugee. The play is carefully mounted and staged, and the company all round is an excellent one, Mr. Frank Copeland is the acting, and Mr. Carl Rovinelli the stage-manager for Mr. J. Rice Cassidy.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Alfred Sutro, entitled
"THE FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT."

For the second week in succession a play by Mr. Alfred Sutro is being presented at the Alexandra by Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. V. Leveaux's company, *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt* commencing a week's visit here on Monday. The company has evidently been selected with care and discretion, and a smooth and even performance of this clever and amusing play results. An admirable representative of the title-rôle is found in Mr. Reginald Dance, who gives a finished and highly artistic rendering of the part. The Lady Clarice Howland of Miss Gladys Mason is a very attractive impersonation, and this lady is to be congratulated on the skill with which she handles this by no means easy character. The Sir Bartholomew Cardick of Mr. George R. Seager and the Mr. Godlestone of Mr. Russell Barry are both in their way admirable studies of character; and Colonel Rayner is played by Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton in a quiet and incisive manner that is thoroughly effective. Miss Mary Weigall is a fairly dignified and imposing Marchioness of Hendingby; and Miss May Brooke is sufficiently tart and severe as Lady Clementina Desborough. Aggie Coles is played with delightful brightness and vivacity by Miss Eve Titheradge; and the little that Mr. Edward Coutts has to do as Lord Woolham is done well. Other parts are successfully filled by Messrs. George Percy, F. Vernon Travers, and Gerald Henson, and Misses Agnes Gunn, Dorothy Haigh, Helen Tytler, and Muriel Mason. Mr. Austin Strong's strong and effective little drama *The Drums of Oude* precedes the longer play.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Play, in Five Acts, by Haddon Chambers and B. C. Stephenson, entitled
"THE FATAL CARD."

The patrons of the Elephant and Castle have indeed a great attraction this week in the popular Adelphi play *The Fatal Card*. The members of the stock company continue to work together with a will, and they are individually accorded a flattering reception here, and right well do they deserve it. Mr. Albert Ward as Gerald Austin, Mr. W. H. Hatchman as George Forrester, Mr. Horace Pollock as James Dixon, Mr. Alfred Holles as A. K. Austin, and Mr. Teddy Coleman as Harry Burgess all do excellent work; whilst amongst the ladies Miss Kathleen Russell as Margaret Marrable, Miss East Robertson as Mercedes, and Miss Agnes Paulton as Cecile Austin. Mrs. Calhaem as Miss Penelope Austin gives a performance of remarkable merit, replete with all the excellent qualities of this experienced actress. The scenery is all that could be desired, and some pretty incidental music also contributes to a really enjoyable evening.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Romantic Servian Drama, by Sydney Spencer and Clarence Burnette, entitled
"A DESTROYER OF MEN."

We have at the Terriss this week *A Destroyer of Men*. Just the sort of exciting drama intermingled with laughter and tears, which is dear to the hearts of the patrons of that popular resort. The talented stock company, to whom no dramatic production seems to come amiss, gives an excellent interpretation. Mr. Ashley Page as the handsome, white-haired convict, Karl Mischla, who is so cruelly buffeted by fortune, has a part which he renders ably, and he is often called before the curtain. Miss Marion Denvil plays with much sweetness and grace as Vida Ravol, and shares with Mr. Page the dramatic honours of the evening. Mr. Johnny Chippendale has a good fat part as the nervous Coco Totchoski, and the numerous scrapes into which he gets compel uproarious laughter. Miss Mattie Everett as the saucy Nina Pattakake ably aids Mr. Chippendale in the fun-making. Mr. Tom Tayler acts with his usual ability as the stern Chief of Police, and Mr. C. A. Chandler is praiseworthy as Michael Mischla, a part quite out of his usual line. Miss Georgie De Lara Cook is very handsome as Olga, and ably illustrates the characteristics of the beautiful but wicked "destroyer." Mr. Alfred Harding does all that is possible with the *rôle* of Paul Starevitch, and Mr. John Sargent makes the most of the grim police spy, Feder. The scenery and effects are beyond reproach.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, Nov. 5,
the Play, in Four Acts, entitled
"AN UNWEDDED WIFE."

Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty with their powerful company are at this theatre during the present week with the very interesting play above-named. Miss Van Praagh enacts the title-rôle in a very able manner, and clearly shows she is possessed of great dramatic ability. In the final scene of Act 2 she plays upon the feelings of her audience until they are wrought to a pitch of great emotion. Mr. J. Edward Whitty as Frank Armstrong earns considerable applause for his rendering of the part, and quickly becomes the favourite of the audience. As the sorely tried John Hawthorne Mr. Logan Darra wins golden opinions, his acting being very commendable; and as Philip Blackstone Mr. St. Clair Forbes is a cool and calculating villain. He is ably seconded by Mr. Wilton Bedford as Christopher Lennox, who shows himself to be a merry sort of rogue. Mr. Henry Nisbet does good service as David Drummond, and as Inspector Grabham Mr. Fred Allen could not be bettered. Mr. Richard Purden as Napoleon Bloomer, Miss Jessie Gillette as Caraway Crumpet, and Mr. Henry Townley as Pimple all provide plenty of amusement in the lighter parts of the play. Miss Violet Wilson as Elsie Langham both looks and acts well, and Little Ella in her performance of Reggie shows herself to be a marvellously clever child. The play is well mounted, and the incidental music ably rendered under the direction of Mr. Stephen Blythe.

Mme. Medori, one of the most famous opera singers of the period extending from 1850 to 1880, lost her life on Saturday in a serious fire, which broke out in her lodgings in Brussels. Mme. Medori was a personal friend of Wagner, Rossini, and Gounod, and had a brilliant career, a street in Brussels being named after her.

NEW ENGLISH AND FOREIGN PLAYS.

In order to assist managers and others in the selection of pieces for production and adaptation, we are publishing from time to time synopses of likely English and Continental plays, so that dramatic speculators may judge for themselves of the suitability of the plots for their purpose. Authors wishing for this publicity should forward synopses to "Playwrights," care of *The Era*, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

"DRIVEN FROM THE ALTAR."

Romantic Play, in Five Acts, by Frank L. Bixby. (All rights reserved.)

Count Ludwig von Stein married beneath him, and his son Bruno, ignorant of his parentage, is being educated for the priesthood, under the name of Benedict Metz, at the Abbey of Clementia, in Germany, the Prior of which is the Prelate Oswald, Count Ludwig's brother. Later in life, Bruno's father has married Anna, his present wife. Lieutenant Carl von Stein is the son of this second marriage and the heir intended by his parents to supplant Bruno and succeed to the whole of the Stein estates. Arnold Sedlmayer is a rich peasant and successful farmer, whose land, called Dobra Farm, adjoins the Stein and Clementia estates. He has a sister Meta, who loves Bruno, and is loved by him in return, although Carl has seen her, and pays her attentions which are distasteful to her. The Countess Anna is proud of her lineage and social position, treating all humbler folk with contempt. Bruno is grateful to his supposed patron, Count Ludwig, but would prefer military life to the tonsure. However, his father, unable to get rid of him in any other way, in order to further his beloved second son Carl's succession, keeps him in the seclusion of the Seminary. Græco is the steward of the Clementia Abbey estates; but Bruno, during the course of his studies, has had access to the Abbey archives and accounts, and has discovered the gravest defalcations on the part of Græco, who knows of these discoveries by Bruno, and lives in constant dread of exposure. The Countess Anna overhears Carl's advances to Meta, and offends her deeply by accusing her of intrigue. Bruno, too, has witnessed them, and is prepared to take up arms, if necessary, in defence of Meta's honour, although he does not know that Carl is his brother. Later, there is a consultation at the Abbey between the Prior Oswald and his brother, Count Ludwig, about Bruno, and it is decided to send him to read with the priest, Father Joseph, in the mountain village of Norweiss, as his character is developing into a masterful and independent one. Bruno warns Græco again about his dishonesty, and the latter determines to further Benedict Metz's removal to the mountain village. Carl pesters Meta again, and is surprised by Bruno, and they quarrel. Count Ludwig arrives and separates them, and Bruno tells his "patron" again how abhorrent the studious life has become to him. Arrived at the village of Norweiss, Bruno finds his restlessness increasing. Græco visits the village, and endeavours to purchase from Bruno silence about his false stewardship by promising to influence the Prelate to change Bruno's lonely surroundings for more congenial scenes; but Bruno refuses resolutely. Carl arrives, wearing a cloak very much like one usually worn by Bruno. Count Ludwig tries to affect a reconciliation between Bruno and Carl; but the former refuses, as peace overtures do not come voluntarily from Carl, who regards this refusal as an insult to his father. The Sedlmayer party arrive on an excursion. Carl tells Meta that her brother Arnold has written to him to cease his attentions to her. He attempts to embrace her, but Bruno comes between them again, and turns Carl out of the village church precincts, where the scene occurs. Soon afterwards, Carl, wearing his cloak, is about to cross the rustic bridge over the mountain torrent. Græco, imagining that he is saving himself from exposure by Bruno, and being misled by the similarity of the cloaks, throws Carl over the bridge into the water below. Bruno emerges from the church, and is a horrified witness of the deed. In the Prelate's room at Clementia the details of Carl's obsequies are discussed and arranged. Arnold Sedlmayer's letter to Carl has been found on the body, and leads to his arrest on suspicion. The Countess Anna visits the Prelate, and is loud in her demands for vengeance. Bruno arrives, and tells the Prelate who really committed the murder, adding that he witnessed the deed. As the honour and existence of the Abbey may be at stake, the Prelate enjoins silence. Later, Meta meets Bruno, and entreats him to save her brother. She, too, knows who committed the murder, and tells Bruno that she knows. This decides Bruno to further the attainment of justice, irrespective of all other interests. Arnold is visited in prison by Bruno, who brings news of his immediate release. Arnold tells Bruno the secret of his birth, and informs him that he is really Count Ludwig's legitimate son and heir. Carl's obsequies are being celebrated in the cathedral at Clementia; Bruno interrupts the procession at the doors, and denounces Græco as the murderer. The doors open, revealing the Prelate in his robes. Græco runs towards him, but is struck dead by a flash of lightning, which momentarily illuminates the large hanging cross over the chancel steps, and Ludwig is rendered totally blind by the flash. Later, in the conservatory of a Heilbrunn hotel, reconciliations are effected, and Bruno and Meta obtain the blind Count Ludwig's consent to their union.

MISS ADELAIDE RIND AND MISS KATHLEEN RIND'S RECITAL.

At Bechstein Hall on Thursday afternoon, Nov. 1, Miss Adelaide and Miss Kathleen Rind gave a vocal and dramatic recital. They were assisted by Mr. Sigmund Beel and Signor Ernesto Baraldi, and the recital proved a great success, the hall being crowded. Miss Kathleen Rind's first recitations were "My Ships," by Ella Wheeler Wilcox, "Little Boy Blue," and "The Wind," by Eugene Field. Miss Rind is an accomplished reciter, as she has a good voice and capital enunciation, which greatly added to her attractive delivery of Shakespeare's scene from *A Winter's Tale*, in which the characters of Leontes, Perdita, Paulina, and Hermione appeared. Other recitations given by Miss Rind were "A Year's Spinning" (E. B. Browning) and "The Minuet," Austin Dobson's "Before Sedan" and "Ladies of St. James," her last example being the epilogue from Shakespeare's *As You Like It*. Miss Kathleen Rind has a leaning to the more serious and pathetic side of her art. Miss Adelaide Rind, who has a pleasing and well-trained mezzo-soprano voice, was very successful in three quaint "Bergerettes du XVIII. Siecle," by J. Weckerlin, and Georges Hüe's "J'ai pleuré en rêve." Other excellent work done by Miss Rind was a brilliant and much-applauded rendering of Rossini's "Una Voce," from *Il Barbiere*, and Massenet's impressive "Les Larmes," from *Werther*. Miss Rind also gave Max Meyer's "Nera's Song," and Elgar's "Sabbath Morning at Sea" and "Where Corals Lie." The violinist, Mr. Sigmund Beel, greatly pleased his hearers in Handel's genial Sonata in A, Wilhelmj's "A Swedish Melody," and "Scene de la Csárda," by Hubay. He also played the violin obbligato to "Le Nill," sung by Miss Rind. Signor Ernesto Baraldi presided at the piano. The talented sisters were well received by the audience and had many hearty recalls.

THE WILLIAM MORGAN JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

In August last Mr. William Morgan, managing-director of the Scarborough Aquarium, entered upon his fiftieth year of service as a public caterer, and the celebration by a banquet and testimonial at Scarborough, is fixed to take place on Friday, Nov. 30.

In his long and distinguished career as a provider of entertainment Mr. Morgan has done much to advance the cause of healthy popular amusement. He has been a noted pioneer in the development of dramatic and musical enterprise, and has achieved a success that it has been given to few to equal. Mr. Morgan was the first to introduce complete London companies into the provinces, the first to give concerts by the greatest artists at popular prices, and the first to open all-day entertainments for a covering sixpenny admission.

In Bradford, Blackpool, Scarborough, Morecambe, Preston, Bridlington, and elsewhere Mr. Morgan's active, varied, and extensive managerial efforts have been greatly appreciated. In Scarborough he has enjoyed the distinction of filling the position of mayor for three successive years.

Such a long and honourable career as this, it was felt by Mr. Morgan's host of friends and admirers, was worthy of some special recognition, and the hearty co-operation of many well-known gentlemen in promoting a testimonial was obtained.

The following influential committee has been formed consisting of the following gentlemen:—The Right Hon. the Earl of Londesborough, Sir George Sitwell, Bart., and Messrs. Lea Priestley Edwards, J.P., George Lord Beeforth, J.P., Alderman E. H. Gawne, J.P., Councillor Ascough, George Padley, Francis Goodricke, C. B. Bradley, Alderman J. Grime, J. H. Huddlestone, Thomas Sergenson, Alderman Fish, G. H. Harrop, Ralph Rushton, John C. Smith, Alderman D. Wade, J.P., John Hart, T. C. Hope, Charles Lund, Frank Johnson, W. H. Clough, Edward Terry, James Burnley, E. Schutt, and Dr. Handcock; hon. treasurer, Mr. Wm. Sayner, York City and County Bank, Scarborough; hon. secretary, Alderman V. Fowler, J.P., Huntriss Hall, Scarborough; hon. treasurer for London, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era*, 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

The following letter from Mr. Edward Terry appeared in *The Era* of Oct. 20:—

Sir,—"Lest they forget," will you kindly permit me, through the medium of your columns, to call the attention of the many friends of Mr. William Morgan to the forthcoming celebration at Scarborough, when, as a recognition of fifty years of management, he will be entertained at a banquet, over which the Earl of Londesborough will preside, and be presented with a testimonial of the esteem in which he is held by the members of the dramatic and musical professions and other friends?

Mr. Morgan, as manager of the early Bradford theatres and proprietor of the Aquarium at Scarborough, of which city he has twice served the office of Mayor, is so well esteemed that I feel sure his friends only need this gentle reminder to make them anxious to participate in this interesting celebration. Mr. Valentine Fowler, of Scarborough, as hon. secretary, will be pleased to give all further particulars.—Yours faithfully, EDWARD TERRY.

MR. WILLIAM MORGAN.
Thrice Mayor of Scarborough.

The following is a list of subscribers to the Jubilee Testimonial:—

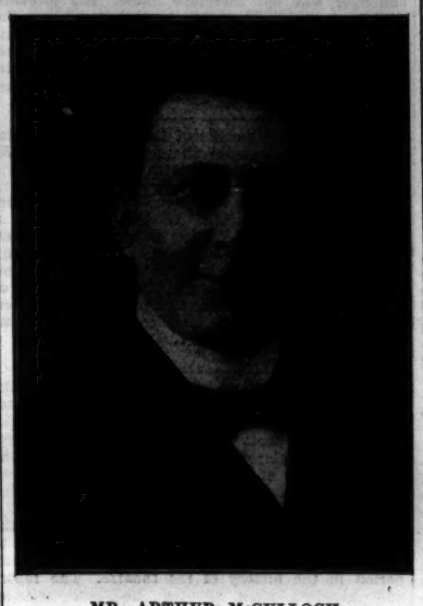
	£	s.	d.
Earl of Londesborough	1	1	0
Countess of Londesborough	1	1	0
Sir George Sitwell, Bart.	1	1	0
Lady Ida Sitwell	1	1	0
Ald. David Wade, J.P.	1	1	0
Chas. Gott	1	1	0
Frank Johnson	1	1	0
John Hart	1	1	0
G. H. Harrop	1	1	0
J. H. Huddleston	1	1	0
Thos. Sergenson	1	1	0
James Pearson	1	1	0
Geo. Lord Beeforth, J.P.	1	1	0
J. W. Chapman	1	1	0
V. Fowler, J.P.	1	1	0
Wm. Sayner	1	1	0
James Pirie, J.P.	1	1	0
Ald. E. H. Gawne, J.P.	1	1	0
Dr. Handcock	1	1	0
Lea Priestley Edwards, J.P.	1	1	0
Francis Goodricke	1	1	0
C. B. Bradley	1	1	0
Councillor W. Ascough	1	1	0
J. L. Smith	1	1	0
Ald. John Grime	1	1	0
Ald. James Fish	1	1	0
Ralph Rushton	1	1	0
James Burnley	1	1	0
A. C. Burnley	1	1	0
T. C. James	1	1	0
J. Pitt Hardacre	1	1	0
Ernest Schutt	1	1	0
W. W. Leadbeater	0	10	6

"HELD APART" is being played this week at Jersey. Mr. A. Clifton Aldersen ably takes the rôle of James Douglas, and is well supported by Miss Ruby Loncraine as Sybil Grey. Mr. Leonard Laurence figures to advantage as John Douglas, Mr. A. W. Norman is good as Captain Ford, Mr. Ernest G. Batley makes a success as Hugh Trevor, and Mr. Robert B. Drysdale is excellent as Andrew McPherson. Miss Ethyle Murray makes an impressive Countess De Castre. Miss Emily Levette does well as Lady Grant, and Miss Winnifred Lovell ably sustains the part of Lily Granville.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. ARTHUR McCULLOCH.

Mr. Arthur McCulloch, whose unfortunate connexion with the Russian Passport case is still fresh in the public mind, was educated by private tuition for the Army, but the Fates proving unpropitious, he started life as a tutor. The scholastic profession, however, proving uncongenial, he determined to adopt that of the stage. The first part he attempted was Captain Couteau in H. J. Byron's comedy, *War to the Knife*, at the old King's Cross Theatre. After a useful experience of some time as an amateur at this theatre, he was engaged to play Bassanio in *The Merchant of Venice* at St. George's Hall to the Shylock of the late Major Rudkin, at that time associated with the *Army and Navy Magazine*. The performance was under the auspices of the Somerville Club, headed by Lady Sebright. This may be said to have been his first professional engagement. About the same time he became associated with a Miss Aurora Leighson (a lady of Irish extraction) in the management of the Garrick Theatre, Whitechapel. Their united efforts, however, were scarcely successful in raising the falling fortunes of that playhouse.



MR. ARTHUR McCULLOCH.

Mr. McCulloch was engaged to play Peter Sharpley in the original provincial production of *Mankind* at the Prince of Wales's, Birmingham. Mr. Joseph Eldred was the Daniel Groodge, and Mr. Fred Latham the acting-manager. When at Leeds with *Mankind*, Mr. McCulloch was engaged by Mr. Alfred Hemming to play Major McTurtle in *Mother-in-Law*, a part previously played by Mr. Julian Cross. Following this engagement, he sailed for India to join Herr Bandmann in a round of the legitimate. This was contrary to the advice of his friends, and proved unfortunate, as Mr. McCulloch was obliged to break his contract, and in consequence was sued for damages and mulcted in 1000 rupees. On returning to England he was engaged for stock season and pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Exeter, from which he was released during the run to rehearse in *Fedora* at the Haymarket in a company formed by Miss Laura Villiers. Included in the cast were the late Messrs. Arthur Dacre and A. M. Denison, both, as he expresses it, the most charming of men, and who both, alas! committed suicide. Mr. William Greet was the manager. He afterwards played in succession the following parts on tour:—Sir Fulke Pettigrew in *The Parvenue*, Tom Potter (Mr. Dacre's original part) in *The Silver Shield*, and Keife O'Keife (Mr. John Drew's part) in *Nancy and Co.*

Mr. McCulloch then produced *The Mikado* for the Llandudno Amateur Operatic Society, and at the following Easter *The Pirates of Penzance*. He was next engaged to play Fordham in the original tour of *The Still Alarm;* and following this he played Shylock, and produced *The Merchant of Venice* for the Liverpool Irving Dramatic Society at Hope Hall under the patronage of the Mayor. He then toured with *Turned Up*, playing General Baltic, Jaracoff in *Siberia*, &c. In conjunction with Mr. Basil West he toured the late Clement Scott's piece, *Sister Mary*. Then followed a long association with Mr. Frederick Mouillot, first of all playing in a répertoire including *The School for Scandal, Pygmalion and Galatea, The Lady of Lyons*, &c. He was then engaged for a long tour of *The Dark Continent* under the same management, followed by a tour of *A Woman of No Importance* as stage-manager. His next engagement was to open and manage the Eden Theatre, Brighton. Following this came a long engagement in *The Shop Girl*, in which he played the Colonel; then the Duke of Gloster in *Jane Shore* and Buckingham in *The Three Musketeers*.

After some general management for Mr. Hill-Mitchelson, Mr. McCulloch was engaged for Abernethy Rupeprshaw in the original tour of *In the Soup*, a part he played some 400 nights. He was engaged by Mr. Leigh Lovel for *The Duke of Killicrankie* tour, but was obliged to relinquish the engagement owing to his unfortunate connexion with the Passport case, which occupied his time for practically two months. Mr. McCulloch is married, his wife being known professionally as Miss Lelgarde Atheling.

ROYAL CHORAL SOCIETY.

At the Royal Albert Hall on Thursday evening, Nov. 1, the Royal Choral Society, in the presence of a very large audience, opened their thirty-sixth season with a performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. There were this season some new names among the principal artists, Mr. Herbert Brown, who sang for the first time, achieving a marked success in the part of the Prophet. Mr. Brown is gifted with an excellent resonant voice, which he uses with great dramatic effect; indeed, his singing of "Is not his word like fire?" so greatly pleased the audience that he received loud and long-continued applause. Another newcomer was Miss Phyllis Letts, whose beautiful contralto made a most favourable impression Miss Lett has been trained at the Royal College of Music, and does great credit to the artistic teaching she has received. The principal soprano music fell to Miss Agnes Nicholls, and was admirably rendered. Miss Edith Kirkwood, who was absent owing to indisposition, was represented by Miss Edith Patching. Miss Maria Yelland, Mr. Vivian Bennetts, and Mr. Graham Smart gave useful assistance; while the tenor solos were capitally sung by Mr. William Green. The splendid chorus of the Society were extremely effective in the familiar choruses, producing a fine body of tone in "Thanks be to God," one of the finest numbers in *Elijah*. Sir Frederick Bridge conducted with his usual ability, although at times the orchestra somewhat overpowered the vocalists. Mr. H. L. Balfour presided at the organ.

MR. WILL EDWARDS-SPRANGE (part author with Mr. Bowyer of *The New Barmaid*) will produce his new four-act play, *The Scientist*, and a three-act comedy, *Aunt Agatha*, in America, at the beginning of next year.

DEATH OF MR. MARK KINGHORNE.

We regret to record the death on Sunday last of Mr. Mark Alexander Kinghorne, the well-known comedian. On Tuesday, Sept. 18, last, while witnessing a performance of *The Shulamite*, by Miss Lena Ashwell and company, at the Crown Theatre, Peckham, Mr. Kinghorne was suddenly seized with paralysis. He was conveyed home to his residence in Dagmar-road, Camberwell, and was progressing very favourably until a few days before his death, when he had a second stroke, from which he never recovered.

Mr. Mark Alexander Kinghorne was born in London in 1851, of Scottish parents. He studied music and elocution at the Birkbeck Institute, and made his first appearance on the stage at the Strand Theatre on April 20, 1867, under the management of Mrs. Swanborough, "walking on" in a burlesque by William Brough, entitled *Pygmalion; or, The Statue Fair*. On the advice of the late Mr. David James, the young actor sought a provincial engagement, and obtained one with the late Mr. James Rodgers, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham. A second "stock" engagement was at Plymouth, under the management of the late Mr. J. R. Newcome. Mr. Kinghorne had the curious experience of playing the Gravedigger in a series of living pictures that formed the background to a performance of *Hamlet* by the late Mr. J. C. M. Bellew.

After a long spell of hard work in the provinces, Mr. Kinghorne returned to London in the spring of 1873, as a member of the company supporting Miss Virginia Blackwood at the Surrey Theatre. He also sang and played his own compositions. An engagement at the Oxford Music Hall, then under the management of Mr. Syers, followed. In association with the late Mr. George Lash Gordon, Mr. Kinghorne produced a number of pantomimic and political sketches. During 1874 he played Trenitz with Mrs. Liston's *Madame Angot* company. In the following year he went to America with the Alice Oates opera company. He acted as stage-manager, and was principal comedian on tour, under the direction of Mlle. Cornelie D'Anka. Then he joined Mr. Edward Terry, with whom he was associated six years in the various capacities of stage-manager, musical director, and comedian. During 1884-85 Mr. Kinghorne toured India, Tasmania, Australia, and New Zealand, with Miss Marie de Grey, playing in old comedy, but notably Touchstone, in *As You Like It*, and Tony Lumpkin, in *She Stoops to Conquer*. In July, 1886, he appeared at the Haymarket, supporting the late Miss Kate Vaughan, and subsequently toured with the Vaughan-Conway comedy company. When Mrs. Brown-Potter produced *Loyal Love* at the Gaiety on Aug. 13, 1887, Mr. Kinghorne appeared as the gaoler, Antonio. He was the Hezekiah Cranberry in the ill-fated *Bridget O'Brien, Esq.*, at the Opera Comique, on Oct. 29, and subsequently toured with Mr. John F. Sheridan in *Fun on the Bristol*. In August, 1889, the New Theatre Royal, Bristol, was opened with a performance of *As You Like It*, in which Miss Wallis played Rosalind. Mr. Kinghorne was the Touchstone. He played Fitzjohn in *The Balloon*, on a tour under the direction of Mr. Warren Wright. Then he was engaged to play the principal bass part in M. Jakobowski's opera, *Paola*, on tour. In *The Judge*, produced at Terry's on July 24, 1890, Mr. Kinghorne was the judge's valet, Mowle. He played John Canty in Mr. Joseph Hatton's *Prince and Pauper*, tentatively produced at the Vaudeville on Oct. 12, 1891.

Photo. by A. Flint.

MR. MARK KINGHORNE AS TOUCHSTONE.

In 1892 Mr. Kinghorne sailed for South Africa in charge of the Globe burlesque company, which produced a fresh three-act Gaiety burlesque every week. Mr. Kinghorne fell ill, and had to return to England. He played Catchpole in *The County Councillor*, reproduced at the Trafalgar-square Theatre on Feb. 4, 1893. In the travesty entitled *The Babble Shop*, produced on March 30, and played in conjunction with *The County Councillor*, he was the W. Sykes, Esq. In Mr. Meyrick Milton's play, *The Adventures of a Night*, produced at the Strand Theatre on July 21, he appeared as Pedro. Mr. Kinghorne rejoined his old manager, Mr. Sheridan, at the Vaudeville in August, succeeding to a part in *A Trip to Chinatown*. At the Strand Mr. Kinghorne played Terence in *A Loving Legacy*, produced on March 12, 1895. In *The Chili Widow*, produced at the Royalty on Sept. 7, he played Macpherson, and at the same theatre was the Michael Kinsman in *Harmony*, by Henry Arthur Jones, produced Sept. 25, 1895; and acted Monsieur de Paris in the play of that title, also produced at the Royalty, April 16, 1896. He played Reddie, in *The Queen's Proctor*, produced at the Royalty June 2; and the Duke, in *Donna Diana*, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on Nov. 4. He was Drake in *All Alive, Oh!* produced at the Strand Theatre on June 16, 1897; and Soaper, in "*Miss Francis*" *of Yale*, produced at the Globe on Sept. 7.—He successfully appeared as Snecky Hobart in *The Little Minister* at the Haymarket in 1898, and was John Barton in *Are You a Mason?* produced at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Sept. 12, 1901. He represented Simkins in *Merrie England*, at the Savoy, April 2, 1902, McTodd in *Captain Kettle*, at the Adelphi, Oct. 23, 1902, Karl, in *The Vikings*, at the Imperial, April 15, 1903, and Munkittrick in *Billy's Little Love Affair*, at the Criterion, Sept. 2, 1903, MacSherry in *Madame Sherry*, at the Apollo, Dec. 23, 1903, McDougal, in *The Money Makers*, at the Royalty, May 13, 1904, and Sir Gavin Mackenzie, in *The Garden of Lies*, at the St. James's, Sept. 3, of the same year. The deceased gentleman's last character on the stage was the Scotch doctor in Mrs. Patrick Campbell's unsuccessful production of *The Macleans of Bairness* at the Criterion in the summer. Mr. Kinghorne had, in the course of his stage career, played in pantomime at Drury Lane and in many other theatres, and appeared in sketches at the Metropolitan, the Middlesex, and various other music halls.

The funeral took place yesterday afternoon at Forest Hill Cemetery, the principal mourners being Mrs. Kinghorne (widow), Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Kinghorne (brother and sister-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Plowman (daughter and son-in-law), Mr. A. F. S. Beard (cousin), Mr. Edwin Barwick, Mr. H. W. Mote, Mr. G. Grey, and Mr. J. W. Lennard. The coffin, which was of polished oak, with heavy brass fittings, bore an inscription giving the deceased's name and his age—55.

"ADRIENNE LECOUVREUR."

A New Version in Five Acts, by Olga Nethersole, of Scribe and Legouvé's French Play, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, On Friday, Nov. 2.

Adrienne Lecouvreur	Miss Olga Nethersole
Maurice de Saxe	Mr. Frank Mills
Prince de Bouillon	Mr. John Nesbit
Abbe de Chauzeuil	Mr. Eric Maturin
Michonnet	Mr. Julian Royce
M. Quinault	Mr. William Clark
M. Poisson	Mr. A. T. Hendon
Call Boy	Mr. Ashley
Servant to Prince Bouillon	Mr. H. Carter Bligh
Princess de Bouillon	Miss Rosalind Ivan
Duchess D'Aumont	Miss Molly Pearson
Marquise de Saucère	Miss Ina Goldsmith
Comtesse de Beauveau	Miss Mary Relph
Molle Juvenot	Miss Field
Mlle. Dangoville	Mrs. Clark
Maid to Duclos	Miss Nina Wood
Maid to Adrienne	Miss Constance Raymond

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

That Miss Nethersole is held in high esteem by Bradford theatre-goers, and that considerable interest was aroused in her latest venture, are facts which were clearly demonstrated by the crowded audience which greeted the gifted actress so cordially as Adrienne Lecouvreur in her own version of the famed French play. The alterations Miss Nethersole has attempted with the text are clearly in the way of lucidity, and the somewhat revised situations are in the direction of affording her the finest possible scope for her undoubted histrionic gifts. The staging of the play is irreproachable. The Paris of 1736, with its magnificent salons and the grand dames and the quaint and costly costumes of the period, are reproduced with marvellous fidelity. The play is in five acts. Adrienne, a great and beautiful French actress of the time, is loved by the French General and conqueror of Fontenoy, Maurice de Saxe, who also numbers amongst his conquests the Princess de Bouillon, the wife of Prince de Bouillon, a supporter of the Comédie Française, and a dabbler in science. Adrienne with all her soul loves Maurice as a poor lieutenant in the army, his real identity being later revealed in a most dramatic scene at a reception given by the Prince. The vindictive Princess is dominated by her jealousy of Adrienne, and she vows to ruin the actress and overthrow her lover by means of political intrigue. There are mislaid and intercepted letters which lead to most dramatic results, and Maurice pleads earnestly with Adrienne to save the Princess from a compromising situation in a villa at Grange Batelliere before her husband's arrival, and this is accomplished in the dark without the identity of either of the ladies being revealed. Eventually, however, at a reception where Adrienne recites, they recognise each other, and the actress, selecting Racine's *Phèdre*, hurls these lines at the Princess: "Those bold women who in the midst of crime can command a shameful calm, and have schooled their countenances to forget the habit of blushing." The climax to the scene is intensely dramatic, affording Miss Nethersole perhaps her greatest opportunity. Maurice is arrested for debt, and Adrienne sells her jewels to secure his release. this magnanimity he attributes to the Princess, only to discover his mistake when too late, for in the meantime the Princess has sent to Adrienne a casket containing flowers which she has treacherously saturated with poison. Adrienne recognises the flowers as a gift from Maurice, and she presses them to her lips; her reason departs, and she dies in the arms of Maurice and in the presence of her faithful friend Michonnet.

These are briefly the principal incidents in Miss Nethersole's version of the history of the ill-starred heroine, and her conception is sublime, full of ardour and dignity, and her all-absorbing passion for her fickle lover is expressed with a tenderness and emotion which visibly arouse the sympathies of her audience, and in the more tragic scenes she is most impressive. The keynote of tragedy was touched in the recital of Racine's lines, and her death scene was powerfully portrayed. There was more of the courtier than the warrior about the Maurice de Saxe as represented by Mr. Frank Mills, yet he was not lacking in ardour in his love scenes with Adrienne. Mr. John Nesbit looked the Prince, and bore himself with dignity of the robust type. Mr. Eric Maturin as the Abbé was courtly in his bearing, and in his clandestine meetings with the Princess he was fervent and not without a sense of humour. Michonnet, the prompter at the Comédie Française, and faithful friend of Adrienne, had in Mr. Julian Royce a clever exponent whose acting was earnest and convincing. In the old stilted style of declamation Mr. William Clark as M. Quinault, and Mr. A. T. Hendon as M. Poisson, gave some amusing examples as actors of the Comédie Française. Mr. Ashley did the little he had to do as the Call Boy well; and Mr. Carter Bligh was suited in the part of servant to the Prince. In the character of the jealous, intriguing Princess, with her hopeless love for Maurice, Miss Rosalind Ivan displayed subtlety and intense force. Nothing could be more effective than the airy grace and courtly bearing of Miss Molly Pearson as the Duchess D'Aumont, Miss Ina Goldsmith as the Marquise de Saucerre, and Miss Mary Relph as the Comtesse de Beauveau, and their Court gossip was a delightful relief; Miss Field as Molle Juvenot and Mrs. Clark as Mlle. Dangoville, actresses of the Comédie Française, were very good; and Miss Nina Wood as maid to Duclos and Miss Constance Raymond as maid to Adrienne filled minor rôles acceptably.

At the initial performance the rapt attention of the deeply interested audience culminated at the fall of the curtain in loud and prolonged applause and calls for principals, and for Miss Nethersole, who in a speech of thanks made a touching reference to the change from 1736, when the French actress she had represented was refused Christian burial, to Oct., 1905, when Sir Henry Irving was laid to rest in Westminster Abbey.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

At the College Concert given on Friday evening, Nov. 2, the programme commenced with Mozart's refined Quartet for Strings, in D Major, of which a smooth and finished performance was given by Lorna Downing, Frank Bridge, Beatrice Jones, and Goldie Baker. In her piano solos of two pieces from "Clavierstücke," Op. 5, by Eugène D'Albert, Miss Cordelia Montgomery greatly distinguished herself, while Armin Laubach's violoncello solos of Davidoff's "Romance sans paroles" and Saint-Saëns' "Allegro Appassionato" gained for the performer two hearty recalls. The vocal items included in the programme were "Gleaner's Slumber Song," by R. H. Walthew, admirably sung by Miss Maud Wright; Stradella's "Queste Lagrime," sung by Miss Enid Gabell; and Liszt's "Mignon's Song," by Miss Elsie Williams. Schumann's "Trio for Piano and Strings," in F Major, skilfully executed by Mr. James Friskin, Miss May Harrison, and Miss Marion Harrison, concluded the concert. The accompanists were Miss Alice Cotton and Mr. James Friskin.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Charles Wyndham, whose absence from the London stage may truly be said to have caused the hearts of his admirers to grow fonder, will reappear with Miss Mary Moore at the New Theatre on Thursday, the 22nd, at a special matinée of *David Garrick*. It is said that in all likelihood this will be Sir Charles and Miss Moore's only appearance in London this year, but it may be hoped that the warmth of their reception will induce these eminent artists to extend the period of their stay indefinitely. Sir Charles is at present in Paris, and will not, therefore, to his great regret, be able to take part in the Emily Soldene matinée at the Palace on Tuesday.

Fortunately for our Provident Funds the demand for autographs of theatrical celebrities is still increasing. Mr. Huntley Wright has sent Mr. Coltson five pounds, which he has collected by means of his autograph, and devoted to the Actors' Benevolent Fund. Mr. Lewis Waller has also forwarded a further sum of £4 16s; while Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree daily sends batches of postal orders which he receives in exchange for his autograph.

The Irving Memorial Committee nominated by the Actors' Association has decided to submit their proposals to a meeting of the entire dramatic profession early in December, when it is hoped that many actors and actresses now engaged in the provinces will be able to attend. As will be seen from a letter which we print on another page, leading members of the profession have joined in hearty support of the movement.

Mr. Lewis Waller has been honoured with the King's command, and, together with Miss Evelyn Millard and the Lyric Theatre Company, will give a performance of *Robin Hood* at Windsor Castle, on Friday, on which evening the Lyric Theatre will be closed. Mr. Herbert Bunning's music will be rendered by the Windsor Castle Orchestra, the composer conducting.

The whole musical profession is joining in the tribute to be paid to Mr. T. P. O'Connor on Sunday, Nov. 18, for which date the dinner to commemorate the passing of the Musical Copyright Act is fixed. The Duke of Argyll will take the chair, and the committee, which is headed by Sir C. A. Mackenzie, is representative of the most influential members of the music world as well as those of dramatic and literary circles. The Act is operating effectively in all parts of the kingdom, police and magistrates joining vigorously in the determination to exterminate the evil against which it is directed. In only two places—namely, Leeds and Sheffield—is any leniency being exhibited towards the offenders, one of whom, at the latter town, was convicted for the third time, and let off with the preposterous penalty of 5s.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh will appear for the first time as Macbeth and Lady Macbeth at Stratford-on-Avon, on Tuesday and the following day. The interesting event is under the auspices of the governors of the Shakespeare Memorial Association, at whose invitation the eminent actor will produce the tragedy.

Mr. W. S. Gilbert has been telling the *Daily Mail* a story of *The Mikado*, that has a piquant flavour. "It was suggested to us," said Mr. Gilbert, "that it would be a proper thing to introduce the Mikado's entrance with appropriate music. A friend at the Japanese Legation suggested, 'Why not the Japanese National Anthem, words and music?' A capital idea, I thought. 'You dictate the words to me,' I said, 'and hum the air to Sullivan.' So it was done; and that air and those words have been sung and played somewhere almost nightly for many years in theatres and respectable drawing-rooms, and several church bazaars. But a year or two after the production of *The Mikado*, a correspondent sent me a German newspaper containing an interview with a Japanese diplomatist on the recent production of *The Mikado* in Berlin. 'Yes,' said the diplomatist, 'there is much to admire in the accuracy of detail in gesture, costume, and scenery, but I am quite at a loss to understand why the author chose to introduce the sacred person of the Mikado with the music and the words of the most ribald song ever sung in the most reckless tea-houses of Japan.' A practical joke on the part of my Legation friend."

Mrs. Patrick Campbell will follow up her success in *The Bondman* with a visit to America. She has been engaged by the Messrs. Shubert to appear in New York late in the season in several new plays and some of her old successes. A tour of the chief American towns will follow.

Miss Lily Brayton (Mrs. Oscar Asche) was unhappily the victim of a carriage accident on Tuesday. She was returning home with her sister, Miss Agnes Brayton, from the Adelphi Theatre, and had just reached Portland-place, when a hansom cab collided with the vehicle in which they were riding. One of the shafts penetrated the window, and the broken glass severely cut Mrs. Asche on the right temple. She was taken to the Langham Hotel, where medical attendance was obtained, and subsequently Mr. Asche, who had received the alarming news, hurried to the hotel and took his wife home. It is confidently anticipated that no marks of the accident will remain. The popular actress became very weak from loss of blood, and has been obliged to retire temporarily from the cast of *The Virgin Goddess*, her part being played in the meantime by Miss Gertrude Scott.

Mr. J. C. Williamson, the veteran entrepreneur, has been compiling some interesting figures with regard to his enterprises in Australasia. He and his partners, Messrs. Ramaciotti and Tallis, pay in salaries £100,000 a year to 650 persons on the permanent staff—in fact, it reached £110,183 in 1905, mostly paid to Australian-born artists, musicians, mechanics, stage hands, and managerial staffs. Printing cost £22,469; rent, £19,428; and lighting, £9,783. For scenery, fourteen square miles of canvas and nine and a half miles of new timber were used, £6,627 was spent in properties, costumes cost £5,390, royalties to authors exceeded £5,000, and passages and freight took up £12,825. Nearly 77,000 miles were travelled by the companies dominated by the "firm." These figures will convince English managers that Australian playgoers demand much, and that "much" must be of the best.

The O.P. Club have determined to celebrate the revival of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas, and incidentally to pay a tribute of admiration to the works of Mr. W. S. Gilbert and the late Sir Arthur Sullivan by a dinner to be given at the Criterion, on Sunday, Dec. 30. The President, Mr. Sidney Dark, will be in the chair, and Mr. W. S. Gilbert will be the guest of the evening. Invitations have also been issued to many of the leading Savoyards.

The marriage took place at St. Barnabas Church, Clapham Common, on Wednesday, of Mr. E. de Hague Body, acting-manager of the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, to Miss Ada Dorothy Young. Amongst the many presents given were a chest of cutlery from Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Dudley Bennett (proprietor of the theatre), also handsome ebony pianoforte from the staff of theatre and numerous associates. The happy couple left Waterloo by the 12.15 train bound for Shanklin, where they will spend their honeymoon. They were recipients of a great number of congratulatory telegrams.

Miss Annie Hughes, who finishes a very successful provincial and suburban tour under Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's management at Birmingham this week, is herself producing Mr. Jerome K. Jerome's new comedy-drama, entitled *Tommy*, at Manchester, on Nov. 26. The following week it will be seen at the Camden Theatre, and if the play succeeds Miss Hughes hopes to arrange for a West End production. The comedy is simple in tone, and written in Mr. Jerome's well-known fascinating style.

Mr. C. W. Somerset will produce his new melodrama in Liverpool on Nov. 26. It promises to be an extremely powerful play, with a sensation of a startling kind, and a weird doctor by the name of Whitmarsh who does terrible things in the fourth act. Should the play obtain the success anticipated, it may be expected soon to find a home in London.

Mr. J. B. Mulholland, whose connection with Hammersmith has not yet extended to quite four years, has nevertheless just been offered the Mayoralty for the ensuing year, an honour which for the present he feels obliged to decline. It is more than probable, however, that a seat upon the Aldermanic bench will be offered to him, and this he will possibly accept. In common with many other boroughs, Hammersmith has been groaning under the ever-increasing burden of the rates, and in the early part of this year a Ratepayers' Association was formed, with Mr. Mulholland as president. This body ran a full list of candidates at the recent municipal elections, the president throwing himself whole-heartedly into the fight, and those who know Mr. Mulholland (and the County Council may be included among the number) will understand what this means.

Mr. Mulholland addressed many public meetings, occasionally two on the same night, and the result has been a striking victory for the new policy and the complete overthrow of the party which has controlled the borough for so long. It is in acknowledgment of his services in these respects that the honours referred to are now being almost "thrust upon him." Other theatre managers might be recommended to "go and do likewise." Bumbledom would then be less aggressive where theatre interests are concerned.

At the London Musical Club, Hart-street, Bloomsbury, on Friday evening next, a musical and dramatic performance will be given, under the direction of Mr. Gerald Stevens, who was for many years closely associated with the late Sir Henry Irving. The programme will consist of scenes from Shakespeare's plays, Mr. Norman Wrighton, a clever young actor, who has for some time been zealously engaged in assisting to keep the gems of Shakespeare before the public, appearing as Shylock and in other rôles. Mr. Wrighton will be supported by Miss Daisy Murch. Mr. Francis Böhr will be responsible for the musical portion of the entertainment, which will consist, in addition to pianoforte solos by himself, of renderings by first-class artists of songs from *As You Like It* and other of the poet's plays. The proceeds will be devoted to one of the leading theatrical charities.

"A Chaperon Extraordinary," a new one-act comedy by Mr. R. B. Salisbury, had its first production at the Grand Theatre, Bloemfontein, on Oct. 5 last. The plot deals in an amusing way with a struggling artist, who is served with a writ for debt, and on the arrival of an art patron induces the bailiff to pose as the chaperon of the young painter's fiancée, with the result that a prepaid commission is secured, and the young couple's happiness assured. The play met with a favourable reception, and Mr. Salisbury has in consequence been commissioned by Mr. Leonard Rayne to dramatise a well-known novel for his next season.

The performances of *The Minstrel* and *A Simple Sweep*, announced for yesterday and to-day at the Scala Theatre, in aid of the Little Sisters of the Poor, have been unavoidably postponed to the following Friday and Saturday. All tickets issued for Nov. 9 and 10 will be available for the subsequent dates.

An epidemic of doctors is imminent in Mr. Bernard Shaw's "tragedy," *The Doctor's Dilemma*, which is to be produced at the Court Theatre on the afternoon of Nov. 20. The elucidation of the plot requires the services of an old-fashioned medical man of forty years ago, a fashionable physician of to-day, a medical scientist whose latest discovery has won him a knighthood, a surgeon who calls himself Mr., not Dr., Walpole, a wealthy Jewish practitioner who is proud of his race, and a "poor man's doctor" who works for sixpenny fees. The cast of the play, which we gave fully last week, is one of the strongest yet seen under the Vedrenne-Barker management.

Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company is this week proving a great draw at the Prince's, Poplar, with the new drama, *An Unwedded Wife*. The immediate popularity of their latest venture has far surpassed all the expectations of this well-known firm.

Miss Minna Blakiston has been engaged by Miss Winifred Emery for her forthcoming new production at Glasgow, and will thus practically make her return to the stage since her marriage to Captain Gunter. She will be remembered as having played in *The Night of the Party* at the Avenue Theatre, and also as Sophie Fulgarney in *The Gay Lord Quex*.

The new play which Mr. Arthur Bourchier has entrusted to Mr. Edward Michael for production by the Répertoire Theatre Syndicate at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on the 26th inst., has been named *The Nun and the Barbarian*. It is an adaptation from Senor Galdos' Spanish play, *La Loca de la Casa*, by Osmond Shillingford.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last, when there were present:—Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Carlotta Addison, Beatrice Lamb, Kate Phillips, and Saba Raleigh, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, Burton Cooke, C. Hayden Coffin, A. E. George, Lawrence Grant, Norman McKinnel, M. R. Morand, A. B. Tapping, Spencer Trevor, Hubert Willis, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). Muriel Juin and Ethel Newman were nominated for election. Mr. F. J. Arlton was elected as a commissioner. A question concerning ventilation of dressing-rooms at a provincial theatre was under discussion, and the secretary received instructions. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received.

Mr. H. F. Maltby, who has been touring throughout the year with his successful play of the Regency period, *The Youngest of Three*, has just completed a new comedy, in four acts, entitled *Sir George of Almacks*. As may be gathered from the title, the scene is laid in the latter part of the eighteenth century, and the author believes that in the conception of the character of Sir George he has broken entirely new ground. The piece will be produced early next year, and will be played in conjunction with *The Youngest of Three* at several return dates. The business arrangements will remain in the hands of Mr. Wyn Weaver.

Mr. Sydney Bacon, of Gateshead and Newcastle, was elected a Councillor of the first-named town last week by the large majority of 375. Mr. Bacon's opponent had been a member of the Council for nine years.

Mr. Seymour Hicks will preside over the sixteenth anniversary dinner of the Eccentric Club, which will take place at the Hotel Cecil, on Sunday, the 25th inst. Mr. Alfred Ellis will occupy the vice-chair. Eccentric clubmen are notoriously a merry set, and a jovial evening may be relied upon by all who are privileged to be present.

In the Court of King's Bench, on the 2nd inst., Miss Florence Byron, who appeared as a Court Chamberlain in *The White Cat* pantomime at Drury Lane, sued the theatre company for damages sustained in the course of the performance. At a matinée on Jan. 24, 1904, Miss Byron was wearing a head-dress consisting of a bronze helmet with a little ball at the top and a spike coming down inside the crown. On leaving the stage she had to pass under a piece of canvas, which two men lifted. Something fell on her in passing under the canvas, and the spike in the helmet was forced into her head. She fainted, and was laid up for a considerable period. It was argued on behalf of defendants that there was no ground of action inasmuch as there was common employment, and the employer was not therefore liable. His lordship said he was very sorry, but he had to support the submission that there was common employment, and therefore in law the plaintiff could not succeed. He had to enter judgment for the defendants, but expressed the hope that they would do something for the plaintiff.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught and Princess Patricia witnessed the performance of *The Merveilleuses* at Daly's Theatre on Saturday.

Mr. Leo Montague writes contradicting a report that has been circulated to the effect that a Gardner-Brown vaudeville company has been stranded in Egypt. He says: "The company was engaged to play in India, not Egypt. Business is exceedingly good, and there is no danger of a company under the direction of Mr. D. Gardner-Brown being stranded; any company under his management is sure of a comfortable tour and a safe return to England."

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Kingston-on-Thames Theatre Company (Limited) took place on Wednesday, when an interim dividend of 6 per cent. per annum on the Preference shares was declared. The report stated that the autumn season of 1905 and the winter and spring seasons of 1906 were more than ordinarily satisfactory, but the hot and long summer had had a most disastrous effect, and the receipts during the last three months of the financial year fell to considerably less than had been experienced at any period in the history of the theatre. The report and accounts were adopted, and the retiring director, Mr. William Millwood, who presided, was re-elected.

Mr. Peter Davey, the managing-director, paid a high tribute to the theatre staff, most of whom had been in the service of the company since the theatre was opened eleven years ago, and said, although the year had been a bad one, it was in their favour that, while the majority of other suburban theatres had gone down or had changed hands, the Kingston Theatre had always been able to keep its head above water.

Mr. Robert Milstead, who was a member of the company supporting Miss Ellen Terry in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion* at the Court, has been compelled, through the ill-health of his wife, to give up the theatrical profession and take up his abode in the country. He has obtained a lease of The Poplars, a large old-fashioned cottage at Riverhead, near Sevenoaks, where he proposes after Christmas to receive members of the profession as "paying guests." The enterprise should find warm support among those who like to spend week-ends out of town, as the surrounding country offers excellent facilities for hunting, fishing, golf, tennis, river bathing, and every kind of sport. Mr. Milsted also hopes to make the breeding of Great Dane dogs a paying hobby. He has secured two very fine puppies from the famous Lockerbie Kennels, and has christened and registered one of them under the name of "Ellen Terry," with that popular lady's kind sanction.

A record attendance may be anticipated at the concert at the Crystal Palace this afternoon, when a violin and pianoforte recital, by Lady Hallé and Mr. Leonard Borwick, will be given. The programme includes excerpts from Beethoven, Schumann, Schubert, Chopin, Liszt, and other famous masters.

On behalf of the committee of the Mr. R. W. Allum Testimonial Fund. Mr. Henry Dann, the hon. secretary and treasurer, wishes to thank those who responded to the appeal, those who supported the concert at Brixton Hall, and the numerous artists who generously gave their services. The efforts to recognise Mr. Allum's courtesy during his eight years in Brixton resulted in a cheque for £40 3s. being handed to him.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard was amongst those invited last Monday to meet His Majesty on the occasion of the opening of the new Grammar Schools at King's Lynn, and afterwards at the luncheon given by the Mayor.

Miss Mabel Adair, who has just been engaged by Mr. Tree to understudy in *Antony and Cleopatra*, is one of the many young actresses to whom Mr. George Alexander has given their first opportunity. After playing a one-line part in *The Wilderness*, she toured with his répertoire company, "learning her business" before joining Mrs. Langtry to play Marie Louise in *Mademoiselle Mars*. The daughter of an American, Miss Adair was born in South Africa, educated in Belgium, and has travelled in all parts of the world, her many experiences including a shipwreck off the coast of Australia. She recently ended a two years' engagement at the Adelphi, her best part having been the widow in *The Taming of the Shrew*. Miss Adair is a sister of Miss May Congdon, who is now starring in Australia under the management of Messrs. Magnell and Gunn.

"The Beauty of Bath" still continues to attract large audiences to the Aldwych Theatre. The popularity of the piece has this week been enhanced by the introduction of new songs for Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss.

Mr. Alfred Manners, the popular proprietor and manager of the Queen's Theatre, Swindon, met with a painful accident on "Guy Fawkes' Day." He was entertaining his children and some of his friends to a display of fireworks, when a "Roman candle" burst full in his face. A doctor was in attendance at once, and found Mr. Manners in dreadful pain. His face was badly burnt, but happily no serious consequences, as far as his eyesight is concerned, are to be feared.

Little Marjorie Gummerson, a very clever child, has been engaged by Mr. Brydon-Phillips for the rôle of Cupid in Victor Stevens' *Little Red Riding Hood* pantomime. This little girl has seen only nine summers, and has never appeared on the regular theatrical boards, but Mr. Phillips speaks with confidence of her strong dramatic qualities.

Mr. Maurice Farkoa leaves London on Saturday next for New York, where, as we stated months ago, he will originate a part in a new musical comedy. His stay there is fixed for twenty weeks, after which he returns to London for Mr. George Edwardes's production of *Die Lustige Witwe*, a light opera of Continental origin, to which the title of *The Merry Widow* will probably be assigned.

The Imperial Theatre is to come under the hammer on the 22nd inst., when, by order of Mrs. Langtry, Messrs. Marler and Marler will offer at auction, at Tokenhouse Yard, E.C., the remainder of her lease of eight years, with immediate possession, arrangements having been made with Mr. Lewis Waller to terminate his tenancy. The Imperial was rebuilt for Mrs. Langtry by Mr. Frank Verity, who transformed it into one of the most beautiful playhouses in London. It may be added that the terms under which Mrs. Langtry holds it are such as to make it one of the cheapest theatrical properties in the West End.

Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton, the proprietors of the Royal Opera House, Leicester, who lent their theatre last week for a concert to enable the Leicester Licensed Victuallers to endow a second cot at the Children's Hospital, are to be heartily congratulated in initiating in that town a system which cannot be too highly commended. The whole of the staff, back and front, from Mr. Henry Dundas, the business-manager, downwards, willingly gave their services free, in return for which the proprietors received 15 per cent on the takings, the amount totalling £16 10s., which they will hand over to the Actors' Benevolent Fund without any deduction. We should add that the Licensed Victuallers cleared £80 odd by the concert, which was held on a terribly wet night and in face of the opposition of another charitable concert at which Mr. Winston Churchill was present as a speaker.

"Sindbad the Sailor," due at Old Drury as usual on Boxing Night, will be in two parts, the "book" again being provided by Hickory Wood and Arthur Collins, the music by J. M. Glover, the whole being produced by Mr. Collins. The story proper starts in a Persian garden—a beautiful scene—when Sindbad begins his fourth voyage. Mrs. Sindbad and daughter decide to accompany him, disguised as sailors, on an expedition to the Treasure Island. How they are shipwrecked and find a refuge on a whale, which they mistake for a desert island, and how the party all eventually arrive in the wonderful Valley is shown in a series of scenes. Part II. is equally exciting and amusing, the authors, as far as modern requirements will permit, adhering to the original story in the "Arabian Nights," and the children will be further delighted by the return to the old-fashioned harlequinade, presented by a clown new to the National Theatre, with some original and wonderful tricks.

Miss Muriel Ashwynne, after a long holiday, has just returned to London, and is understudying one of the principal parts in *Robin Hood* at the Lyric Theatre, having obtained an engagement and begun work only three days after her arrival in London. With youth, enthusiasm, and sincerity, to say nothing of being very pretty and winning, Miss Ashwynne's career has been most felicitous, although she went into the profession without the backing of money or influence, and has herself to thank—and other people's appreciation of her talents—for all her success. She not only acted, as a child, in Theatre Royal, Back Drawing-room, but made several appearances on the entertainment platform, choosing, on her own initiative, the sleep-walking scene from *Macbeth*, when she was only nine years old, as the *pièce de résistance* in her répertoire. Later on, after studying a couple of years with Mr. Charles Fry, the clever little novice made her début at the old Globe Theatre in *Hogmany*, and since then she has played many important parts, made her mark more than once with the Stage Society—notably in Mrs. Bernard Shaw's translation of *Maternité*—and always had the satisfaction of knowing that one engagement has led to another.

Miss Ashwynne's recollections of Stephanus in *The Sign of the Cross* are serio-comic. She learned how to give the screams of agony of the unfortunate young Christian martyr by stabbing her own arm with a strong needle—a cruel method, but effectual—in the privacy of a room at the top of the house. One night, in struggling with the jailors in the torture scene, her wig came off, and when she fell on the ground there was a space of a foot between Stephanus's "proud young head" and his "rich dark locks." Many unknown admirers of Miss Ashwynne used to wait at the stage-door when she was playing in *The Sign* to see how she looked after being tortured. On one occasion an old lady, who had been much impressed with the play, said how much she would like to go behind the scenes, to see "the machine that did the screaming." The young actress told her quietly that Miss Ashwynne was the only machine employed by the management.

Miss Evie Greene, as the chief of the Merveilleuses in the new comic opera at Daly's, wears a pretty dress of palest blue satin draped in a very statuesque manner. The bodice is arranged similar to a Zouave coat, and is edged with gold braid. Her dark hair is bound with a pale blue bandeau, and in it she also wears a large aigrette, while at the back is a dainty cap covered with silver paillettes. In her hand the Merveilleuse carries a pale blue silk bag suspended by long silken strings. The second scene reveals Miss Greene in a pink satin dress, made very much after the fashion of the first. It is worked with a very handsome gold pattern, and round the neck and shoulders is introduced a narrow piece of jetted insertion.

The costume worn by Miss E. Souray is also strikingly handsome. It is a Princess dress of white mousseline over pink, with two wide pieces of lace insertion carried down each side of the front, and two more down the back. A piece of broad pink ribbon is stretched across the bust and tied behind in a bow with long ends; and on her head Miss Souray wears a large white hat, with pink flowers and white feathers. A pretty picture is formed in the earlier scene by a group of bridesmaids, each one of whom is costumed in soft white silk edged with green, and carries a garland of flowers in her hand. The dresses are made with short-waisted bodice, which is crossed and tied with pale green ribbons, and on their heads the bridesmaids wear wreaths of white roses. The garlands are tied with green ribbons and are held by long streamers to match.

Mrs. Leonard Hornsey (*née* Delia Hunt, who played the part of the "San Francisco" girl during *The Prince of Pilsen* run at the Shaftesbury Theatre), presented her husband with a son and heir on Sunday last. The happy event has been made the occasion of hearty congratulations from numerous friends.

Friends of Miss Eva Moss will be sorry to learn that she has been compelled by doctor's orders to remain away from her duties for a few nights owing to a severe cold and loss of voice. She wishes to thank Mr. and Mrs. Powell for their extreme kindness to her, and hopes to resume her part of Gertrude Hunt in their play, *When It Was Dark*, in a few days.

The New Stage Club is organising two performances for the end of the present month. On Thursday evening, the 29th inst., and on the afternoon of Saturday, Dec. 1, the members will play at the Bloomsbury Town Hall, Hart-street, *The Simoom* and *The Stronger Woman*, by August Strindberg, and Norreys Connell's *Time*.

Mr. Henry George, stage manager for *The Prodigal Son* company, who was taken ill on Oct. 25, and has been in the Manchester Infirmary two weeks, is now, we are glad to learn, convalescent. Under doctor's orders, Mr. George intends going abroad shortly, and hopes to return in the spring well and fit for work.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier travelled by the night mail from Edinburgh immediately after his final performance on Saturday last in order to deliver his lecture, "William Shakespeare—Maker of Men," to the Adderley-road Mission at Saltley on Sunday. The chair was taken by the Vicar of Saltley (the Hon. and Rev. James Adderley), who alluded to the great confederacy that exists between Church and Stage, and made the interesting announcement that he and Mr. Bourchier had acted together at Oxford University in their undergraduate days.

When Mr. Martin Harvey, Miss de Silva, and companies opened their three weeks' season at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, on Monday, the occasion was graced by the presence of the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland and the Countess of Aberdeen, and marked his Excellency's first visit to a Dublin theatre since he took office. During the evening Lord Aberdeen expressed himself in enthusiastic terms concerning the interest of Mr. Harvey's revival of *The Corsican Brothers*. A crowded audience gave the popular actor a tremendous welcome, and huge houses have been the invariable rule throughout the week. Public and Press gave Rosamond Langbridge's *The Spell* most appreciative greeting last week at Manchester Theatre Royal. In striking parts in a wholly striking play, Mr. Harvey and Miss de Silva combined to make a great impression, whilst the elaborate and characteristic accompanying music by Norman O'Neill materially enhanced the effect of the play.

Mr. Harvey was recently the recipient of a letter written by a delightfully ingenuous firm of shipping agents, who addressed their communication to "Messrs. the Corsican Brothers." The writers call attention to the fact that, "having an extensive theatrical connection with our steamship business, we are positively able to offer you the best possible accommodation on any vessel leaving any port of the British Isles, also from the Continent."

"Peter's Mother," the successful play now running at Wyndham's Theatre, is the latest acquisition of Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison, with whom Mr. Otho Stuart has arranged to send out two companies. This makes the twenty-ninth London success secured by the enterprising management during the last twenty years—truly a remarkable record. So great has been the prosperity of the Hutchison tours this autumn, that they will not finish until the week before Christmas. To this statement an exception must be made in the case of Miss Annie Hughes' tour, which closes to-night in Birmingham to enable the popular comedienne to rehearse and produce her new play at Manchester. This makes the fourth season of Miss Hughes in *The Country Mouse* under the Hutchison management.

Miss Mabel Love will be seen in the suburbs in *The Freedom of Suzanne* in the course of the next few weeks. The tour has proved phenomenally successful since it started at Brighton, where all previous records were broken. Miss Love and Mr. Percy Hutchison are scoring heavily in the principal parts at Croydon this week.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard has arranged with Mr. A. D. Vernon to book the Theatre Royal, King's Lynn, in conjunction with the Theatre Royal, Peterborough.

Miss Ellaline Terriss is nightly scoring heavily with Messrs. Davis and Darewski's charming number "Au revoir, my little Hyacinth," in *The Beauty of Bath*.

A matinée to be given at the Royalty on Tuesday, the 27th inst., on behalf of Jews in Russia, will introduce a new comedy named *Wasps*, by Muriel Carmel Goldsmid, and a one-act play, entitled *Daughters of Shem*, in which the same writer has collaborated with Mr. Samuel Gordon. Miss Nancy Price, Miss Margaret Bussé, Mr. Matheson Lang, Mr. Daniel McCarthy, and Mr. Hubert Harben will assist in the entertainment.

The recent matinées at the Richmond Theatre having proved so successful, the management have decided to repeat the experiment at intervals. For Thursday next Mr. George Dance's principal *Cingalee* company is underlined to appear.

Miss Gertie Millar, who was unable to create the character originally designed for her in *The New Aladdin*, owing to her husband's illness, will take up the rôle on Saturday next, when she will most assuredly have a cordial welcome from her numerous devotees at the Gaiety. Two fresh numbers were introduced into the play on Wednesday night, one for Miss Kitty Mason and the other for Miss Olive May, and Miss Lily Elsie, the charming young comedienne who has so excellently acquitted herself in Miss Millar's part.

Sir A. C. Mackenzie occupied the chair at the banquet given on Tuesday at the Trocadero Restaurant to Mr. Joseph Bennett, and delivered an eloquent speech in eulogy of the veteran musical critic, who is retiring from active work. Among the company were Lady Mackenzie, Lord Alverstone, Sir Frederick Bridge, Dr. Cowen, Dr. Cummings, Sir Edward Elgar, Mr. Edward German, Mr. Charles Manners, Mme. Fanny Moody, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fry, Miss Olive Kennett, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Davies, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Colonel Mapleson, and Mr. Dan Godfrey.

At the conclusion of an entertaining speech, Mr. Bennett said that with regard to the future of music he was not in the least anxious. He was one of those obstinate optimists who never gave up hope and faith, and never should. He was very sure that with music, through all the changes it had to pass between the shadows in which it was now enwrapped, and the great age which would swallow up all disturbances, all would be well. His reading of musical history, and his experience of musical doings during the last fifty years—for that really was the measure of his experience—convinced him that all was well; that music, however much it might be distracted and thrown aside by passing events, would eventually steady itself and take from all that came to it what was good and send the rest streaming down the flood.

The first production of the Incorporated Stage Society this season will be Gerhart Hauptmann's drama *The Weavers*, translated by Mary Morison. The performance will take place at the Scala Theatre on Dec. 9 and 10. *Don Juan in Hell: a Dream*, from Bernard Shaw's *Man and Superman*, and *Our Little Fancies*, an original English play, by Miss M. M. Mack, will be produced in the course of the season.

A new drama, entitled *Comödianten*, by MM. Misch and Roda, will see the light for the first time at one of the principal Berlin theatres shortly. The plot depicts—as the title implies—scenes in the life of comic actors. The action passes in Berlin. A rehearsal at a local theatre and the interior of a Berlin theatrical agent's office form two of the most important scenes.

Herr Louis Hermann, a well-known Berlin farce-maker and writer of patter-songs, has just celebrated his seventieth birthday, and been made the subject of many honours. A banquet was given at one of the principal hotels, in which all the leading lights of comedy and literature participated. The hero of the hour was toasted in many appropriate and humorous speeches, and Frau Schneider-Nissen and Herr Engels contributed to the general entertainment by some comic scenes. Herr Herrmann is still a healthy, if not robust, man, and his working days may be numerous still.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

THERE is a well-known anecdote of a transpontine manager in the bad old days lamenting to a grand opera *entrepreneur* that he—the transpontine one—would have no gallery patrons on the following night, the first of the opera season. "Why not?" enquired the West-end-ian. "They'll all be round picking pockets outside your place!" was the reply. Part, at least, of the audience at the Theatre Antoine on Saturday last, at the *première* of *Biribi*, was similarly composed. The house was packed, not only with the usual audience, and with men and women known for their writings upon social subjects, with politicians, lecturers, historians—but with ex-gaolbirds, who had come to inspect the work of a fellow-sufferer. Georges Darien, part author of *Biribi*, a white-haired man of forty, who looks sixty-five, served three years in the "disciplinary battalions" in Africa, and had his head shaved, as is customary in such cases.

MR. RAYMOND BLATHWAYT, in his lecture on "People I have Met," at Blaenau Festiniog, the other night, told how, during his recent provincial tour, Mr. Beerbohm Tree was entertained at a big public luncheon by the Lord Mayor of Manchester, and sat next to Bishop Welldon, the new Dean. Said Dr. Welldon. "Well, Mr. Tree, what have you been doing to-day?" "Oh," replied the famous actor-manager, "I went for a long motor ride this morning, and I lost a bet." "Indeed," answered the Dean. "May I ask what the bet was?" "Certainly," said Mr. Tree. "I made a bet that we would pass through four hundred different odours, and we only encountered three hundred and ninety-nine." "Ah!" swiftly replied the witty Dean, "you missed the odour of sanctity!"

WILLS have often supplied the "motives" of dramas, but Mr. John Ernest McCann's play, *The Wooing of Mrs. Van Cott*, of which we have received a synopsis, certainly contains an original use of a testament in a plot. The late husband of an American widow leaves her over a million dollars, on condition that she marries a Chinaman or an "Afro-American." An Irishman, who wants to wed the "relict," induces a surgeon to transfuse a quart of "crimson fluid" from a black's veins to his—the Irishman's—venal system. Thus he is able to swear that he has "negro blood in his veins."

WHEN a clergyman devotes a portion of the collection at his church to a theatrical charity, he indeed gives evidence of the good feeling between "Church and Stage." Last Sunday evening, the Rev. George Osborne, Vicar of St. Michael's and All Angels, Neepsend, Sheffield, who is chaplain to the Sheffield and district branch of the Actors' Church Guild, devoted a portion of the offertory at his church to the Actors' Benevolent Fund. In recognition of the special character of the service, several members of the Moody-Manners Opera Company were present. Mr. Charles Manners, who occupied a seat in the choir stalls, gave a beautiful rendering of Gounod's "Nazareth," Mr. W. M. Chapman-Huston read the lessons, and Mr. J. Currie was at the organ. The Rev. C. W. N. Ivens was the preacher. Mme. Fanny Moody and Miss Hilda Moody were amongst the congregation. The choir sang the anthem, "What are these?"

MISS EMILY SOLDENE, whose matinée on Tuesday at the Palace is certain to be successful, has some interesting reminiscences of great singers. "Mme. Tietjens' corsets were dreadfully stiff, laced dreadfully tight, and audibly creaked. She never appeared without a lace pocket-handkerchief, princess or peasant it was all the same; alike in the agonies of Donna Anna, in the grandeur of Fidelio, in the dungeon of Marguerite, clinging to the Cross in *Robert le Diable*, or frantically entreating her lover in *The Huguenots*, she carried her costly *mouchoir*, and her coiffure, under any stress of emotion or danger, was always perfect, not a hair disturbed. On the other hand, Mme. Grisi, so inimitable and careful in her art, was careless to a fault as to her personal appearance, and never, even at a morning concert, had her bonnet quite straight."

AN anecdote of John Ryder shows the ease with which that important artist could produce the evidences of grief. Says Miss Soldene:—"On Feb. 10, 1868, I, by appointment, met Mr. John Ryder on the stage of the Queen's Theatre, to hear his opinion. He asked me what could I do? I said, 'Nothing.' He gave me the Porita speech, "The quality of mercy," &c., to read. After I got through, he walked up and down for a minute or two, then stopped. 'You have tears in your voice,' he said; 'are your tears near the surface? Can you cry easily?' I could not tell him. 'Look at me,' said he, smiling, and, reciting a few lines, the tears ran down his face as freely and as miserably as possible."

THE difficulties of a manager who is also actor, acting-manager, and money-taker are illustrated by Miss Soldene in an anecdote of Mr. Harry Webb, of *Two Dromios* fame, who filled all these positions in a company on tour under his management. "One night (the bill was *Macbeth*), during a lull at the receipt of custom, he ran up, and peeped through the bull's-eye window of the centre boxes, to have a look at the Witches scene. Horror! He could only see two witches. Rushing round to the stage, he shouted, 'Where's the third witch? Where on earth's the third witch? Fine him, fine him.' 'You're the third witch, sir,' replied the stage-manager."

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER has been speaking words of wit and wisdom to audiences by whom he is being enthusiastically received on tour. In response to the demand for a speech at the conclusion of his visit to the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, on Saturday night, Mr. Bourchier said:—"Thank you—we all thank you from the bottom of our hearts. A newspaper once gave a prize for the best answer to how a chairman at a public dinner can respond without using the words, 'Thank you for the kind manner in which you have drunk my health.' I did not see any of the answers, but my experience to-night convinces me that no truly grateful man could possibly say anything else. During the pleasant week we have passed in your charming society, we have heard many little stories about *The Walls of Jericho*. One friend of mine told me that it was a great pleasure to him to see a play that was such a notable exception to the usual inane productions of a frivolous age. I heard that he had just lost very heavily while playing bridge at the club."

"Two policemen," continued Mr. Bourchier, "were overheard outside the theatre. Said one, 'I hear the smart set are getting a fine bit of talking to inside.' 'Yes,' replied the other, 'I've sent my wife there to-night, and I'm thinking it will do her a power of good.' A clergyman told me that if he dared preach half the home truths which Jack Frobisher does, his offertories would be very small. Well, ladies and gentlemen, I was able to assure him that such was not the case with us. We have been rehearsing *Macbeth* very hard all this week, and one line of the guilty Thane's has struck me as being open to the earnest student who is keen to discover deep, hidden meanings to everything Shakespeare wrote. It is, 'Time, thou anticipatest my dread exploits.' What a lot of readings that one line, taken away from its context, might have. One is, 'If I go on talking, I shall miss my train!' On behalf of my wife, my company, and myself, I thank you for the encouragement you have given us to come to you again next year."

HALL CAINE ON THE CLAQUE.

The O.P. Club held its 7th Annual Dinner at the Criterion last Sunday evening. The President, Mr. Sydney Dark, was in the Chair. The guest of the evening was Mr. Hall Caine, and among those present were Mrs. Hall Caine, Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, Miss Lilah McCarthy, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. Granville Barker, Miss Margaret Halstan, Mr. Pett Ridge, Mr. Harry Fragson, Mr. Landon Ronald, Mr. James Glover, Miss Agnes Thomas, Miss Eily Malyon, Mrs. Sydney Dark and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hentschel.

MR. SYDNEY DARK, in proposing the toast of "The Drama," said a community which was sane and in its right mind would provide itself with a theatre before it worried itself about the main drainage system. He declined to believe that the drama was either dead or dying. It was a great art which brought imagination into everyday life and helped to take our eyes away from the dull earth and fix them upon the stars. The members of the O.P. Club were the apostles of the open mind: all they asked was that each new play should be good of its kind. It was a great pleasure to him to couple with the toast the name of Mr. Hall Caine, and with Mr. Caine's to couple the name of the Playgoers' Club.

MR. HALL CAINE, in the course of his response, said: I congratulate the dramatic profession on the prosperity of the O.P. Club as witnessed by this large and influential gathering to-night. I think nothing could be better for any profession than that it should excite a large public interest, nothing so bad as that it should be the subject of intellectual apathy.

I will venture to tell you a few stories from my own experience of the theatre during the last twenty years, and leave you to draw your own conclusions. Twenty years ago, when I was an almost unknown author, I produced my first play. The conditions under which it was produced were as unfavourable as can be imagined. In spite of this we had on the first night a triumphant success. I do not remember a play which was received with what seemed to be more genuine enthusiasm. The papers the next morning reviewed it with delirious rapture. I fondly imagined I had opened up a new career, my manager thought his foot was on the rung of fortune's ladder. The second night, in a house capable of holding £250, we opened to receipts amounting to £27, and after dragging on a miserable existence for eight weeks we "shut down" to a loss of £3,000. This illustrates the general unreliability of a first-night verdict. Sixteen years later I produced a play under the most favourable conditions of leading West-end management, and it brought me more money than I should care to reveal to the income-tax collector. All the first-night audience said my play was an utter and abject failure. The next morning the newspapers, without any exception, tore my play to rags. On the second night we opened to the record takings of the theatre, and for eighty nights we played to the utmost capacity of the house. I think that we have some reason to be downhearted, not only as to the verdict of some first-night audiences, but also on the development of the claque on first nights in London, although within certain limits the claque may be necessary, if only as a set-off against the stolid indifference of the occupants of the stalls, or the booing of the boys in the gallery. Two or three months ago I came to London to produce a new play, and, on my arrival, I received a letter from a stranger which ran something like this: "Dear Sir,—Perhaps you remember that I was a super at such-and-such a theatre so many years ago, when you produced such-and-such a play. I am now out of a billet; but I know a lot of good men, and if you think you would like to make it worth my while, on the first night of your new play I shall be glad to give you a hand." I handed that letter to the manager of the theatre at which my play was produced, and I have excellent reason to believe that it was my correspondent and not my play who got the benefit of the hand.

MR. A. F. ROBBINS, in proposing the toast of "The Ladies," coupled with the name of Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, said the members of the Club were specially delighted to welcome Miss Matthison among them to-night, if only to show their gratitude for the address which she had delivered to the O.P. Club early this year. Miss Matthison had won the admiration of all playgoers, and that without the advantage of preliminary puffing or personal influence. He could say of Miss Matthison what one of our greatest dramatists had said of one of his characters—"she has a mind as calm as she is fair." She was one who had done worthy work, and he believed would do still worthier.

MISS EDITH WYNNE MATTHISON, in responding to the toast of "The Ladies," said: "I have to thank you, on behalf of my sister-workers and myself, for your kind encouragement and sympathy. Indeed sympathy and encouragement are very precious to us in our failure and in our success from the public and from the Press. It is perhaps trite to speak of the difficulties of our profession, but indeed they are very many and very real, requiring courage, purpose, patience, hard work, and not even excluding considerations of the bread-and-butter kind. All these, of course, are shared in common with other people; but, unlike other people, we have to bear the stress of them in the full light and glaring publicity of day. Thus our failure is not an ordinary failure, but has a special sting of its own. We depend so much upon the goodwill of our audiences and our critics; and by goodwill I do not mean indiscriminate and fulsome praise, but I do mean the introduction of a little loving sympathy just at the right moment—an attitude of generous expectancy; the recognition of noble attempt which may have partly failed; kind discrimination between the player and the part. I speak to you as members of the Press and the public. You have never failed us, and you certainly do not fail us to-night, and I hope on our side and for our sakes we may never fail you. If we do, may we repent speedily and mend our ways, and do better in the time to come."

MR. T. MCDONALD RENDLE, in proposing the toast of "The Visitors," coupled with the name of Mr. Granville Barker, congratulated Mr. Caine upon his speech. We have here to-night, said Mr. Rendle, a gentleman who is as good an actor to-day as he was forty years ago, if not better. I refer to my old and valued friend Mr. Henry Neville. When we have such a subject as Mr. Neville we feel that no words of ours are required to express the services he has rendered to the English stage to which we hope he will be spared for many years to come.

MR. BARKER, in responding to the toast of "The Visitors," said: I hope for once you will let the artistic side of the drama take care of itself, and devote a little of your attention to its financial position. It has got into a very bad way because very little attention is paid to it. You become very interested in the photos of actors and their salaries when they rise above £200 a week; but you should take an interest in those whose salaries do not rise above £20, and some not above £10. I think that the thing which matters is not the position of the leaders but the position of the mediocrity." Mr. Barker, in continuation, thought that the difficulties of the case were to be met chiefly by organisation. He said an actor was generally supposed to be extravagant. It was all very well to live below one's income. It was the tendency of the average man to live in an average way on what he imagined his income was going to be; but the actor never knew what his income would be—one year it might be £1000, another £800, another £50.

The toast of "The Chairman" was proposed by Mr. Mostyn Pigott, Mr. Sydney Dark responding

ASAPHIANS AT WORK.

The Installation meeting of the Asaph Lodge (1319) was held on Monday last at the Gaiety Restaurant, when Mr. Edward W. Whitmore proceeded to install Mr. E. H. Bull to the much-coveted chair, after which the newly-made Master proceeded with the investiture of his officers, who were:—Herbert Chenery, S.W., Ernest H. Paterson, J.W., C. Wellard, P.M. (treasurer), James W. Mathews, P.M. (secretary), A. B. Tapping, S.D., Chris. Hilton, J.D., Albert Le Fre, I.G., W. Lestocq, P.M., D.C., J. E. Hambleton, P.M. (organist), Rev. W. P. Besley (chaplain), Frank Lister, W.S., E. Wesley Woolhouse, W.S., Tom C. Clare, W.S., Clement Smith, W.S., and J. Gilbert (tyler).

Grand Officers who were present were—Messrs. John Strachan, Henry Neville, J. P. Baptie, Henry Times, and W. Ganz.

Past Masters who were present were—Messrs. James Weaver, W. J. Holloway, Chas. B. Powell, Algernon Syms, J. E. Hambleton, Chas. Cruikshanks, and Herbert Leonard.

After the ceremony of installation was complete the brethren proceeded to the Banquetting Gallery, partaking of the *hors d'œuvres* promenade, and then descended to the recherché Dining-hall to enjoy a sumptuous repast.

Thirty-six Masters have occupied the chair since the founding of the Asaph Lodge, of which the following is a list:—

E. Stanton Jones (founder), 1870; Charles Coote (founder), 1871; John M. Chamberlin (founder), 1872; James Weaver (founder), 1873; Edward Frewin, 1874; Charles S. Jekyll, 1875; William A. Tinney, 1876; Edward Terry, 1877; George Buckland (founder), 1878; Edward Swanborough, 1879; Charles Wellard, 1880; W. Meyer Lutz, 1881; John Maclean, 1882; Frederick Delevanti, 1883; Charles E. Tinney, 1884; William J. Kent, 1885; Henry J. Tinney, 1886; William Lestocq, 1887; James D. Beveridge, 1889; Tom de Brunnow Holmes, 1890; Alfred E. Bishop, 1891; William Sydney Penley, 1892; James Edward Hambleton, 1893; Francis Henry Macklin, 1894; Charles Christopher Cruikshanks, 1895; Samuel Johnson, 1896; William John Holloway, 1897; Luigi Lablache, 1898; Charles Blount Powell, 1899; James W. Mathews, 1900; Algernon Syms, 1901; Louis Honig, 1902; Akerman May, 1903; Herbert Leonard, 1904; E. W. Whitmore, 1905; E. H. Bull, 1906.

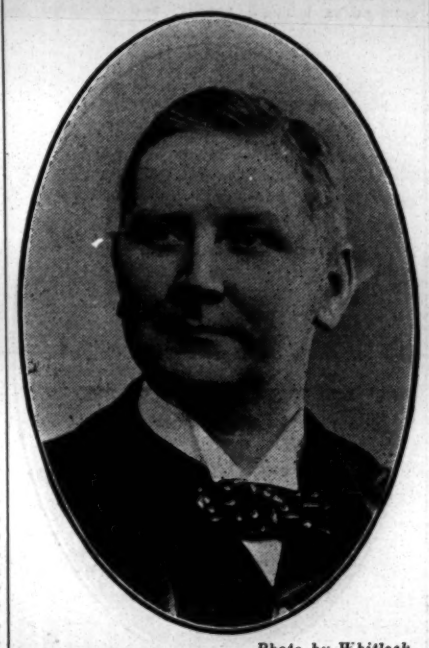


Photo by Whitlock.

MR. E. H. BULL,
Worshipful Master Asaph Lodge (1319) 1906.

Each course on the menu list was preceded by some appropriate, and in some applications, decidedly humorous Masonic motto. Thus the brethren were told to "Let prudence direct them" when partaking of "Faisan en casserole," "Salade"; while "Cotelettes d'Agneau de lait à la Florentine," "Suprême de Poulet à l'Ecarlate" were designated "Mysteries of Nature and Science."

The list of toasts and music was interwoven with appropriate quotations from the Bard of Avon, whose disciples all good Asaphians are acknowledged to be.

The musical arrangements were under the skilled direction of Mr. James E. Hambleton, who introduced for the delectation of the brethren a number of clever artists:—Miss Leila Bull, Mrs. May Walker, Mrs. E. H. Bull (wife of the W.M.), Miss Gertrude Lonsdale, Messrs. T. Powley, Tom Clare, Maurice Garland, and Archibald Evans.

An amusing speech was made by Mr. Charles C. Cruikshanks, who has recently been promoted at Grand Lodge to the rank of Assistant Banner-Bearer.

A complete alphabetical list of the large company present is as follows:—Allworth, A.; Anderson, Peter C.; Appleford, Charles; Baker, W.; Baptler, J. P.; Barrett, W. L.; Barnett, Thomas J.; Bentley, L. C.; Besley, Rev. W. P.; Birch, Jesse J.; Boothby, Charles Norton; Brook, H.; Brown, Edgar J.; Bull, E. H.; Calcott, H. J.; Carrodus, J. F.; Carson, L.; Chenery, Herbert; Clare, Tom; Cloetens, Antoine; Coggin, Clarence C.; Coviello, Nicola; Cox, R. Douglas; Cressall, A.; Crellin, Frederick W.; Cruikshanks, Charles C.; Dagnell, E.; Dallas, J. J.; Davies, Trehawke; Duck, A. J.; Dyball, G. H.; Evans, Archibald; Fraser, Tom; Ganz, W. (P.G. Organist); Geary, John; Gill, Crandon; Grimaldi, Oscar; Groves, James; Hachenberger, Franz; Hambleton, H. G.; Hambleton, James C.; Hambleton, James E.; Hambleton, F. G.; Hamilton, James A.; Harvey, W. J.; Hayward, W. H.; Henderson, G.; Heuvel, Jacques Van; Hill, Rev. Heriot; Hilton, Chris.; Holloway, W. J.; Howgill, R. F.; Hunter, G. Russell; Humphrey, E.; Humphrey, E. (guest); Jacobi, Maurice; James, W.; Jones, Julian; Kendan, A. H.; Kiefert, Carl; Kitchen, Fred; Kottam, J. W.; Kuhn; Le Fre, Albert; Leonard, Herbert; Lestocq, W.; Lister, Frank; Lloyd, Dr.; Lockett, H.; Lockwood, Edmund; Maskell, Arthur; Macdona, Charles; Mathews, James W.; Middlemist, R. P.; Muller; Neville, Henry; Nicholls, Harry; Oxley, A. P.; Paterson, Ernest H.; Pedgrift, F. H.; Pickering, E. A.; Pollard, G.; Powell, C. B.; Powley, T.; Rees; Reeder, Louis de; Reynolds, E. V.; Riche, O.; Rumble, T. W.; Sciffiow; Shorter, A. J.; Smith, F. L.; Smith, G. W. Clement; Smith, W. B.; Sounes, Clarence; Souper, Gerald K.; Sparling, Herbert; Stewart, Frank; Strachan, John; Swift, Dr. W. J. C.; Syms, Algernon; Tapping, A. B.; Taylor, C. J.; Taylor, Sidney; "The Telegraph"; Thomas, Arthur; Times, Henry; Tinney, Charles E.; W.M. Lodge of Israel; W.M. Guildhall School of Music; W.M. Orchestral; Waterman, W. J.; Weaver, James; Wellard, Charles; Whitmore, E. W.; Wilson, W.; Woolhouse, Edmund; Woolhouse, Wesley E.

A magnificent Past Master's jewel was presented to Mr. W. E. Whitmore.

THE Duke and Duchess of Connaught and suite witnessed the performance of *The Amateur Socialist* at the Criterion Theatre on Thursday evening.

"THE COLLABORATORS."

A Play, in One Act, by W. Kingsley Tarpey, from a Story by Mrs. Kingsley Tarpey, Produced at the Criterion Theatre, on Monday, Nov. 5.

Lucy ..... MISS MINNIE TERRY
Hacker ..... MR. O. P. HEGGIE
Ethel Berners ..... MISS LILIAN BRAITHWAITE
Miss Greatorex ..... MISS HENRIETTA COWEN
Edward Cahusac .... MR. P. H. CLAYTON GREENE
Robert Curtice ..... MR. F. PERCIVAL STEVENS

The author of *The Amateur Socialist*, which is running its merry course at the Criterion Theatre, has written a curtain-raiser based on a story by Mrs. Kingsley Tarpey, and the new play was successfully produced on Monday evening. Ethel Berners writes stories and plays, but when it comes to the management of her own love affairs she is evidently much more puzzled as to the right course to pursue than the heroine of one of her tales would be under similar circumstances. She has, it appears, two strings to her bow, Edward Cahusac, an artist, and Robert Curtice, a playwright; but the difference between the two men is so plainly marked it is rather surprising to find the girl has any difficulty in making a choice of a husband. But Ethel has some curious ideas respecting matrimony, and these she expresses in the course of a conversation with her maiden aunt, Miss Greatorex, a lady endowed with a large amount of common sense. Ethel has been having a very happy time with Cahusac, who has presented her with the pictures from his own brush which adorn the walls of her West-end flat; but she suddenly resolves to send back all the paintings, and give the artist to understand that the pleasant companionship which has been formed is at an end. She has come to the conclusion that, in choosing a partner for life, love should not be the chief consideration, the important point being that the man and woman should have a common interest. She therefore decides to give the preference to Robert Curtice, with whom she collaborates in the writing of plays. He is a singularly matter-of-fact personage who, one may reasonably suppose, regards sentiment only as an asset in the making of a play. And so the poor painter is told to take his pictures away, and the hint which this request evidently conveys. Curtice arrives, passing his disappointed and dejected rival on the landing outside the door. The dramatist and Ethel discuss the art of playwriting, and eventually he hints at marriage in the most matter-of-fact way. It would be, he remarks, a great saving of time if they were married. The girl experiences a sudden revulsion of feeling, and says she would prefer that their present relations remained unaltered. The playwright accepts the lady's decision without protest; he only says he is very sorry, and departs. Then Ethel sends for Cahusac, who happily has rooms in the same building, and he comes at once, not even giving himself time to take off the old jacket, all smeared with wet paint, which he is wearing. Ethel gives him to understand that she has changed her mind, and the painter is overjoyed at the altered aspect of affairs, while the maiden aunt is also delighted at the course things have taken.

Miss Lilian Braithwaite gave such a charming embodiment of the part of Ethel Berners that one could readily forgive that young lady's curious reasoning and abrupt change of front in her *affaires de cœur*. Mr. P. H. Clayton Greene admirably portrayed the sincerity and earnestness of Edward Cahusac. Mr. F. Percival Stevens deserves warm praise for his really clever study of the cool, business-like playwright. Miss Henrietta Cowen presented a neat, natural sketch of the practical spinster, Miss Greatorex. Mr. O. P. Heggie was good as a porter at the chambers; and Miss Minnie Terry gave able assistance in the part of the maid-servant.

In *The Amateur Socialist*, Mr. Eric Lewis's performance in the character of the amusingly eccentric Sir Hubert Pennefeather continues to afford the utmost delight; and capital character-sketches are submitted by Messrs. E. Y. Rae, E. Dagnall, Louis Goodrich, and F. Percival Stevens. Excellent support is also given by Messrs. Rawson Buckley, Percy H. Jackson, and the Misses Lilian Braithwaite, Carlotta Addison, Margaret Busse, and Ethel Matthews.

THE persuasive powers of Charles Mathews were well exemplified by an anecdote told by the late Henry Russell to Henry Irving, quoted by Mr. Bram Stoker in his "Reminiscences." "Russell told his story thus:—'I was at that time tenant of the Lyceum, and had let it for a short season to Charles Mathews. He did not pay my rent, and, as I suppose you know, the freeholder, Arnold, was not one to let *me* off my rent on that account. The debt ran on till it grew to be quite a big one. I wrote to Mathews, but I never could get any settlement. He was always most suave and cheery; *but* no cash! At last I made up my mind that I would have that money, and finding that letters were of no avail, I called on him one forenoon. He was having his breakfast, and asked me to join him in a cup of chocolate. I said no! that I had come on business—and pretty stern business at that; and that I would not mix it up with pleasure. I had come for cash—cash! cash! He was very pleasant, quite undisturbed by my tirade; so that presently I got a little ashamed of myself and sat down. I stayed with him an hour.' 'And did you get your money?' asked Irving quietly. Russell smiled. 'Get my money! I came away leaving him a cheque for three hundred pounds which he had borrowed from me; and I never asked him for rent again!'"

"BOTH authors and actors," said Mr. Hall Caine, in his speech at the O.P. Club dinner on Sunday, "would perhaps do well to pay less attention to the verdicts of first-night audiences, and, whether favourable or unfavourable, should accept the verdict of the Press as the verdict of individuals—no less and no more. The public is the best judge, and the public finally decides the fate of the play. When a play succeeds, it succeeds because it is generally right, and when it fails, it fails because it is generally wrong; therefore it is best and safest that everybody concerned should take his heart in both hands, and trust absolutely to the voice of the people."

INTRODUCING Mr. Arthur Bourchier to those assembled at the Carlton Theatre, Saltley, on Sunday, to hear his lecture on "Shakespeare," the Vicar of Saltley mentioned that Mr. Bourchier had been a personal friend of his. They had appeared on the stage together made up as Gladstone and Disraeli respectively; he left them to guess which was which.

THE volunteer commentators who have found difficulty in understanding the lines in the third act of *Antony and Cleopatra*, describing the Queen's desertion of Antony at Actium, have evidently never lived in the country. Scarus, in anger, cries—

Yon ribaudred nag of Egypt,
The breese upon her, like a cow in June,
Hoists sails and flies.

Everyone who has noticed the sudden and frantic rushes of cattle in summer when tormented by the gad-fly, or "breese," must appreciate the graphic simile.

MR. EDITOR.—SIR,—Your Aberdeen correspondent announced me as Harry Wilson, extempore vocalist, &c. It should have been, yours truly, HARRY WRIGHT.

THE TOOLE RELICS.

The sale-room at Sotheby's could scarcely be said to be filled to its utmost capacity on Thursday afternoon when the effects of the late Mr. John L. Toole were put up for auction. No doubt the extremely wet weather deterred the mere curiosity-seeker from being present, so that the majority of those who did attend were there for the very definite purpose of securing a portion of the "effects." Among the visitors were Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., Mr. E. Yates Lowne (one of the executors), Mr. Lionel Brough, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Frederick Toole and Mr. Young (nephews of the late comedian), and Mr. Frank J. Arlton (cousin).

The total amount realised by this, the first day's sale, amounted to £722 3s., the highest price for any one lot being £38, which was obtained for the autograph letter of Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton. This fell to the bid of Mr. J. Stoddart, of Fleet-street, who secured most of the albums of autographs and photographs. Mr. Frank J. Arlton purchased for Mr. Fred Terry the gold and tortoiseshell snuffbox once in the possession of Joey Grimaldi, as well as E. M. Robson's snuffbox, the former going for ten guineas. "With all good wishes to dear John Toole." It was the handwriting of the late Dan Leno underneath a portrait of the King's Jester; £2 2s. was the sum given for it. A picture of Mr. Toole as John Rimple in *Thoroughbred*—the character in which he brought his acting career to an end—was bought by Mr. Young for £1 14s.. Mr. Merton Russell Cotes, the well-known collector, secured a large number of playbills, portraits, autograph letters, and programmes, in which the names of Charles Dickens, Bulwer-Lytton, Sir Walter Scott, "Ouida," Leigh Hunt, and Robert Buchanan figured; and Mr. Lowne gave £28 10s. for an album containing the autographs of Thomas Hood, Charles Mathews, Garrick, Liston, Macklin, Kean, and other actors, actresses, and literary folk contemporary with them. A pair of ironstone wine-coolers, once belonging to Charles Dickens, went for £9 10s.

The playbill announcing Mr. Toole's first appearance on the stage, which, with the King's congratulatory telegram on the actor's jubilee, formed one lot, sold for 35s., although it was fully anticipated that the bidding for these would reach a sensational figure. The playbill is an interesting document at this day. It is dated "Theatre Royal, Haymarket, July 22, 1852." The management gave plenty for money. There was *The Merchant of Venice*, with King as Shylock and Buckstone as Gobbo; there was *Mind Your Own Business*, by Mark Lemon; there was that ancient friend of our forebears, *The Spitalfields Weaver*; and a further advertisement says, "Simmons—J. L. Toole, his first time on any stage." A small part of Thackeray's MS. of *The Adventures of Philip* sold for £30 to Mr. Sabin, who also got a sketch by Cruikshanks, "Omnibus," for £17. No great prices were realised for Mr. Toole's oil and water-colour paintings.

IRVING MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—We should esteem it a favour if you would make it known that the Irving Memorial Committee, nominated by the Actors' Association, has decided to call a meeting of the entire dramatic profession early in December, when many actors and actresses now playing in the provinces will be able to attend. To this meeting the committee will submit the form of memorial which they advise, and the means for raising such funds as may be required.

The Actors' Association has received a very large number of most gratifying assurances of support.

Amongst others, Mr. John Hare says:—"I quite agree that the Actors' Association is the only fit and proper body to take in hand the Irving Memorial scheme. I am immensely interested in your scheme, and will support it by every means in my power."

Mr. F. R. Benson says:—"I will support any scheme that worthily embodies the love and pride our profession feel for Henry Irving."

Miss Ellen Terry writes:—"I will support any good proposition that is made."

Mr. Beerbohm Tree says:—"Command me in your decisions."

Mr. Cyril Maude says:—"Any scheme for an Irving Memorial will have my cordial support."

Mr. Arthur Bourchier says:—"I shall be only too pleased to do anything in my power to assist."

Mr. A. W. Pinero says:—"I am willing to help in the promotion of an actor's memorial."

Mr. Edward Terry says:—"The proper body to act is the Association. I shall be pleased to help in any way."

Mr. H. B. Irving says:—"I agree . . . that the Association would be a very proper body to take up the question of a memorial to my father, and I am very glad to hear that they intend doing so."

The committee further cabled their conclusions to Mr. H. B. Irving, who cabled in reply, "Delighted."

All communications regarding the memorial should be addressed to the secretary of the Actors Association, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.—Yours faithfully,

CYRIL MAUDE, ACTON BOND, LAWRENCE GRANT, LEWIS CASSON, CECIL RALEIGH (Irving Memorial Committee), CHAS. CRUIKSHANKS (Secretary).

10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.,
Nov. 5, '06.

THE condition of the teeth has an important effect on the health as well as on the appearance, and a sure means of arresting decay and keeping them pure and white is furnished in Rowland's Odonto. The preparation contains no grit, but thoroughly cleanses the teeth and leaves a delightful fragrance in the mouth. It is supplied by Rowland and Sons, of Hatton-garden, and at all chemists.

ACCORDING to a New York newspaper, about seventy-five million dollars are invested in theatrical property in the "Empire City," and the annual box receipts amount to nearly twelve million dollars, exclusive of opera receipts, of nearly one million. There are seventy-four theatres in New York, and the managers expend each year over a million dollars on productions. It is estimated that there are twenty-five thousand actors in the United States, including those of high-class vaudeville. Sixty per cent. of all dramatic productions in America are made by managers in the city of New York.

THE eighteenth annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Hastings Gaiety Theatre was held on Wednesday. The chairman, Dr. Gray, J.P., congratulated the shareholders on the greatly improved state of the affairs of the company since the previous meeting, the theatre receipts showing an increase of £1,454 over the previous year, and an improved net result of £608 in favour of the company. Speaking of the general manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland, the chairman referred to him as the physician whom they had called in, in their hour of extremity, and under whose fostering care the theatre had reached an advanced stage of convalescence, with every prospect of regaining its full bodily vigour before the expiration of another year. Mr. Rowland's efforts have been ably seconded by the resident manager, Mr. C. R. Scutt, whose devotion to the comfort of both patrons and players has earned for him a high reputation.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Stars and Garters, Folly, Sept. 21, 1878.
Star Spangled Banner, Parkhurst, Feb. 11, 1892.
Star Turn, Trafalgar Square, April 27, 1893.
Starting Price, Theatre Royal, Runcorn, July 21, 1894.
Starved to Death, Adelphi, Liverpool, Aug. 26, 1872.
State Courier, Theatre Royal, Wigan, Nov. 20, 1871.
State Secret, Bradford, Dec. 20, 1889.
State Trial, Garrick, Nov. 19, 1896.
Statue Bride, Gallery of Illustration, June 19, 1868.
Statue of Albemarle, Trafalgar Square, Nov. 16, 1892.
Stay at Home, Olympic, Feb. 11, 1856.
Steel Hand and his Nine Thieves, Britannia, May 11, 1857.
Steeple-chase, Adelphi, March 22, 1865.
Steeple Jack, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, March 23, 1888.
Stella, St. George's Hall, Nov. 21, 1889.
Step Brothers, Dundee, Feb. 6, 1891.
Stephen Digges, Adelphi, Sept. 14, 1864.
Stepmother, The, St. George's Hall, May 5, 1880.
Stepping Stones, Novelty, May 7, 1887.
Step-Sister, The, Comedy, June 4, 1887.
Stiftungsfest, Opéra Comique, Oct. 17, 1893.
Still Alarm, Princess's, Aug. 2, 1888.
Still Waters Run Deep, Olympic, May 14, 1855.
Stirring Times, Southport, Aug. 2, 1897.
Stolen Away, Britannia, March 15, 1875.
Stolen Birthright, Theatre Royal, Colne, Sept. 28, 1896.
Stolen Fortune, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, April 9, 1877.
Stolen from Home, Sadler's Wells, Oct. 12, 1891.
Stolen Jewess, Britannia, April 1, 1872.
Stolen Kisses, Amphitheatre, Liverpool, Nov. 6, 1876.
Stolen; or, The Street Ballad Singer, Sadler's Wells, Nov. 23, 1868.
Stolen; or, £20 Reward, New Royalty, Dec. 26, 1863.
Stone Broke, Theatre Royal, Blackburn, March 23, 1892.
Stop, Thief! Theatre Royal, Halifax, May 24, 1889.
Stores, The, Drury Lane, March 14, 1881.
Storm and Sunshine, Crystal Palace, July 24, 1889.
Storm Beaten, Adelphi, March 14, 1883.
Storm Clouds, Theatre Royal, Bury, June 19, 1900.
Stormcoast, Globe, Dec. 11, 1888.
Storm Deed, Elephant and Castle, April 2, 1877.
Storming and Capture of Delhi, Astley's, Nov. 23, 1857.
Storm Signal, Grecian, Oct. 29, 1866.
Storm, The, Royalty, Oct. 24, 1896.
Story of a Sin, Theatre Royal, Richmond, Aug. 1, 1895.
Story of Orestes, Prince's Hall, May 13, 1886.
Story of Procida, St. James's, Nov. 4, 1867.
Story of the '45, Adelphi, Nov. 12, 1860.
Story of Waterloo, Bristol, Sept. 21, 1894.

"THE ERA"

EARLY DELIVERY.

Special Newspaper Express Services now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible.

	a.m.
RUGBY	4.30
COVENTRY	4.54
BIRMINGHAM	5.20
CREWE	6. 5
MANCHESTER	6.50
LIVERPOOL	7. 0
CHESTER	9. 3
DONCASTER	6.10
YORK	7. 0
HULL	8.20
DARLINGTON	8.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 5
NEWCASTLE	10.10
LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4 36
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.36
SHEFFIELD	6. 6

Other works of note just added by Mr. "Sixpenny Pops" Smith to his lengthy catalogue are "The enchantress waltz," Mark Sheridan's celebrated comic song "At the football match last Saturday," and that charming ballad "When love comes knocking at the door," by Evelyn Baker, which Miss Madoline Rees has so ably helped to make popular. Miss Rees has just secured a pretty song, by H. F. Greenfield, entitled "The goldfish and the water lily." That fine artist Miss Lelia Roze has a delightful number from the same pen in "I'll be your gondolier."

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday, at the County Hall, Spring Gardens.

THE ALHAMBRA.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that they had considered drawings submitted by Mr. W. M. Brutton, showing how it is proposed to construct a pass staircase from the grand circle to the balcony of the Alhambra Palace of Varieties, Leicester-square, and to fix an iron door between the wardrobe room and the staircase.

They recommended—That Mr. Brutton be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawings submitted by him provided the undermentioned conditions be complied with: That the openings leading to the pass stairs be not increased to a width greater than the stairs to which they lead, and that distinct "no exit" notices be provided to the openings; that the door to the box on the grand circle be hung to close with the stream of traffic going down the staircase and made self-closing; that the iron door to the wardrobe-room be hung to close with the stream of traffic going down the staircase, provided with a frame lapping three inches over the door and made self-closing without a spring, and that a second handrail be provided.

The recommendation was agreed to.

THE PLAY-HOUSE.

The committee having considered drawings submitted by Mr. E. Wingfield-Bowles, recommended that he be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the seven drawings submitted with regard to the electrical installation at the Play-House, Northumberland-avenue.

Approved.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

The committee having considered drawings submitted by Messrs. Vaughan, Brown, and Cook, recommended that they be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the two drawings submitted with regard to the fire curtain proposed to be erected at the Putney Hippodrome, Felsham-road, Putney, subject to the gearing and construction being to the satisfaction of the Council.

Agreed to.

THE TIVOLI.

The committee having considered a drawing submitted by Mr. G. H. Dyball recommended that he be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawing submitted with regard to the proposed isolation of the main electric switches, fuses, etc., fixed to the walls of the pit lavatory at the Tivoli Music Hall, Strand.

Approved.

REVISION OF REGULATIONS.

The consideration of recommendations of the committee as to the question of the revision of the regulations made by the Council on March 25, 1902, with respect to the electric lighting and heating installations in theatres and other places of amusement in London was postponed.

COUNTY COUNCIL LICENSING.

The Licensing Committee of the London County Council sat on Monday, in the Sessions House, Newington, to hear applications for music, music and dancing, and stage-plays licences for the district of the metropolis south of the Thames. The committee present included Mr. H. J. Greenwood (chairman), Mr. Jocelyn Brandon, Mr. E. Brown, Mr. J. A. Dawes, Lieut.-Colonel Rotton, Mr. B. S. Strauss, Sir A. E. West, and Mr. H. J. Williams.

Mr. Percy Ford, of Denmark Hill, applied for a music and dancing licence for the Camberwell Empire (formerly the Metropole Theatre). The application was opposed by the Lambeth Borough Council, but on its being stated that the premises were previously licensed, the committee decided to recommend the County Council to renew the licence.

On behalf of Mr. Walter Gibbons, Brixton Oval, Mr. Gill, K.C., applied for a music and dancing licence for the Brixton Hippodrome, which was formerly the Brixton Theatre.

The application was opposed on behalf of the Lambeth Borough Council, on the grounds "That the Borough Council is of opinion that, as there is now, and for some years past has been, in existence within a very short distance from the proposed Brixton Hippodrome, a music hall or theatre of varieties—namely, the Empress Theatre of Varieties—another music hall in Brixton is wholly unnecessary; and, secondly, that the performances, whether one or two nightly, which would take place, would lead and tend to a lowering of the standard of thought and morals of the persons who would frequent such hippodrome, and of the neighbourhood generally."

Mr. Gill stated that the applicant represented the Empress Theatre Company, and owned a music hall in the same neighbourhood, and who had acquired the Brixton Theatre, where they proposed to provide entertainments similar to those now being given in the Empress Theatre. He submitted that the Lambeth Borough Council had gone too far in the grounds which they alleged for their opposition. The question whether a music hall was wanted in the district, or whether it was likely to be a financial success, was entirely one for the persons who proposed to carry on the business. The only matter for the committee to consider was whether the premises complied with the requirements, whether the site was suitable, and if the applicants were responsible people in a position to carry on the enterprise in a suitable manner. He submitted that all these conditions were fulfilled in the present case.

On behalf of the opponents, it was pointed out that in the opinion of the Lambeth Borough Council the site was quite unsuitable, inasmuch as it was next door to a public library, immediately opposite to the new Lambeth Town Hall, now in course of erection, and within one hundred yards of an existing music hall. It was also in close proximity to Brixton Church.

Opposition to the application was also made by the Vicar of St. Matthew's, Brixton, who said a petition against the proposed new music hall had been extensively signed in the district, and it was also opposed by the Brixton Association, an influential non-political organisation.

After consultation, the chairman announced that the committee had decided to grant the application, subject to the condition that no intoxicants were sold or consumed on the premises.

The remaining business was unopposed.

FOOTBALL.

Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C. v. Harry Hare's Orchestral Band and Music Hall Athletic Clubs.

Played on Clifton Downs Oct. 27. Messrs. H. Belding and F. B. Nicholls played splendidly in goal. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C.—H. Belding (captain), goal; J. Lewis and A. Cox, backs; A. E. Bailey, S. Carter, and F. Harrison, half-backs; J. Aubrey, H. Clements, E. Belding, E. Palmer, and A. English, forwards.

Harry Hare's Band.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; A. Hamlin (captain) and H. Walenn, backs; F. Stevens, J. Lacey, and T. Neagle, half-backs; P. Reardon, H. Edwards, F. Hansford, E. Bowman, and D. O'Connor, forwards.

Referee, A. Rossiter (St. Michael's Res. A.F.C.); linesmen, H. Hare and E. Smith. No goal was scored on either side.

CHAT WITH MISS SYRIA LAMONTE.

The name of Miss Syria Lamonte is pretty well known to playgoers and music hall *habitués* by this time. She, like many other famous artists of her own sex, was born in Australia; in fact, Mr. Harry Rickards' Tivoli Theatre in Sydney stands on the precise spot where Miss Lamonte first saw the light of day. Miss Lamonte, who at an early age gave evidence of histrionic ability, made her first appearance with Mrs. Bernard Beere in *As in a Looking-glass*, in which she played the part of Felice, the French maid. After appearing in concerts and opera under the management of Williamson and Musgrove, she was engaged by Mr. Harry Rickards to sing operatic songs and ballads. Coming to London, she was secured by the late Mr. Vernon Dowsett for the Tivoli and Oxford, where her rendering of such numbers as "Sing, sweet bird," and "The cows are in the corn" made her extremely popular. Following her London work, Miss Lamonte went into pantomime at Birmingham, taking principal girl in *Dick Whittington*, Miss Marie Loftus being in the title-rôle. She next entered into a contract with Messrs. Edgar and Sydney Hyman to go to South Africa, where she sang ballads and operatic songs.

Miss Lamonte tells us that she was the first to sing "The Holy City" out there, and her doing so raised a controversy in the newspapers. One clergyman stated that he did not think she should sing this song amongst what he called exhibitions of legmania and farcical business, and he endeavoured to prevent the verses being rendered. Miss Lamonte, however, was able to defy him, and defy him successfully, for the song proved a tremendous triumph vocally, and enhanced the

Photo by Tear.

MISS SYRIA LAMONTE.

young lady's reputation. Before quitting South Africa she was made the object of a popular demonstration at a benefit given in her honour. Flowers to the value of £100, and jewels to the value of £1,000, she tells us, were presented to her. Back again in London, she was seen once more at the halls of dance and song, singing, as usual, songs of a refined character. An introduction from Mr. Henry Tozer to Mr. Waldman, of Konacher's, Vienna, resulted in Miss Lamonte making her Continental *début*. In the Austrian capital she sang operatic songs and American ditties, her work being so much admired that she was retained on the Continent for over three years, touring in Hungary, Roumania, France, and Russia. Curiously enough, Miss Lamonte has not yet appeared in Germany. In America, the subject of this sketch performed in *Veronique*. She would have remained in that country longer had not the heat been so oppressive that her health almost broke down under it, and she had to return to this country. She is, by the way, booked to go to Russia, but owing to the internal troubles and disturbances, she has been compelled to postpone her visit, so that Londoners should have an opportunity of seeing her for some time. Miss Lamonte opens at Chatham on Oct. 29.

As a soprano character vocalist, Miss Lamonte has made no small name for herself. Of late years, she informs us, she has found that the public prefer the brilliant ditties from America and the good chorus songs of home manufacture better than operatic performances. The music in the case of the former is lighter, and catches the ear much more quickly than in the case of the latter.

"A much more simple kind of song is preferred nowadays," is the opinion to which Miss Lamonte commits herself. "American songs are very fine indeed," adds the lady, "and they have undoubtedly helped a lot of artists to become successful quickly. Let me instance Miss Victoria Monks."

Miss Lamonte received a compliment of no small significance when playing one night in Bucharest. She had to appear at a high-class concert and at a variety hall the same evening. At the former, the accompanist, who, by the way, performs similar duties at the Royal Palace, refused at first to play to Miss Lamonte's singing, because he considered it beneath his dignity to accompany a music hall artist. However, after he had heard her in the mad scene from *Lucia di Lammermoor*, as well as in the "Jewel" song from *Faust*, he confessed himself astounded that a lady with such a wonderful voice and such a wonderful vocal range should be content to entertain music hall audiences. He congratulated her, and remarked that he had been proud to accompany so talented an artist. In Austria Miss Lamonte's fame reached afar, and people who would never dream in the ordinary way of visiting a variety establishment went to the Bucharest music hall to hear her.

Miss Lamonte tells us that she would like to appear in pantomime at Christmas, if she could get a suitable "principal boy-ship."

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir Henry Irving.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Dunsford.—Nov. 4, at 4, Park-place, Exeter, the wife of Mr. Percy M. Dunsford, Acting-Manager, Theatre Royal, Exeter, of a daughter.

Ebbutt.—On Nov. 3, 1906, at Falkirk, Mollie Gordon Ebbutt, wife of H. W. Ebbutt, Resident-Manager, Grand Theatre, Falkirk, of a son.

Elvin.—On Oct. 30, Jessie Elvin (The Elvins), 3, Lancaster-road, Upper Edmonton, of a boy. Mother and son doing well.

Hornsby.—On Nov. 4, 1906, at 84, Cato-road, Clapham, S.W., the wife of Leonard Hornsey (Miss Delia Hunt), musical-director Mr. Frank Curzon's "White Chrysanthemum" Co., of a son.

Lloyd.—On Nov. 1, Violet, the wife of Arthur Lloyd (Arthur Lloyd Trio), of a daughter. Mother and child doing well.

Maxford.—At 6, Plan-street, Liverpool, Nov. 2, the wife of Dan Maxford (Maxford and O'Neill) of a fine daughter. Both doing well.

Sade.—Nov. 3, at 18, Medlar-street, Camberwell, wife of Horace Sade, a son. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

Body—Young.—Nov. 7, 1906, E. de Hague Body, to Ada Dorothy Young (Miss Dorie Wynne, of Les Four Papillons), at St. Barnabas Church, Clapham Common, S.W.

Hurley—Lloyd.—At the Town Hall, Hampstead, before the Registrar, on Saturday, Oct. 27, Alec Hurley to Marie Lloyd.

Round—Rivers.—Nov. 3, at St. Mary's, Kennington, by special licence, Oliver J. Round, son of the late Henry Round, of Liverpool, to Edie Rivers, daughter of the late Henry Edward Adams of London.

DEATHS.

Barsby.—Nov. 1, at 137, Junction-road, Upper Holloway, Mrs. E. A. Barsby, widow of the late Frank Barsby.

Gannon.—Martha Ann Gannon (mother of Nellie Gannon), died Oct. 18. Buried in family grave, Leicester Cemetery.

Kinghorne.—Nov. 4, at his residence, Dagmar-road, Camberwell, Mark Alexander Kinghorne, actor, aged 55.

In Memoriam.

Allen.—In loving remembrance of Thomas Allen, Equestrian, died Nov. 6, 1898. Never forgotten.

Eplett.—In loving memory of my dear wife, Kate Eplett, who departed from us Nov. 10, 1905. Deeply mourned by family and self. R.I.P.—Fred Eplett.

Mynott.—In loving memory of my dear mother, who passed away in peace, Nov. 8, 1890. Always missed by her affectionate daughter, Mrs. G. W. Moore. R.I.P. until the dawn.

Transfield.—In loving memory of Bellamina Transfield, late wife of T. G. Transfield, Circus Proprietor, who departed this life on Nov. 6, 1897. Gone, but never forgotten by those she left behind.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

Mr. John Lawson and company in *Humanity* are topping the bill for the current week, and this "tabloid" story of love and treachery, with its terminating desperate fight and scene of wreckage, not forgetting Sylvani's song "Only a Jew," retains a remarkable hold on the public, and is as enthusiastically received as ever. A mystifying turn is contributed by Buddha's Backboard. "How is it done?" is involuntarily asked when questions from the audience are immediately answered on the Blackboard, apparently without human aid. Buddha's Blackboard is never nonplussed, not even when such questions as "the winner of the next big race" and "the duration of the present Government" are asked. Eadie and Ramsden's contribution is both interesting and clever. The gentleman excels as an eccentric legmania dancer, and is besides a very capable pianist, while the lady is a pleasing vocalist. Their turn is enlivened with many touches of humour, and the applause bestowed on this smart young couple is thoroughly well merited.

Arthur Reece, looking bright and débonair, wins a cordial reception on singing "When there isn't a girl about," the answering line, "You do feel lonely," being taken up by many in the chorus with that avidity which betokens a ready assent. His second item is a smart topical ditty with unlimited up-to-date verses, and his third song, of more serious import, is a dissertation on "Romance and reality," the sentiment of which exactly suits the audience. Amy Sullivan creates a favourable impression with "All that glitters is not gold," her distinct enunciation enhancing the sterling advice conveyed in the maxim. Right worthily represented is the "Land of the Leek" by Ted and May Hopkins, a Welsh comedy couple, who appear in *Cambrian Courtship*, their turn being highly entertaining and amusing.

Barton and Ashley provide some merry moments during their occupancy of the stage. The broadly comical methods employed by the gentleman combined with his grotesque appearance make him an odd contrast to his prepossessing partner, and their witty sayings and burlesque business, clever dancing, and vocalism gain unstinted applause. The Stein-Eretto Troupe contribute a jumping and leaping act, which is decidedly novel and skilful. An astonishing feat is performed by one of the quartette, who jumps over the heads of a number of the theatre attendants standing in a row, alighting on his hands on the uppermost of three tables. Mezzetti and Mora, in their horizontal bar act, perform with much skill and dexterity. The overture is Meyerbeer's "Dinorah," rendered with admirable precision by the orchestra under the able bâton of Mr. Augustus Greco. The crowded audiences attracted at both houses nightly have their comfort well studied by the indefatigable manager, Mr. T. S. Mayne, who has an alert assistant-manager in Mr. W. S. Buccleuch.

HOCKEY.

Norman V. Norman Co. v. Aldrington Hockey Club (Mixed), Brighton.

A return match, played at Filsham Park, Hastings, on Oct. 16, and resulting in a loss for the Norman V. Norman Co. by 3 goals to 6. At half-time the scores stood thus—Aldrington 5, Norman Co. nil, but in the second half matters were greatly improved by the Norman Co., who obtained 3 goals while their opponents increased their score by only 1. The 3 goals for the Norman Co. were secured by W. Howard Ashley.

Norman V. Norman Team.—Sybil Ruskin, Sam Wilkinson, and Betty Stannard, backs; Brember Wills, W. Roberts Marshall, and Bernard Elliott, half-backs; Norman V. Norman, Dorothy West-Symes, W. Howard Ashley, Hilda Gregory, and Kenneth Bruce, forwards.

"The Beast and the Beauty" Co. v. Middlesbro' Y. Club.

Played on Tuesday, Oct. 16, on the Middlesbro' Y. Club ground, and, after a well-contested game, resulted in a win for the home team by 7 goals to 5.

"Beast and Beauty" XI.—Miss Bowes, Miss Camp, Messrs. Eric Campbell, Wm. Fraser Brunner, H. Talbot, H. Winlpenny, S. Vivian, A. Wood, W. H. Gainsford, Chas. Russell, and W. B. Passmore. H. Winlpenny and Wm. Fraser Brunner scored 2 goals each and W. H. Gainsford 1 goal.

ON THE ROAD, NOV. 12.

After the Ball.—Falkirk and Kirkcaldy.
All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—New T., Oxford.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona).—Grand T., Nelson.
As Midnight Chimes.—T. R., Bolton.
Assassin.—Grand T., Nelson.
At Cripple Creek.—Sunderland.
At Duty's Call.—St. James's T., Manchester.
Bandman-Palmer.—T. R., Loughborough.
Beast and the Beauty.—Alex. T., Sheffield.
Beautiful Fiend.—T. R., Wednesbury.
Belle of Mayfair.—T. R., Hanley.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—O. H., Burton.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Ilfracombe and Bideford.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs., and Co.—T. R., Bradford.
Between Two Women.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Bound to Win.—Alex. T., Birmingham.
Breed of the Treshams.—Lincoln and Doncaster.
Bulmer, Mr.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—T. R., Blackburn.
Catch of the Season (No. 1).—Plymouth.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona).—Midlands and N. Wales.
Christian, The (Croke).—Gaiety T., Douglas.
City of Sin.—Stratford.
Claudian.—Court T., Wigan.
Coal King.—Grand T., Brighton.
Country Girl (Macdona).—Midlands.
Country Girl (N.).—Dundee.
Country Girl (S.).—Clapham.
Dairymaids, The.—Marlboro' T., Holloway.
Dandy Doctor.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—King's Lynn and Gainsboro'.
D'Oyly Carte.—Grand T., Fulham.
Driven from Home.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
Duchess of Dantzig (N.).—Manchester.
Duchess of Dantzig (S.).—Newport.
Earl and the Girl (M.).—Bristol.
Earl and the Girl (W.).—Barrow.
Earl and the Girl (N.).—Bath.
Executioner's Daughter.—New T., W. Stanley.
Face at the Window.—New T., Glossop.
Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt.—New T., Cambridge
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—T. R., Leicester.
Faust Up-to-date.—T. R., Nottingham.
Female Swindler.—Queen's T., Manchester.
For Life and After.—G. T., W. Hartlepool.
Four Just Men.—Borough T., Stratford.
Freedom of Susanne.—Pier Pav., Eastbourne.
French Spy.—Royal T., Bristol.
Gay Parisienne (Macdona).—Broadway T., Deptford.
Geisha.—Hull.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—Crown T., Peckham.
Golden Ladder.—Royalty T., Chester.
Great Awakening.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Heart's Desire.—Metropole T., Hoyland.
Her Fatal Past.—Grand T., Manchester.
Her Luck in London.—T. R., Ilkeston.
Her One Great Sin.—Empire, Cradley Heath.
His House in Order (N.).—Royal, Halifax.
His House in Order (S.).—Royal, Brighton.
Hour of Her Triumph.—Miners' T., Ashington.
Hutchison Repertoire.—T. R., Worcester.
Indian Mutiny.—King's T., Cardiff.
Kitty Grey.—Borough T., North Shields.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Guildford and Newbury.
Lady Kinton's Necklace.—O. H., St. Helens.
Lady Madcap (N.).—Birmingham.
Lady Madcap (S.).—Stockport.
La Poupee (Levilly).—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
La Poupee (Ralland).—Ayr and Kilmarnock.
Life.—Kirkcaldy.
Lights of London.—Grand T., Birmingham.
Lion and the Mouse.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Little Breadwinner.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
Little Michus (Edwardes).—King's T., Glasgow.
Little Michus (S.).—King's T., Glasgow.
Love that Women Desire.—Prince's T., Bradford.
London Fireman.—Queen's T., Gateshead.
Lucky Durham.—T. R., York.
Manxman.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
Marriage of Kitty.—St. Leonards and Eastbourne.
Midnight Mail.—Empire T., Southend.
Midnight Wedding.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Moody-Manners (A.).—Birmingham.
Moody-Manners (B.).—O. H., Torquay.
Mr. Hopkinson (Macdona).—Crystal Palace.
Mr. Popple (A.).—Cheltenham.
Mr. Popple.—Grand T., Leeds.
Mr. Smith.—Queen's T., Keighley.
My Sweetheart.—Gaiety T., Manchester.
Napoleon the Great.—Metropole T., Devonport.
No Man's Land.—T. R., Perth.
Norman V. Norman.—Castle T., Richmond.
On the Stroke of Twelve.—N. C. T., Motherwell.
Orchid (N.).—Stoke Newington
Orchid (S.).—Southport.
Otto the Outcast.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
Power of Gold.—T. R., Colne.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris).—H. M. T., Barrow.
Prince of Pilsen (Musgrove).—T. R., Edinburgh.
Private Secretary.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Prodigal Parson.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Prodigal Son.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Proof.—T. R., Thornley.
Public Opinion.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
Raffles.—T. R., Darlington.
Revenge.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Romany's Revenge.—Llandudno and Rhyl.
Royal Divorce.—Grand T., Southampton.
Sailors of the King.—O. H., Coventry.
Saints and Sinners.—T. R., Coatbridge.
Shadow of Crime.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Sherlock Holmes.—O. H., Wakefield.
Shulamite.—Royal, Hull.
Sign of the Cross.—Avenue T., Sunderland.
Silver King (Polini) (N.).—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Silver King (Polini) (S.).—Grand T., Woolwich.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Spider and the Fly.—Royal, Batley.
Spring Chicken (S.).—Derby and Oxford.
Still Alarm.—Century T., Motherwell.
Temptress, The.—Irving T., Seacombe.
Terry, Edward.—O. H., Cork.
Three Little Maids (N.) (Macdona).—Doncaster and Dudley.
Throne of Terror.—Grand T., Chorley.
Toreador (Macdona).—Midlands.
Toreador.—T. R., Chatham.
Traitor.—Queen's T., Gateshead.
Trumpet Call.—Crown T., Peckham.
Two Hussars.—Miners' T., Ashington.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—West London Theatre.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—T. R., Rotherham.
Two Little Vagabonds (M.).—Tenby and Pembroke Dock.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Grand T., Swansea.
Under the Russian Flag.—Garrick T., Hereford.
Veronique (N.).—Liverpool.
Veronique (S.).—Exeter.
Village Blacksmith.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—T. R., Birkenhead.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—County T., Reading.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Grand T., Blackpool.
Warning to Women.—Metropole, Glasgow.
Wearin' o' the Green.—Grand T., Newcastle.
What the Butler Saw.—Grand T., Croydon.
When London Sleeps.—T. R., Norwich.
When Woman Hates.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
White Chrysanthemum (Curzon).—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—Huddersfield.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Worst Woman in London.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Youngest of Three.—T. R., Shrewsbury.
£1000 Reward.—Standard T., Hetton.
10.30 Down Express.—Muncaster T., Bootle.

The Crystal Palace Theatre will be occupied next week by Mr. R. C. Carton's diverting farce, *Mr. Hopkinson*, from Wyndham's Theatre, presented by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Mr. Frank Stanmore, a finished actor in this particular class of part, will appear in the title-rôle.

Mrs. Barsby, the widow of the late Frank Barsby, died at Junction-road, Upper Holloway, on Thursday, the 1st inst., and was interred in Finchley Cemetery last Tuesday. Mrs. Barsby, who had been in receipt of a small weekly allowance from the Actors' Benevolent Fund, had some years ago addressed a letter to Mr. Coltson, the secretary, and had desired a friend not to post it to him until after her death. The following is a copy of the letter:—

137, Junction-road, Upper Holloway.

To the Gentlemen of the Benevolent Fund.

Gentlemen,

When you receive these few lines I shall have passed away. Please accept my sincere and heartfelt thanks for all the kind help I have received from you. God bless and prosper the Fund, and follow with His blessings and prosperity each one belonging to it, is the earnest prayer of—

Yours gratefully,
E. A. BARSBY.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. PRITCHARD.—*In the early 'eighties. For the exact dates we must refer you to "The Life of Dan Leno," which was published a few months after his death.*

TILBURY.—*We are not sufficiently in the gentleman's confidence to be able to answer your question.*

WM. BROWN.—*We can find no record. You would no doubt obtain the information at the Law Courts.*

A. WILLIAMS.—From Beneath the Deep, *produced at the Pavilion Theatre on Feb. 28, 1876. Cast:—Charley Goodchild, Mr. J. B. Howe; Stephen Leigh, Mr. F. Thomas; Thos. Grabley, Mr. G. Yates; Jas. Norton, Mr. T. Morrison; Dick Rodwell and Bill Childs, Messrs. Clifton and Lynn; Ellen Leigh and Ellen Norton, Miss Jenny Grainger; Harry Norton, Miss H. Wolff; Caroline Larter, Miss Harriet Clifton, Messrs. Godfrey, Young, English, Sparks, and Mrs. Murray appeared in minor rôles.* Deadly Sampson, *produced at the same theatre on Sept. 16, 1876. Cast:—Hugh Moylan, Mr. Jas. Carden; Stephen Compton, Mr. F. Thomas; Deadly Sampson, Mr. C. T. Burleigh; Margaret Compton, Miss Jenny Grainger; Jenny Jervis, Miss H. Wolff; Nancy Jervis, Miss M. Foster. Messrs. F. Tyars, H. Young, and H. Lynn were also in the cast.*

H. GARNER.—The Churchwarden *was first performed at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, on Oct. 16, 1885, with Mr. Edward Terry in the title-part (Daniel Chuffy). The piece was produced at the Olympic Theatre, London, Dec. 16, 1886; and revived at Terry's Theatre, Jan. 9, 1895.*

MERSEVITE.—*Sam Cowell died in March, 1864. He made his début on the London stage at the Adelphi Theatre. He was the original singer of "Villikins and his Dinah," "The Ratcatcher's Daughter," &c.*

H. C.—*Mr. Philip Leslie was the Harry Bronson in the revival at the Century Theatre, of* The Belle of New York.

J. K.—(1) *Criterion Theatre, Oct. 3, 1894.* (2) *Court Theatre, April 25, 1890.*

F. GENTER.—*We regret that we are unable to answer your question.*

HULL.—*We do not know the whereabouts of any of the ladies you mention. If they are on tour you might be able to trace them by searching our provincial correspondence columns.*

H. W. LOASBY.—*It is against our rule to give the age of members of the profession.*

SEVEY LEVEY.—*We think you are mistaken. No such story has ever appeared in "The Era Annual," as far as we have been able to ascertain.*

A. H.—A Night Out *was produced at the Vaudeville Theatre on April 29, 1896, with the following cast:—Joseph Pinglet, Mr. George Giddens; Paillard, Mr. Chas. Sugden; Mathieu, Mr. William Wyes; Maxime, Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald; Brochard, Mr. J. Carne; Boulot, Mr. Gus Danby; Bastien, Mr. E. W. Thomas; Botticelli, Mr. Neville Doone; Marcelle, Miss Fannie Ward; Angelique, Mrs. Edmund Phelps; Victorine, Miss Pattie Browne; Hyacinth, Miss L. Sargent; Violette, Miss E. Barrington; Marguerite, Miss E. Concanen; Rose, Miss E. Henderson.*

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Josephine Ellis—Saturday, Nov. 10.
Nannie Goldman—Sunday, Nov. 11.
J. B. Mulholland—Sunday, Nov. 11.
Mabel Durrant—Sunday, Nov. 11.
Emmie Milsted—Sunday, Nov. 11.
Rita Resdan—Sunday, Nov. 11.
Octavia Nöel—Sunday, Nov. 11.
Mrs. Henry Leigh—Sunday, Nov. 11.
Daisy Murch—Monday, Nov. 12.
Harry Roxbury—Monday, Nov. 12.
Amy Elvira—Monday, Nov. 12.
Ogilvy Keith—Monday, Nov. 12.
Kate Power—Monday, Nov. 12.
Aïda Jenoure—Tuesday, Nov. 13.
Master Walter Cross—Tuesday, Nov. 13.
Herbert Standing—Tuesday, Nov. 13.
W. G. Eaton—Tuesday, Nov. 13.
Thos. F. Collins—Tuesday, Nov. 13.
May Henderson—Tuesday, Nov. 13.
Emily Spiller—Wednesday, Nov. 14.
Alfred Paumier—Wednesday, Nov. 14.
Ruby Danzell—Wednesday, Nov. 14.
John Cecil—Wednesday, Nov. 14.
Joe Haynes—Wednesday, Nov. 14.
Mrs. Arthur Aiston—Wednesday, Nov. 14.
Grace Lester—Wednesday, Nov. 14.
Alfred H. Hook—Thursday, Nov. 15.
Henry Ludlow—Thursday, Nov. 15.
G. B. Bigwood—Thursday, Nov. 15.
Constance Stephens—Thursday, Nov. 15.
Joseph Berry—Thursday, Nov. 15.
Clara Nisbet—Thursday, Nov. 15.
Charles Cruikshanks—Thursday, Nov. 15.
Bert Bestwick—Friday, Nov. 16.
Lucie Verrier—Friday, Nov. 16.

PRESENTATION.—Mr. Alfred Saker, of the firm of musical and dramatic agents bearing his name, has just been the recipient of a handsome 18-carat gold club medal of the Manchester Harriers, suitably engraved, a presentation from the members of that noted organisation, in acknowledgment of his interest and generosity. Mr. Saker was the president of the club at its formation in 1896, and continued in that office for the succeeding nine years, during which time the club achieved many honours. Mr. Saker, being now resident in London, has consequently had to relinquish his presidential position.

MR. BERT WESTON has been scoring heavily in the North with Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.'s bright comedy song, "There's always room for a girl." It is not generally known that this song is absolutely free for halls and pantomimes. Permission must, however, be first obtained.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this list

Alberto, Mr. Fred
Albini, Mr. H.
Alexander, Mr. W.
Alexander, Mr. Augustin.
Anderson, Miss B. M.
Andre, Madame
Anson, Mr. Geo. W.
Archer, Mr. J.
Armour, Mr. Wm. A.
Ardeck, Miss Agnes
Arnold, Miss Tiny
Ball, Mr. Alfred
Ball, Mrs. Alfred
Barnet, Mr. W. J.
Barrs, Mr. H.
Bathurst, Mr. Pat
Bayard, Miss
Beaufort, Miss Geo.
Bedford, Mr. E. A.
Beltram, Miss Jessie.
Bennett, Mr. Frank
Biddall, Mr. W.
Birkett, Mr. Harold
Black, Mr. W. E.
Blair, Mr. Athol
Bodinas, The Three
Boganny, Mr. Joe
Boothman, Miss
Boyd and Gilfain
Bronson, Miss Kate
Brull, Mrs.
Buckle, Miss Jennie
Bunce, Mr. H.
Cameo, Mr. Willie
Canton, Mr. Wynne
Carbon, Mr. C. O. D.
Caris, Mr. J.
Carle, Mr. Leo.
Carling, Mr. Tony
Carson, Mr. L.
Cavanagh, Mr. J.
Chambers, Miss Emma
Champney, Mr. Walter
Chapin, Mrs. A.
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Clayton, Mr. Herbert
Cleo, Mr. Tony
Cliffe, Mr. H. Cooper
Clive, Mr. F. W.
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Colin, Mr. R.
Collins, Miss M.
Colwell, Mr.
Coma, Mr. Arthur
Connell, Mr. James
Conrad, Mr. Harry
Conrad, Mr. Louis
Conroy, Mr. E. L.
Cooper, Mr.
Coopers, The Three
Corina, Miss C.
Courtiers, The
Courtney, Mrs.
Cousins, Miss Bertha
Cranston, Mr. Ottley
Cruikshank, The
Culshaw, Mr. Wm.
Danby, Mr. Gus
Danvers, Mr. John
Davis, Mr. Bell
Daunton, Mrs.
Daunton, Mr. Geo.
Daviss, Mrs. Fred
Day, Miss Lilly
De Camo, Mr. C.
Dennis, Mr. T. D.
Deomer, Mr. H.
De Sousa, Miss May
De Verdi, Mlle. A.
Devire, Mr. H. A.
Dice, Mr. Fred
Dobbs, Miss Edith
Donaldson, Mr. Leon
D'Ostas, The
Dover, Mr. Cliffe
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Galette's Monkeys
Gamble, Mr. E. C. W.
Garde, Mrs. E.
George, Miss Marie
Gerrard, Mr. C. H.
Gerrard, Mr. Douglas
Gilbert, Mr. Bert
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Gomer, Miss Florence
Gratton, Miss Emilie
Green, Mr.
Greville, Mr. Herbert
Gribben, Mr. H. A.
Grovini, Mr. Harry
Guedes, Miss Vera
Guest, Miss
Gwenn, Mr.
Hall, Mr. J.
Hallet, Mr. W.
Hanbury, Miss Hilda
Harland, Mr. Albert
Harlow, Mr. L.
Harrison, Mr. Fred
Hawthorne, Miss Gladys
Hearn, Mr. Tom
Heinch, Mme.
Henriette and Selena
Henriot, Mr. Walter
Herbert, Mr. Henry
Hertz, Mr. Carl
Hinchey, Mrs. N.
Herman, Mr. Chas.
Hodges, Mr. Horace
Holloway, Mr. Abe
Holt, Prof.
Hope, Miss Nell
Hurman, Mr. Ernest
Jeffries, Miss M
Jackson, Mrs.
Jiel and Laral, Messrs.
Julian, Mr. J.
Kendall, Mr. Harry
Kent, Miss J.
Keyes, Miss L.
King, Miss Hetty
Kisbey, Mr. H. J.
Klein, Mr. W.
Knick-Knacks, The
Knights, Mr. Fred
Lang, Mr. M.
Lauder, Mr. Harry
Lauri, Madame
Lawrence, Mr. Woods
Lee, Mr. Edgar
Le Hay, Miss Daisy
Leigh and Armitage
Lemoine, Miss Rose
Le Neve and Sullivan
Lennard, Mr. Harry
Leo, Mr. J.
Leslie, Mr. Alfred
Levaine, Mr. Gus
Lewis, Mrs. Alwyn
Lewis, Mr. Gilbert
Leyton, Mr. Geo.
Lincoln, Mr. L.
Lingard, Mr. H.
Lockner, Miss Hilda
Lowe, Mrs. Lillian
Mace, Mr. Fred
Maclaren, Mr. Ian
Martelloni Troupe
May, Miss Edna
Mayne, Mr. W.
Mc Calla, Miss D.
Metheringham, Mr. J. W.
Molteno, Miss Agnes
Molteno, Miss A.
Monti, Bros.
Montford, Mr. Geo. R
Montefiore, Mr. Eade
Murray, Miss Vera
Munro, Mr. D.
Napier, Miss B.
Neilson, Miss Naomie
Nelson, Mr. Leonard
Newton, Mr. Cecil
Norman, Mr. E. B.
Norman, Mr. Leslie
Novell, Mr. W.
Olive, Mr. M.
Ormonde-Dann, Mr. J.
Ottavia, Mr. George
Oxley, Mr. Gus
Palmer, Miss Ada
Patti, Madame A.
Paul, Mrs. W.
Paul, Miss Ethel G.
Pauline, Princess
Payne, Capt. T.
Peterman, Mr. J. B.
Pettegrove, Mr. Briton
Phillips, Mr. Nath.
Phydora, Mr. H.
Pillans, Miss Helen
Pink, Miss R.
Polini, Mrs.
Prince, Mr. Maurice
Pringle, Mr. Ralph
Proctor, Mr. John
Rainforth, Miss Ethel
Reckitts, Miss Edie
Ree, Miss Molly
Reeves, Miss Marie
Revett, Miss Daisy
Rignold, Miss Bessie
Roberts, Mr. W. H. R.
Rooney, Mr. Michell
Rundell, Miss Maude
Russell, Mr. Harry
Samonda, Prince
Sampson, Mr. C. A.
Scarth, Mr. Frederick
Schubert, Miss Flo
Sharlotte, Miss Freda
Sidney, Mr. Charlie
Smith, Mr. G. H.
Smithson, Miss Florence
Soden, Mr. John
Souls, Mr. Will
Stadleman, Messrs. F.
Stanert, Mr. Frank E.
Stansfield, Mr. Fred
Stanton, Miss J
St. Clair, Miss Queenie
Steuart, Miss Emmie
St. John, Miss Florence
Streeley, Mr.
Stuart, Mr. James
Sturmont, Mr. Leo
Tasker, Mr. Ernest
Taylor, Mr. Gilbert E.
Terry, Mr. Fred E.
Terry, Mr. H. E., jun.
Thomas, Mr. A. D.
Tony, "Little"
Turner, Miss M. G
Urquhart, Mr. H
Vampire, Mr. James
Vane, Miss Ivy
Varney, Miss Gladys
"Vasco"
Vassar, Dr. Carl
Vere, Miss Doris
Vilero and Vine
Villion, Miss G.
Voce, Prof.
Vokes, Mr. W.
Wallace, Mr. Tom
Walpole, Mr. E.
Warden, Mr. H'mphrey
Ware, Miss Valerie
Warren, Miss L.
Werner, Miss Elsa
White, Mr. Claude
Whiteley, Mr. Frank
Williams, Miss Cora
Wills, Mr. Chas.
Woulfe, Mr. F. B.
Wylie, Mrs.
Wyndham, Miss K
Yorke, Mr. Nansen
Young, Mr. Alan W.
Zalvar, Mr. Chas.

A TESTIMONIAL SMOKING CONCERT is to be given to Mr. Edwin Croueste, the veteran jester and late circus proprietor, in celebration of the fiftieth year of his first appearance in the circus profession. This compliment to Mr. Croueste, who is about to visit Australia and the East as manager of Fitzgerald's Circus and Menagerie, will be paid in the club room of the "Fish and Quart" Hotel, Churchgate, Leicester, on Thursday next. A strong committee includes Mr. Harry Rickards, the famous Australian entrepreneur, who has headed the subscription list with five guineas, and the hon. secretary and treasurer is Mr. John White, of 224, Fosse-road, Leicester.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.—"The Era" Annual again makes its welcome appearance. I say welcome because, as a work of theatrical reference, it is always handy to have in the house—or office. In this connection I am glad to note that the lists of play-productions for the past year are given in better type and altogether in a much clearer manner. As of yore, there are sundry stories in prose and verse. The best of these include "Stage Superstitions," by Charles Warner; "Boy Bob at Sea," a poem by Louie Freear; "The Last Muster," a weird tragic military story, by Mr. Joseph Wilson, who has been a soldier himself; and "Nellie Bligh's Notices," a capital theatrical story, by Mr. Frank Desprez.—Referee, Jan. 28, 1906.

LONDON THEATRES.

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NAME.	DATE.
Abranams, Messrs. F. & M.	March 31, 1906.
Alexander, Mr. Alex.	June 2, 1906.
Ashcroft, Late Mr. W. E.	October 27, 1906.
Ashton, Mr. George	May 5, 1906.
Ashton, Miss Margaret	September 1, 1906.
Ball, Mr. Alf	September 1, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barclay, Mr. Arthur J.	May 26, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barnett, Mr. Orlando	October 6, 1906.
Barrasford, Mrs.	February 10, 1906.
Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Bessle, Late Miss Elizabeth	February 3, 1906.
Billington, Mrs. John	January 20, 1906.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	September 15, 1906.
Brough, Mr. Lionel	May 13, 1905.
Brown-Potter, Mrs.	March 3, 1906.
Burton, Mr. John	March 10, 1906.
Butt, Mr. Alfred	August 25, 1905.
Carrington, Miss Eva	February 24, 1906.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Cellier, Miss Marguerite	May 26, 1906.
Chapin, Miss Alice	May 26, 1906.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul	May 5, 1906.
Clarey, Late Mr. H. O.	February 24, 1906.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Clark, Late Mr. Henri	Dec. 9, 1905.
Clark, Mr. T. Sealey	May 19, 1906.
Collette, Mr. Charles	November 4, 1905.
Collier, Mr. Hal	May 19, 1906.
Conquest, Mr. Arthur	May 26, 1906
Conquest, Mr. Fred	Dec. 9, 1905.
Coote, Mr. Bert	June 16, 1906.
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	September 22, 1905.
Costello, Mr. Tom	September 15, 1906.
Cotterell, Mr. Sid	July 14, 1906.
Craven, Late Mr. H. T.	April 15, 1905.
Crisp, Late Mr. Henry	May 26, 1906.
Cruikshank, Mr. Alfred	March 17, 1906.
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	July 7, 1906.
Dampier, Mr. Alfred	May 12, 1906.
Deering, Late Miss R.	July 14, 1906.
De Gracia, Mr. G.	May 19, 1906.
Dobson, Mr. E. H.	August 12, 1905.
Donegan, Mr. James R.	May 20, 1905.
Duff, Master Harry E.	April 29, 1905.
Dyball, Mr. George H.	January 13, 1906.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1906.

THE CHARACTER OF CLEOPATRA.

Mr. BEERBOHM TREE'S forthcoming revival of *Antony and Cleopatra* at His Majesty's will be an event of intense interest to all lovers of SHAKESPEARE. The play has never been performed "for all that it is worth," for a rather curious reason. The leading female character is an exception to most of SHAKESPEARE'S women. They are, as a rule, simple; CLEOPATRA is very various, subtle, and complex. The station and fate of the creature have given a false grandeur to ideas of her. The result is that the part of CLEOPATRA has always been approached from the stately tragic point of view. The ideal of its impersonatresses has been—to put it as decently as possible—that of a Royal Nautch-Girl or Favourite of the Harem. ANTONY is conceived as a common sensualist, one of CIRCE'S swine, who wallows in the trough of Egyptian luxury till he is physically and mentally debased. It is the word "Egyptian" combined with the blank verse in which much of CLEOPATRA'S dialogue is written that has led our actresses astray. "Egyptian" is the equivalent for heavy majesty, thick-lipped, languorous dignity. Mrs. YATES, for instance, so good as Lady Macbeth—Lady Macbeth, from the heavy tragedienne's point of view, *bien entendu*—made no impression at all as CLEOPATRA; and most of those who followed her, from the SIDDONS downwards, fell into the same error and attained the same inadequacy.

The error is the more extraordinary because the facts are so plain. CLEOPATRA was not an Egyptian at all, but a Greek, the daughter of the 12th PTOLEMY, called Auletes. The PTOLEMYS were pure Greeks, descendants of the first of the name who invaded Asia in the army of ALEXANDER. CLEOPATRA, therefore, was no more an Egyptian than the present Viceroy of India is a Hindoo. In the vestibule of the British Museum is a bust of CLEOPATRA. It is the exact opposite of the Oriental type, having small, refined features, the lips being distinctly Greek in the refinement of their modelling. It is not especially beautiful. As a matter of historical fact, CLEOPATRA was not so. PLUTARCH tells us that her appearance was not strikingly handsome, but that "her company and conversation were so sweet that a man could not possibly be taken." She never wearied her lovers. SHAKESPEARE emphasises this early in the play, saying:

> Other women cloy
> The appetite they feed; but she makes hungry
> Where most she satisfies.

And he explains, in terms, the secret of her success: "her infinite variety."

The reason why the part has never been played in a way to get all out of it that can be extracted lies, chiefly, in the difficulty of getting an actress with enough of the comédienne in her for the earlier passages of the drama, and at the same time sufficient weight and tragic grandeur for the later scenes. The peculiar *suppleness* of CLEOPATRA'S character—the way in which she plays upon every trait in ANTONY'S character, and turns and winds with every alteration in his mood, as a greyhound does in following the course of a hare—cannot be represented by an actress occupied only with the purely pompous and tragic portion of the part, and who takes TALFOURD'S view of CLEOPATRA as a "figure of voluptuous majesty." The fact is, CLEOPATRA, till towards the end of the play, is neither voluptuous nor majestic. She "chaffs" ANTONY, she teases him, she shows now and then for a moment the genuine physical passion she feels for him, she makes indelicate jokes, she thrashes ANTONY'S messenger, she *plays* "the giddy goat," she joins in the desperate debauch with which he drowns reflection in the course of his downfall; but, until the approach of her suicide, she is nothing more or less than an exquisitely skilful manageress of men, understanding them with instantaneous insight, and acting on that understanding like the artist in craft and cajolery that she is. No doubt part of the spell exercised by CLEOPATRA was animal; but it was only a small part compared with her great gift of interesting and amusing the individual, flattering and irritating her victims, and keeping them always excited and diverted. All this is lost when the part is approached from the SIDDONS point of view, and not at all from the standpoint of REJANE.

The idea of a King not as a First Citizen and Father of his People, but as a magnificent animal of prey, was strongly prevalent in Tudor times. In the earlier part of the play, SHAKESPEARE'S tremendous knowledge of the class to which CLEOPATRA belongs made him draw her and ANTONY realistically as the shallow-brained professional soldier and the ultra-cunning courtesan that they were. But, on the Elizabethan stage, kings and queens could not die like ordinary people; they must speechify, orate, and pretend—in short, play a part as Royalty in real life was expected to do. The fault, however, of misconception is not SHAKESPEARE'S, but our own. We take all the "high-falutin'" speeches of CLEOPATRA before her suicide as genuine; *he* shows us that its real motive was the petty one of vanity—she would not be "exhibited" in Rome. It is our own fault if we are blind to the obvious meaning of the great realist, and, dazed by the "queenly" airs and graces of his great histrionic *hetaira* and her tragic end, overlook the absolute truth of his depiction of the consummate *comédienne* and *charmeuse*.

THEATRICAL MASONRY.

The members of the Green Room Lodge No. 2,957 met at the Imperial Restaurant on the 2nd inst. Mr. Herbert Leonard, Worshipful Master, raised Mr. Arthur Hatherton to the third degree, and initiated Mr. Matheson Lang into the mysteries of the Order. Mr. Harry Nicholls, P.G. Std. Br., assisted Mr. Gerald Maxwell as I.P.M., and the officers of the day, Messrs. Akerman May (S.W.), E. Vivian Reynolds (J.W.), Charles Cruikshanks, A.G. Std. Br. (Sec.), E. H. Bull (S.D.), Charles Macdona (J.D.), Jas. W. Mathews (D.C.), Edward Jones (Orgt.), and Geo. Grossmith, jun. (I.G.), officiated in the most accomplished and accurate style. Messrs. W. Lestocq (P.M.), Fredk. Annerley, A. E. George, J. Cooke Beresford, Sydney Lawrence, Thalberg Corbett, Gerald du Maurier were present as members of the Lodge; and Messrs. Dr. W. Wilson, Welton Dale, A. Lyall, and C. E. Wright (P.G.D.), visitors. Messrs. Wilfred Draycott and Welton Dale were nominated as joining members, Mr. Leslie Stiles being nominated as a candidate for initiation. At the dinner which followed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk. The manner in which the ceremonial was carried through in the earlier part of the evening reflected the highest credit on those concerned, and the utmost good fellowship prevailed at the dinner, which was a most pleasant one.

The second meeting of the session of the "Earl's Court" Lodge of Freemasons was held on Thursday evening at the Trocadero Restaurant, under the presidency of Mr. Shirl Mussell, P.C., J.S., W.M., assisted by Lieut.-Col. Blunt, Messrs. A. J. Taylor, C. Hutt, and W. S. Lyon, Past Masters; E. S. Jones, S. W. Gilbert, S.W., A. J. Taylor, J.W., O. Saunders, J.G., C. Betts, P.M., secretary, and John Worth P.M., treasurer. After the minutes of the last Lodge meeting had been confirmed, the W.M. invested Mr. T. Leete P.M. of the "City of London" Lodge, and one of the founders of the "Earl's Court" Lodge as J.W., he having been absent on the night of installation through domestic affliction. The W.M. initiated Mr. G. P. Turner, and raised Messrs. Mosely and Burdock. After some discussion as to the form it should take, it was unanimously carried that a ladies' invitation night should be held on the second Thursday in January, the entertainment to consist of a banquet and concert. Members and visitors, amongst whom were Messrs. Hunter, F. H. Pedgrift, Shaw, &c., adjourned to the Connaught Rooms and partook of a well-served banquet. The evening was enlivened by a musical entertainment, contributed by Messrs. Arthur Bates, Robert Shaw, Leon Atkinson, Arthur Newton, John Gill, and that clever character vocalist, Mr. Harry Sims.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BLOEMFONTEIN, OCT. 15.—GRAND THEATRE (Proprietors, The Grand Hotel and Theatre Co., Ltd.).—Mr. Leonard Rayne and company concluded a most interesting season on Wednesday, the 10th inst. The initial performance in Bloemfontein of *The Prodigal Son* evoked much interest. The mounting and all-round excellence of the production were keenly appreciated by large audiences. Mr. Frank Beresford in the title-rôle, and Mr. Leonard Rayne as Magnus, scored heavily. *Raffles, the Amateur Cracksman*, also seen for the first time here, with Mr. C. Howitt as Raffles, proved highly popular. *The Christian* was presented on the 8th, and Mr. Leonard Rayne's excellent portrayal of John Storm again gained the highest encomiums. Such old favourites as *The Harbour Lights, The Two Little Vagabonds, East Lynne*, and *A Royal Divorce* were played during the visit, and elicited much enthusiasm. Mr. Rayne was ably supported in the various pieces by a capital company, which included Messrs. Frank Beresford, C. Howitt, Fred W. Carter, Harry C. Paine, G. Clifton Boyne, and Mesdames Gertrude F. Godart, Constance Elgin, Freda Godfrey, and Maude Stewart Drewry. Mr. Rayne produced for the first time on any stage a curtain-raiser, from the pen of a local playwright, Mr. R. Brighten Salisbury, entitled *A Chaperon Extraordinary*. It is of the farcical order, brightly written, and was followed with considerable merriment, and lost nothing in its portrayal by Messrs. Harry C. Paine, Frank Beresford, and Misses Constance Elgin and Maude Stewart Drewry.

A NEW version of *Nell Gwyn* by Mr. Alaric Burton was produced on Friday, the 2nd inst., at the Athenæum, Glasgow. It rejoices in the imposing title of *Nell Gwyn, the Orange Girl of Drury Lane; or, A Heart of Gold*, and the various parts were played by members of the Henry Talbot Dramatic Club.

THE Pioneers will begin their season with a four-act piece, entitled *On the Side of the Angels*. It is a play of modern life, by Mr. W. L. Courtney, and will be given at the Royalty Theatre on Sunday, Dec. 16.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DIE CONDOTTIERI,"
Drama, in Four Acts, by Rudolf Herzog.
Produced at the Neues Theatre, Oct. 31.

Coleone	HERR SCHMIDT-HASSLER
Giovanni	HERR CHRISTIANS
Gabriele	HERR STANGE
Dogaressa	FRAULEIN HARTWIG
Cesare	HERR KAISER-TITZ
Isabella	FRAU REISENHOFER
Gesandter	HERR MARLER
Ludovico	HERR SCHWAIGER
Erster Rath	HERR SCHINDLER
Zweiter Rath	HERR WALDOW
Dritter Rath	HERR BORNSTEDT
Diener	HERR STADTHAGEN
Giacomo	HERR PAROW

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, NOV. 8.—Herr Herzog holds a high place among our writers as a novelist, a "feuilletonist," and a writer of plays. He is always interesting; his language is always far above the average, and at the same time never stilted. In his latest work he gives us some very dramatic pictures of Venice towards the end of the Middle Ages. The equestrian statue of Coleone by the famous sculptor Andrea del Verocchio, which stands before the church of San Giovanni e Paolo at Venice, evidently gave the author his *motif*. Round this most brutal and powerful of all the Condottieri, Bartolomeo Coleone, Herr Herzog has built up his play, with some historical accuracy, but more powerful imagination. The hero, having lived his life and drained the cup of enjoyment and power to the dregs, feels his end is near. Two great ambitions still govern him, one to be immortalised in bronze in St. Mark's Square, the other to gain the love of Dogaressa, Princess of Ferrara. In the latter he is successful, and in the former matter he fights with all his wonted tenacity. Weak as he grows, he at length becomes the prey of Giovanni Nemo, his natural son, whose existence he has hitherto ignored, and who hates him in consequence. Giovanni compels his father to attend the Council of Ten—although he cannot stand—to serve his own sinister purpose. During a speech made by Coleone, in which he fights for his own monument with convulsive energy, death overtakes him. Giovanni manages to conceal the catastrophe from the others, and finishes his father's speech, advocating, and finally gaining, the rank of generalissimo for himself. This scene is the most powerful in the play, and made a deep impression upon the audience. Giovanni also becomes his father's successor in Dogaressa's favour, having inherited the greater part of Coleone's vices and characteristics. The interpretation of the piece was a good one, the best renderings being those of Herr Schmidt-Hässler and Frau Reisenhofer. Author and artists were compelled to appear repeatedly in response to the very cordial applause.

THE Spanish Cycle at the Neues Theatre is continuing at intervals its successful course—successful, at least, as far as public interest goes. Artistically speaking, one is tempted to ask why the manager has selected Spanish plays. The one chosen for last Saturday was Perez-Galdos' five-act serious play *The Grandfather*. At the opening of the piece we are tempted to think it is a comedy that is set before us, and the illusion overpowers us not infrequently throughout the evening. The grandfather is Count von Albeit, a grandee of very ancient lineage, but without any fortune whatever. Where he lost his money we do not learn; in fact, there are many details of which we are kept in the dark. His eldest son has died and left two little daughters, one of whom is supposed to have no claim to her father's name. The mother is a beautiful, but erring, American. The old Count spends his time in trying to discover which child is the rightful heiress. In the end it is proved that the one for whom he does not care is the legitimate grandchild, while Dolly—the little girl who has crept into his heart—is a waif and stray. The two are evidently meant for each other, in spite of adverse circumstances, and Dolly forsakes her wealthy mother to cast in her lot with the penniless old man. A good deal of pains has been expended on the performance, Herr Schildkraut (our latest Shylock), of the Deutsches, giving the name-part.

MISS GERALDINE FARRAR, the young American prima donna of our Royal Opera, has left Berlin for the Metropolitan Opera House, New York. Seldom has a foreigner found so firm a footing in German hearts as has this handsome young artist, who came here quite unknown five years ago. Whereas Miss Farrar then sang only in Italian, she has now mastered the difficulties of the German tongue, and sings all her rôles in that language. Her farewell performance was the same as her opening one—Gounod's *Margarete*, as the Germans always call the opera to distinguish it from Goethe's *Faust*. The Opera House was crowded to the last place, their Imperial Majesties the Crown Prince and Princess and Princess Eitel being present. Miss Farrar was in splendid voice, and looked as lovely as ever. She was bidden to the Imperial box, and overwhelmed with flattering and kindly words and presented with jewelled souvenirs. It will be difficult to fill her place here.

"TRIPLEPATTE" has passed its fiftieth consecutive performance at the Residenz, and, judging from the storms of hearty laughter that shook the house, it will certainly see at least another fifty. Herr Richard Alexander is exquisitely funny in the rôle of Vicomte Houdan, and—well supported as he is—the success of the piece is due in great measure to him.

THE Bernhard-Rose Theatre—known under its former management as the Carl Weiss—is doing good business with a sensational play called *Ausgewiesen*, while, as an afternoon performance for juveniles, *Robin Crusoe* is holding the boards on Saturdays and Sundays.

THE Freie Volksbühne gave a performance at the Berliner on Sunday before a fairly large and very appreciative audience. Two plays that were given here some years ago had been selected—Heyerman's *Ora et Labora* and Gustav Wied's *Eine Abrechnung*—each of which was detailed in your columns at its first production. The pieces were admirably interpreted on Sunday, Herren Merten, Benzinger, and Heyse, and other esteemed artists taking part.

AMUSEMENTS IN INDIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE No. 2 Gardner-Brown company of vaudeville stars arrived at Bombay on Sept. 13, per S.S. Sydney. The company, which was engaged in England by Mr. Leo Montague, on behalf of Mr. D. Gardner-Brown, has already scored a distinct success, and at present is playing in Lucknow. Bert Swan and Marie Vesta are doing well in the duologues, *In Nelson's Days*, &c.; and Miss Jeanette Latour's fine voice has created a great impression. Mr. Leo Montague, comedian, repeats the success achieved by him on previous tours; Miss Marie Robin scores with catchy songs and smart dancing; and Miss Florrie Farren is cordially received. Mr. Sam Ives, ball puncher, is an interesting turn; the illustrated songs are as popular as ever; and the Gardner-Brown Bioscope, with new pictures, is an ever favourite feature. The programme is under the stage-management of Mr. Leo Montague, and Mr. C. E. Mumford is a capable musical director.

THE Bandmann Opera Company, after an extremely successful season in Calcutta, is now playing to crowded houses in Bombay.

WARREN'S circus, at Calcutta, and Abel's circus, at Jubbulpore, both report big business.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"MIQUETTE ET SA MERE,"
Comedy, in Three Acts, by MM. Robert de Flers and G. de Caillavet, Produced at the Variétés on Nov. 2.

Marquis de la Tour Mirande	M. BRASSEUR
Monchablon	M. MAX DEARLY
Urbain de la Tour Mirande	M. PRINCE
Lahirel	M. ANDRE SIMON
Pierre	M. EMILE PETIT
Mongrébin	M. MATRAT
Mme. Grandier	MME. MARIE MAGNIER
Miquette Grandier	MLLE. LAVALLIERE
Périne	MLLE. LAPORTE
Toto	MLLE. GINETTE
Mlle. Poche	MLLE. GARDIN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, NOV. 8.—Bright, witty, and a bit sentimental, the new comedy brought out at the Variétés met with a reception that augurs well for its future career. Mme. Grandier, widow of a Government official, keeps a tobacco shop in Chateau-Thierry, and Miquette, her only daughter, assists her in the business. Miquette is of a romantic disposition. She reads poetry, and her delight is to go to the play when Monchablon, the famous impresario, comes with his company to the small provincial town. Urbain, who has been adopted by his uncle, the Marquis de la Tour Mirande, has fallen in love with her. But Urbain is a timid youth, and he has to make an heroic effort to ask Miquette to become his wife. And when she tells him that she likes him, he is intensely happy. His happiness, however, is not shared by his uncle. The latter wants his nephew to marry an heiress, and, with the view of putting a stop to this love idyll, he calls on the Grandiers. Poor little Miquette is overcome with grief when she hears that the uncle will not consent to her marriage with Urbain; but she has made a deep impression on the Marquis, an old beau, who has his own design on her. Miquette promises not to see Urbain again, and speaks of leaving Chateau-Thierry. The Marquis advises her to do so, and, as she is anxious to become an actress, he places his house in Paris at her disposal. Miquette accepts his offer, and starts off for Paris. In the second act we are in the capital, in the Marquis's house. We find there the Marquis, and also Mme. Grandier, who followed her daughter. Miquette accepts presents from the old beau, but refuses to become his mistress; and as she is more than ever decided to join the "profession," she sends for Monchablon, the impresario, and the scene wherein the latter makes the girl recite is intensely funny. He finally engages her at a salary of eight shillings a day, and her mother at three shillings. Miquette makes an excellent début, and the Marquis is delighted, although his *protégée* still keeps him at a distance. Every week, however, she receives a bouquet of violets, with a letter, wherein the writer declares his love. Miquette wonders who this unknown lover can be, not guessing it is Urbain, who remains faithful to her. And when at last she discovers it is Urbain, and wants to see him, Monchablon dissuades her from engaging herself to the youth, and she writes Urbain a letter of farewell. But the Marquis sees clear into everything. Moreover, he has learned to know and appreciate Miquette, and he is ashamed of the rôle he wanted to play in the affair. He pleads his nephew's cause with Miquette, and, having engaged them to one another, he offers his hand and his title to Mme. Grandier, who is still very handsome, and whose beautiful arms he admires. The authors owe much to their exponents. There are only two important woman's rôles in the piece: those of Mme. Grandier and of her daughter, and they were in the able hands of Mme. Marie Magnier and Mlle. Lavallière. Both acted admirably. Mlle. Laporte supplied an amusing sketch of Périne, Mme. Grandier's servant, a native from Brittany, who looks shocked when she is called "Miss" after Miquette has become a "star." MM. Brasseur, Prince, and Max Dearly were also in great form.

"BIRIBI,"
Play, in Three Acts, by MM. Georges Darien and Marcel Lauras,
Produced at the Théâtre Antoine, on Nov. 5.

Jean	M. GEMIER
Colonel Bernard	M. COLAS
Commandant	M. GODEAU
Capitaine	M. MONTLOUIS
Lieutenant	M. MAXENCE
Sergeant Caponi	M. JARRIER
Sergeant Hartmann	M. DALLEU
Alice	MLLE. BARTHE
Nancy	MLLE. EVEN
La Comtesse	MLLE. IRENE MUZA

Biribi is the slang name by which soldiers allude to the terrible "disciplinary battalions" in North Africa, to which not only the French criminal classes are sent, but also those guilty of a breach of discipline. One of the authors of the piece—M. Darien—has had a practical experience of *Biribi*. Having given a saucy reply to a corporal who had insulted him, he was sent out to Africa, and, after his return to France, published a book, describing all he had seen and heard in that fearful country, where, as he poetically put it, "the shadows are mauve and the nights red." His disclosures created a deep impression, and, in the play just brought out at the Théâtre Antoine—or, as it will be known in future, the Théâtre Gémier—we witness several scenes described in the book. Jean is the son of Colonel Bernard, a sort of martinet. Jean is a dreamer, a poet, and when he goes off for his military service he soon gets from his superiors a bad character for not attending to his duties. One day he breaks out of barracks to see his cousin, with whom he is in love. But his father—a kind of modern Brutus—denounces him. Jean is arrested, tried by court martial, and sent to the disciplinary battalions, to "Biribi," to be banded with the very worst characters. And then follow a series of tableaux, wherein we witness such fearful cruelties that we begin to hope that these pictures of life in these awful battalions are a little overdrawn. Those who try to escape are tortured in the most inhumane fashion, and, to the poor wretches of soldiers, suicide seems the only way out of their trouble. On the night of the *première* the audience became fearfully excited, and the authors, in response to the loud applause, were compelled to make their bow to the audience, which is rarely if ever done in a Paris theatre. As Jean, M. Gémier had a great opportunity of displaying his great histrionic powers, and the remainder of the cast rendered excellent service. The drama is followed by *Chez les Zoaques*, an amusing sketch by M. Sacha Guitry, son of the actor-manager of the Renaissance. Henri Cordelier, five-and-twenty years older than his wife, discovers that the latter is the mistress of his friend Gustave, a famous explorer. But the resourceful Gustave gets well out of the difficulty. He speaks of his travels, and narrates to Henri that the Zoaques—a tribe of his own invention—consider that all women are public property. They are highly respected, but nobody troubles about their actions. And he succeeds in convincing Henri that the best thing is to do like the "Zoaques." The smartly-written piece was received with much laughter.

MR. TOM LEO has made a good impression with his song "Too lazy to live" at the Chelsea Palace during the week. He has placed a special commission for what promises to be a laughable novelty with Maurice Scott, who, by the way, is on the point of opening an establishment for the sale of popular music in High-street, Camden Town.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

SIR WILLIAM PURDIE TRELOAR, the new Lord Mayor of London, has endeared himself to all hearts by his kindly thought of the little suffering cripples of the metropolis. His charity has expanded in other directions, too, and he was chairman at the Music Hall Benevolent Fund dinner in 1906, when he made a successful appeal on behalf of the chief professional charity.

MR. WALTER GIBBONS is getting along famously, and sends cheery messages daily from Banstead to his staff in Durham House-street through the assiduous Mr. Reed, his chief. Though he will, of course, be unable to be present at the grand inauguration of the Brixton Hippodrome (late Theatre), on Dec. 1, he will be very far on the road to convalescence.

MISS ADA REEVE has signed a contract to go to America, and will leave these shores early in January, to fulfil an eight weeks' engagement at £400 a week. The business has been done through Mr. Harry Day, who was also instrumental in obtaining for this famous comedienne her recent lucrative engagements in the provinces.

THE Oxford and the Tivoli are doing particularly well, and it is not surprising to hear that the directors of the former house have declared an interim dividend at the rate of eight per cent., and that the price of Tivoli shares is rising.

MR. GEORGE ROSEY ostensibly went to the Cape in quest of health, but has apparently been persuaded to appear at the Empire, Johannesburg, where his great London reputation was immediately confirmed by the Rand burghers on his opening night.

MR. JOE O'GORMAN, who has concluded his most successful engagements at Johannesburg and Capetown, will arrive at the old country on Saturday next, in time to take part, we hope, in the matinée given on the 19th at the London Pavilion by the Water Rats, of which fraternity he is a very popular member. He has discovered that Irish comedy is just as popular on the Rand as it was in the palmy days of Dion Boucicault's Hibernian plays at the Adelphi and the Princess's.

MR. HENRY TOZER, one of the directors of the Syndicate halls, has again been elected as councillor for the City of Westminster, for the Covent Garden ward. Mr. Fred McAvoy, the manager of the Euston had a busy time canvassing, but felt himself fully rewarded for his exertions by the handsome majority secured by his candidate.

MR. TOM CRAVEN has arranged to collaborate with Mr. Will Evans in the production of more sketches, which are to be of a dramatic as well as farcical order. The instantaneous and pronounced success of *The Mystery of the Cliff*, for which these two popular comedians are responsible, is the cause of this collaboration.

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS sailed from New York on Tuesday per s.s. Caronia for Liverpool. On his arrival he will have one or two days in London, arranging business, before rehearsing pantomime at Glasgow. He has had three very flattering offers, one of them to star in a play, and another to head a company and travel in vaudeville. On Monday, the night before he sailed, the young actor-vocalist was entertained at a big Dickens dinner, at which many notabilities were present, among them Dr. Leipzeger, one of the first scholars in New York, and the supervisor of lectures on the Board of Education there.

IT is an everyday occurrence now for an actor or actress to desert the legitimate for the variety stage; but when Mr. Mark Kinghorne—whose death is announced in another column—went to the Oxford in the early 'seventies to sing and play his own compositions the practice was rare. In the 'eighties Mr. Kinghorne was seen in a sketch founded on the legend of "Rip Van Winkle," and produced at the Middlesex. In the days of his youth Scotch comic songs were not the vogue, or else he was so delightfully quaint that he might have been the Harry Lauder of his time. In the character of an English rustic he was also very fine; and his David in *The Rivals* was ripe and genuine low comedy.

THE theatrical chronicler of a halfpenny daily informs the public quite seriously that Mr. W. Farren, jun., is by way of appearing in the new ballet at the Empire as a dancing master. The actor we know is decidedly versatile, but he certainly is not an expert dancer. Mr. *Fred* Farren is. Mr. W. Farren is not, however, entirely a stranger to the variety boards. We remember him years since as the captain of the Kaikoura in the earlier presentations of *The Little Stowaway* at the Paragon, when the unapproachable Jenny Hill played the title-rôle of Mr. Fred Bowyer's popular sketch so magnificently. An even more interesting appearance of Mr. W. Farren's was when he played Sir Peter Teazle in a tentative production at the Canterbury of the "Screen" scene from *The School for Scandal*—an unsuccessful experiment.

WHEN the new East Ham Palace is opened—which is expected to take place about the end of the year—it will be found that the event will materially affect the gentlemen at present connected with the Walthamstow Palace. Mr. Arthur J. Barclay is entrusted with the joint management of both houses; Mr. A. E. Hill, who has been head of the box-office at Walthamstow since the day the house was opened, has been appointed acting-manager at East Ham; while Mr. Geo. F. Slatter, Mr. Barclay's coadjutor from the beginning, remains at Walthamstow as acting-manager, with plenary powers in Mr. Barclay's absence.

MR. FRED TRUSSELL, universally known as one of the most popular and respected managers of note in London, was the recipient of some quite unexpected presents from the members of his staff at the London Hippodrome on Monday. Although he had forgotten it was his forty-eighth birthday, the "boys" had not, and the latter raided his office in the early morning, and without ceremony forced upon him the following gifts:—Mr. H. C. Wild (treasurer), Mr. Arthur C. Hicks (assistant-manager), Mr. W. A. Redfern, &c., a very handsome gold and amber cigar-holder in morocco case. This present from his immediate confrères was supplemented by a magnificent gold watch, subscribed for by the uniformed staff, and inscribed with the names of the donors. From the officers controlling the interests of the box-office came a silver shaving set. The after proceedings included impromptu speeches and other good things.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES COLLETTE were amongst the Lord Mayor's guests at his banquet at the Guildhall last night.

DELIBES' delightful ballet *Coppélia* is still proving so attractive at the Empire that there may be some further delay in the production of Mr. Wilhelm's new ballet, although the rehearsals are so far forward that the original date for the first performance, November 15, may still be adhered to. No title has yet been given to it, although the inventor is inclined to *The Odalisque*, which is the name of the supposed ballet being rehearsed at the opera house in which Mlle. Genée as a novice, steps into the place vacated by the première danseuse. In this scene Fred Farren is Pirouette, *maître de danse*, and Mr. Sundberg a foreign Baron—a patron of the ballet. In the second part of the ballet—a typical scene representing the gardens of the Seraglio—Mlle. Genée is the chief Odalisque.

MR. A. RISD is succeeding Mr. J. A. Newton as resident manager at the Empire Theatre, Coventry.

THE wife of Mr. George Saphrini, lessee and manager of the Palace, Boston, is, we regret to say, dangerously ill.

MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR must have been much chagrined at having to cancel his London engagements this week through severe catarrh. He is recuperating in the delightful air of his new estate near Whitchurch, Salop.

THE committee of inspection appointed by the shareholders of the Coliseum at their recent meeting at the Empire, Cardiff, Mr. Edw. Nicholl presiding, proposed a scheme of reconstruction involving the issue of new debentures and the creation of new ordinary shares. In the event of the scheme being accepted there will be about £30,000 working capital.

AMONG Miss Vesta Tilley's successful songs at the Manchester Palace this week are "I am a bachelor'" and "Jolly good luck to the girl who's fond of a soldier," which have been fitted with tuneful melodies by Mr. Kenneth Lyle, a rising young composer who hails from Cottonopolis.

AT the Hippodrome, Liverpool, on Tuesday, an accident to the fireproof curtain, by which one of the suspending wire ropes gave way, prevented it being raised. This occurred just before the commencement of the first performance, and, in consequence, Mr. Walter Hassan, the acting-manager, closed the house for the night. On Wednesday evening the curtain had been repaired. An attendant named Roberts, whose toes were injured by the falling of one of the balance weights, was taken to the Royal Infirmary.

MR. HARRY BOWERMAN, acting-manager of the Queen's Theatre, Glasgow, recently closed by a magisterial order, was on Friday evening, the 2nd inst., accorded a complimentary benefit in the New Gaiety Theatre there. It extended over both performances, and very large audiences testified to the popularity of the gentleman named.

THE fine drama, *The Two Orphan Girls*, was presented, and a galaxy of well-known artistes testified to the esteem they held for Mr. Bowerman, who very neatly acknowledged his indebtedness and thanked all who assisted in the success achieved.

AMONG those who assisted were the following:—Barney Armstrong, N. C. Bostock, The Three Prestons, Cosgrove and Burns, Jos. Barker, Alf. Gibson, Vesta Ray, The Daniels, Nellie Elliene, Sisters Bathurst, Lizzie Leaver, Minnie Thornton, G. Leyton, Ethel Loftus, A. Lester, T. E. Conover, Barney Kane, and several well-known local performers.

AT the Palace, Bristol, on Monday evening, the 52nd anniversary of the battle of Inkerman, a number of veterans attended on the invitation of Mr. Horace Livermore, and £11 14s. 3d. was collected for their benefit, in addition to about £19 derived from services held in the Palace on Sunday. The Rev. J. Wain, on behalf of the veterans, thanked Mr. Livermore for the interest he had taken in the matter.

AT the Putney Hippodrome the barring clause has been enforced in the case of Miss Kate Carney by the management of the Granville, Walham Green, which is run under a working agreement with the Moss and Stoll companies. Mr. Justice Bucknill granted an interim injunction on Wednesday.

MR. JOHN H. STRINGER, the late manager of the Palace Theatre of Varieties, Sunderland, was, at the Bells Hotel, Sunderland, on Saturday, presented with some gifts at the hands of theatrical and other friends, as marks of the great esteem in which he is held by them. Many of the officials of Messrs. Rosen and Bliss were present. Mr. Stringer has left the North to fill a more important position with the firm in London.

CLOWN ZERTHO, whose address was given as the Hippodrome, Huddersfield, was summoned at the Bolton Borough Court on Monday, at the instance of the Board of Agriculture, for that, being the owner or person in charge of performing dogs, he did not have the licence for the removal of the dogs endorsed. The dogs, numbering twenty-seven, had been removed from Stockton to the Grand Theatre, Bolton, where they were to appear, having been imported into the country on Aug. 22 for performing purposes. The accommodation suggested in the town was not approved of by the Board of Agriculture. In imposing a fine of 1s. for each of the twenty-seven dogs, and costs, the justices considered defendant had acted ignorantly in the matter. On the application of the inspector, half the fine was ordered to be paid to the Board of Agriculture.

THE friends of Mr. John Duncan will be interested to know that he has given up his appointment at Dundee, and is now installed as assistant-manager of Mr. John Henry Cooke's Circus, Edinburgh.

BOLTON, it is understood, will, before long, possess another music hall. The matter is stated to be in the hands of a Rochdale company, and the site spoken of is the westerly end of Deansgate.

MR. EDWIN CROUESTE'S complimentary and testimonial smoking concert, to be held in his honour previous to his departure for Australia as manager for the celebrated Fitzgerald Circus and Menagerie, will take place on Thursday evening next, Nov. 15, at The Fish and Quart Hotel, Leicester. The subscription list, full particulars of which will be published in *The Era*, has been liberally patronised by Mr. Croueste's numerous friends, professional and otherwise, in every part of the kingdom. We wish him every success.

MRS. ARTHUR AISTON being indisposed the latter half of last week at the Hippodrome, St. Helens, and the first half of this week at the Hippodrome, Ashton, Mr. Fred Willmot and Mr. W. B. Broadhead kindly allowed her husband, Mr. Arthur Aiston, to perform his ventriloquial act instead of presenting the well-known double act (Ruby and Arthur Aiston). Mrs. Aiston is now quite convalescent, and resumed business again on Wednesday.

MR. MICHAEL NOLAN has bought the music-hall rights of that great Irish recitation, "Murphy must not sing to-night," from Mr. J. L. Shine.

MR. W. F. FRAME, who has been winning success in Yarmouth this week, plays the Dame in Howard and Wyndham's pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, this season.

MR. WILL CORNISH, the popular handbell soloist, to-night concludes twenty-eight weeks' tour of Moss's Empires, and is re-booked for the whole tour next year. He returns to London at Christmas.

"THE DANDY DUKE; OR, THE MAN WHO WASN'T," a two-act musical burlesque, by Vere Smith, will be given at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, for a week, beginning on Dec. 17, in aid of the Sussex County Hospital. The cast will include the popular Miss Margaret Cooper, who is now singing at the piano at the Palace Theatre. The piece was very successfully given at a Vaudeville matinée in June of last year.

MR. JACK EDGAR, we may again remind our readers, will take his complimentary benefit, by permission of Mr. Henri Gros and the directorate, at the Metropolitan on Thursday next, when a programme of considerable attractions will be given. There will, as usual, be a large muster of the beneficiaire's friends, both in front and behind.

THE historic Canterbury celebrates the fifty-fourth anniversary of its opening and the twenty-fourth under the present management on Thursday, Nov. 22, when Mr. G. A. Payne and the directors, with Mr. Fred Miller the manager, will be "at home" to an immense crowd of friends and well-wishers.

MR. ARTHUR LLOYD (of the Arthur Lloyd Trio) was presented by his wife with a fine daughter on Nov. 1, and both mother and child are doing very well indeed. Mr. Lloyd is the youngest son of the famous Arthur Lloyd, and, in company with his sisters, Lilli and Dulcie, starts another tour of the Moss and Stoll circuit, at the Empire, Sheffield, on Monday, in *Little Charlie; or, The Twin Sisters*.

MME. LYDIA YEAMANS TITUS and Mr. Fredk. J. Titus returned to England on the 2nd inst. by the North German Lloyd steamer Schornhorst, after a most successful tour through Australia and New Zealand. They have both greatly benefited by their trip, and are in the best of health.

THE usual weekly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held on Wednesday next at the York Hotel, when the illuminated address to the president (Mr. Pat Carey), on the occasion of his marriage, will be on view.

MR. HARRY CALDEN, of Calden's Comedy Company, produced on Oct. 1 a successful musical skit, in three scenes, entitled *The Dandy Duke*. As that title has already been appropriated, it has been decided to rename the piece *The Deputy Duke*.

MR. FRANK SEDDON has been appointed acting-manager at the Cambridge, where he is making himself very popular by his courteous manner and business-like methods.

"THE MYSTERIOUS CROSS," a novel and most puzzling illusion, will be introduced by Carlton, the comic card manipulator and conjurer, for the first time in London at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday, it having been secured by Mr. G. Adney Payne. Mr. Hugh Jay Didcott is the pioneer.

MR. ALFRED BUTT invites every reader of *The Era* to send him a stamped addressed envelope to the Palace Theatre for a set of artistic postcards of Miss Maude Odell, the Sandow Symmetrion girl. All envelopes should be plainly marked in the top left-hand corner "Galatea."

WE regret to hear that Mr. Gerald V. O'Connolly, of the Publicity Department of Moss's Empires, has been confined to his bed by a severe attack of pleurisy. His friends are now rejoicing at his satisfactory progress on the road to convalescence.

MR. MAURICE A. HYMAN, sire of the popular Sydney, Edgar, and Aubrey Hyman, of South Africa and London, is happily completely recovered from his long indisposition. He was at the recent Licensed Victuallers' Asylum matinée at the Oxford, his first visit to a music-hall since July.

THE McNaughtons, at the finish of their pantomime engagement at the Crown Theatre, Peckham, will start for New York, where they are due to open at Percy Williams and Oscar Hammerstein's theatres, their engagement on the other side commencing on Feb. 25, 1907.

MISS LILY ARTHUR, who made her début at the Empress, Brixton, on Saturday evening last, was at once proclaimed a decisive success. The find is one of Mr. Billy Henderson's, father of May Henderson, who has visions of a big future for his juvenile *protégée*. Miss Arthur's father has appointed Mr. Henderson her sole business representative.

MR. CHARLES CASTLE (who has lately been representing Mr. Rosen's agency) has now joined forces with Mr. Richard Cass, of 30, Maiden-lane, as business-manager. Mr. Castle's late clients are asked to kindly make a note of the above change.

LAZERN, the Mystic, is giving at the Empire, Camberwell, this week, a clever and novel performance, his manipulation of water, handkerchiefs, flags, watches, bank-notes, &c., being well worth seeing. His turn is one of the chief items on the programme.

CONDENSED opera appears to have taken a firm hold at most variety theatres, and Mr. Ernest C. Gittins, the acting-manager of that old-established concern the Carl Rosa Company, is going right ahead with his bookings for his répertoire of grand opera sketches. Mr. Frank Pemberton will be the tenor, Miss Therese Gilbert the contralto, and Mlle. Adele Prescott the prima donna in *Il Trovatore*, *Maritana*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

MR. HARRY RUSSON, who distinguished himself as a clever character actor in the late Revue at the Coliseum, has produced this week at the Euston a clever entertainment, which may be entitled "Character Studies," *à la* Chevalier.

MR. DAMER, stage-manager of the Palace Theatre, applied to Mr. Denman at Marlborough-street, on Monday, for licences to permit eight boys to take part in a song-scena, called *The Sweetest Little Apple on the Tree*. No objection being offered on the part of the Commissioner of Police, the licences were granted. The boys, Mr. Damer added, would appear at about 9.20, their performance lasting about fifteen minutes.

MENTAL telepathy is creating quite a sensation at the Alhambra, where Julius and Agnes Zancig present remarkable thought-reading experiments. The redoubtable Mr. Stead paid a visit to the house on Saturday to witness the show, and, in a chat with Mr. George Scott, confessed to having made a study of mental telepathy for many years past, and expressed himself as deeply interested in the feats of the Zancigs.

MR. HARRY GLYNN, of Messrs. Glynn's sketch company, was severely injured in the motor and tram collision last Saturday in Kennington-road. His medical attendant fears serious internal injuries, and it is not likely that Mr. Glynn will be able to fulfil any engagements for some time to come.

MR. GEORGE C. DOUGHTY on Saturday night last scored a brilliant and instantaneous success with Mr. W. P. Sheen's comedy sketch *Captain Cupid*, which is being rapidly booked by Mr. Ernest De Vere at the chief halls.

THE latest quotations of Music Hall Shares are as follows:—Alhambra, 1¼; Canterbury, ⅜; Empire (15s pd), 1½; Do. (10s pd), 1; Lon. Pav. Ord., 4⅜; Do. Pref., 5; Lon. Coliseum, ⅛; Metropolitan, ⅜; Moss Empire, 5; Do. 5 p.c. Pref., 3⅞; Oxford, 6¾; Palace, 11s.; Tivoli, 6½; Var. Cons. Theas., 15s.

LAVATER LEE, the Hippodrome droll, was amusing some children on Wednesday, at a lady's house, by playing the fiddle, when an expert who was present casually examined the instrument and discovered inside it the name of the great Stradivarius, with the date 1796. A close inspection convinced him that it was a genuine "Strad"; and the Hippodrome management is arranging a performance in which both Lavater Lee and his now much-valued possession shall play a part.

FOR the brilliant success of the recent banquet given to Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., by the Music Publishers' Association of the United States, the bulk of the credit must be awarded Isidore Witmark, head of the great house of M. Witmark and Sons. He looked after the details and the beauty and appropriateness of the souvenirs; the elegant table decorations, &c., were his work, and it kept him busy night and day for a week.

MR. HORACE JONES, who is appearing at the Empire, Cardiff, needs not to plead for a proper understanding of Welsh comedy, as he found by his recent pleasant experiences in Liverpool, where his phenomenal success secured for him bookings on the Stoll Tour, and five dates with Mr. D. J. Clarke, of the Argyle, Birkenhead. Mr. James Fioni, of Liverpool, is fast filling his date book.

REX KING is delighting Brixtonians at the Empress with his clever characters. In turn he appears as a French ventriloquist, a miser, a coster, a yokel, and a Chinaman. In the two first especially he appears to the greatest advantage, his make-up, voice, and gesture stamping him as an impersonator in the very front rank. His technique in his ventriloquial act is remarkable; and his fine command of facial expression, his vocal gift, and his versatility as an actor call for the highest praise. Applause of the heartiest character at the conclusion of his entertainment proclaims that he has made a decided hit.

AT the Chelsea Palace Cricket Club dinner at the Horseshoe on Sunday, in the absence of Mr. Edward Swanborough, the president, Mr. Leon Zeitlin took the chair, with Mr. J. Norman Berlin, the acting-manager, and Mr. Angelo A. Asher, chef d'orchestre of the Chelsea Palace, as vice-chairmen. After the various toasts, including that of "The Chelsea Palace," had been honoured, a capital concert followed, Mr. Zeitlin giving an enjoyable violin solo.

THE South London Palace is now undergoing the process of redecoration. The complete transformation of the appearance of the interior will be secured by the elaborate scheme of embellishment in progress.

FRAGSON has introduced a new song at the Tivoli, which is an English version of the wonderfully popular "La Petite Tonkinoise," which has been sung and played all over France. "Chin Chin Lu," which is the name of Fragson's song, bids fair to be as much the vogue in England as the original is on the Continent.

THE Alhambra on Monday exhibited a remarkable cinématograph picture, taken by Mr. Charles Urban, of the recent contest at the Sporting Club for the heavy-weight championship of England, between Gunner Moir, of the Royal Marine Artillery, and Jack Palmer, of Newcastle. To get this picture, an almost endless quantity of film was used, and a special installation of lighting had to be arranged.

MR. AND MRS. EDWARD H. LUCAS have ended their successful South African tour, and open at the Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, on the 19th of this month. The two Dickensonians have every reason to be satisfied with their journey to the other side of the world, for they leave behind them a host of friends, and will be sure of a hearty welcome if ever they pay a return visit. Mr. Lucas was presented at Johannesburg with a bronze bust of Dickens, from an unknown admirer in the audience, and Mrs. Lucas has received any number of floral tributes.

MLLE. ADELINA GENÉE will be sorry to take leave of the delightful character of Swanilda, the Slav maiden in *Coppélia*, though her new part is full of interest. The famous *danseuse* thinks the work of the prima donna to-day to be far more elaborate than that of the old school. Taglioni and the rest of them had their poses and their slow movements. That would not satisfy modern audiences. They demand—as in the play—action, action, action; and, "believe me, the work is very fatiguing," says the star of the Empire. "But the future of ballet is assured. You can't do without dancing. It is eternal." But what are we to do without our Genée when she departs for America?

THE death is announced of Mr. George Burney, father of Mr. W. H. Burney, a director of Collins's and the London, Shoreditch. The deceased gentleman, who passed away on the 1st inst., was the chairman of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum for 1891, the anniversary festival of that year being presided over by the late Mr. Hamar Bass, M.P.

"Is our variety stage to be Anglicised completely?" asks an American paper. "At Hammerstein's, Victoria, last week were Mr. Bransby Williams, the Eight English Primroses, and Mr. Harry Tate." The Yankee journalist is unnecessarily exercised in his mind. Three American turns are often to be seen in one evening at the Palace Theatre, and yet no British newspaper sounds a note of alarm.

SENOR SARASATE is announced to play at the Soldene matinée at the Palace Theatre on Tuesday next. Sir Charles Wyndham will be unable to appear. A programme of remarkable interest will be given.

THE success of Gipsy Woolf on the Continent is quite phenomenal. The clever little lady and her troupe of piccaninnies are performing in the Norwegian capital. Writing from Christiania, Miss Woolf expresses her great regret at being unable to accept London offers for pantomime.

AT the London meeting of the International Artists' Lodge on Sunday Brother 176 took the chair, and welcomed a large number of members. Much correspondence was dealt with referring to legal and arbitration cases in hand. Letters were received from the solicitor of the Lodge stating that there were some members of the Lodge who had a dispute with an agent, and that the agent was willing to submit to arbitration. It was decided that the brothers be written to, and asked to agree to this for the honour of the Lodge.

THE following important proposition was made:—"That brothers and artists in the provinces be apprised of the vigorous manner in which London proprietors are applying the barring clause. By its working many London contracts now existing are not worth the paper they are written on." The proposer instanced himself as an example. On coming to London with the expectation of fulfilling engagements of very long standing, he found he was barred by one manager after the other. The seconder of the resolution expressed the opinion that a modified monopoly was a necessity, but when it threatened the livelihood of artists it was time it was looked into. The chairman thought the matter one of the utmost importance.

THE chairman deprecated the inclination of many members of associations to resign directly any small thing went wrong. It should be remembered that we all join societies to gain strength and unity, and that when we do that we agree to abide by a majority rule. Even if we do not believe in some point carried by the majority, outside we must behave as if we were absolutely one, and fight for the whole. Otherwise every society would become disunited, and therefore useless. One might enter a protest, but not threaten resignation at every moment. The legal committee for the month was then chosen.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS

MR. HARRY DACRE retired from the song-writing arena in 1904, in disgust at the wholesale piracy of his successful compositions. To mention only two songs out of many, over a million copies of his "I want to see the old home again" and "Good-bye, Mignonette," were sold by the street thieves. At the time of his retirement a greater number of Harry Dacre's songs than those of any other composer appeared on the seizure list.

His reappearance in his favourite rôle of "pantomime protagonist" is consequent upon the passing of the new Copyright Act, which, it is hoped, will completely stamp out the scandalous piracies. A small combination, trading as the Successful Song Syndicate, will issue his future works.

HARRY DACRE'S latest effort, the refrain of which appears on another page, is entitled "My Sugar Plum." The story it tells is delightfully fresh, and the music is certainly the catchiest that we have heard for some time.

MISS ANNIE PURCELL is a great attraction at the Oxford and Paragon this week. At the latter hall especially the whole of the audience, and even the attendants, are singing her chorus of "By the side of the Zuyder Zee." At the Aldwych Theatre, where Miss Maudie Darrell makes a hit with this song, they have some very taking business for the chorus of Dutchmen. Messrs. Feldman have undoubtedly secured a great winner in this number, which, needless to say, is being specially featured in every pantomime in the kingdom.

TOM COSTELLO is, as usual, a great favourite at the Metropolitan, where during the past week crowded houses have been the rule. Mr. Costello, attired as a smart Naval lieutenant, sings with great spirit a rousing march-time number "Nelson from his monument," which deals with the reduction of the Navy. Both apart from its topical significance, the melody of the chorus is so catchy that even those who fail to realise the seriousness of the subject matter nevertheless give vent to the words as though they were all members of the "Navy League." Tom predicts this refrain will become as popular as his famous song (by the same composer) "Sail away." Copies may be had from Mills and Scott.

MR. WHIT CUNLIFFE continues his triumphal march through the big provincial cities, where his popular chorus song "Hello, hello, hello! it's a different girl again" is becoming a positive rage. In towns like Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, &c., one has only to *whistle* the first two bars of the chorus in the vicinity of a pair of lovers and the young lady looks askance at her escort, and he will turn with a look of indignant denial that is pathetically humorous. Mr. Cunliffe, whose rendering of the song is beyond praise, is fortunate in having secured the sole music hall rights of such a big number. Mr. Lester Barrett (of Francis, Day, and Hunter) has fixed it with nearly every pantomime producer.

MESSRS. FRANCIS AND DAY'S publication, "Mignon," is likely to be one of the hits of the forthcoming pantomimes. It is a stirring march-time song, and is composed by Percy Ashdown.

AMONG the "eleventh-hour" novelties for pantomime which Messrs. Francis and Day are now issuing may be mentioned "Fighting for their King and Sireland," a patriotic song which will enhance the glories of many a palace scene when used as the finale; also an original Irish song, which embodies a well-carried-out and quaint idea wherein an Irishman makes love to an Indian maid, and which is named "Arrah Wanna," the said number having a catchy chorus full of "go"; and likewise another patriotic number, treated in a refreshingly original way, and entitled "The good old Union Jack."

A VERY special forthcoming addition to Messrs. Francis and Day's "Sixpenny Pops" series is the charming song known as "Radoo," which has enjoyed quite a vogue in its more expensive form, and which is the graceful handiwork of "Bessie" O'Connor (Mrs. T. P. O'Connor).

MR. GEORGE BROOKE'S new song "Happy land," by T. W. Connor, is in the press, having been acquired by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter for publication. Mr. Harry Castling's fine march song "Boy Blue" will be a strong card in many forthcoming annuals judging by the portentious list of provincial towns that have applied to Messrs. Francis and Day for the song.

THE Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd. have just accepted for early publication three songs, entitled "The Dragoon Guard," "Good old Saturday afternoon," and "Jack's ashore," which Miss Hetty King has been featuring. Also two new songs, entitled "Queen of my English home" and "I want a Gibson Girl," which Miss King will produce next week. All principal boys should hasten to apply at once to the publishers for pantomime rights.

CROWDS of managers and artists at their offices and shoals of letters of application for song permissions attest the popularity of the "Witmark" publications. Although the "house of Witmark" has always been celebrated as having *the* songs for pantomime, the numbers they now present are far away above any assortment they have yet presented. All of the leading managers have made their selections with positive assurance of placing the numbers in their productions. No manager or artist who seeks success in the coming pantomime should overlook the "gems of melody" now on view at the "Witmark building."

A SONG that will be greatly in evidence in the Christmas annuals is "In Dreamland." The Witmarks have arranged with a leading manager for its production in no less than six pantomimes.

A QUAINT idea and an infectious melody are the two elements that have made "Bill Simons, or, I've got to dance till the band gits through," a world-beater for the admirers of what may be termed the "whistling organ" song. This is another gem from the Witmark catalogue.

MISS WINIFRED HARE'S most successful song, which she has been singing all round the Stoll tour recently, "One little lonely star," by John P. Harrington and the late George Le Brunn, will form one of the principal features of the forthcoming pantomime at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, in which she plays principal boy. This charming number is being issued to the trade next week by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., who are including it in their "Sixpenny Successes" series.

MISS DAISY DORMER'S popular song "My rickshaw queen," by Lawrance, Mellor, and Gifford, is in great demand among pantomime producers and artists, and looks like as big a winner as their former successes from the pen of those talented authors and composers.

MISS VIOLET LORRAINE, who has been engaged for principal boy at the Crown Theatre, Peckham, will specially "feature" two of the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s publications, viz., "Bamboo bungalow" and "When the band played 'The men of Harlech,'" both by Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford; and Miss Alice Lloyd, the principal girl, will have a special production in the same pantomime of the song she is so successfully singing in the halls, Mr. J. F. Lambe's "Queen of Old Samara."

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE PALACE.

The strongest attraction in Mr. Alfred Butt's programme at the beautiful theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue is Miss Margaret Cooper, whose selections from a voluminous répertoire include that delightful song of Edward German's, "Love is meant to make us glad." Miss Cooper has a sly humour all her own, and her realisation of comedy in song is worthy of the highest artistic traditions, which are mostly to be discovered in the French school. In his catering for the Palace patrons Mr. Butt has often relied with complete success on the efforts of distinguished artists of the musical comedy stage in specially arranged scenes, and the Palace has been filled in turn with admirers of Miss Millie Legarde and Miss Kate Cutler. Now we have Miss Billie Burke in two numbers, "Paddling" and "The first post in the morning," both from the accomplished pen of Mr. Paul Rubens, the famous librettist and composer. In the first song, Miss Burke looks pretty in a glorified bathing costume, but her weak voice prevents her getting in touch with the house, and the scene therefore goes tamely, in spite of the assistance of the shapely and clever Palace girls. These young ladies, dressed as nymphs of the shore, are none too well treated in the matter of costume; but they look pictures in some Parisian creations, when appearing earlier in the evening, entirely on their own, and without a star to lead them.

"Galatea," otherwise Miss Maudè Rundell, "Sandow's Symmetrion Girl," has quite recovered from her temporary indisposition, and is posing with much success in such artistic creations as Sappho, after the antique statue in the Villa Albané; The Dancer, after Tadolini, in the Villa Borghesi; Artemis, after Hamo Thornycroft, R.A.; Venus Victoriosa, after Capua; The Bath of Psyche, after the late Lord Leighton; Le Matin, after Lemaire, in the Luxembourg; Salambo, after Antoine Idrac, in the Luxembourg; Musique Profane, after the French sculptor, Allouard; La Vérité, after Jules Lefebre, in the Luxembourg; and Galatée, after L. Marqueste, also in the Luxembourg.

Miss Vesta Victoria, who made a sucess here before her recent triumphal tour in the States, now possesses a song that will certainly increase her already high reputation as a comedienne. It is again the bobby—callous-hearted Robert—who is responsible for Miss Victoria's lament. She tells us in a quaint chorus, does this Mary Jane of the area, that "a policeman is a rosser, a rosser is a slop, a slop is a copper, but a copper ain't no cop." She proves her case, too, in her imparted confidences, which set stalls, circle, and balcony in a roar. For her second song the popular artist chooses the favourite, "Waiting at the church," which has supplied tuneful merriment for the Old World and the New.

A decidedly attractive novelty was introduced into the scheme of amusement on Tuesday evening by Miss Clarice Mayne, whose stage business hitherto has been mostly concerned with mimicry of famous stars. She has now been entrusted with a very pretty scena, from the versatile pen of Mr. James W. Tate, the well-known composer, which, in its way, is quite a little pastoral. The scene is an apple orchard, which is invaded by a number of boys, and one tomboy of a girl, who scales the wall. A handy ladder enables the girl to seat herself in a tree loaded with fruit, and to help herself. Of course, Strephon comes along in the person of a young sportsman, who immediately starts serenading Chloë in the branches. The chorus is taken up at regular intervals by the boys, and a dance concludes. Miss Mayne shows decided ability, and will no doubt do greater justice to herself after a night or two. She looks particularly neat in her becoming shooting costume. She prefaces her appearance in the scena by imitations of Miss Connie Ediss, Miss Victoria Monks, Miss Vesta Victoria, and Miss Marie Lloyd. She also gives an impression of Miss Camille Clifford as the Gibson Girl. Mr. Charles Norton, another mimic, appears earlier in the evening, and realises for us the peculiarities of Mr. Harry Lauder, Mr. Joe Elvin, Mr. Wilkie Bard, and others. Other turns in the bill are Mamie Iris, the Two McNaughtons, Howard and Harris, the Creo Brothers, and Malcolm Scott.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

Record numbers must have been reached this week at the South London, the spacious interior of which has been crowded from area to gallery, while row upon row of people have lined the space allotted to standing-room. A well-assorted programme, full of interest, is presented, the chief attraction being the dramatic sketch, *The Mystery of the Cliff*, in which Mr. Tom Craven and Mr. Will Evans, both comedians of renown, collaborate as authors. The sketch surpasses in many ways the ordinary melodramatic piece. The dialogue is terse and pointed, the action swift and strong, and the mounting on a scale of completeness seldom attempted at the variety theatre, the representation of the cliffs by the margin of the sea being especially to be praised. A "biographic camera" is the chief instrument in the unravelling of the mystery alluded to in the title, and by its means an original and deeply thrilling scene is reached at a church bazaar. It would be difficult to find artists better adapted to their work than those engaged in the representation. Mr. Ernest Leicester, whose artistic performances at a neighbouring theatre are a treasured memory with playgoers in the vicinity, receives a warm welcome, and in his embodiment of a young midshipman electrifies the audience by the power and energy of his performance. Miss Cissy Farrell, also an old favourite in the district, takes the part of a young schoolmistress with all her usual charm and romantic power. A forcible rendering of a vindictive adventuress is given by Miss Violet Fulton, who imports an adequate amount of venomous spite into her acting, and Mr. Archibald McLean carries through his dramatic scene as the ill-fated parent with admirable effect. Mr. Syd Craven makes a very humorous personage of the Rev. Peter Crabb, whose eccentric behaviour leads to many laughs, and Miss Jessica Lait is very diverting as Peter's intended. The sketch is nightly received with abundant approval, keeping the audience glued to their seats till the very end.

A little duologue, entitled *The Chambermaid*, introduces Miss Clara Reid and Mr. John Power as a "slavey" and an actor respectively, and much fun is made out of the latter's endeavours to induce the unkempt little servant to assist him in acting a play. Her attitudes are very grotesque, and much laughter is the result. Merriment also arises from the "curtain lecture" administered by a wife to her doting spouse—parts in which a couple known as Cole and Wood figure. The lady storms and raves realistically while the gentleman says little, but puts plenty of meaning into his facial play, and altogether there is much humour in the little piece. The fame of Jordan and Harvey, the Hebrew dialect comedians, is great in South London as well as in other parts of the Metropolis, and the drollery of their comic exchanges, much enhanced by a stolid demeanour on the part of one comedian and a jovial air on that of the other, exacts many a roar of laughter. De Vere and Kenwick import novelty into the programme by the presentation of a series of comic Hibernian pictures thrown on a screen while a lady sings the popular song "Molly" meanwhile. The comedienne also dances merrily to the accompaniment of a violin played by her partner, who appears as a comic sailor.

Dancing in its most practised form is furnished by Mr. Frank Leon, the well-known champion dancer, who submits the belt which carries with it the title and gives a specimen of the steps with which he won the trophy. There are no more appreciative spectators of the art than patrons of the hall under notice, and they grew enthusiastic over Mr. Leon's performance. Mr. Dick Kendal, dressed as a convict, accompanies a humorous song with a speciality dance of great variety and neatness; and Mr. Dan Kirton, who has somewhat the style of the "lion comique," also supplements his lay with an elaborate dance. Miss Lottie Govell, a comely young vocalist, exhibits no little low comedy talent in a song with the refrain "Don't cry"; and the programme has admired contributions in Bonnie Goodwin and her Apollo Piccaninnies; Miss Lottie Goodman, dancer, and Ruffell's Bioscope, with the latest pictures. An "extra turn," which contains an acceptable element of novelty, has been contributed by the Brothers Zitto, a trio of young Spaniards, who do an act in which rifle and club spinning is conspicuous. The manner in which the performers, who appear in national uniform, twist the cumbersome weapons, passing them from one to the other with marvellous precision, won the hearty admiration of the audience. A touch of the picturesque is given at the end, when a realistic fight for the colours is performed, to the accompaniment of cheers. Mr. William Payne, the manager, overcomes the manifest difficulties of his position with a combination of tact and authority, and is rapidly gaining in the estimation of all.

THE METROPOLITAN.

The current list of attractions at that palace of the people familiarly known as the "Met." bristles with the names of favourites who have won an enviable position on the variety stage—not only by their conspicuous ability, but by an industrious application to the study of the art of entertaining. Mr. Tom Costello possesses this art in the fullest degree, and knowing his audience thoroughly, gets in immediate touch with everyone, from gallery to stalls. The "Suffragette" question at the halls is of course treated only from the humorous point of view, and Mr. Costello's impersonation of one of the gentler sex who inveigh against Mr. Asquith in particular and Members of Parliament in general has just that humorous touch of extravagance that appeals to the many-headed. Make-up and business are after the true Costellan methods, which savour of distinct originality. In his opening item—a naval song with a patriotic text—he again makes us understand his many-sidedness, and wins hands down.

A very big favourite with audiences in the Edgware-road is Miss Lily Burnand, whose gracious and winning personality makes one realise that for beauty of form and feature English womanhood is hard to beat. Miss Burnand, indeed, is divinely tall and divinely fair, and in a principal boy's dress of rich-hued velvet embellished with silver, from which hangs a magnificent cloak, she looks superb. Her first number describes, in a tale of piquantly-worded and saucily-rendered verses, the good fortune of Sally, who, from the ranks of the ballet has risen to the possession of a motor and other appanages of luxury. Miss Burnand then excites much interest, and thoroughly engrosses her audience from gods to stalls by the pleasantness of her voice and the distinctness of her articulation in that tunefully-written and highly-popular number, "In Zanzibar." The refrain resounds through the house, and so catchy is it that the chortlers aloft are listening with all their mind to "ear-mark" the tune, which is, at the time of writing, being sung from Paddington Green to the Marble Arch.

Such a genuine comedian is Mr. Joe Elvin that it is as well occasionally to listen to one of the sketches on which his fame as a laughter-maker was founded. It is many years since he ran through with his lamented father that piece of farcical extravaganza, entitled *Touched*, which is based on similar lines to *Loose Tiles*, produced nearly twenty years ago at the Vaudeville. Mr. Elvin as Billy Bangham again causes shouts of laughter; and is well assisted by Mrs. Bennett in the rôle of the distraught lady. Topical items occupy the attention of Mr. Fred Herbert, who sets the ball rolling; the Bostons have a successful form of entertainment in their popular burlesque bull-fight; good singing, comic cross-talk, and acrobatisms are the chief constituents of Terry and Bentley's act, to which the title of "The Hunt" is given; Mr. Rex Fox interests us in his novel ventriloquial and musical act on the wire; and Pierce and Maizie are decidedly entertaining in their quick-change act, Maizie appearing as a Gibson Girl, and in a gorgeous gown as a burlesque actress given to cake-walking. Lauri Wylie imitates the stars of the variety world in his mannikin entertainment, which is cleverly worked; Mr. Sam Mayo, whose face gives one the impression that his spirits are weighed down by melancholia, again sings his Japaneasy song; Clark and Hamilton bustle through a variety act that has been a strong card in music hall programmes for some years now; and Hardeen, in a number of sensational feats, shows that he has honestly earned the title of "Handcuff King." Other turns in Mr. Jack Edgar's fine programme are Miss Anita Ediss, Miss Rosa Rosetta, Mr. Andie Caine, and Duncan's dogs.

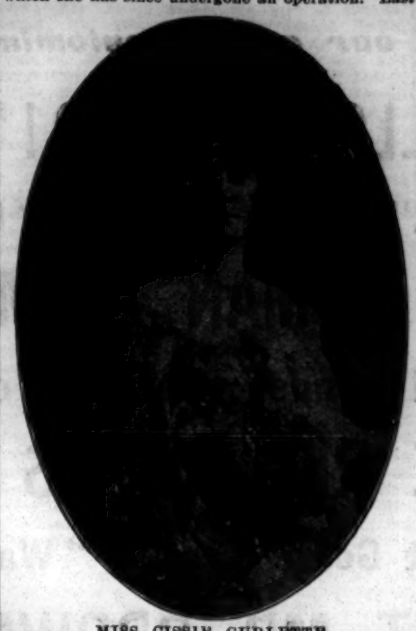
WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

A programme that may be well described as interesting and attractive is presented here this week by Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, and business is brisk. Mr. John F. Preston's company has achieved an immense success in their exciting sketch, *Rogues of the Turf*, written by Mr. Max Goldberg. The play, as its title suggests, is, to use a famous expression, "redolent of the Turf," and is as full of interest as a piece of the kind can be. Mr. John F. Preston himself gives a vigorous interpretation of the honest old trainer, Joe Flaxman, whose grandiloquent speeches rouse the enthusiasm of the house. A performance that at once wins over the audience is that of Mr. Horace Custins as Sam Flaxman, the trainer's son. The young man is brimful of spirits, looks the part to the life, and acts in a capable manner. Mr. Geo. Harvard is a capital villain as Captain Dudley Clifton; and he has an amusing confederate in the Moses Solomans of Mr. Hardy Macro. Miss Hilda Shirley is very engaging as Nellie Somerton; and Miss Mabelle F. Barlow looks delightfully wicked as Marion, the Duchess. The piece is finely mounted.

Miss Agnes Hazel, looking very handsome, sings about what a girl said, and is warmly received. Mr. Chas. Faning gives his amusing patter about a well-known London magistrate with immense effect. The Royal Korries are well received in their musical entertainment, of which the gentleman's performance on various—and curious—instruments is admirable. The lady sings sweetly and dances gracefully. One of the biggest successes of the week is achieved by Mr. J. P. Ling in his mimetic monologue. The artist goes out of the beaten track, and introduces us to an imitation of the doings at a village "penny-reading," his reproductions of the vagaries of the performers being capital. Miss Madoline Rees sings with a cultured voice, her most popular song being "Any old place where the lights are low." Boyd and Gilfain give their amusing scena and sing artistically, Mr. Boyd's clear tenor voice blending well with the soprano of Miss Gilfain. A great popular success is made by Mr. Michael Nolan, whose "real Irish" songs, notably that of the "Irish Brigade," simply bring the house down. A turn that at once catches on is supplied by the Australian Twin Andersons, two young ladies who display an amount of energy that is surprising. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope sends everybody away in good humour.

MISS CISSIE CURLETTE IN ABERDEEN.

"Miss Cissie Curlette headed the bill. As a mimetic vocalist this talented young lady made a welcome first appearance in Aberdeen some six months ago, only eighteen months after she made her début on the music hall stage. On her former visit Miss Curlette, although meeting with great success, took the stage under difficulties, as she was then suffering from a very bad throat, for which she has since undergone an operation. Last



MISS CISSIE CURLETTE.

night the throat trouble seemed to have ceased altogether. In her magnificent conception of a farmyard she brought down the house, but what people were waiting for was 'The Adventures of Farmer Giles in London.' This original song, rendered in a broad Devonshire accent by such a bright and vivacious actress, is one of the best on the music hall boards at present, and Miss Curlette had to add four encore verses before the audience were satisfied."—*Aberdeen Free Press*, Oct. 23, '06.

PIRATED MUSIC STORES RAIDED.

Piles of music copies were spread out on the solicitor's table in the Manchester City Stipendiary's Court on Wednesday afternoon, when Lazarus Gotliffe and Jacob Gotliffe, 36, Lord-street, Red Bank, Manchester, were charged with unlawfully having in their possession 3879 copies of pirated music. We give an illustration showing the extent of the haul of pirated music.

Mr. Hockin, who prosecuted on behalf of the Music Publishers' Association, told an extraordinary story in outlining the case for the prosecution. For some time, he said, the prosecution had arrived at the conclusion that somewhere about 47, Cliff-street, Red Bank, there had been established a kind of depôt for the receipt and distribution of pirated music, but owing to the care and ability of the defendants, who were father and son, and their friends, they were not able until the 24th of last month to locate the exact spot. On the 24th ult. the police and a representative of the prosecuting Association went to No. 47, Cliff-street. They found that it was occupied by Mr. Isaac Cohen, greengrocer, and his wife. The place was in darkness. The inspector explained the object of his visit, and Mr. Cohen denied all knowledge of any pirated music. The inspector searched the house, but found no music

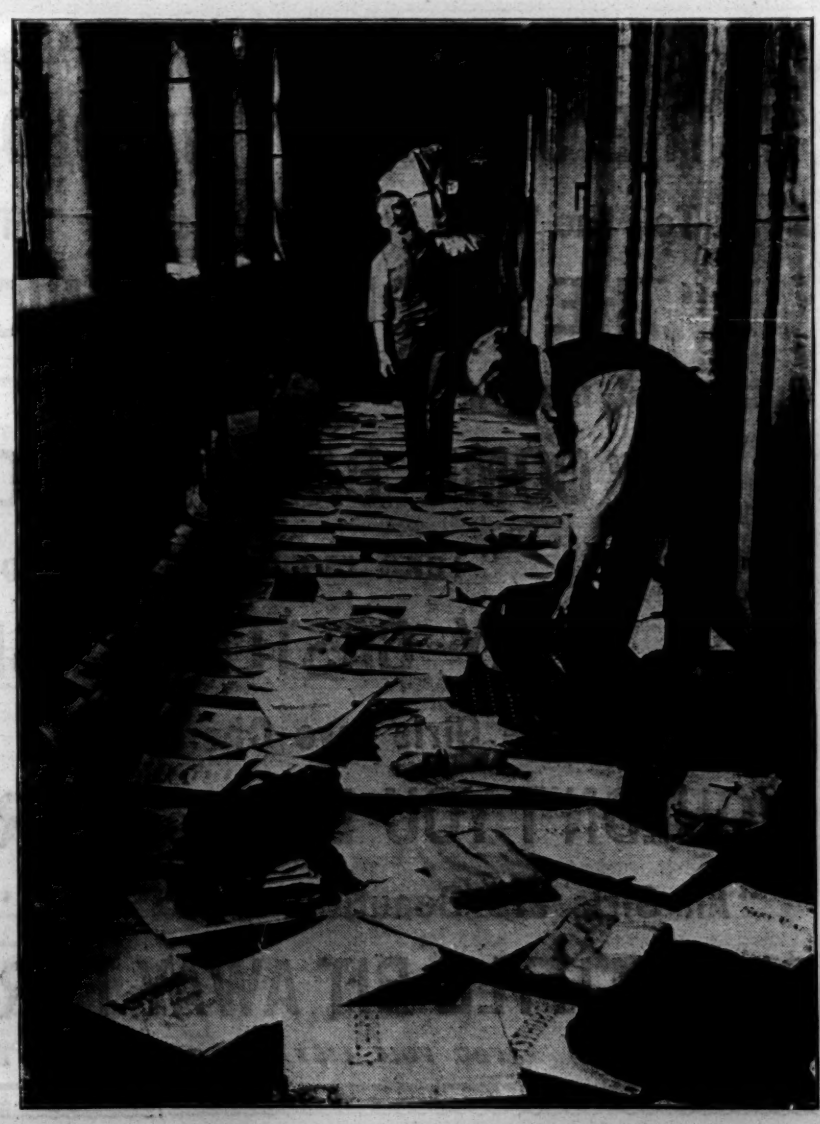
On returning to the top of the landing from the cellar a very peculiar thing happened. Mr. Isaac Cohen blew out the light and left the inspector and his friends in darkness. That aroused suspicions, and the candle was lighted again. Further searches of the cellar were made, with a like result, and each time when they got to the top of the stairs Cohen blew out the candle.

The warrant officer struck a match, and found a cupboard or secret door leading into an unknown room. It was fastened with a padlock, and upon this being broken and admission obtained, a room was discovered which contained shelves, table, &c., and hundreds of copies of pirated music. To all intents and purposes the room was under the roof of the adjoining house, but it had evidently been used with this house. On the floor were three bags, two of which contained a thousand copies of pirated music, and the third bag contained three parcels which had been carefully made up and labelled. One addressed to a man in Dublin contained 196 copies, another for Wolverhampton contained 85, and the third, for Edinburgh, contained 50 copies.

The door had a bolt on the inside, and a window, in addition to which a loose brick could be taken out of the wall, so that by means of the window and the peephole the defendants were able to evade the police. While the raid was taking place a constable was on duty outside, disguised as a ganger of some corporation workmen who were engaged in the street.

Inspector Cubberly said that altogether 4529 copies were seized, a bundle containing 650 copies being obtained in course of delivery by the railway company. The defendants, he explained in reply to questions, rented the room at 2s. 6d. per week off Mrs. Cohen.

The charge against the defendant Lazarus Gotliffe was dismissed, and the defendant Jacob Gotliffe was fined £10 and costs, ten guineas being allowed as special costs.



HAUL OF PIRATED MUSIC IN MANCHESTER.

BOW PALACE.

The management here are performing a goodly service this week. It has been their custom for some years past to arrange collections in aid of the National Lifeboat Institution, the fund in connection with which has benefited by the Bow Palace contributions to the extent of £15 annually. On the night of our visit, Mr. Charles Harvey, the able manager, appeared in front of the curtain, and announced that collections on behalf of the admirable institution referred to would be made that evening and throughout the week, and in a capital little speech he referred to the excellent work performed in the past by the N.L.I. His words were received with loud applause, and we understand that the donations are likely to exceed those of former years. The entertainment is of the usual sound order. There are, in addition to a couple of sketches, ten turns. Messrs. Corrie and Dereve's musical comedy trifle, *Office Hours*, written by Mr. Edgar Dereve, with music by Mr. Clarence C. Corri, finds great favour with the audience. There is plenty of amusement to be got out of it, and the acting of Mr. Edgar Dereve as William Hurry, a stockbroker, and of Miss Jessie Wilton, as the stockbroker's daughter, as well as of Messrs. Frank A. Wood, Geo. Danvers, jun., Edward Raymend, and Arthur White, in their several rôles, is distinctly commendable. Messrs. Grey and Welford appear in a boxing act which causes roars of laughter; and Mr. Guy Ryder is heard to singular effect both as a vocalist and as a whistler. Miss Elna May is an interesting and engaging comedienne, and her song, "My dada's a colonel," is sung with appropriate expression and feeling.

Another singer of sweet songs comes along in the person of Mr. James H. Reynolds, whose rendering of "Old sweetheart of mine" and "Bright eyes are my queen," affords immense delight to his hearers. Mr. Mark Merry makes merry, even with a doleful countenance and a doleful delivery. He possesses a distinctive style, and uses it to good advantage. His "No, no, no" and "Me" are items which are not to be missed. Then we have a charming chorus vocalist in Miss Edna Latonne, in whose performance there is not a disagreeable note. It is a distinct pleasure to hear her sing "I love you" and the other lyrics in her répertoire. The Three Coopers—a boy, a girl, and a man—sing sentimental verses in the way they should be sung, and their scena concerning an honest match-boy and how he prevented his benefactor from being robbed, is appreciated by the house. Upon their second appearance the trio deliver in sympathetic strain some lines beginning "Come back again." Mr. Robbie Roy, a Scots comedian, attired as a kiltie, treats us in his inimitable manner to a laughing song, and another about one "Piper Jack," and succeeds in taking the fancy of the public. Mr. Wal Phillips excels as a raconteur. What he has to say is decidedly funny, but he is equally funny in his way of saying it. The Vaudeville Dramatic Company are presenting the romantic playlet, *The Gay Deceiver; or, The Journey's End*, the production of which has already received favourable notice at our hands. The company includes such clever actors and actresses as Messrs. Herbert Pearson, Reginald Wells, Ernest Wingfield, F. Fellows Bassett, and Misses Marguerite Trevosper and Helena Walbran, and the mounting and dressing of the piece are superb. Raymond and Son's Bio-tableaux submit some attractive pictures, the series, "Waiting at the Church" being particularly praiseworthy.

GRAND, CLAPHAM.

Capital and most appreciative audiences are testifying to the excellence of the fare provided at this people's palace. At the top of the bill is Dr. Walford Bodie, who is making his second visit during the last month to this hall. His interesting entertainment still continues to mystify most of those present, and to the uninitiated the amount of electricity that he can take into his body seems to border on the impossible. He starts his performance with some experiments with electricity, which are quite wonderful in their way, and then proceeds to have some fun with various members of the audience who have accepted his invitation to come upon the stage. As a means of keeping the house convulsed with laughter these are certainly a great success, and are enjoyed to the full, excepting by those who have to unwittingly provide the fun. Later he proceeds to the more serious side of his show, and the good he appears capable of doing to those who have been given up as hopeless by our leading medical experts is nothing short of marvellous. At the conclusion of his performance he has many times to bow his acknowledgments.

Undoubtedly one of the greatest successes of the evening is Herbert La Martine, who, though the recipient of deafening applause, is only able to render one song. The number which he gives is entitled "Have you seen my Mamie Brown," and in this he appears to the greatest advantage, the chorus being taken up in a most spirited manner. Before leaving he treats us to some of his original and quaint dancing. Fred Eustace and Company are presenting their comedy drama, *An Amber Light*, which is meeting with as much approval as when it was last here. The four characters are all in most capable hands, but unfortunately the programme does not provide us with the names of the cast. Frank Dalton, the scheming secretary, has a most capable exponent, and his clever acting certainly calls for a word of praise, and the same may be said of Sir John, a member of the aristocracy. Undoubtedly the success of the piece is Fred Eustace, who in the guise of an American is exceedingly funny, his voice and make-up being capital. Miss Mary Eustace as the niece of Sir John, also acts her difficult part in a manner that leaves no cause for complaint.

Lieutenant Travis, the well-known and clever ventriloquist, is making another of his periodical visits to this hall, and it is evident that he has lost none of his old popularity. A new character has recently been added to his puppets—that of a coon—in which he is quite as successful as in his others. Miss Daisy Davidson, the talented New Zealand vocalist, is the lucky possessor of a fine voice which she uses to the utmost advantage, and her songs are much appreciated. Los Rupertos, two clever equilibrists, are nothing if not original, and their interesting feats are performed with an ease that is surprising. Stewart and Morgan are the lucky possessors of most tuneful voices, and in their rendering of the "Old Folks at Home" they are certainly heard with the greatest pleasure. They bring their turn to a conclusion by singing "Home sweet home" in a most feeling manner. One of the most pleasing items on the programme is the Bioscope—no longer the last turn. Many interesting pictures are being shown, that of "The Suffragettes" causing shrieks of laughter. Mr. Harry Ketteman is a popular manager, and receives every assistance from Mr. Charles Lurring, his acting-manager.

EALING HIPPODROME.

Humorists, in all ages, have each had a favourite method of enforcing conviction for their comicalities, and Mr. Joe Elvin touches the spot of appreciation in his own particular way. In his hilariously amusing sketch, *Touched*, the fun is fast and furious, the new keeper's terror at finding himself accidentally imprisoned in the padded-room being indicrous in the extreme, and hearty laughter is the result of his abortive efforts to prove to another keeper that he is not "balmy." Ably assisted by his company, Mr. Elvin raises peals of merriment from all parts of a crowded house. Mr. Dennis Drew strikes a martial note in his military musical sketch, *Back to Barracks*. "Back to the Army again" is given with splendid effect, but "Come, boys, come and be a soldier" has a tunefulness entirely its own. The melody is endowed with a lilting rhythm, and it is to a swinging quick step that eight bright little lads enter, and support the chorus. Mr. Drew reserves the *bonne bouche* of his spirited scena for the last verse of his song, when there enters surely the most delightful *petit caporal* ever imagined.

The Wilton-Heriot Trio present a scena representing the wooing of an American heiress, which is admirably staged, and met with a flattering reception. Hayman and Franklin, in the sequence of ridiculous arguments and contradictions, entitled *A Matrimonial Agency*, extract the maximum of fun out of the curious situations which they naturally create. A song, "Flirtation," wedded to a medley of well-known tunes, is melodiously rendered, while not a line of the many witticisms is lost. *The Matrimonial Agency* is responsible for much merriment, and is deservedly applauded.

Baker and Balfe are xylophone experts of the first order, and the lightning-like rapidity of their instrumentation is marvellous. The lady of the duo is ably assisted by her partner, who is also an excellent dancer. A smart mirth-provoker is found in Mr. Charles Chardow, who is supplied with two amusing numbers, "When you are down at Covent Garden" and "The things of every-day life." In the latter song the comedian essays to hit off the characteristics of the funny man and the heavy villain of the play, and in this effort he is most successful. Ventriloquial entertainers are always welcome, and Mr. Jay W. Winton is especially so, his McGinty being amusing and never vulgar. The ventriloquist's efforts in throwing his voice in various directions, and especially into a box, are perfect examples of his art.

Mr. Jack Pleasants very much belies his name in dubbing himself "a man with a terrible temper." Nevertheless, his first number, "I'll be cross, Arabella," proves the reverse of doleful, while his second song is a hilarity-raiser indeed. Miss Katie Marsh is versatility personified. As actress, singer, and dancer she is an entire success, and wins much appreciation, while her make-up as Harry Lauder's sister provokes much merriment. Miss Sybil Montague, who appears early in the evening, secures admiration with her fine ballad singing. The Ealing orchestra is always notable, and under the direction of Mr. W. Neale the overture, a selection from *Zampa*, is given with much spirit. Mr. E. W. James, the able manager, is to be congratulated on the very fine programme he is able to present and upon the crowded houses which it attracts.

THE latest contributions to the "Fred Locke" Fund, which has now almost reached £100, are as follows, and are gratefully acknowledged by the treasurer, Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow:—Per Barney Armstrong, £1; W. Abercrombie, 2s. 6d.

PARIS ECHOES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A new and charming ballet was produced this week at the Olympia. Its title is *Towards the Stars*. It is a most artistic and refined production, and it made an instantaneous success. The authors of the libretto are MM. Paul Ferrier and Bertol-Graivil, and the music, which is most catching, has been composed by Henri Hirchmann, a young and rising composer. He has displayed so much ability in his score that he has been commissioned by the management of your Alhambra to compose a ballet, which will be produced in the course of a couple of months.

Briefly put, the following is the scenario:—A poor shepherd falls in love with a star—an evening star, of course—the beautiful Venus. He thinks that by coming to Paris he will find the means of getting closer to his loved one. He takes train and arrives on the 14th of July. The various amusements of the gay city have no charm for him. His sole thought is his beloved star. He meets an astronomer, who shows the star to him through his telescope, and gives him an idea how to go up in a captive balloon, by which means he will get yet closer to the object of his dreams. The shepherd, the astronomer, and a soldier take their place in the car, but the rope which holds it breaks, and the detached balloon floats speedily into limitless space above the clouds. After many extraordinary adventures, our travellers reach the moon, and at last the shepherd finds himself in the presence of Venus, who seems very kindly disposed towards him. Mars, the God of War, however, asserts his presence, and, threatening the shepherd and his companions, compels them to return to earth.

The scenery and costumes of this most artistic production are very fine. Mlle. Vette de Brémonval as Venus, thanks to her sculptural form and charming smile, captivates the audience. Mlle. Darson is a graceful and clever pantomimic artist. The arrangement of the dances by M. Sicard is very good. Altogether, this ballet has made a decided success.

Raku and Mlle. Moto, exponents of the ju-jitsu, are the feature of the bill at the Alhambra. The ensemble of the troupe is, as usual, the acmé of perfection. Mlle. Lucette de Verly, the Paris nightingale, warbles to an enthusiastic audience; Roma and Romani, the clowns, in their refined musical act, are going strong. Amongst other first-class numbers, there are:—Rebla, the comic juggler; Les Levaille, equilibrists on the silver cord; Les Niards, an acrobatic troupe of ladies and gentlemen; Ricardo Salving; the Three Seldoms, in their remarkable poses plastiques; Tiny Arnold; Gustave Baru; and a most interesting boxing contest between the French light-weight champion, Edouard Salmon, and the English light-weight champion, Caller Pepper. Altogether a delightful and most varied programme, which does the greatest honour to Mr. Neighbour, the active and enterprising manager of this magnificent music hall.

Messrs. Houcke and Bostock, directors of the Hippodrome, are doing well. Several changes have taken place in the programme. Amongst the current attractions are Les Perez and their wonderful ladder act; Rossow, with his fighting midgets; the Abbas Abdallah Troupe of Arabs, &c. Rehearsals are being pushed rapidly forward of the grand production, *India*, in which will appear Mlle. Loïe Fuller, surrounded by a hundred ladies of the ballet.

Wrestling is the main attraction at nearly all the halls at the present moment. Munro, the English constable, has certainly a great chance of securing the victory; moreover, the public is decidedly sympathetic to him, and should he win the championship of the world at the Folies-Bergères it would certainly be a most popular victory.

The first performance of the *Revue du Moulin*, which is produced every year at the Moulin Rouge, and which was to have taken place on the 7th inst., will now be produced on Monday next, the 12th.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

The entertainment here maintains its high standard of excellence, and refinement is the keynote of the programme submitted. It would be difficult to find a more diversified menu than that provided by the hard-working and always courteous manager, Mr. Kay Draco. Boasting a voice of exceptional range and compass, Miss Teresa da Sylva has won a premier position as a charming chanteuse; her interpretation of "Always" proved one of the hits of the evening. The Five Figaros introduce a highly interesting series of Continental types, and very admirable they prove; perhaps the gem of their illustrations is Switzerland, but all are acceptable and refined, a Spanish shadow dance being specially well received, and the way the tame duck took its "call" at the close of the act is also irresistibly droll. A tuneful ballad is ever a welcome item at this house, and Miss Violet Ray's interpretation of Tosti's "Dear heart" proved one of the daintiest efforts of the evening; Miss Ray's 'cello solo of Mascagni's "Intermezzo" is as effective as it is melodious.

There is plenty of fun in the comedy sketch, *The Peacemaker*. The story of a recalcitrant motor car and a lady who scoffs at obedience results in quite a bright little piece. Miss Marion Mathey is altogether delightful as the disobedient wife; Mr. Alfred Wellesley gives a clever character sketch as the uncle; and Mr. W. T. Ellwanger is unobtrusively funny as the husband. *The Peacemaker* is a welcome addition to the bill. Mr. Fred Daniels's topical ditty, "It's rather a serious matter," is greatly applauded, and he dances with much skill. The Cape Girls, described as long boot dancers, introduce various excerpts from their répertoire. Mr. Phil Ray meets with an hilarious reception, and tells of a love affair in which the lady enjoyed a perennial age of "only 17." A friendly hint that all the chaps out of work should interview the Rt. Hon. John Burns is followed by the story of a Sunday joint with several resurrections which sends the audience into fits of merriment, and he was called before the curtain again and again. Picitt and Lizetto are clever illusionists; the turn is essentially a novel one, and is deservedly and heartily applauded by the audience, who are still wondering "how it's done." Vernon's Bioscope continues to provide admirable examples of art. The excellent orchestra plays a capital selection from *The Spring Chicken* under the capable bâton of Mr. Norfolk Megone. Mr. Kay Draco cannot be too highly complimented on the success that is attending his efforts.

The Monckton's (Fred and Lillie) produced on Monday at the Hastings Hippodrome, for the first time on any stage, a new and original musical farcical episode, written by Mr. E. C. Matthews, entitled *Are Wives Dummies?* The plot is concerned with a husband's cure for jealousy. Mrs. Merry has received a letter from a lady friend, advising her never to engage a pretty servant. Being of a jealous disposition, Mrs. Merry immediately discharges her maid, unknown to the Colonel. He is on the point of going to a mess dinner, when he is confronted by his wife, who forbids him to go out, falsely accusing him of flirting, to his great dismay. He treats the affair as a huge joke, much to the discomfiture of his wife, who refuses him a kiss. The gallant officer makes a bet that he will kiss her half-a-dozen times before the night is out. He penetrates her disguise as an Irish servant, to whom he instantly makes love, giving her six sovereigns for an equal number of kisses. Mr. Fred Monckton is alert and amusing as the Colonel; and Miss Lillie Monckton makes a good character of Mrs. Merry, singing with success a tuneful song entitled "Bridget."

FRANCIS, DAY, AND HUNTER

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

A few of our great Pantomime Songs:

"HELLO! HELLO! HELLO!" ("IT'S A DIFFERENT GIRL AGAIN.")

"Snowflakes." "Cheyenne."

"THERE'S A MAN IN MANITOBA."

"Boy Blue." "I wonder what we'd do without our Girls."

"I CAN SEE RED ROSES BLOOMING."

"All that Glitters isn't Gold." "Waiting at the Church."

"GOOD-NIGHT, MR. BROWN, I'M OUT."

"Leave her alone with Them." "It is the Scarecrow."

"FIGHTING FOR THEIR KING & SIRELAND."

"Henny Klein." "Arrah Wanna."

"ROSY'S COSY BUNGALOW."

(FOR FULL LIST SEE PANTOMIME BOOKS.)

FRANCIS, DAY, & HUNTER

The Absolute Headquarters for Pantomime "HITS."

A few of our great Pantomime Songs:

"IN THE SHADE OF THE OLD APPLE TREE."

"Don't Tell the World your Troubles." "The Rose of my Heart."

"THE GOOD OLD UNION JACK."

"Come and make Love to me." "Float me, Charlie."

"COME BACK TO BORNEO."

"Seaweed." "Take me where the Congo River is flowing."

"MY CASTLE IN SPAIN."

"Why do the Girls love Charlie?" "In my Pagoda."

"WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO LEARN TO LOVE ME."

"All Girls are Beautiful." "My Irish Rosie."

"PUT A LITTLE BIT AWAY FOR A RAINY DAY."

(FOR FULL LIST SEE PANTOMIME BOOKS.)

FRANCIS, DAY, AND HUNTER

The Music Market of the World, 142, CHARING CROSS ROAD LONDON W.C.

OPENING OF THE PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

Amid scenes of great enthusiasm, London's latest variety theatre was opened to the public on Monday evening. Everybody expressed the opinion that the Putney Hippodrome was a fine building, and even those who were unable to get a glance at the interior admired the fine exterior proportions of the edifice.

Inside, shortly after the clock struck half-past six, the curtain was raised before the eyes of the expectant audience, and revealed a group of gentlemen on the stage. There were Mr. W. J. Grimes, (the managing-director), Mr. James Fortescue (the chairman), Mr. Leon Bridgman (the director), Mr. Jesse Sparrow, Mr. Nelson Francis, Mr. Fredk. Wm. Hingston (the architect), Mr. T. H. Kingerslee (of Oxford, the builder), Mr. Jack de Frece, Mr. Arthur Golding, Mr. George Golding, Mr. Joe Lyons, Mr. L. Lyons, Mr. Will Oliver, Mr. Howard Smith, Mr. Fred Neiman, Mr. Teddy Giles, Mr. Jack Gardner, Mr. A. Hampel, Mr. George Frazar, Mr. Ernest Cazman, Mr. F. Napoli, Mr. Tom Pacey, Mr. Fred Reeves, Mr. W. Edelsten, Mr. W. Sergeant, Mr. Fred Higham, Mr. Carl Hooper, Mr. Sam Hart, Mr. Joe Aarons, and many others.

Mr. W. E. Grimes, in declaring the building open, made a very brief speech, in which he promised to give the inhabitants of Putney and district the very best available turns that could be secured. The Putney Hippodrome would be conducted in the most efficient manner possible. The comfort and convenience of the public would always be studied, and they could always rely upon a refined and attractive entertainment. Subsequently Mr. Grimes introduced Mr. Fredk. Wm. Hingston, the architect, whose maiden effort at theatre design and construction was to be found in the Putney Hippodrome, and Mr. T. H. Kingerslee, of the firm of builders of that name.

The National Anthem was sung by Mr. Herbert Sims Reeves, the entire audience standing up and heartily joining in. Later on in the evening, Mr. Sims Reeves gave a fine rendering of "The jolly young waterman," whilst surrounded on the stage by the Doggett, Putney, and other coat and badge winners of a quarter of a century past. The remainder of the evening's entertainment we give exactly as printed on the programme:—Overture, "Poet and Peasant"; Bert Dansie, character vocalist; Carl Rosine, the great magician; Serpentello, high-class contortionist; Queenie Lawrence, chic comedienne; Phil Bransby, coster comedian; Alice Yorke and company in an original duologue, *A Yacht for Sale;* Marie Straba, ballad vocalist; Edwards and Dacre, in a comedy duologue, *What a Life;* Davis and Gledhill Trio, the world's champion roller cyclists; Billy Hobbs, coon comedian; Princess Pauline, comedienne; Herbert Sims Reeves, tenor; Florence Yaymen, coon comedienne; Kate Carney, in a funny skit, *Brighton Promenade;* Frank Leon, comedian and champion clog-dancer; Speedwell, demon painter; Herald Comedy Four, comedy vocalists and duettists; Ruffell's Pictures, in up-to-date subjects.

The Putney Hippodrome has a frontage of 110ft. in the Felsham-road, just off the High-street, Putney, and is completely isolated from the surrounding buildings by a footway 20ft. wide. The front is of red brick and stone, and a fine ornamental tower marks the corner nearest the High-street. The interior is beautifully decorated in the Renaissance style, in rich, soft colours and gold, which have a very pleasing and reposeful effect. There is a large, handsome dome over the auditorium, in the centre of which hangs an elegant electrolier of fifty electric lights. The house will accommodate about 1,500 people, and is one of the prettiest, safest, and most compact halls in London. The exits are ample and well arranged, and the house can be emptied in a very few minutes. The upholstery is of rich, warm crimson and old gold, and the seating is luxurious and comfortable. The stalls, circle, and pit are carpeted with a rich red carpet, which harmonises with the seating and draperies. The building is fireproof throughout on both sides of the fireproof curtain. The stairs, floors, and tiers, and every part, are of fire-resisting material, and fire hydrants are fitted throughout the building. The entertainment will be of the highest class, under the able direction of Mr. W. J. Grimes, the managing-director, Mr. Clifford King being the acting-manager. Messrs Waring and Gillow are responsible for the beautifully embroidered silk plush curtains, with shaped embroidered permit, the magnificent carpet of Wilton pile, and the seating arrangements.

"THE LADY OF THE ROSES."

An Old English Costume Comedy, in One Act, by Hubert Bartlett,
Produced at the Camberwell Empire on Monday, Nov. 5.

Sir Peter Ferrars ..... Mr. Geo. Arbuthnot
Charles ..... Mr. Cecil Lane
Waiting Maid ..... Miss Dora Macdermott
The Lady of the Roses .. Mrs. Hugh De Beera

The Lady of the Roses, a dainty and merry old-world comedy sketch, forms an agreeable entertainment. Sir Peter Ferrars' beautiful rose garden in the year 1721 is the scene of the meeting of the baronet's nephew, Charles, with the lady of his choice, who overhears her lover reading a portion of the contents of a letter, in which Sir Peter forbids his union with anyone connected with the stage. The veteran, in his younger days, had been jilted by an actress, hence his enmity to the calling. The actress, however, means to win the old man's favour, and bids Charles hide when his voice is heard calling on his nephew. Catching a glimpse of petticoats, Sir Peter is in no way startled when later he finds a young and pretty girl plucking his favourite flowers. He guesses this is his nephew's fiancée, and, to pay them back in their own coin, he makes violent love to the maiden, eventually offering her marriage. Charles and the actress both come on the scene, and tell Sir Peter that he has been making love and proposing to a deaf and dumb waiting-maid. Sir Peter is pleased that his little scheme has not entangled him, and rejoices also when he learns that the actress is also an enthusiast on roses. Readily he gives his consent to their union, and this happy termination is joyously celebrated by a charmingly executed minuet. As the Lady of the Roses, Mrs. Hugh De Beera looks bewitching in her old-world costume, and invests her part with grace and brightness. Mr. George Arbuthnot as the irascible Sir Peter Ferrars does well; Miss Dora Macdermott merits praise in a wordless part; and as Charles, Mr. Cecil Lane is effective. Mr. W. B. Robinson's scenery is pretty.

Miss Florrie Bray, the *chic* comedienne, has secured an excellent chorus song, "Show him a lady fair," from the pen of Mr. George A. Stevens, which bids fair to be one of the best songs she has sung.

Mr. Will Dalton (of Dalton's Agency) recently paid a visit to the Silksworth Colliery, Sunderland, on the invitation of the mine manager, and heard a pit-worker there, whose singing and musical abilities prompted him to place him on the music hall stage. Mr. Dalton went immediately to London and booked this artist—whose name is Geo. Yuong—with Mr. Oswald Stoll for his tour, and has also booked him elsewhere at Glasgow, Greenock, Wolverhampton, Dublin, Belfast, Oldham, Rochdale, Portsmouth, Grimsby, Coventry, Wigan, Chatham, Leeds, Hanley, &c. He opens next Monday at Blackburn, Mr. W. B. Broadhead, Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester, has also secured him for several dates.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

THE fairs ahead for next week are—Chelmsford, on the Great Eastern Railway; Maryport, on the Metropolitan and Carlisle; Cockermouth, on the Cockermouth, Keswick, and Penrith, and Maryport and Carlisle; Epping, on the Great Eastern; Kingston-on-Thames, on the London and South-Western; Penrith, on the London and North-Western; Stamfordham, on the North-Eastern; Stockton-on-Tees, on the North-Eastern; Brampton (Cumb.), on the North-Eastern; Chesham, on the Metropolitan; Ulverston, on the Furness; Warkworth, on the North-Eastern; St. Colomb, on the Great Western; Andover, on the London and South-Western; Horsham, on the London, Brighton, and South Coast; Malton; Richmond (Yorks), on the Great Central; Shaftesbury, on the London and South-Western; and Yeovil, on the Great Western and South-Western. In Scotland we have—Dumbarton, on the North British; and Govan, on the Glasgow and South-Western and Glasgow and Paisley joint. In Wales—Llandovery, on the North-Western and Great Western.

THOSE enterprising lessees Messrs. John Green and H. J. Wallis are organising a Christmas and New Year Carnival at Wigan.

THE forthcoming International Fair and Carnival at Olympia at Christmas will accommodate about as representative a gathering of English showmen as has ever been found under one roof. Amongst well-known exhibitors who will make Olympia their winter headquarters are Pat Collins (of Walsall), Relph and Pedley, W. Biddall, W. Le Neve, A. Letts, Stacey and Co., Sam Mayne, Frank Wilson, W. Manning, Harry Peters, H. J. Rowe, E. Hussey, F. Brown, J. Sanders, H. J. Birch, T. Bolesworth, Fred Woolgar, Thomas Knighton, John Stroud, Alfred Bond, J. Caddick, W. Bibby, Fred Tower, jun., C. White, Alf. Head, Arthur Traylen, Barron Bros., L. Franklin, Miss Van Pragh, J. Fairlight, E. Cartwright, Joe Waugh, J. Matthews, W. Henson, H. F. Wright, Swales Bolesworth, Oliver Holt, George Bradley, J. Wingate, Leon Gould, T. White, Harry Spark, F. Sanders, and R. Rock. The British American Novelty Co. will show their automatic machines, the Whirligig Switch-car Co. a novel development in roundabouts, the New Electric Rifle and Target Co. will have several ranges, the World's Manufacturers Co. will erect the Helter-Skelter, and the Harper Co. will place their automatic pianos wherever possible. The free shows will include the circus, menagerie, and the aerial performances. The price of admission to the "Mammoth Fun City," which will be open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., will be sixpence.

AT the Lye wakes were P. Collins's wheeley-whirley, flying yachts, and slipping-the-slope; Frank Gess's assault-at-arms, or exhibition of self-defence; P. Collins's No. 2 cinematograph exhibition; together with numerous stands and minor stalls, cocoanut shies, and Aunt Sallies by Cooper, Dobson, Ford, Hughes, Humphreys, and Stokes.

WEST BROMWICH annual wakes were held on the 2nd inst. and the following Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday. Here were seen P. Collins's racing cockerels, racing motor-cars, rolling gondolas, No. 1 cinematograph; and stalls by Mercer, Cordwell, Wright, Dobson, George Ford, and Humphries; cocoas by Cooper, B. Dobson, C. Dobson, Humphries, Wagstaffe, Whyatt, and Beach; shooting saloons by Wright, Whyatt, Ford, B. Dobson, Oxford, and Turner; also a variety of minor stalls and novelties. There was very good business all round.

HARRY BURTON, the Australian club swinger, who last week at Reynolds's exhibition, Liverpool, undertook to swing 5lb.-weight Indian clubs for eight continuous hours daily during six consecutive days, accomplished his task, and so won £50. Burton maintained an average of 130 revolutions to the minute.

AT the Fleece Meadow, Evesham, Alexander's Circus and Hippodrome, on a one-day's visit, gave some high-class performances. The combination has also paid a visit to Turner's Fair Ground, Astwood Bank. This ground is a good place for a portable theatre or marionettes for the winter months.

MR. W. HAGGAR'S ten days' visit to Ton-y-pandy with his bioscope concluded on Wednesday. The pictures are most real, and several are new. Mr. Haggar's popularity is also great. Danter's motor-cars are also here for the week.

THE honoured president of the Showmen's Guild, Lord George Sanger, with his usual zeal for the welfare of his poorer brethren of the road, has taken up the question—now so long before the showman world—of the efforts of local bodies to abolish fairs. We have had serious work this very year to defend fairs at Mitcham, Horsham, and Writtle, Chelmsford, and now Burslem Wakes is also in danger.

UNDER these serious circumstances the Empire's greatest and most respected showman, the veteran George Sanger has entered the lists. He has addressed the following striking personal appeal to the present Home Secretary, the Right Honourable H. J. Gladstone:—

"Park Farm, East Finchley, N.,
"Oct. 29, 1906.

"To the Home Secretary, Mr. Gladstone.

"Honoured Sir,—I am addressing you on the part and in behalf of the 70,000 travelling showpeople of the Empire (represented by the Vandwellers' Association), whose business is threatened by some troublesome people, who are always to be found. I ask you, Sir, to kindly look at the past career of these showmen. They are an honourable, industrious, and sober people. There is not a case on record wherein they have committed crime or taken pestilence into any locality. They live their life and do their work in the sight of the whole nation. In many large cities of the Empire they are received by the authorities with much favour—Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and a hundred other cities and towns.

"A great number of these men have served under their country's flag. They are not German gipsies defying the law.

"We ask you, Sir, to play the part of the wise judge, and not by the stroke of the pen take from us the means whereby we live.

"Allow me, Dear Sir, to remain your most obedient servant,

"GEORGE SANGER,
"President of the Showmen's Guild."

A TERRIBLE accident, followed by a panic, occurred at Busch's Circus, Berlin, during the last Sunday afternoon performance. The dompteur, Willy Peters, had just concluded his turn with sixteen wild beasts—lions and tigers—when his foot slipped, and he fell. A huge lion, Leo, who had been untractable all the time, struck him a blow in the face with his paw, tearing open the cheek, and—as if at a given signal—the sixteen brutes fell upon Peters, wounding him horribly. He was rescued by four of his men, and had the pluck to bow to the audience, covered with blood as he was, in response to the thundering applause. Just off the arena he fainted, and it took two doctors an hour to treat the wounds. Luckily no bones are broken, but the invalid will be confined to bed for some weeks. Hundreds of people crowded to the doors of the circus amid the screams of frightened women, but happily only a few slight accidents occurred.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN FRIEND OF TRAVELLING SHOWMEN

Known throughout Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Cheshire, Mr. Alfred Smith, of Salford, horse dealer, died after a short illness, and was interred amidst many manifestations of respect at the Rode Wheel Cemetery, Salford, on Thursday in last week. In addition to the large gathering of the immediate friends and relatives of the deceased gentleman, many showmen (his life friends) attended the last solemn obsequies. The followers were:—Mrs. Alfred Smith, the wife of the deceased; Mr. Alfred Smith, Mr. Joseph Smith, Mr. Peter Smith, Miss Gertrude Smith, Mr. Frederick Smith, Master Jack Smith, sons and daughters; Mr. Peter Smith, brother; Mr. Joseph Smith, brother; Mrs. Alfred Smith, Mrs. Joseph Smith, daughters-in-law; Mrs. Joseph Smith, sister-in-law; Mr. Alfred Smith, nephew; Mr. Frank Cox, son-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. Mellor, cousins; Mr. and Mrs. R. Fletcher, cousins; Mr. J. Fletcher, cousin; Mr. Harry Kelly; Mr. Steve Butler, nephew; Miss N. Butler, niece; Mr. James Allcock; Mr. and Mrs. Halligan (Liverpool), Mr. and Mrs. Holmes, Miss and Mr. Wm. Sedgwick, oldest friends; Mr. Joe Bowker, Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Joe White, Mr. Norman, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. J. McMahon (Birkenhead), Mr. S. Delves (Birkenhead), Mr. and Mrs. Murray, Mr. and Mrs. Kirkman, Mr. and Mrs. Bowers, Mrs. B. Holben, Mr. G. Willas, Mr. Hy. Williamson, Mr. Alex. Charlestown, Mr. James Grantham, Miss Nelly Stead, Mrs. Boardman (cousin), Mr. J. P. Byrne, Mr. James Fitzgerald, Mr. R. Hood, and Mr. Arthur Cox. Wreaths were sent by the following:—Mr. Smith and family, Mr. Joe, Peter, and Miss Nona Smith (sister and brothers), friends from the Cattle Market, Mr. and Mrs. Mellor, Mr. and Mrs. Hughes and family, Mrs. Williamson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Newton, Mr. and Mrs. Holben (2), Mr. and Mrs. O'Brian, Mr. and Mrs. Halligan (2), Mr. and Mrs. Holmes (2), Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead, Mr. and Mrs. Murray, Mr. and Mrs. G. White (Woolwich), Mr. and Mrs. Bowers and family, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sedgwick, Mr. and Mrs. Sedgwick, Mr. and Mrs. Joe White, Mr. and Mrs. Kirkman, Mr. Joe Bowker, Mr. James Allcock, Mr. Arthur Cox, Mr. John Moran, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Frank Cox, Miss R. Sedgwick, Miss Nellie Stead, Mrs. Slaney, Sedgwick's staff, one nameless, also artificial wreath from his comrades in the Market.

ANSWERS TO SHOWMEN.

J. T. B. (Stratford).—*Sorry that I was out of town until Thursday. Yes, I will do all I can for you.*

CARL VILLIERS.—*Let me know what success.*

F. B.—*I accept your help for Burslem with both hands. Will write you nearer the date.*

THE death is announced, at the age of eighty-one, of Thomas Samwells, an old English animal trainer of international fame, who died last month at Shreveport, Louisiana. He was born in Maidstone in 1825, and, as his parents were showpeople, was literally brought up in the business. He was for years with Sanger's Circus, and went to America in 1872 with Jarrett and Palmer's famous *Black Crook* company. Afterwards he toured Mexico, South America, and South Africa.

HENGLER'S Hippodrome continues to do good business at Plymouth, the attractions for the past week including the Vampires, Sisters Hypatia, and Tom Brown (American comedian).

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

GUILD MEETINGS AT ROTHERHAM FAIR.

In no town in England is the Guild better known than it is in Rotherham. Thirteen years ago, the hon. chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, was a well-known clergyman in the immediate neighbourhood, and for six years before breaking his connection with the town meetings of the Guild were held at the recurring statute fairs. For three years past there has been a break in these annual gatherings of Yorkshire showmen at the "Slatties," as the fair is locally termed, and the resumption of the meetings was hailed with much pleasure, not only by showmen, but also to a large extent by the old friends and parishioners of the chaplain. At Rotherham Mr. Horne had the support of the vicar of the town, and also the vicar of St. Michael's, who for many years past has acted as hon. local chaplain to the Guild. The vicar, the Rev. Canon Goodall, presided over the public meeting, and was supported by the Rev. H. Greenway, hon. local chaplain, Councillor Jarvis, and other local gentlemen. A number of other friends were prevented by the extremely inclement weather from attending, but sent apologies to the convenors of the meetings. Despite the bad weather, the afternoon attendance was really a good house, Mr. George Kemp's beautiful pavilion booth being fairly well filled; but in the evening, at the Guild service, the large booth was crowded.

The Rev. Canon Goodall opened the afternoon meeting by expressing the pleasure he felt in taking part in so excellent a movement as that of the Showmen's Guild. He had known Mr. Horne for quite twenty years. He remembered his former work in that town and district, a work that had endeared him in the heart of the people of Rotherham, and of his particular parish of Whiston. He, however, felt sure that the great work and the great ambition of Mr. Horne's life and many-sided activities was the interest (all-absorbing and so transparently sincere) in travelling showmen. He knew that it was to hear an address by Mr. Horne on the objects and work of the showmen's society that they were gathered together. His work, therefore, was clear and most simple—to preside over the meeting, and to be the mouthpiece of the people present, to heartily welcome Mr. Horne in their midst once more, and listen to him tell the story of the remarkable movement amongst the people who provided fairs for their own advancement, and, he confidently hoped, the better provision of amusements of the kind that they knew and welcomed at the fair. (Applause.)

The hon. chaplain, on rising to speak, was received with cheers. First of all he said that he must express his great joy at being amongst his old friends and neighbours again at Rotherham Statutes Fair. The vicar said kind things about his former work, and had made especial point of the fact that the great and all-urgent work of his life was amongst these, his own people, who travel the fairs, and cater for the nation's delight and amusement at all times of national and local festivity. To tell over again in Rotherham town the oft-told story (ancient history to Rotherham people) of the rise and progress of the Showmen's Guild would be like unto "carrying coals to Newcastle," a work of supererogation. (Cheers.) However, he must bring the living record of a real movement of unique interest up to date, and he would refer to the past only in order to make clear the importance of the work of the Guild today, and the prospects so satisfactory at every point, of useful work in the years to come.

About the year 1889 the showmen of the Empire were driven (as all the organised industries of the United Kingdom have been driven), to organise and to protect their avocation in life. The story of the Guild lies mainly in the fact that that organisation was successfully accomplished. Think, he said, of that movement, and all that it means. Here we have a business that is essentially individualistic. The showmen's main point is that, by his special talent, by his special and novel attractive powers, he draws the people to patronise his show. It is, in business hours, his show (the most friendly but keenest rivalry) against the whole fair. In that "wonderland of make-belief," a fair, every man makes his appeal for patronage because "his show is the best show in the fair."

This strenuous clash of individual character, individual genius, is the very spirit of the business. To get such workers to combine is no small achievement. He instanced a case in point. A fire broke out at a show on Hull Fair Ground. In an instant every showman on the ground rushed to the rescue. The fire was speedily put out, but the heavy tilting of the roof was destroyed. Immediately a showman who fortunately had a new tilt in stock sent the tilt to his unfortunate neighbour, and in a very short time, even before the crowds had time to realise that a fire had broken out, the new tilt was over the show, and business was resumed. That is brotherly kindness, that is practical fellowship; yet, in business hours, the trade rivalry of the people concerned is of the keenest character. (Cheers.)

The showmen have learnt, as all the skilled traders and workers of the land have learnt, that combination for mutual benefit and for trade defence is a first condition of life and success. To-day, after eighteen years' hard, persevering, building-up work, their Society was the widely-recognised and respected representative body in the eyes of the nation of the complex industry and up-to-date enterprise of the British fairs. (Applause.)

They had three main objects to engage their working energies as a trade protection society:—(1) To vindicate, whenever unjustly assailed, the character of show people; (2) they were concerned to defend their business in life, when attacked either by individuals or by public bodies; and (3) they combined to better their status in life, and to lift up the character of popular open-air amusements, such as provided on the fair-grounds of the country. (Cheers.)

In the early days of the Guild their hands were quite full in doing the defensive and protective work. Now, and for some years past, the betterment of the entertainments of the people, and the uplifting and recognition of shows and showmen by the public, was closely identified with all their multiform work as an organised body of skilled craftsmen and traders.

They had successfully prevented the passing into law of mistaken and pernicious proposals to hinder and to penalise their business. Scores of corporations had tried to get powers in excess of the general laws of the realm to prevent them carrying on their legitimate business. Since their Parliamentary defence work commenced they had persuaded dozens of public bodies to withdraw their penalising proposals. By the justice of their case they had convinced corporations that such restrictive legislation was quite unnecessary, and that the ordinary law, common to all traders alike, was quite ample for all reasonable and just control. (Cheers.) Wherever they had failed by persuasion they had carried their cause to the floor of the House of Commons. He was proud to say that in every instance—over forty in number—they had successfully opposed stubborn corporations, and, on the Guild's petition, these public bodies had been defeated, and their pernicious and penalising clauses expunged from their private Bills.

They had succeeded in building up in the public Press of the country a more accurate estimate of the position and importance of the fair-ground industry. They had gathered around them a quickened sense of appreciation, and a more in-

"MY SUGAR-PLUM."

A VOCAL SWEETMEAT THAT POSITIVELY MELTS IN THE MOUTH, ITS DELICIOUS FLAVOUR CLINGING TO THE MOST EPICUREAN PALATE.

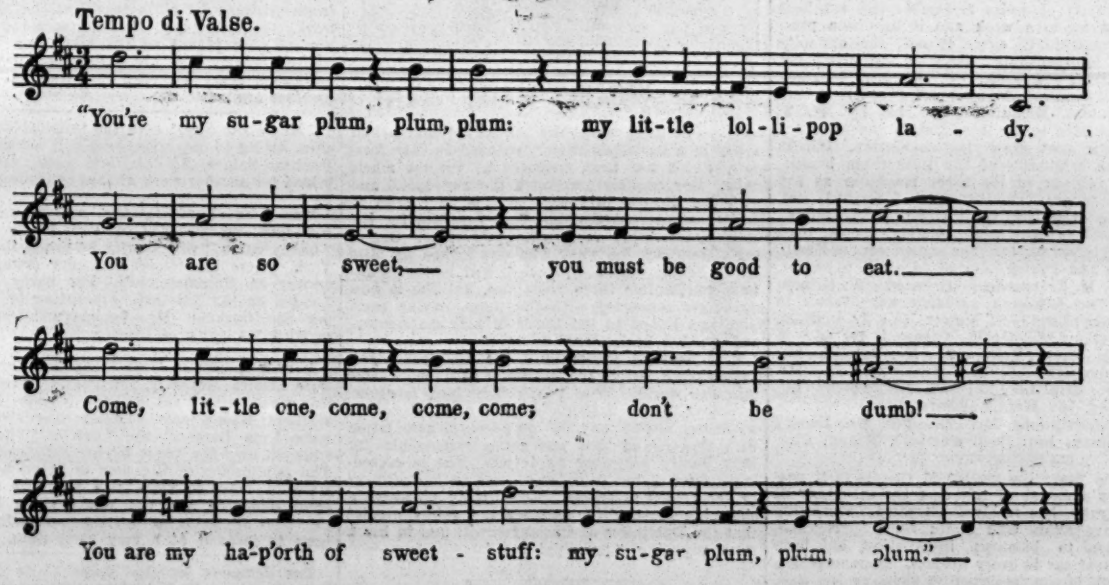
Sing this Chorus over three times, and forget it IF YOU CAN!

HARRY DACRE'S CHRISTMAS SUGAR-PLUM

(Dragée bien sucrée).

CHORUS.

Tempo di Valse.



HARRY DACRE'S CHRISTMAS BON-BON

(Très bon).

The music of the Verse is *à la Schottische,* and is quite as alluring as that of the Chorus.

DON'T DELAY! DON'T DELAY! DON'T DELAY!

Professionals and Managers should send for a copy at once, and be convinced that this song will be the

PLUM OF THE PANTOMIMES.

SUITABLE ALIKE FOR "BOY" OR "GIRL."

THE SUCCESSFUL SONG SYNDICATE, 20, Nassau Street, Mortimer Street, London, W.

telligent and informed public opinion. All these were elements of great good to them as a class, and, he ventured to assert, to the nation, and to even growing life. (Applause.)

Many years ago, when he first felt impelled to stand out as a friend and champion of the showfolk, they wished to confer upon him the high honour of the presidency of their society. He felt then, and still feels, that that position ought to be held by a real working showman—that as a cleric he could help more than by doing work that could be better done by a layman. They immediately made him their first hon. chaplain, and in that capacity he had done some of the best work of a busy life.

His great hope and ambition was to further extend that work of education and of direct spiritual ministry in their midst. In this great endeavour they had enlisted the co-operation of clergy and ministers of religion in many parts of the country. The presence of Canon Goodall in the chair that afternoon, and the presence and kind help of their hon. chaplain for Rotherham, Mr. Greenway, vicar of St. Michael's, Northfield, was eloquent testimony of the awakened interest in the life of the showman felt by all good and thoughtful people.

They had hon. local chaplains in Lancashire, Yorkshire, the South and the West of England; they had chaplains in Wales, and now that the greater possibilities of organised work amongst show-people was becoming known to the men of God, most encouraging offers of co-operation were coming in to the executive of the Guild. He had made the Guild better known to his own diocesan, the Bishop of London. The good Bishop had commissioned him to submit a practical scheme of mission work amongst the show people. This he was now doing, and he confidently anticipated that, in the near future, he would be wholly free from parish responsibilities, and able to give all his time to the ever-increasing activities of the Guild. (Great applause.)

He wished, before finishing his address, to clearly set out what the Guild meant by educational work. As practical men they desired to supplement (not to supersede or overlap) already existing educational agencies. What he asked was that the real truth about the education of the showman's child might be more widely known. He wished them never to forget that show people had just as much love and affection for their home life and for their little ones as all other parents in the community. They desired for their children as good an education as could be possibly obtained. (Cheers.) That, then, being granted, they would, he felt sure, permit him to detail how, in the vast majority of cases, the show child got educated. Most of these people have permanent homes in addition to their homes on wheels. At the permanent home, in the great majority of cases, the children reside until they have passed the necessary standards at our elementary schools. But that is not all: a great number are left at good middle-class boarding-schools, and receive a good, sound education. Sometimes you see bright, joyous children dancing on the show-fronts. You notice some of them as being of school age. Well, do as I have done. Ask the parents why they are not at school. You will find in almost every instance that it is holiday time at their schools, and the children are enjoying a perpetual joy of holiday, helping the show. What more fitting or more delightful holiday task for a son or daughter of the show?

You may find here and there a child too weak constitutionally to be away from the mother's love and fostering care, and so travels with the show; but that very child would be readily certified by a medical man as unfitted for the mental strain of regular school. Our contention is, he continued, that, taken class for class, trade for trade, the children of the show will compare favourably with the other children of the Commonwealth. We do intend, because education general and technical is essential for our children, to supplement school agencies, where defective, by a system of travelling schools. (Cheers.)

Such were the objects, such were the methods, of the Showmen's Guild. He asked for showmen the same justice, just the same kindly forbearance and broad Christian charity, as was accorded to all other industries and classes in the nation. Grant them this meed of common justice, and all else would settle itself. The showmen were well aware that the very breath of life to them was the growing affection and esteem of shows and fairs by the people. To voice their highest aspirations, and to help them to higher possibilities of usefulness, was the one all-absorbing ambition of his life. In an age of specialisation and the rapid regimentation and speeding up of industry, it was becoming more and more necessary to provide for the machine-driven workers just the kind of amusement provided by our modern fairs. It was to meet this demand for healthy, open-air entertainment that fairs and showmen increased and prospered. The great governing body for the metropolis—the County Council—had recognised that it is wise for corporations to provide such wholesome fun and recreation at holidays, so we find at Hampstead Heath, Blackheath, Wanstead Flats, Wormwood Scrubs, and other open spaces in Greater London popular fairs provided by the hearty co-operation of the Council and the organised showmen. Shall it not be thought wise, he argued, for provincial towns to follow the good lead of London?

He ventured to hope that the old prejudice and misconception of the show people was rapidly dying down, and he expressed the conviction of himself and others, who know what showland really is, that the dawn of the twentieth century was the beginning of brighter and happier days for the men and women of the fair. (Great and continuous applause.)

The Vicar of Rotherham, in highly complimentary terms, moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer.

This was seconded by a splendid speech by the Rev. H. Greenway. He, too, had known Mr. Horne and his work for twenty years, and bore warm testimony to the reality and importance of that work. When the fair was held in his own parish (which it was until quite recent years), he had done all that could be done to help the showmen. He was proud to be their chaplain, proud to be their friend, and was always a welcome guest in their vans.

His first experience of van life was rather a dramatic occurrence. The little girl of the van, by some mischance, whilst he was seated in the van, caught fire. He did at once what anyone else would have done in the emergency—he wrapped the child in a rug which was lying to his hand on the bed. The child was really more frightened than hurt; but this was his point, and only reason for telling the incident, the gratitude of the showman and his wife was most touching—most overwhelming. Never had he experienced such real, heartfelt gratitude as was lavished upon him in that caravan. That was a peep behind the scenes—a real revelation of the genuine character of show folk that would never leave him. He felt for show people very warmly, and he heartily endorsed all that their good organising chaplain had said on their behalf. He had, therefore, peculiar pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks to Mr. Horne. (Applause.)

Canon Goodall then put the resolution to the meeting, and it was carried with acclamation.

In acknowledging the vote of thanks, Mr. Horne concluded by moving a vote of thanks to Canon Goodall for presiding. Mr. Wm. Gibson (proprietor of Gibson's occult illusions), in a characteristic speech, seconded the vote of thanks to the worthy Canon. He remarked that after their reverend friends had so exhaustively dealt with the question before the meeting very little was left for him to say. He should, however, like to add his testimony as regards the feeling of Rotherham towards showpeople in general. He knew that they had a very warm spot in their hearts for those who came year by year and provided entertainment for the people at the fair. That being so, he was very proud to be the mouthpiece of his brother-showmen in acknowledging the unvarying kind treatment that the clergy, gentry, and the people in their mass numbers had shown the showpeople. It was only a few years ago that he, with other showpeople, was approached on behalf of one of their noble local charities. He alluded to the Convalescent Home at Whitby, provided by the people of Rotherham that the poor children, after serious illness, might recruit their health at the seaside. Well, as my dear friend Mr. Horne has informed the meeting, they—the fathers and mothers of the road—were just as fond of their children as other parents were, and to ask them to help the children was to touch a quick and responsive chord in their hearts. The did help the children, and every show and every stall in the fair contributed to that worthy object.

This was a pleasant memory to him, and he doubted not a binding link between the showpeople and the people of the town. He well remembered how their friend, the Vicar of Rotherham, appreciated their effort, and he was more than pleased that Canon Goodall and Mr. Greenway were present with them, and he had great pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks to the Vicar, as their chairman, for that interesting meeting.

Mr. Horne then put the vote to the meeting, and it was passed amidst great cheering. Canon Goodall, in response, said that it gave him great pleasure indeed to co-operate with the work of the Showmen's Guild, and to identify himself with Mr. Horne's most encouraging work.

After the townspeople left the show a private meeting of members of the Association was held, and matters of pressing moment to the trade defence movement were discussed. A telegram was read, sent by Mr. P. Collins, explaining that nothing but the orders of his medical man would have kept him from the meetings. He ventured to suggest to the showpeople that a benefit performance be given on Tuesday night (the last night of the fair) to strengthen the funds of the Guild. He said that he would give one good hour's full takings from the three machines that he was running at Rotherham, and he hoped that the other proprietors would follow suit. The suggestion was warmly approved, and the one or two show proprietors not present were sent for, and it was unanimously agreed that the full takings of one hour's business—between seven and eight on the Tuesday—be given by all the machine proprietors, and that the net proceeds on one full house be given by the large shows.

It was also resolved that a subscription list for small donations be taken round the fair from stall to stall, and that everyone should be given the opportunity of helping the good cause forward. We give in another place the detailed figures of the remarkable success that attended the first benefit performances ever given by showmen for the funds of their own Society.

There was a slight improvement in the weather in the evening, and a crowded and most attentive congregation attended the Guild service in Mr. Kemp's beautiful show. The pavilion was filled from end to end, every seat being occupied and people standing on the run-down and in the side aisles of the temporary church. A great number of Mr. Horne's old parishioners from Whiston were present, and strong contingents from the mining villages in the immediate neighbourhood. The honorary chaplain conducted the service throughout, and preached a most impressive sermon, dividing it in two parts, with the singing of a hymn from the Guild Service book in between. The first half of the discourse (which was founded on the Marriage Feast in Cana of Galilee) was applied in general terms to the daily life of the whole of his congregation, the second half was the special application of the subject to the daily life of the travelling showpeople. During the service a number of rousing hymns were sung, and after the Benediction Mr. Horne acknowledged, in suitable terms, the great obligation the Guild was under to Mr. and Mrs. Kemp and the staff of their portable theatre. He particularly referred to the magnificent galaxy of electric lighting, both inside and out, and to the comfort and brightness of the beautiful show booth, which had been placed at their disposal with the greatest possible readiness and without any charge for working expenses by Mr. and Mrs. Kemp. He felt sure that in tendering this measure of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Kemp he was uttering not only the gratitude of the congregation, but also of the members and executive council of the Showmen's Guild, an organisation that Mr. and Mrs. Kemp have supported from its very commencement.

BENEFIT PERFORMANCE FOR THE GUILD FUNDS AT ROTHERHAM.

During the past few years, when the Guild has been experiencing considerable financial strain, it has been more than once suggested that benefit performances at a certain number of the fairs be arranged during the season. There has always been unanimity of desire to further this excellent object, but up to a week ago it has been practically impossible to carry it out, the difficulty being the indispensable "man on the spot," not burdened with the work of the fair, to carry through the detailed work of the necessary arrangements. Mr. Horne, assisted by Mr. T. Hurst, was able to do this, and so the idea was carried to a most gratifying conclusion. Mr. P. Collins, the originator of the Rotherham benefit, gave the takings of his three machines as follows:—Motor-cars, £6 5s. 4d.; farmyard set, £2 12s.; helter-skelter, 11s. 8d. Mr. John Collins:—Horses, £3 1s. 6d.; wheely-whirly, £2 4s. 10d.; steam yachts, £2 0s. 4d. The shows were:—Kemp, £2; Relph and Pedley, £1 18s. 0d.; Enoch Farrer, £1 17s.; J. H. Chipperfield, £1 9s. 6d.; W. Gibson, 5s. 7d. The following amounts were taken in small subscriptions:—S. Mercer, 5s.; J. Ingham, 5s.; W. Shaw, 5s.; G. H. Cornwell, 2s. 6d.; S. Braham, 2s. 6d.; F. Towers, 2s.; Mr. Ratcliffe, 1s.; Mr. Houldsworth, 1s.; Mr. Gunthorpe, 1s.; Mr. Wright, 1s.; Mrs. Lee, 1s.; Mrs. Middlebrook, 1s.; Mrs. Cooper, 1s.; Mrs. Mulhearn, 1s.

Guild subscriptions for 1906.—Per Mr. Hurst: Arthur Gibson, Esq. (hon. member), Wigan, £1.

For some years the matter of entertaining passengers, as a means of relieving the monotony of a long voyage, has received attention. Steamship owners have again and again been approached, with a view to bioscope installation, but have turned a deaf ear to every project. Once more has it been left to the foreigner to show us the way, and it is an Italian steamship company that has initiated a new movement to popularise its route by the aid of the cinématograph.

The usual ship's concert requires much effort to organise; passengers tire of bands; but nobody ever wearies of pictures: they appeal to all, whether saloon, intermediate, or steerage passengers. Any liner known to possess a good bioscope installation, with a nightly change of pictures, would, from this cause alone, do great things in the way of booking passengers of every class. A judicious selection of film subjects would not only serve the purpose mentioned, but would also educate emigrants by informing them, through the medium of the eye, of the conditions of life awaiting them in their new environment. Such, at any rate, seems to be the idea of the Veloce Navigation Company, who have made arrangements to this effect, the Urban productions largely predominating in their répertoire of subjects. In the more costly film preparations, for photographic results, we are far and away ahead of other countries.

CHAT WITH MISS MAY BEATTY.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

From the Antipodes there have come to us many actors and actresses of fine calibre, and we should imagine that not the least of these is Miss May Beatty, who visits these parts with excellent credentials. Miss Beatty, who is a native of New Zealand, having been born in Christchurch, considers that she can claim to be an Irish woman, because her father was a thorough-bred Hibernian. And, apart from her undoubted talents, her Irish parentage may stand her in good stead, when, at Christmas time, she appears as a principal boy before Dublin playgoers. For she has been engaged by Mrs. Michael Gunn to appear in the title-rôle of the pantomime of *Sinbad the Sailor*, which is to be produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

Miss Beatty, who has only been in London for three months, and whose first visit it is to this country, has had a remarkably busy and successful career—considering her youth—in Australia and New Zealand. She commenced theatrical life in Mr. Pollard's company, and for nine years played with him in comic opera, musical comedy, pantomime, and burlesque. She made her way from the chorus upwards, and has appeared in all the Gilbert and Sullivan operas, taking the leading soprano parts. Leaving Mr. Pollard, Miss Beatty was engaged by Mr. George Musgrove as lead for his English musical comedy company. She took part in *The Fortune Teller*, *The Serenade*, *Fra Diavolo*, *Daughter of the Regiment*, and created in Australia the character of Fifi in *A Chinese Honeymoon*. It here also might be mentioned that Miss Beatty was the first actress in the Antipodes to play the part of Carmenita in *A Runaway Girl*. The rôles we have enumerated do not by any means exhaust the list of this clever artist's successful impersonations. Her versatility seems to be unbounded. She tells us that she has taken no less than one hundred "leads." She was with Mr. Musgrove for two and a half years, and when leaving New Zealand three months ago had just concluded three years' connection with Mr. George Stephenson, with whom she took lead in such pieces as *The Rose of the Riviera*, *The Dandy Doctor*, *The Skirt Dancer*, and *A Chinese Honeymoon*.

In London she has engaged in what was to her quite a new department of stage work. During the

MISS MAY BEATTY.

last two or three weeks she has played the part of a boy in a burlesque sketch, entitled *In Her Boudoir*, which has been produced at various music halls. Her acquaintance with the metropolis and with the theatres of variety here is, of course, so limited at present that she does not care for the moment to venture an opinion upon either. One of her sisters, by the way, who was known as Miss Maud Beatty, was the principal girl in the Drury Lane pantomime three years ago, but she is now no longer connected with the stage, having some time ago joined in the bonds of holy matrimony, and quitted professional life.

Miss Beatty's father built the Theatre Royal, Christchurch, before the subject of this sketch came into the world. The young lady has, however, appeared in her father's playhouse on numerous occasions, and it may be the parental association with theatreland that was partly responsible for Miss Beatty becoming an actress. She is exceedingly fond of her work, and quite enthusiastic as to her future prospects. Miss Beatty possesses a charming personality, and one can safely predict that the Dublinites at Christmas will find in her a most engaging "principal boy."

Terrier Fred Larola, comedy juggler, who recently returned from Australia viâ India, has presented Mr. Harry Lester, the popular secretary of the fraternity, with a miniature ebony and ivory elephant, and two cases of rare butterflies, as a mark of appreciation.

The Terriers gave their second social of the season on Sunday at the head-quarters, the Dover Castle, Westminster Bridge-road. The attendance was again a large one, considering the weather. The artists who contributed to the entertainment were Mr. Tom Packer, Miss Alice Meier, Mr. F. W. Millis, Miss Ada Norman, Mr. Andie Caine, Miss Elsa Douglas, Mr. George Cooper and Miss Cooper, Mr. Frank Gee, Mrs. Sam Stockton, Mrs. Harry Gage, Mr. W. L. Murray, and Miss Alice Gillman. Mr. Tom Packer acted as M.C., Mr. J. C. Moore presided at the piano, Mr. John Moore was the chairman, Mr. Tom Burnetti occupied the vice-chair, and the arrangements were successfully carried out by the secretary, Mr. Harry Lester.

ROTHERHAM STATUTES FAIR.

This fair stands well between Hull and York, and occurs at a time when the big concerns making either for York, Wakefield, or enterprising for private business, find that they have something like a fortnight at their disposal. Before the enterprise of Mr. John Collins (on the failure of the Corporation to carry on their fair) made Rotherham a good business centre for something like ten or twelve days, the Statutes at Rotherham only extended at the most for four days. It is a very gratifying sign of the adaptation of the show business to modern requirements that you find in very great centres of population that, where the Corporations have failed to rise to the necessities of the case, the showman lessee has stepped into the gap, and provided a fair which fits in much better with modern requirements.

On our visit to the fair we were much impressed by its splendid order, variety, and arrangement. The principal shows, and, indeed, all the shows, formed one line, occupying the complete stretch of the length of the ground at its widest point. Along this line, all in a row together, were the superb cinématograph theatres of G. H. Kemp, Relph and Pedley, and Enoch Farrer. These shows were a perfect galaxy of light, beauty, and sweetest music. Continuing the line, we had Chipperfield's wild beast menagerie, with the lion performances of Lowtazno, the prince of animal tamers; W. Gibson's temple of occult mystery and exposure of spiritualism, the professor having with him that famous mystic Syko; Sid. Braham's perfect ground booth—the trained birds, and Miss Braham, the most charming and expert lady conjurer on the road; J. Hastings, with two ground booths, exhibiting Mme. Lambert, the giant lady, and the midget marvels; and E. Farrer's two side shows—the distorting mirrors and fine art academy.

In the centre of the fair-ground, and well displayed, were the following high-class machines:—The lessee's (J. Collins) three sets, the galloping horses, the wheely-whirly, and the steam yachts in the air; P. Collins's three machines, the farmyard set, the motor-cars, and the helter-skelter; Wilson's big wheel, W. Shaw's steam swings, and sets of juvenile horses, motor-cars, and swings, by Messrs. S. Mercer, J. Gavan, and Mrs. Middlebrook. There was a long row of shooting concerns, and amongst these were G. H. Cornwell, with two concerns; Fossett, with two galleries. Marsden, with two concerns; and batteries and tubes by Messrs. Ratcliffe, Lever, Pullan, and Hughes and Martin. There were three bazaars, those of Messrs. Seed, Gledstone, and Pullan; and the gingerbread stalls were provided by Messrs. Wright Bros., A. Dearing, Rylands, Pullan, and Mrs. Mulhearn, with local caterers.

There were also two long avenues of throwing game, dolly frames, ring and dart boards, strikers, and variety stalls, chiefly provided by Messrs. Mercer, Whatmore, Ingham, Steward, Smith, Illingworth, Calver, Smith, Middlebrook, Lever, Cooper, Houldsworth, Ratcliffe, and Lee. With these were associated a number of enterprising local caterers. The photo. saloon was provided by H. Gunthorpe.

Those who remember how straightened the space available for shows became towards the close of the period covered by Corporation management will recognise that only under such excellent conditions as those now provided by Mr. Collins could the fair hope to grow and to meet the constantly increasing demands of an industrial centre for the open-air entertainment provided at our popular fairs.

Mr. John Leopold will produce on Monday, at the Hackney Empire, a new sketch in two scenes, entitled *The House Boat*, from his own pen and that of Wilfred Vaughan. Eighteen artists are engaged in this sketch. The scenery is excellent, the house-boat on the Thames picturesque, and the dresses are also very pretty. The efforts of the comedians should result in roars of laughter, as the whole production goes with a bang. Frank Elliston also brings his laughable sketch, *Aunt Matilda*, and a delightful combination will be seen when Miss Millie Hylton and Decima Brooke take the stage.

We announced in last issue the death of Mrs. Webb, wife of the veteran comedian, J. J. Webb, and mother of the world-renowned Brothers Webb. The funeral took place on the 3rd inst., at Tooting Cemetery. The hearse and coffin were covered with floral tokens of sympathy from the family, from relatives, and from brother and sister artists. Wreaths were sent by Mr. Gerretti and daughters, Jean Seul and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Fred McNaughton, Miss Jessie Preston, Mr. G. Preston and family, the Wootons Family, the White Family, Mr. and Mrs. Mattocks, and the Chamberlain Family. The grave, which is a family one, is next to that of Mrs. Gerretti, and is in close proximity to that of Dan Leno.

Miss Kathleen Cogan, a very young and very talented comedienne, has come all at once to the front. Given an "extra turn" at the Euston last week, she so pleased the management that she was at once placed on the bills, and "starred" for this week. Miss Cogan's success has been remarkable, every audience receiving her with uproarious applause.

"Moses and Son," with the inimitable Fred Kitchen, owing to the great success it achieved at the Duchess Palace, Balham, last week, has been retained for another week at that charming house.

Mr. Jack Lorimer, the well-known Scottish comedian, accompanied by Mrs. Lorimer and the "bonny bairn," will shortly be proceeding to New York, where the former is under engagement to appear at Hammerstein's. The party will leave London on the 21st inst., proceeding to New York per the Oceanic. Mr. Lorimer's latest song is entitled "A sprig of heather."

A most emphatic "hit" has been achieved by Miss Clarice Mayne at the Palace, Hammersmith, this week, with Paul Pelham, Newton Butts, and Herbert Rule's new comedy song "She didn't come from Borneo," the "catchy" chorus being sung all over the house by her delighted auditors. The publication of the song is being hurried forward in order to keep pace with the imperative trade demands, and the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., who are bringing out this successful number, hope to issue it at a very early date.

The demands for the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s Christmas Budget of good things in the shape of songs proves unabating, and pantomime producers and artists are not only eagerly snapping up such tried and proven successes as "Bamboo bungalow" and "Tiny firefly," but they also evince a keen desire to annex "Old Calabar," "Look out, boys, there's a girl about," and that dainty number, so suitable for "fairy queens," "Waterfall."

Mr. Ernest Shand is making a "hit"—a palpable "hit"—with two of Harrington and Tate's songs at the Oxford and his other "turns" nightly. The titles of these numbers are "Oh, dearly beloved brethren," and the old favourite "Look at the weather," the latter of which has been brought right up to date. The Monte Carlo Publishing Co. issue both of these successful songs in their "Sixpenny Successes" series, and they are enjoying a huge sale.

That prolific author-composer, E. W. Rogers, has recently placed a budget of his very best with Messrs. Feldman and Co.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE ANNIVERSARY.

A whole week is being devoted, as in former years, to the celebration of the anniversary of the Hammersmith Theatre of Varieties, which a few years ago was reconstructed and handsomely redecorated by the present proprietor, Mr. J. C. Coe, and brought into line with the most palatial halls of the metropolis. The enterprise has enjoyed continuous prosperity, and Monday, the first day of the anniversary, saw the building crowded to its utmost capacity in the full enjoyment of a programme expanded far beyond its usual size, which is being presented throughout the week with occasional "extra turns." The chief item of the bill is *La Main*, the weird episode taken from the French, which has already won success alike in theatre and hall. The part of the actress is played with thrilling intensity and power by Mlle. Camilla D'Alberg, who keeps the audience thoroughly engrossed; and the Baron and the Burglar are characteristically portrayed by Mr. George Wright and Mr. Cecil King respectively.

At an early period of the evening the house is put into a merry humour by Rezene and Robini, whose new entertainment gives opportunity for one little comedian to indulge his quaintness at the expense of the other. His appearance as a little girl who exercises her precocity on a London policeman is very droll, and the query, "Shall I?" which so closely affects the comfort of his partner, always arouses an answering peal of laughter. Barnard's marionettes receive a large share of approval, what is described as "a really wonderful performance" being carried out to the letter. The coon songs so smartly rendered by Miss Gladys Mavius have become famous for their tunefulness and novelty, and the rhythmical skill of her dances gives the finishing touch to a turn over which the house grows enthusiastic. The McNaughtons, who are heartily welcomed, put the audience into throes of merriment with their burlesque boxing match, during the progress of which there is no end to the mirth.

A renewal of popularity long since acquired is made by Miss Carlotta Levey, whose performance as principal boy in last year's pantomime at the King's Theatre is also pleasurably recalled. Miss Levey is enabled in her songs to hit public sentiment at its most vulnerable point, and the feeling she puts into the refrain, "Don't tell the world your troubles," as well as into that of "All I got was sympathy," quite carries the audience away. The Abdullah Arabs go through their whirlwind evolutions with wonderful agility and precision, their pyramid building evoking the heartiest applause; and the acrobatic feats of the Moxon Trio, combined with a deal of humour, cause laughter and admiration by turns. The clever juveniles schooled by Miss Carrie Lawrie go through their kindergarten exercises, which consist principally of singing and dancing, to the delight of all; and in *The Butler Knows*, by the Brown and Kelly company, the head of the combination is seen in his inimitable impersonation of the elderly butler, whose endeavours to conceal a fugitive baby are made irresistibly amusing.

A first appearance in England is made by Phil and Nettie Peters, whose forte is comedy. The gentleman reaches the highest point of eccentricity in his attire, and his manipulation of a dilapidated trombone, and his comic conversation with his partner—a lady with a fascinating appearance, a merry laugh, and a tuneful voice—result in mirth which is continuous throughout their stay. Mr. George Mozart, the "one-man" drama, and the sketch, *Black Justice*, played by Brown and Le Clerq, are great attractions of the festival bill, which also includes Mr. George Bastow, of "Farmer Giles" fame; Miss Clarice Mayne, mimic; Miss Billie Burford, comedienne and dancer; Mr. Jack Pleasants, comedian; Miss Blanche Holt, comedienne; and the Edisonograph. Mr. J. C. Coe was present in the hall on Monday to welcome an overflowing house; and Mr. Lewis Vincent, the efficient and courteous acting-manager, was able, with the best grace, to greet the more belated visitor with "Standing room only!"

Quite a number of "bungalow" songs are offered for pantomime, but the one that seems to have caught the present fancy is Messrs. Scott, Mills, and Castling's "Bungalow in Borneo." So great has been its success in Bolton that Mr. Elliston arranged a special matinée, and during the week held singing contests, which aroused much enthusiasm.

The Shapiro Von Tilzer Music Co. have numerous demands for their "biggest winners"—"Take me back to London town," Sweet Saturday night," "Moonbeam," "Little girl," "Little grey eyes," and "Lola in my gondola."

The Shapiro Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., have secured the publishing rights of Jock Whiteford's two successful songs, "The Banks of Allans Waters" and "My Bonnie Jessie does not come from Borneo," both of which are written and composed by Mr. J. F. Lambe. They will be issued as soon as possible. The same firm also have in the press a Scottish edition of Mose Gumble's highly successful song "Mariar," by the same author, called "Mary the Flower of Inverary."

The Shapiro Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., have now issued professional copies of Miss Jessie Preston's phenomenally successful song, "Be advised by your father." This song is free for pantomime, and is admirably suited for such parts as "Dick Whittington," "Robinson Crusoe," "Sinbad," "Jack and the Beanstalk," &c. A limited number of free permissions will also be given for provincial music halls, for which early application is necessary. The author and composer is Mr. J. F. Lambe.

"What has become of our songs?" a comic ditty sung by Joe Archer, also published by Messrs. Feldman, is in great demand for pantomime. The same firm has secured Arthur Lennard's great success "If I had been born a girl," of which great things are anticipated.

Miss Maude Mortimer, daring a well-earned rest after a successful tour of the provinces, has been rehearsing her répertoire for South Africa, the numbers being supplied by Messrs. Feldman, whose songs she has been singing with phenomenal success on her recent tour.

At this season of the year inquiries fall thick and fast as to when Warwick Williams' grand selection of popular airs will be issued by Messrs. Francis and Day, and we learn from that firm that this year the selection will be entitled "The Season's Plums," and that band parts of the same will be positively ready the first week in December.

Those well-known people Percy Ashdown and Arthur St. George have joined hands, and have opened an office at 56, Clapham-road, for the supply of songs and sketches to the profession. A speciality of the new firm is the arranging of band parts guaranteed to time.

Miss Daisy Morrell is scoring a big success on the Barrasford tour with two big numbers from the pens of A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, namely, "Ballooning" and "Nelson from his monument."

Home songs, with heart sentiment, always appeal to the public. A charming number of this kind is "Will you love me in December as you do in May?" This pretty song achieved the greatest possible popularity in America, and bids fair to duplicate its success in England.

LOOK YOU!
LOOK YOU!
LOOK YOU!

There are
SCOTCH COMEDIANS,
There are
JEWISH COMEDIANS,
There are
IRISH COMEDIANS,
There are
ENGLISH COMEDIANS.
Why not
WELSH COMEDIANS?

With the exception of
my friend, Mr. Ted Hopkins,
"Gallant Little Wales"
is without a single Welsh Comedian.

Now we have a
Representative Welsh Comedian
in

HORACE JONES
HORACE JONES
HORACE JONES

(the Only Jones).

I went on at the Park Palace
and did a trial show.
My success was absolutely
instantaneous, so much so that
everybody
about the place, from the Manager
to the Scene Shifters, shook me
by the hand up to the elbow.

YES, INDEED!
YES, INDEED!
YES, INDEED!

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CARDIFF.

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immediately after seeing my Turn.
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Enormous Success.

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Address, HARRY MCKELVIE, Business-Manager.

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CALL for Monday, Nov. 12, 1906.
7, Twice Nightly. 9.
Rehearsal, at 11 o'clock, for
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Rehearsal, at 2 o'clock, for
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SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager

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NOTICE OF REMOVAL.
Mr. W. SMITH begs to notify to the Music Hall Profession that he has removed his Offices from Laurence Pountney Hill, City, to 17, Craven-street, Charing Cross, W.C., where he will be pleased to see old and new clients who require financial assistance.

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"THE MAID OF SINGAPORE."
A Song composed by
JOSCELYN NOEL,
with a haunting refrain that will be heard in every Pantomime.
"THE MAID OF SINGAPORE."
"THE MAID OF SINGAPORE."
"THE MAID OF SINGAPORE."

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ALL WHO SANG IT
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Should now Give Special Consideration to
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ON AND AFTER NOV. 26 the Artists engaged at the South London Palace will be required to appear each week at the Monday Matinée until further notice. Rehearsal Monday, 12 till 1.
(Signed) WILLIAM PAYNE, Manager.
South London Palace, S.E.
Nov. 10, 1906.

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GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
March 10, May 6, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
Dec. 17, 24, Feb. 25, March 4, 11.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
Dec. 17, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Dec. 3, 10, 24, 31, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 4, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY,
Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 31, March 4, onwards.
Add., E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Strong Attraction for Luton, January 14 (three nights).
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, for the Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, Sound Attractions, Dec. 10 and 17.
Apply HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Dec. 10, 24, and 31; also Pantomimes, for dates in January. Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Attractions, Feb. 25, March 18 and 25, and on.
Andrew Melville, Esq., writes: Nov. 3, 1906. Dear Mr. Alexander,—I was exceedingly pleased in the way you received "Driven from Home" last week. The billing, lighting, staff, and band are what you seldom meet with in provincial theatres. Kindly ink in the two dates I pencilled for Spring, 1907. Regards, Very truly, Andrew Melville.
For vacant dates address JAMES ALEXANDER.

FOLKESTONE and HASTINGS.
WANTED, High-class Companies Only,
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS,
Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18, April 8, 22 (?).
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Dec. 31, Jan. 14, 28, Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 4, 11.
Big Musical Attraction Wanted for Easter.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Manager and Licensee, Mr. L. F. A. ROGERS.
WANTED, Companies, Jan. 7, 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 25, March 4, onwards.
One or two Good Pantomimes required.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Poole's Theatres, Treherbert and Maesteg, 3 or 6 nights each, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 31, Jan. 7, onwards. Trade good, and good companies now do excellent business. Maesteg also vacant 4 days, Dec. 26. All communications to C. W. POOLE, Palace, Gloucester.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Pantomime, Feb. 25, one week; also Attractions, March 25, April 15, 29, and onwards. Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

WANTED, Theatre Royal, Stockport, First-class Dramatic Companies, for Jan. 21, April 1; Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne, First-class Dramatic Companies, for Jan. 14 and 28.
Address,
CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

WANTED, Good Musical Comedy Attraction, for Jan. 7, on account of obliging Mr. George Dance, by transferring "Duchess of Dantzic" to Jan. 28. Apply, J. W. CHAPMAN, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Nov. 19 (three nights),
Nov. 19 (three nights),
Dec. 10, 17.
Wire,
THOMAS SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE.
WANTED, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, First-class Attractions only. FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, Musical Plays and Important Attractions, for Grand T., West Hardlepool, Vacant Nov. 26, Jan. 14. F. GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, First-Class Company, three nights, Nov. 19, 20, 21; also Dec. 17.
Apply, G. CONQUEST.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-Class Companies for Dec. 17, Jan. 7 and 21. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-Class Companies, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 17, 24, Jan. 14, 21, latter dates can be booked in conjunction with Opera House, Perth.
W. E. POTTS.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Dec. 17, 1906; Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 1907.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Inverness, Attractions, for Xmas and New Year Weeks. Few vacant dates Nov., Dec., and Feb. CAMERON BURGESS.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Dec. 3, Jan. 28, on (with exceptions).

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant April 22 29, onward (with exceptions).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Nov. 26, onward (with exceptions).
(Last 3 nights of each week.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant April 22, 29, onward (with exceptions).

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Nov. 12 (3 or 4 nights), onward (with exceptions).

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Nov. 26, onward (with exceptions).

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Feb. 18, onward (with exceptions).

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
Vacant Dec. 31 Jan. 14, onward (with exceptions).

"CINDERELLA."
Vacant Feb. 11, onward (with exceptions).

Companies "Farmed" through Fit-ups.
To Let, on Royalty, "THE PRAIRIE FLOWER" and "OUR BRITISH EMPIRE."
Excellent plants printing.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions,
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
Dec. 17, 31, Feb. 4, March 4, 11.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Dec. 31, March 4, 11, 18.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
GRAND THEATRE, SOUTHAMPTON,
Dec. 10, March 25, April 22 and 29.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
Feb. 25, March 18, 25 (three nights),
April 15 and 22.
Apply,
FREDK. MOUILLOT, 1 and 2, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

WANTED, Strong Attractions, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24;
also New Year date in North of England.
Wire, Wire, Wire.
R. C. BUCHANAN,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers,
Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The Leading Theatre in the Town.
The only Theatre in the Town Lighted by Electricity.
This week, "THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
Next week, "THE PRINCE OF PILSEN."
Only Best Companies Booked at this Theatre.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 11, 25, and various, onwards.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, Good Companies, Nov. 26 and Dec. 10, three nights. A. D. VERNON.

THEATRE ROYAL, EXETER.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Dec. 3 and 10. Apply, with best terms,
EDWARD J. DOMVILLE, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Nov. 22, 23, 24, Dec. 10, 11, 12, Dec. 13, 14, 15.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

WANTED, Companies, P. O. W., Nuneaton, March, 18, 25, April 15 (5 nights) May 13, June 3, 10, 17, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 16, Nov. 11, 18.
A. F. CROSS, P. O. W., Nuneaton.

WANTED, Companies, T. R., Rugby, Dec. 3, 10, 17, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, March 4, April 1, 8, 15, May 6, 20, 27.
A. F. CROSS, P. O. W., Nuneaton.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, HORWICH.
WANTED, Good Company, Nov. 21, 22, 23, and 24, also Nov. 26, Dec. 3, onward, Panto. Christmas. Copy of day bill to F. LEWIS.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury, vacant Dec. 3, vacant Dec. 3 also a few Good Dates in the Spring entertained, Musical Comedy preferred. Communicate, W. C. DORNTON, Business-Manager.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Dec. 3 (to oblige Mrs. O'Grady) and Dec. 10. Address, J. W. WHITEHEAD, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

COLISEUM, ABERYSTWYTH.
WANTED, Companies, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3 (three nights), also Dec. 27, 28.
Wire, PHILLIPS.

GRAND THEATRES, CHORLEY & RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Dec. 10, 24, Grand, Chorley; also Dec. 3, 17, 24, Grand, Radcliffe.
Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

THEATRES ROYAL,
WEDNESBURY and BILSTON.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Wednesbury, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, 28; Bilston, Dec. 3, 10, 31, Jan. 21, 28 (?). Panto. wanted first in. HARRY BATTERSBY, T. R., Bilston.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Jan. 14 and 21.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, Monday next, owing to disappointment.
Wire, HENRY BOWMAN.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attraction, Dec. 17, also Jan. 14. H. H. PAGE. Will Mr. Arnold Bell please communicate?

WANTED, Strong Attractions, Musical preferred, Dec. 31, Jan. 21, Feb. 18 and 25.
HENRY TAYLOR, Lyceum Theatre, Crewe. Silence polite negative.

WANTED, for Perth Theatre, Companies, Dec. 17, 24, Jan. 21, Feb. 11.
Apply, J. H. SAVILE, Paisley Theatre.

NORTHERN THEATRES CO., LTD.
WANTED, First-Class Company, Nov. 26, Halifax; several dates open in the Spring at Bury, Rochdale, Halifax, and Dewsbury, through tours being cancelled. Address (no wires), ORRO C. CULLING, Bury.

ILFRACOMBE.
RUNNACLEAVE T. AND OPERA HOUSE.
The Most Comfortable Playhouse in the District, used exclusively for Amusement Purposes. Everything well done. Open all the year round.
WANTED, Attractions, between now and Xmas, with exceptions, also a Good Panto.
JULIUS PHILLIPS, Opera House, Ilfracombe.

THEATRE ROYAL, WEST BROMWICH.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Comic Opera, Musical Comedies, &c., April onwards. Address, HERBERT VERE.

COMPANIES WANTED.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE,
Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 18, and various, onwards.

CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND,
Nov. 29, 30, Dec. 1.

WILLIAM MARTIN,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL,
MARGATE.
THEATRE ROYAL,
MARGATE.
Reseated, and entirely renovated.
Xmas week Vacant, and onwards.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
Apply, EDWARD MICHAEL,
15, Craven-street, Strand, London.

OPERA HOUSE,
LONDONDERRY.
WANTED, Good Company, Jan. 14 or 21, March 4, and on.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
Vacant Aug. 5, Sept. 12, and on, Musical and Light Plays only. The receipts from June to September last were nearly double those of any previous season.
Good Fit-up Companies booked during winter months.

THEATRE ROYAL, DUMFRIES, and NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Vacant Jan. 14, Feb. 25, and on.
These theatres formerly notorious for bad business, now booked in conjunction, are one of the best weeks in Scotland.

Last week, Dumfries, Lely and Molison:
Monday, £38 13s.; Tuesday, £38 5s.;
Wednesday, £41 2s. Total, £118 0s. 9d.
Pevious week, Hawick (Holiday),
£32 0s. 6d., £31 0s. 6d., £66 9s. 9d.
Total, £129 10s. 9d.

W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

LYRIC THEATRE,
BROMLEY.
WANTED, First-Class Companies,
Three Nights, Nov. 22;
Three nights, Nov. 29;
Six Nights, Dec. 3, onwards.
And a Really Good Pantomime,
Six Nights, Jan. 28 or Feb. 18.
Address, F. W. PURCELL,
"Lingwood," Yerbury-rd., Tufnell Park, London, N.

WANTED, First-class Companies only. Musical Comedies preferred. Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, and on, with exceptions; also good Funny Panto. This theatre is worked on strictly No. 1 lines, has a permanent orchestra of ten qualified musicians; electric light and gas; seats 1,700; holds £75, now playing to three figures. CHARLES ELDERTON, Theatre Royal, Hebburn.

TERMINUS HALL, LITTLEHAMPTON, SUSSEX.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Xmas, 2, 3, or 4 nights, through disappointment.
Now booking 1907.
Apply, G. E. REDMAN, Lessee and Manager.

COUNTY HALL, ST. ALBANS.
WANTED, through obliging, Company, Drama, with own scenery, two nights, Nov. 23 and 24, or two nights week of Nov. 26, sharing terms. A. ROWDEN.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Magnificent New Town Hall, moderate rental, permanent stage, excellent accommodation. F. W. WESTERN, Sandy, Beds.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatre, Nov. 26.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 24, Feb. 11.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 25, Dec. 31, Jan. 14, 21. TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 18.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Jan. 21 and March 11.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Prince of Wales's Theatre, Great Grimsby.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of Dec. 3 and 31, Scala Production.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Christmas on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Opera House, Coventry.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Christmas on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Opera House, Coventry.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Dec. 10 Jan. 7.
Address, J. W. CORDINER,
Nov. 12, THEATRE ROYAL, KING'S LYNN (3).
Nov. 15, KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBORO' (3).

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Feb. 11 and 18, through transferring. Nov. 12,
Grand Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne (six nights). Aut., 1907, Grand Production, "Rollicking Rory."

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Xmas and New Year weeks, the greatest holiday Attraction now touring. Boxing Night, 1905, at the New Theatre, Halifax, was £125.
GEORGE DENHAM, Junction, Manchester.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY.
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
A New Novelty Drama.
Everything First-Class.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, on, for this really good Attraction.
STUART CLEVELAND, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

MESSRS. SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Xmas, Xmas,
An Enormous Holiday Attraction.
Refer Messrs. Sidney Bacon and J. and F. Coulson re business done on return visits within a year.
Address, JOHN B. SHINTON,
Alexandra Theatre, Hull (return).

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for "Mr. Popple," Nov. 19, 26; "Are You a Mason?" Xmas. Communicate, CHAS. MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Jan. 7, 14, and 21 (Lancs. or Yorks.), for this Funny Show.
DICKIE CLARE, T. Royal, Jarrow.

"HER LOST SELF" by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH."
WANTED, Nov. 19, Nov. 19, and Nov. 26. Wire, FRANCIS DELAVAL, Lyceum Theatre, Govan, Glasgow. Xmas and New Year open.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for the most Daring and Startling Play ever written.
The Play which causes a Sensation.
The Play which creates Discussion.
The Play which draws the Public.
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
"WHEN IT WAS DARK."
The local Press in each town visited filled with discussion. The towns in a fever of excitement.
Ministers, Doctors, Lawyers, join in the discussion.
The Public flock to see it.
At Swansea played to biggest week for over eighteen months.
Newport, Monday, fine opening; worst house of the week.
Again the Press here is full of the Play.
Managers Book it.
I will do the rest.
No Play ever boomed before like this.
No Play will ever beat it.
Vacant,
Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 21, Feb. 18, 25, March 4.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Dec. 17, 31,
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S COMPANY,
"WHY WOMAN SINS."
Brilliant success of this magnificent revival.
Many thanks to
T. W. Rowe, Esq., for offer Dec. 17, fourth visit to Palace, Newcastle.
W. D. Forsdike, Esq., for offer Dec. 3, fourth visit to Alex., Sheffield.
Vacant Dec. 17 and 31, South or Midlands.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS,
Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

WANTED, Jan. 14, 28, Feb. 11, 25,
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S COMPANY,
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
A Magnificent Production.
A Box-office Success.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS,
Lyric O. H., Hammersmith.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Cardiff Pantomime; all new scenery, painted especially for this production.
SAMUEL JAMES,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Good Theatres, for Jan. 14 and 21, for Mr. James's Croydon Pantomime. All new scenery, painted especially for this production.
SAMUEL JAMES,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
Forty-Five in Company.
WANTED, First-class Theatre, for Easter.

Only Vacant Date till Xmas, 1907.

E. GRAHAM-FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Sixty-third week of present Tour.
Booked and re-booked into Oct., 1907.
Cast, printing, and scenery A1.
WANTED, Whit Week, Midlands, March 25 (follow Jarrow), April 8.
FRANK AYRTON, Theatre Royal, Colne.

ALLAN WILKIE,
supported by
Mr. G. Alexander Marsh, Miss Carrie Baillie, Miss Gertrude Gilbert, and Miss Ine Cameron.
The strongest Shakespearean company touring the British Isles.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 11 (between Jersey and Ipswich), April 15 (between Carlisle and Warrington), April 29 (between Warrington and Harrogate), May 13, 20 (North), 27 (Midlands).
Address, Canterbury (three), Deal (three).

"LADY KINTON'S NECKLACE."
The Great Modern Mystical Play, including Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco.
WANTED, Dec. 4 onwards.
All coms., W. SCOTT PHIPP, T. R., Dewsbury
First-class Theatres only. (See Companies Page.)

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOUR.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this sound money-maker, Xmas and New Year, Xmas and New Year; also Feb. 4, 11, and 25. Address, FRANK M. THORNE, Metropole, Devonport.

WANTED, Aug. 5, onwards, with exceptions, "For Auld Lang Syne."
FRED BULMER, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Xmas and Easter, "When Woman Hates."
FRED BULMER, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 10, 31, "For Better or Worse."
Wire, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"REVENGE."
Star Company.
WANTED, Dec. 10, 24, Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, and 25. E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Rotunda, Liverpool.

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, and Easter.
EUGENE BERTRAM,
T. R., Lincoln.

"THE INDIAN MUTINY."
WANTED, Dec. 24 and 31.

Address, FRANK E. BURDETT,
Prince's, Portsmouth; 12th, King's, Cardiff.

MRS. BANDMANN-PALMER'S TOUR.
WANTED, Dec. 3, through transfer.
Address, Mrs. BANDMANN-PALMER,
Theatre Royal, Loughborough.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, Xmas, Feb. 25, on. OSMOND, T. R., Edmonton, N.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Dec. 3, 10, New Year (North preferred), for this High-class Drama.
W. J. MILLER, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

WANTED, Dec. 17 and 24, also Spring Dates, for "An Actor's Romance." Address, CHARLES DURIE, Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Feb. 18 (South), also March 18, for the above big novelty; big reception on our return to the Alexandra this week. Managers in doubt kindly refer W. D. Forsdike, Esq. SANTE, Alex., Sheffield; T. R., Hyde.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON,"
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON,"
by Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, Important Theatre, with large holding capacity (Midlands or North preferred), for Xmas Week, also Jan. 7, 21, Feb. 11, and Easter Week
(Only Spring Vacancies).

H. HOLLISTER, Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE TRAITOR." E. HILL-MITCHELSON AND HARRIS FINEBERG'S COMPANY.
A Magnificent Production, and one of the Greatest Attractions Touring.
WANTED, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, 24. Wire, E. HILL-MITCHELSON, to-day, Prince's, Bradford; Monday, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Feb. 11, and on, for
First-class Pantomime Production.
J. P. ELLISTON, Bolton.

"SILVER KING."
Polini and Melford.
WANTED, Dates, Dec. 24, 31, Feb. 18, March 11. POLINI, 93, Penge-road, Anerley, London.

"A HEART'S DESIRE." Phenomenal Success.
WANTED, Theatres. Wire for Nov. 19, various onwards, en route, or H. ELLIMAN, 5, Vernon-street, Dublin.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14. March 4, 18.
FRED BULMER, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Feb. 4, 11 (?), and 18, for "Cinderella." Apply, H. A. JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

THEATRES WANTED.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
"FLORODORA,"
Feb. 4 and 11.

"OLIVER TWIST,"
Jan. 7, 21, 28, Feb. 4, and Easter.

"THE SILVER KING"
(by arrangement with Messrs. Polini and Melford),
Nov. 19 (three nights).

WILLIAM MARTIN,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S "BLUEBEARD" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, March 11 and 18.
WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

"HONOUR THY FATHER."
WANTED, Dates, the Great Domestic Play.
Dec. 3, 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21.
MORTON POWELL,
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates, for this Brilliant Romantic Play,
A Record Breaker,
Dec. 10, 24, Jan. 7, 21, April 1.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Enormous Success.
Miss V. ST. LAWRENCE as FIEND.
WANTED, Nov. 19, Xmas, New Year, Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 18, 25, March 18, April 15, 22, 29, June 3, 10, 17 (?), July 1, 22, 29, Aug. 5, 12, 26, Oct. 28, Nov. 11, 18, 25, on.
MONTAGUE BEAUDYN, Royal, Wednesbury.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "HER LUCK IN LONDON."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
New Year's Week, Jan. 7, 21, 28.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
CHARLES A. LEICESTER,
T. R., Middlesbrough; next, T. R., Ilkeston.

"HOME, SWEET HOME."
WANTED, Good Theatre, for

No vacant dates this year.
Fast filling Spring and Autumn, 1907.

Address.
FRANK LINDO,
T. R., Castleford (return).

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Dec. 3, 31, Jan. 7 and 14, to precede Theatre Royal, Sunderland. Enormous business this week at Colosseum, Oldham.
Wire, HARRY FOXWELL, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham; Nov. 12, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
By Hall Caine and Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 26, Nov. 26, Nov. 26, Xmas and New Year's Weeks; also Feb. 18, 25, and few later.

Queen's Theatre, Liverpool, Nov. 12.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO'S.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
WANTED, Dec. 17, only Vacant Date this Year; must be good theatre, for this great attraction; band of drums, fifes, and bugles, for parade. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

"ALADDIN."
WANTED, Feb. 4 (follow Birmingham) and 18. Fifty People on Stage.
No finer touring pantomime.
HERBERT BARRS, King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy.

"LIFE" AND "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Easter and Whit., Six Musical Items. HERBERT BARRS, Kirkcaldy (3), Falkirk (3).

"LADY KINTON'S NECKLACE."
The Great Modern Mystical Play, including Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco.
WANTED, Dec. 24, onwards.
All coms., W. SCOTT PHIPP, T. R., Dewsbury.
First-class Theatres only. (See Companies Page.)

"COAL KING."
Polini and Maitland.
WANTED Dates, Jan. 7, 14, 21, Feb. 4, 11, and 25, also Aut. POLINI, 93, Penge-rd., Anerley, S.E.

"HER ONE GREAT SIN."
WANTED, Xmas, also Jan. 7, 14.
J. LEICESTER JACKSON, Greenisland, Belfast.

"DISHONOURED."
WANTED, Xmas, follow Aldershot, Jan. 7, 14.
J. LEICESTER JACKSON, Greenisland, Belfast.

"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
FRED BULMER, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

THE NATIONAL VAUDEVILLE CO.
Under the Management of Mr. JOHN JACKSON,
Will shortly Tour with a
First-Class Co. of Dramatic and Variety Artists.
The Company will consist of
Mr. JOHN JACKSON and CO.
In a powerful Dramatic and Sensational Episode,
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP IN LONDON."

A New and Original Coster Comedy Sketch,
"SALLY'S BIRTHDAY."
Songs and Music by Sam Richards, Esq.
Assisted by local supers.

A Charming and Most Pathetic Scena,
"THE HOSPITAL NURSE."
Depicting A Children's Hospital Ward.
Assisted by local children.

Farcical Duologue with Songs and Music,
"A GREAT MISTAKE."

In addition to the above,
A Bioscope with all the Latest Films.
Mr. Jackson is negotiating with several leading variety artists to join the Company.
Eight Numbers for Two Houses Nightly.
Twelve Numbers for One House Nightly.
Pictorials, Printing, Gag Bills ad. lib.
The Company can be booked from one to four weeks. Change of Sketches, Duologues, and Variety Turns each week.
Thanks to Managers for offers of dates; must have Theatres or Halls which hold money and good terms.
WANTED, Dec. 3, onwards.
Shares or Certainty.
Shares or Certainty.
For further particulars apply
SECRETARY, 55, Bancroft-road, Mile End, London.

THE "APEX" ANIMATED AND TALKING PICTURE CO., with the CHRONOPHONE
(Gaumont's patent),
The Greatest Wonder of the Age.
WANTED, Theatres, Music Halls, Halls, &c. Dates, Dec. 1, onwards.
Shares or certainty.

All communications to
GENERAL-MANAGER,
81, Victoria-avenue, Hull.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Artists, for Fit-up Tour of "Blue-Bell," commencing Xmas, Dicky Blib, Blob, boy for Cat, Agent, Carpenter, Baggage and Fit-up Men. Age, height, references, lowest terms, ladies' photos., E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford. All artists interviewed in London.

WANTED, good Heavy Lady, Juvenile Lady, and Comedian. Tour comencing Xmas. Send photos., names and addresses of last two references, age, and lowest salary, to ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, Low Comedy Lady, for Tour of First-Class Play; sing and dance. Send last three references, height, age, salary, &c., to COMEDY, Box 3,980, "The Era."

ARTISTS WANTED.

"THE TYRANT."
WANTED, First-class Romantic Leading Gentleman, Two Good Responsible Men (Manchester district), bright, smart Chambermaid; all rehearse Nov. 19. In each case, age, height, refs., lowest terms. Will Chas. Stirling write? FRED C. SOMERFIELD, Grand, Chorley.

WANTED, Strong Character Actor for Heavy Part. Last three references, age, height, and other particulars to HEAVY, Box 3,977, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Gentleman, for Small Juvenile Part, to Double other parts; must be experienced; height not to exceed 5ft. 8in. Terms, last three references, age, and other particulars to Box 3,976, "The Era."

WANTED, Small Comedian, for Tour of First-Class Play; sing and dance. Send last three references, height, age, salary, &c., to SMALL, Box 3,978, "The Era."

WANTED, Intense, Robust Character Actor, for Seth Baker, in "The Coal King." EDWIN WALTON, Mon., P. O., Ammanford; Tues., P. O., Blaengarw.

WANTED, First-Class Juvenile Gentleman, tall, combine, S.-M. Age, height, terms, references, and photo. A. HAMILTON WARDEN, 114, Caunce-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, sound useful Actor, for Old Men and Strong Character, good elocution essential, must be young. All particulars and photos. to BEN SYDNEY, Queen's, Farnworth, Bolton. John Crondace also write in.

WANTED, Amateurs, Ladies and Gentlemen, for Shakespearean and Old English Comedy Company. Apply full particulars, HOWARD, Opera House, Harrogate.

WANTED, a First-class English Actor, age 30 to 40, height about 5ft. 9in., good appearance, able to ride well in saddle, for an equestrian sketch, to open at a vaudeville theatre in New York about Dec. 20 next, long engagement to suitable man. Passage paid and £10 per week. Apply to H. B. MARINELLI, Vaudeville Agent, Holland Buildings, Broadway, New York City.

WANTED, at Once, Chorus Ladies, for Musical Sketch. Apply, with song, HALLICK, 44, Cranbourn-street, Leicester-square.

WANTED, Soprano or Mezzo Contralto, and Baritone-Comedian, for Variety Costume Party; smart appearance a necessity. Apply, Box 3,990, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Soprano and Contralto Vocalists, for Xmas Day. Full particulars and salary to A. M. LOADER, T. R., Darwen.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, well-known Composer is willing to undertake Commissions for High-class Artists for Ballets, Scenas, Sketches, &c. Box 3,929, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Good Cat Comedian, for "Whittington," Wardrobe Mistress, Stage Carpenter, Baggage Man, also First-class Male Glee Quartette. Apply, with terms and references, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, for "Aladdin," Comedians for Dame, Abanazer, Vizier, and Emperor, Knockabouts, First-class Speciality, or Troupe for Palace Scene, Dancers, Chorus Ladies. Age, height, references, lowest terms, ladies' photos., E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford. All artists interviewed in London.

WANTED, Principal Girl, with name. Long run.
Apply immediately, RICHARD CASS's Agency, 30, Maiden-lane, Strand.

FRANK DENMAN-WOOD'S "DICK WHITTINGTON" PANTOMIME, 1906-7.
WANTED, Principal Boy, for above (through illness), also Musical-Director, Comedian for Comic Captain, Speciality for Palace Scene. In all cases photo., references, and stamped envelope for reply. DENMAN-WOOD, Court T., Bacup.

MR. and MRS. JOHN WALTERS' PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, a smart, dashing, young Principal Boy, must be good singer, and full of "go"; also Fairy Queen and a few small part people; all must be young, refined, and reliable Artists. To rehearse at once. Tour till Easter for suitable people. Specialities write in for Palace Scene. Apply to-day, J. WALTERS, Theatre, Macclesfield; next week, Theatre, Burslem.

HOLLAND and WOOD'S "ALADDIN."
WANTED, Chorus Ladies for above. Apply, with recent photo. (as boy), with particulars as to height and age, to WILLIAM HOLLAND, 60, Warley-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury avenue, W.

WANTED, a Few Good Bass Choristers, for Pantomime, at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, to rehearse Thursday, 22nd inst., open Thursday, 6th prox. Terms, age, height, last panto., reference, and photo., to FRED KARNO, Park House, Vaughan-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, for Pantomimes, First-class Chorus and Show Ladies; must be 5ft. 6in. or over. Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, Small Boy (14), Young Leading Tenor, Smart Young Lady (sing, dance well), Pair Dancing Sisters, Brighton. Xmas. At once, WEATHERSBY'S, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
"ALADDIN," "CINDERELLA,"
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
Season 1906-7.
WANTED, Artists engaged for above to send addresses for the next two weeks to JAMES KIDDIE, Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Miss Daisy Morell, the Popular Principal Boy. Thanks Messrs. Fred Little, Samuel James, Dan Thomas, E. C. Jazon, Brooks' Agency, for offers. Monday, Hippo., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Miss Bessie Frank, at Liberty, principal girl. Refer Mr. J. H. Savile, Mr. J. Gar Kiddie. Address, T. R., Norwich.

WANTED, Pantomime Engagement, Ada Royston, Principal Dancer (second or third girl); Phil Royston, Char. Comedian; Stage, or Bus. Management. Voryd Harbour Hotel, Rhyl.

WANTED, Known, Tessie Vandean, Liberty, Principal Boy; last Xmas Alex. Pal., London. Mon., Alhambra, Brighton. "Iona" Co.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Sisters Brenton (Edie and Clara), Duettists and Expert Dancers. Address, EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Wisper, Comedy Plate Juggler; Beattie Bloom, Smart Serio; Lib. for Panto, parts and speciality. Permanent, 13, Derby-street, Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED, Pantomime, "Whittington" or "Puss in Boots." Kyoto, the Great Cat, own dress, big speciality, or "Aladdin." Japanese Mysterious Box; also May Geraldine, Comedienne, Dancer. Write, 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.

WANTED, Panto., by Bob Baxter. Dame preferred. Four seasons J. F. Elliston, Esq., last two seasons Robert Arthur, Esq. Address, Pavilion, Glasgow.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Louie Hurman, at Liberty, Principal Boy. Nov. 12, Sadler's Wells. Perm., 7, Canonbury-avenue, Highbury, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Liberty for Pantomime, First-Class Theatres only, Geo. Leglere, Clown and Pantomimist, late of the Theatre Royal, Manchester, Birmingham, Grand; Leeds; two seasons; and Alexander, Sheffield, three seasons. 34, Union-st, Banbury.

WANTED, Panto., by E. E. Giles, jun., Animal Parts, Demon and Comedy, Star Trap, Leaps, &c, big success last year with my brother-in-law, Geo. Conquest, jun., Cat and Rat "Dick Whittington," Crown Theatre, Peckham. Refer Cecil Paget, Esq. Address, Empire, Southend.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Fred Hallam, Page or Idle Jack. Many thanks for offers; must have price. Nov. 12, T. R., Halifax.

WANTED, Known, Will Burton, Eccentric Comedian and Dancer, at Liberty for Panto. (Dame or Baron). 45, Liverpool-road, Canning Town, E.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, Pantomime.
Address, C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Frank Keegan and Co., Funniest Knockabout Act on the Road, at Liberty for Panto., Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21. Com., 8, Somerleyton-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Panto., Vacant Dec. 17, Frank Anderson (Handy Andy), eccentric tumbling, talking, and knockabout clown, and his two comic donkeys. Communications, COOKE'S Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Victor Vernon, Principal Comedian, T. R., Plymouth, four seasons. Address, 69, Cranworth-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Barrett and Knowles, at Liberty for Panto. Reasons for being so. Last year, Theatre Royal, Glasgow; year previous, Alex., Birmingham. Refer to Fred Wyndham, Esq., or Lester Collingwood, Esq. Address, City Varieties, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Kashma Bros., at Liberty through disappointment. 1904-5, 1905-6 E. Marris' "Dick Whittington," Captain and Cat. Address, BROOKES, or 104, Kennington-road, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Good Scenic Artist, thoroughly up to his work. Apply, WOOLF, Wonderland Whitechapel.

WANTED, Assistant Scenic Artists. Apply, W. B. BOSTOCK, Scenic Studio, Rumford-st., C.-on-M., Manchester. Contracts solicited. G. F. Longden please write.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, for a fortnight, to touch up and re-paint. Inclusive terms, A. HALL MENZIES, Elizabeth Villas, Beehive, Ilford, Essex.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram open to accept Contract or Salary. Arrangements complete at present. Address, c/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, G. Sackmann, Scenic Artist and Contractor. Painting-room, Kennington Green, Kennington-road, S.E. Tel., N3295 Hop.

WANTED, Known, through the Theatre Royal, Stockton, being burnt down, Contracts required for Scenery. Pleased to hear from friends. GLINDONI, 16, Palmerston-street, Stockton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Assistant Stage-manager, conversant with all technicalities, play several Small Parts, and Understudy Principals. Terms, last 3 references, age, height, and other particulars, to Box 3,975, "The Era."

WANTED, First-Class Stage-Manager, to produce "The Forty Thieves" at an important Suburban Theatre, one with previous experience of the subject preferred. Full particulars and actual terms. Box 3,985, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Gentleman, to learn Management of First-Class Company, now on Tour. Splendid opportunity. H. ELLIMAN, 5, Vernon-st., Dublin.

POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, Good Advance Agent; must be energetic, able to use brush and sticks, and not afraid of work. Apply, with age, references, &c., F. MAYER, Public Hall, Colwyn Bay, N. Wales.

WANTED, Young Gentleman, to assist in front of Theatre at Christmas. No previous experience required. Address, Box 3,034, Willing's Advt. Offices, 125, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, a Carpenter, a Property Man, and a Billing Inspector, all must be good, sober, and competent men. CARLTON, T. Royal, Worcester.

WANTED, Smart Carpenter, Bench Hand, own tools. Apply, 5 p.m. Saturday, or Monday 10 to 11 a.m. LUCK, 122, Brixton-road, S.W.

Billposters.
WANTED, Good High-class Ladder Men. Permanency to Suitable Applicants.
State experience and wages expected.
SOUTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT BILLPOSTING CO., LTD., Windsor House, Southampton.

WANTED, First-class Billposter; good references indispensable. Apply, ROCKLEY'S, LTD., Talbot-street, Nottingham.

Billposters.
WANTED, steady high Laddermen. Apply, giving refs., RICHEY and Co., Clayton-street, West, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress, able to cut and make, for a week. NORMAN V. NORMAN, Castle Theatre, Richmond.

WANTED, by a thoroughly experienced Manager, holding the highest references for competency in every department, including Bars and two houses nightly system, the management of a First-class Music Hall, Theatre, or Pantomime Company; well educated, good appearance, and security if required.
Address, Box 3,972, "The Era."

WANTED, by Acting-Manager. Re-engagement, twenty years' reference (Business Acting-Manager or Agent). WILLIAM COLLING HALL, Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty shortly, as Stage-Manager, for Music Halls, or Carpenter, for Sketches, one who thoroughly understands bar cellar work; could take charge of bars; good references. Address, W. H., Box 3,989, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Alf. Hawkins, Advance Agent, abstainer, and reliable, highest references, now disengaged. 9, South-parade, Skegness, Lincs.

WANTED, Known, Stage Electrician, young, disengaged, thoroughly experienced wiring motors, limes; also good Carpenter; highest refs. Box 3,974, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Disengaged Xmas and Spring as Master Carpenter; own tools; tour or resident. W. H. GRIEVES, Devonshire Park T., Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, Baggage Man wants Tour, Musical Comedy preferred; three years with Mr. Geo. Dance. PROPS., 41, Selwyn-av., Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, by Young Lady Cashier, thoroughly experienced in Box Office, Situation, three years last situation; highest references. Box 3,970, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Bonus paid to anyone obtaining for Young Lady post as Theatre Attendant. Will party who replied Oct. 27 write again? Box 3,912, "The Era."

WANTED, Employment in Theatre or Hall, Cloak Room Attendant or Lady's Dresser; long experience. ADVERTISER, 23, Seymour-buildings, Euston-road.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Leader and First Violins. Terms, references, &c.,
GEORGE BURKLEY, Lyceum, Edinburgh.

WANTED, for the Theatre Royal, Jarrow, a First-Class Violinist, as Musical Director; absolute sobriety indispensable, and must have library of up-to-date music; to a suitable person the engagement is a permanent one. Applications, with copies of recent references, stating age and full particulars, to HUGH ROBERTSON, as above.

WANTED, Musical-Conductor (Pianist-Violinist), for First-Class Tour, must be able to arrange; engagement starts Dec. 24. Send last three references, and all useful particulars to save time, to MUSIC, Box 3,979, "The Era." Leslie Lewis please write.

SITES, LTD., 213, PICCADILLY.
WANTED, First-class Musical Director, to provide an orchestra for twelve musicians. Apply by letter, enclosing copies of testimonials and terms, to the above address.
First-class Artists in all Lines required for Nov. 26, and onwards.

WANTED, Leader for Tivoli Music Hall Grimsby, commence Nov. 19.
Apply, T. STEVENS, Mus. Dir.

WANTED, a Violinist for Pitching, with Harp. Terms shares. T. MANN, 88, Saint Owen's-street, Hereford.

WANTED, First Violin, experienced, and used to Variety Business; evening dress. Terms and references, T. A. EDWARDES, Palace, Derby.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, First-class Clarionet, used to Variety. State terms, references, and age, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Palace Theatre, Bradford.

WANTED, at Once, for the Croydon Town Band, Good E flat Horn Player. WALTERS, 51, Waddon New-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Harp, to join Clarionet, First and Second Violins, and Solo Cornet, for Pitching and Touring. Address, F. C. SAUNDERS, 6, Sandford-street, Cheltenham.

WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Viola to commence at once, permanency to a First-class Player. Applications, with full particulars as to experience, references, and salary required for two performances daily, to JNO. R HUDDLESTONE, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, Reliable 'Cellist.
Apply,
SHERWOOD and Co., Wakefield.

WANTED, Smart Pianist, arranger preferred, for Publisher's Office.
Apply, with full particulars and lowest terms, Box 3,981, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady, Pianist, willing to assist. State age and salary required.
Apply, MORLAIS,
Castle Inn, Merthyr, Glamorganshire.

WANTED, Pianist, thoroughly experienced in Variety Business. State lowest terms and references. T. W. MOYES, Palace, Grimsby.

WANTED, Pianist, Lady or Gentleman, open at once, one in vicinity preferred. Actual lowest terms. COLEMAN DAVIES, Concert Hall, Llanberis, North Wales.

WANTED, good Pianist and Flute, must be competent and reliable, used to Variety. Open Monday. Wire, MAITLAND LACEY, Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, Drums and Effects, must be used to Variety, commence immediately. Apply to AUGUSTE DENTON, Mus. Dir., Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

WEST RIDING ASYLUM, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, a Male Attendant, who must have good musical abilities and read music at sight, and possess a good tenor voice. Wages, £30 per annum, rising £2 10s. annually to £55, with board, lodging, washing, and a uniform suit every eight months. Application, stating age, height, reference as to character and ability, to be sent at once to the MEDICAL DIRECTOR.

WANTED, Tenders for Band, Folkestone Amusements Association. The Committee invites Tenders for supplying thoroughly efficient Band, of Military Formation, consisting of twenty-six capable Musicians and a Conductor, in suitable Uniform, to play thrice daily (four-and-three-quarter hours each day) in the Bandstands on the Leas, or elsewhere, as required, for the season 1907, eleven weeks, July 3 to Sept. 17. The Committee desires an already established Band and a Conductor with well-known name and good reputation. Tenders must state price per week, including the supplying of Music and Uniforms, proposed composition of Band, information as to past engagements, references. Sealed Tenders, marked "Tender for Band," to be sent to the Secretary not later than 2 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 22. The Committee does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

THOMAS FINN, Secretary,
Radnor-chambers, Folkestone.

WANTED, at once, for an English Orchestra, Young Man, not over 25 years, First Violin, Cornet, Trombone, Viola, Bass, Clarionet, 'Cello, also other instruments. Touring in Germany. Apply, MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Scotch Orchestra, Bochum i/w., Germany.

WANTED, competent Variety Musicians with Pianist for Conductor, for Small Suburban Hall. LENNOX BARRY, Hippodrome, Hounslow.

WANTED, Mark Dearlove or Vincent, Pianist, to write at once to DEARLOVE, Walshford Bridge, Wetherby, money awaiting him, most urgent.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement, 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies, and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, Violinist, Disengaged, Composer of Music "Silver King," &c. Pantomimes arranged. 54, Casewick-road, West Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Jules Guitton, Musical Director, Composer, and Arranger, Disengaged, Pantos. arranged. 51, Fairland-road, West Ham, E.

WANTED, Known, T. C. Poyser, late Musical-Director, Grand Theatre, Leeds, Disengaged. Address, 98, Gordon-hill, Enfield, Middlesex.

WANTED, immediate Re-engagement as Leader or First Violin, Theatres, Restaurants; London suburbs. OSCAR CREMER, 10, Caithness-road, Mitcham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, First-class Musical-Director, at Liberty, Brilliant Violinist; Variety Business preferred. Highest credentials. C. FOX, 35, Heathcote-street, Hanley, Staffs.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Musical-Director of Geo. Dance's "Country Girl" Co., disengaged Christmas and Spring, through disbanding of company; excellent refs.
Address,
HERBERT ROBINSON, Nov. 12, Shakespeare, Clapham Junction; 19th, Deptford.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, variety or dramatic business. Add., ARTHUR PARISI, 106, Kenbury-st., Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Second Violin, any Business, London or Suburbs preferred. VIOLINIST, 22, Knowle-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violin, in Orchestra; steady and reliable. Write, H. FOREMAN, 29, Ilderton-road, Rotherhithe, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Good Violinist at Liberty, Leader or First Violin, any business, Variety preferred, with music. Address, J. FRANCIS, P.O., Preston.

WANTED, Known, Hugh Sangster, at Liberty, either as first or principal second violin, West-end experience. 34, Fairland-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, combine Double Bass; sober and reliable; excellent refs.; any business. L. BRYANT, 15, London-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet; good, steady, and experienced. Can join immediately. H. C. JONES, 73, Love-street, Paisley.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Cornet, any Business; steady and reliable; can join at once. H. B. METCALFE, 39, Whitehouse-street, Walsall.

WANTED, Engagement, as Reliable First or Second Cornet; can join at once. Address, C. BURROWS, 7, Stone-street, Hastings.

WANTED, as Solo or First Cornet, Theatre or Music Hall, North London preferred; good refs. J. H. SCUTT, 14, Puller-road, High Barnet.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Cornettist, experienced all lines; highest refs.; disengaged. J. BONNER, 50, Clifton-road, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet, any business, Theatre, Musical Hall preferred; highest refs. H. HOLMES, 23, Victoria-st., Newark, Notts.

WANTED, by Clarionet, capable, steady, experienced, Engagement or Deputising, London or Suburbs. H. AUSTING, 35, Northcote-rd., Clapham Junction.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, by experienced Solo Clarionet; bonâ-fide refs.; military or string. Address, F. GARNER, The Porches, Rainhill, near Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, any business; reliable references; total abstainer; finished season West Pier, Brighton. MCCORMICK, 8, Cleveland-road, Brighton.

WANTED, by late Solo Clarionet Hyde Park Band, Engagement or Deputising; good refs. SHEEHAN, 11, Pelham-st., South Kensington, S.W.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, Theatre, Music Hall. Late Mail Boats. Please state terms. LEE, 35, Bark-place, Bayswater, London.

WANTED, Engagement, with either Flute, Bassoon, Second Violin. Will give £5 for good billet. Experienced; good references. W. L., 6, Mary's-terrace, Twickenham.

WANTED, Engagement as Double Basso, any business; practical and reliable. Address, W. FURNIVAL, 35, Owen-road, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone, Theatre or Music Hall, or Deputising.
W. GOFF, 111, Upper Kennington-lane, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, Theatre or Music Hall; good references; would deputise. HURST, 105, Culford-road, Dalston, N.

WANTED, by Trombone or Euphonium, Engagement, play any business or deputise. Apply, P. EWINS, 9, South-street, Reading.

WANTED, by experienced Euphonium, Engagement, any Business; can open at once. GRICE, 22, Stafford-mews, Malvern-road, West Kilburn.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist, just disengaged, for Pantomime or any other Variety Show. 47, Melrose-gardens, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Deputising or Permanent, Engagement, as viola or second violin, variety or theatre. WOOLLETT, 29, Khyber-rd., Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, by experienced Oboeist, Engagement; sober reliable. Late Royal Artillery Band, Woolwich. FIELD, 28, Cardozo-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Oboist, just finished 18 weeks' engagement at Bridlington Spa; highest references. WM. RICHMOND MORTON, 7, Bedford-road, Clapham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known Æneas Gibson, First-class Harpist and Pianist, immediate Rengagement; young; travel abroad if preferred; reliable, sober. 164, Roundhay-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, age 19, Harpist; brilliant Soloist. All letters, 7, Provost-rd., Hampstead, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Lady Harpist (Solo and Orchestral), Engagement for Panto. or Xmas Production. Address, Box 3,960, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement by Flute and Piccolo, London or Suburbs preferred; any business. FLAUTIST, 30, Gainsford-rd., Walthamstow.

WANTED, by Flautist, Engagement, any Bus. Address,
16, Anderson-road, Park Estate, Tipton, Staffs.

WANTED, Engagement, by Mr. Lorenzo Lewis, Variety Pianist, Conduct and Arrange (or self); ever reliable, gentlemanly; 9 years Palace, Portsmouth, &c. 3, Market-street, Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady, as Accompanist, London or Tour. 39, Chelsham-rd., Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, experienced, Orchestral or otherwise, First-class Accompanist, Sight-reader; permanent preferred. R. STONE, 52, Winstead-street, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by N. Robinson, Pianist, Orch. or Self; exper. Var., Dram; good reader; steady; reliable. 227, Bowling Back-lane, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist or Saxhorn, combine if required, finished season Ireland, at Liberty Monday. WILLIE SWIFT, Lee-street, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Shop as Double Drums, any business. Address, A. EASON, 16, Stonebridge-road, South Tottenham, London.

WANTED, by First-class Lady Mandolinist, soloist and sight reader, engagement, young, attractive, experienced, would combine piano if required. Box 3,986, "The Era."

AVENUE OPERA HOUSE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Full Orchestra of 14 thoroughly competent Musicians, to join Nov. 19. All communications to be addressed to CHAS. E. MACHIN.

WANTED the Shakespearean Ladies' Orchestra (Viennese), copyright registered Stationers' Hall, twenty-two (or less) performers, magnificent costumes; highest criticisms. Conductor, Miss GASCOYNE OLD, 238, Edgware-road, London.

To Pier Managers, Corporations, &c.
WANTED, Known, a First-Class Italian Orchestra or Military Band, at Liberty for next summer season; best picked soloists; smart uniforms; répertoire includes all the latest English selections. MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Box 3,765, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands, apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to Dec. Quartet now Disengaged.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Madam Wilton Davis's Ladies' Orchestra (The Grosvenor), open for Hotels, Dances, Tea-rooms; Good Pianiste Dis. 42, Linton-st., Islington.

WANTED, Known, the Orchestral Association is prepared to provide Managers and Conductors with Professional Players, from Single Performers to Complete Orchestras, for First-class London or Provincial Theatres, Concerts, or Balls, &c.; or Military Bands of any number, including Conductor if required. None but bonâ fide professional musicians are admitted to membership. For particulars, apply SECRETARY, 28, Gerrard-street, London, W. Telephone, 4469 Central. Telegrams, "Harmonists, London."

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, at Once, and Future Dates, all the Latest and Greatest Novelties, Big Sensations, and Star Turns in all Lines. Anything new to the above town can be booked at once. Note.—All Artists engaged will have the option of engagements at Ohmy's Grand New Building, which will open in December. Address, KING OHMY, Circus, Barrow-in-Furness.

CIRCUS, HULL.
WANTED, Nov. 19, 26, Equestrienne Lady and Gentleman, Clowns, and Artists of every description. Silence a polite negative. Address, EDWARD EMERSON, General-Manager.

WANTED, Good Circus Artists, with own Horses, for Plymouth and Exeter, open Monday next; long engagement. Wire, SECRETARY, Hippodrome, Plymouth.

WANTED, First-Class Circus Acts in all Branches, who are at liberty from Boxing Day on, to write in immediately with full particulars, lithos., &c., otherwise no notice taken. Clowns, Riders, Agoustes, Jugglers, Specialities, for first-class London establishment, apply by letter in first instance.
Box 3,983, "The Era."
Please accept silence as polite negative.

WANTED, Nov. 19, onwards, Gentlemen Riders, with or without own horses, Circus Acts, all Lines. T. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Comic Horizontal Bar Performers, suitable for Circus Ring. State lowest terms for one week, two, three, and four weeks. Send vacant dates in January and February, 1907. Silence a polite negative (pro tem.) Address, GEORGE GASCOIGNE, Victoria Villa, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, a Top Mounter, for well-known Acrobats, at once. E. STARLING, 57, Fortess-road, Kentish Town, London.

WANTED, Top Mounter, about 8st., able to play a Comedy part, in Acrobatic Sketch. All details C/o Box 3,982, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, the Hanneford Family, Dashing Barebacked Equestrians (four in number, two ladies, 2 gentlemen)) also the great Trick and Canadian Fire Horse, Sultan, and Trick Pony, the handsomest and best now before the public; also similar performing Elephant; with own horses for all Barebacked Acts.

Address all communications to
EDWARD HANNIFORD, "the Barnum of Ireland,"
6, George-street, off Ravenhill-road, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Dec. 17, onwards, for Winter Season, the refined John Scott Family of male and female Equestrians, &c., five in number (one lady and four gents.), including Poor Billy, the King of the Ring. For particulars, lithos., &c., address, 12, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, Frank Anderson (Handy Andy), Talking, Tumbling, and Knockabout Clown and Agouste Entrées, &c., and his two Comic Donkeys, Vacant Dec. 17, on. Cooke's Circus, Edinburgh.

Notice.—Look out for something New. Jackles and his Savage Brutes. Big success for two and a half years through South Africa and Australia with Bostock and Wombwell's.

WANTED, a Good Agent, for Dates. BOSTOCK and WOMBWELL'S, c/o J. J. Miller, Melbourne.

WANTED, Known Bros. Austin, Talking, Tumbling, Knockabout Clowns and Agouste, good Entrées, and First-class Foot Equilibrist, now appearing Ohmy's Grand Circus, Barrow, at Liberty Nov. 19.

WANTED, The Steckels, Nov. 12 and 19, Gymnastic Speciality; also Jean Steckel, Equestrienne. Com., STEBBINGS, or 17, Seymour-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, the Maros, Comedy Bar Act, Nov. 12, Circus, Bury; Liberty 19th, 26th. Coms. as above, or STEBBING'S Agency.

WANTED, Nov. 26, one week only, Miss Myria Lo-La, and Holmar, first-class smart comedy three-bar act. Address, Theatre, Darwen, Lancs.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, lady and gent. gymnastic pot-pourri act, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17. Address, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, Monday Nov. 12, by Queenie Lo Lo, Graceful Trapeze and Teeth Speciality Artist; also Little May, Graceful Contortionist and Dancer. Private address, 127, Upper Aughton-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Comedy Equilibrists and Acrobats, Nov. 12, 19. Wire, King-street, Thorne, Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, The Sylvenes, Comedy Contortionists and Herculean Hand Balancers, want Nov. 12, 19, and 26. 100 Chobham-road, Stratford.

WANTED, by two Gentlemen, Engagement, Comedy Act, can work good Equilibrist Act, not amateurs. Letters, B. C., 1, Reed-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Under-man and Catcher, also a Lady willing to work with him; elegant appearance necessary. Offers to GIOVANNI VERCIANI, W. London V., 39, Lisle-st.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

DERBY, STOKE, ATTERCLIFFE, and GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines for above towns. Artists are warned that the barring conditions on their agreements will be strictly enforced, and any breach thereof will entail the cancelling of the whole of their dates, as per terms of Contract. Billing matter must be sent two weeks in advance, and all applications and correspondence must be addressed to
T. A. EDWARDES, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Nothing too big. Send full particulars, with lithos. (if any), to MORGAN, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, Nov. 19, onwards. WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all lines, Nov. 19 and onwards.
MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Nov. 19, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small. P. REYMOND, as above.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists for Glasgow Concerts. Lowest terms and permanent address to the SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

Wires, "Benbrick, London." 'Phone, 8148 Gerrard.
BLANCHARD'S
AMUSEMENT ASSOCIATION,
49, Charing Cross-mans., Charing Cross-rd., W.C.
Under the sole control of BENBRICK BLANCHARD.
WANTED, Artists of Every Description in want of Concert, Theatrical, Pantomime, or Variety Engagements to communicate with BLANCHARD'S Amusement Association (Professional Employment Department), Manager, Mr. HARRY BISHOP, as above.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Palace, Lancaster.
J. FELL, Proprietor.

EMPIRE, GREENOCK.
General-Manager, H. L. SKIVINGTON.
WANTED, Star Artists in all Lines. Nothing too big. Salary or Share.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, for Scotland, immediate dates. ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

Notice. Notice. Notice.
Mr. CHAS. CASTLE,
late Representative for Mr. Frederic Rosen, begs to inform Proprietors, Managers, and Artists that he has accepted the management of
Mr. RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY,
Mr. RICHARD CASS'S AGENCY,
30, Maiden-lane, Strand. Telephone, 6704 Central.
30, Maiden-lane, Strand. Telephone, 6704 Central.
Mr. Castle takes this opportunity to thank proprietors and managers for their past patronage, and he will call upon them in due course with a list of Star Artists.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
All Artists with whom I have done business to write, call, or send dates, terms, bookings, &c. Also required, Artists of all descriptions. Representing the Best Establishment, and Best Numbers required. Principal Girl wanted, also Big Speciality, for Dec. 31. CHARLES CASTLE, Cass's Agency, as above.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, nothing too big, for Palace, Leigh, Lancs. Dec. 3, onwards. J. LARDER, 82, Wellington-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Artists, Monday, Comedians, Sisters, &c., &c.
J. FELL, Palace, Lancaster.

ALHAMBRA, GROVE-ST., EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Nov. 12, onwards. Wire or write, MANAGER.

WANTED, Artists wishing Engagement at the Palace Theatre, Cork, please write, CHESTERS, 30, Fennel-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, Nov. 19, also two Acts, cheap, for Monday next.
GEO. SAPHRINI, Palace, Boston.

WANTED, Known, Artists wishing to be booked for First-class Music Hall Engagements Please communicate with BROOKS'S Agency, 36 Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for New Year's Week, near Glasgow, Speciality Artists, Musical, Novelty Turns, Mesmerist, &c. CONNAL, 127, West Regent-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, only dates vacant until end Jan. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now on.
Apply,
Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Empire Palace, Dover, and the Alhambra, Sandgate. FRED DURHAM'S Variety Agency, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone 15, Brixton.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
DALTON'S AGENCY. Always send
DALTON'S AGENCY. House Address as well
DALTON'S AGENCY. as Theatre.
DALTON'S AGENCY. A feature in connection
DALTON'S AGENCY. with this Agency will be
DALTON'S AGENCY. Artists Vacant "Monday
DALTON'S AGENCY. next," also "Artists Vacant
DALTON'S AGENCY. Immediate Dates," and Art-
DALTON'S AGENCY. ists are requested to post
DALTON'S AGENCY. me if open Monday next,
DALTON'S AGENCY. and mention at same time
DALTON'S AGENCY. any immediate vacancies;
DALTON'S AGENCY. but "Monday next" being
DALTON'S AGENCY. a feature in the future, a
DALTON'S AGENCY. penny stamp may mean a
DALTON'S AGENCY. shop. Please note to always
DALTON'S AGENCY. send private address where
DALTON'S AGENCY staying in the respective
DALTON'S AGENCY. towns for early delivery of
DALTON'S AGENCY. telegrams. Tele., "Granbeste Withington." Telephone, 193 Didsbury. 29, Mauldeth-road West, Withington, Manchester.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Variety Talent, Share or Salary. Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock for Carpos Bros., Lil O'Gorman, Ivy Valesco, Harry Barker, Vowles and Bryan, Cailler, Dean and Leicester, Eugene, Vernon's Bioscope.
Letters, SMITH and Co., Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, Parthenon Music Hall, Liverpool. Important Notice.
This Hall will be Closed on and after Monday, Nov. 19, 1906. Those Artists who have not been communicated with, please consider all contracts cancelled. EDWIN W. SMITH.

WANTED, for Nov. 19, 26, and Dec. 2,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

BARNARD'S AGENCY,
24, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, Stars and Specialities. Nothing too Big.
Telephone, 1114.

VERNO'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Stars, Big Numbers, anything that can draw, Nov. 19, 26. Wire or write to JESS VERNO,
16, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." 'Phone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Big Stars and Novelties, Nov. 19, 26, onward; also a Complete Pantomime, for Jan. 7, twice nightly, on share or certainty. FRED NEIMAN and Co., Variety Agents, 1, Savoy-steps, 108, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Nov. 19, 26, Stars only, Best Halls.
GEO. AYTOUN,
22, Wilson-rd., Camberwell, London, S.E.
Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone 1949 Hop.

WANTED, New Turns to complete List. Wanted, a Cheap Pair of Sisters for Monday next. Wanted, a Fit-up for "Robinson Crusoe" Panto. Wanted, a few Tame Monkeys, broken or unbroken. PAPA BROWN, Agent, 8, Cleveland-house, Hackford-road, S.W.

WANTED, all Kinds of Good Turns. State when last in Liverpool, and name of hall. JOHN HARGREAVES, Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Star Turns,
Immediate and Future Dates.
GEORGE PEARSON'S Agency,
6, Dunstan-road, Honor Oak, S.E.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Novelty Acts for Exclusive Engagements, or Artists who can work another turn in London, from
the week commencing Dec. 24, onwards,
should communicate
at once to
J. A. COCHRAN,
10, Leicester-place,
London, W.C.

PALACE, KILMARNOCK.
Lessee and Manager, J. CUMMINGS.
WANTED, Star Acts, all Lines, absolute lowest, once nightly.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known,
STEDMAN'S MUSICAL AGENCY,
Established Thirty Years.

Special Notice to Managers and Others.
Do you want Juveniles in your Xmas Production who can Sing? If so, consult us immediately.

We can Supply Everything in the way of Juvenile Talent.

All songs taught free of charge at our own extensive offices, thus saving managers a lot of trouble.

Licences also attended to by our own representative, specially engaged for this purpose.

All enquiries, however small, receive prompt and personal attention.

We are in a position to quote special low terms to secure your business. Our object is to give entire satisfaction and thus retain your patronage.
Call or write,
58, Berners-street, W.
Telephone, 8194 Central.
Established 30 Years. Established 30 Years.

WANTED, Known, any Star Acts who have odd weeks vacant should send list of vacancies to FRANK LYNNE, 12, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W. (AYTOUN'S Agency.)

DEITRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
31, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, the Biggest Acts on Earth, especially Comic, for England and the Continent, Nov. 19, onwards. Price no object; talent counts. Artists who have written before, kindly write again.

PUBLIC HALL, GRAYS, ESSEX.
WANTED, Specialities, and Doubles doing Singles, Nov. 12, and on. Terms must be low, or useless. ALBERT P. CROSS, Manager.

WANTED, Specialities of all kinds, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, onwards. MARTINO'S Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Specialities, of all Kinds, immediate and future dates. HURMAN'S Agency, 13, Conway-mount, Leeds.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. Also for the Leading Seaside Resorts and Principal Galas next Summer.
Photos., lithos., lowest terms,
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686 Royal.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester

WANTED, Attractions for Amusements Park, situated midway between Leeds and Wakefield. This Park has been purchased, and is being laid out by the Wakefield and District Light Railway Company, who intend sparing no expense to make it successful. Very favourable terms offered to persons willing to put up and run up-to-date first-class amusement devices. Write, GENERAL-MANAGER, Light Railway Company, Wakefield.

WANTED, the Cream of the Profession; those new to London can have a Trial Show. Send lithos., memos., lowest terms, and bookings. May Henderson, Empire, Leeds; Lade Henderson, Hippodrome, Coventry; Sauteron, Champion Jumper, Widnes; Lily Arthur, the miniature late Jenny Hill, Royal Standard; C. Banks and his wonderful Dog, one month London Pavilion; Dick and Dorothy, Empire, Hackney; the Dewars, Richmond. Interviews by appointment only. Glover (song writer) and Russell Rosse write. Address, BILLY HENDERSON and Co., 30, Handforth-road, Brixton-road, London.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, for the above, Nov. 26 and Dec. 3, the Biggest Tops of Bills on Earth; also Artists in all Lines. Artists holding Contracts for Porth not required.
Address all communications to
D. TAYLOR, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Top of Bill, for Nov. 19; also Small turn. Address, WILL ONDA, Theatre Royal, Leigh.

WANTED, all Nov, all Dec., Top, Bottom, Middle, Variety Acts all Lines. I can book you. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Bioscope, with First-class Variety Sketch Company, fit-up, for the Drill Hall, Bromley, Christmas week. Sharing terms. FRED FORRESTER, 36, Trinity-sq., Brixton, London, S.W.

SUNDERLAND DISPENSARY ANNUAL SACRED CONCERT, at PALACE THEATRE, Sunday Evening, Dec. 16.
WANTED, Applications from Lady and Gentlemen Artists open for engagement, vocal or instrumental turns. Only those whose fees are strictly moderate need apply, to MUSHENS, Sec., Dispensary, Sunderland.

WANTED, immediately. Wanted, immediately. The Best Solo Boys in England, or any really Good Speciality; must be first-class, for Immediate Engagements at West-End Theatres. Good salaries. No fees of any kind charged. Call, write, 'phone, or wire us at once. Est. 30 years at same address. STEDMAN'S MUSICAL AGENCY,
58, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.
Telephone, 8194 Central.

WANTED, Good Sisters, Good Serio, First-class Bioscope, real operator, North, Nov. 19, on. DIACOFF, Hippodrome, Grimsby.

WANTED, Open Monday, Young Comedienne, Vocalist, and Play in Sketch, for Country Tour (third year). Terms low, but permanency to right person. HEADLAM, Merrybells, Wheatley Oxon.

WANTED, for Long Tour, Smart Girls, for Dancing and Singing Troupe. Apply, 9 till 11. GRIGORER, 104, Kennington-road, S.E.

JOHN H. TOMKINSON'S "ROYAL GIPSY" CO.
Established 1888.
WANTED, for Tour, running till Whit Week (probably longer), really good funny comedians (corner men), good soprano, and contralto. Photos. and full particulars, also state where act can be seen, to JOHN H. TOMKINSON, Theatre Royal, Tyldesley, Lancs.

WANTED, Young Man, must be tall and thin, who can dance a little, cake walk. Salary small but sure. Act goes to France, Germany, and America, as well as England. Address DANCER, Box 3,969, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Young Lady, to assist Drawing-room Speciality. Letters, with photo., experience, &c. SAUTERON, 50, Shepherd-street, Bury.

WANTED, First-Class Bioscope Show, 1½ hours' exhibition, electric, for long regular run. Share or Salary. SAXTON, 76, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Payne's Bio-Photoscopes, Operators; must know their work. Apply by letter in first place, with full particulars and terms, WALTER PAYNE, 346, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, Two Good Cinematograph Operators, with or without Machines; six months' engagement. References, &c., LISLE, Public Hall, Woking.

WANTED, Operators, to learn Chronophone; only thoroughly capable men need apply. Write, stating previous experience and references. L. GAUMONT and Co., Cecil-court, London, W.C.

WANTED, First-Class Bioscope Operator, open Monday, Nov. 12, one week, Leigh. Wire, ONDA, Theatre, Porth, S. Wales.

WANTED, a Good Bioscope Operator; must be sober, and assist with billing and stage. Address, with lowest terms, D. TAYLOR, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, at Once, Figure Worker. Permanent Engagement. State age and experience. Apply, CARL HOWLETT, Granville, Green-lanes, Hornsey, London.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by Marie Leonard, Chic Soubrette, Monday next, also Nov. 26. Liberty for Panto. 9, Vinery-place, East Park, Leeds

WANTED, by Nellie Nora, Novelty, Instrumental Act, Nov. 19, 26. A pretty and smart turn. Nov. 12, Empire, Shildon. Wire or write.

WANTED, by Nellie Elder, Comedienne, Tyrolean Vocalist, Dec. 3, 10, 24, Jan. 7, and on. All coms., Glenfield-place, Sowerby Bridge.

WANTED, Known, Babs Lloyd, Star Artist, the talk of Grimsby and all other towns, Vacant Nov. 19 next, Vacant date May 13, 1907; also Nellie Van, Comedy Artist and Dancer. Fourteen return contracts with Selwyn, Esq. Nov. 12, Hippodrome, Brighton.

WANTED, by Sisters Beatrice, Duettists and Expert Dancers, Monday next, also 19th and 26th. Wire or write, 35, Florence-st., Islington, N.

WANTED, Nov. 12 and onwards, Little Venus, the Wonderful Juvenile Character Vocalist and Dancer. Sure success. Wires and Letters to 82, Appin-road, Dennistoun, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Cento, the Cycling Monkey, Nov. 12 and onwards; a Novelty. Great success everywhere. All coms., 6, Middle Market-road, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, one week, Dec. 3, Herr Schuler, World's Greatest Saxophonist.
Dec. 10, Palace, Blackpool.
Add., HERR SCHULER, 49, Peter-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Oliver Conroy, Comedian, Funny Songs and Patter. Hippodrome, Queen's Park, Manchester.

WANTED, Dec. 10, 17, 24, by Mark Mooney, Loonie Comedian, in his novelty song, "Ugliest Woman on Earth." Monday, Gaiety, Hastings.

WANTED, Comical Walker, Talking Clown, with good comic entrées; also good globe performance. Vacant Monday. Wire, 27, Granville-st., Sheffield.

WANTED, Nov. 12, 19, on, by Sam Paul, Versatile Comedian and Powerful Actor Vocalist, Halls, Tours, &c. Wire, 43, Ashleigh-grove, Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Engagement, Nov. 12 and Pantomime, by Maurice Love, Comedian, Vocalist, and Dancer.
Address, Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Monday next, Martin Melia, Irish Comedian and Masterpiece of all Champion Dancers; also Miss Lill, Contralto Vocalist and Speciality Dancer. Wire, Empire, Paisley.

WANTED.—Notice to Managers and Proprietors. Dan Ashton, in Original and Copyright Collier's Song Scena, founded on fact, Wingate Colliery Explosion; interesting, instructive, and entertaining. Vacant Nov. 12, 26, onwards. Nov. 19, Empire, Shildon, Durham. See Cards.

WANTED, Nov. 12, 19, by Sam Shiply, Comedian and Dancer, in Funny Songs and Stories. 1, Goodwin-st., Pendleton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Harry Daniels, Negro Bones, great success on Stilts.
Alexandra Palace, London.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, by Tom Bassett, Greatest and only Shakespearean Burlesque Actor. Wire, MANAGER CLARKE, 220, Hope-street, Glasgow. Any distance.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo, the musical monkey, a great novelty, also ventriloquist. Wire, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Monday next, by Fred Casburn, versatile comedian, with song scena, "An Actor's Reverie." Wire, Dudley-st., Shipley. A feature. Wire.

WANTED, Monday next, by Bernard Bransby, Light Comedian, big hit this, Casino, Bexhill-on-Sea; next, 44, Walcot-sq., Kennington.

WANTED, Nov. 19, by Allan Hanbury, Premier Dame Patter Comedian. Great success Stoll Tour. This, Pal., Porth; next, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, by Attilla, undisputed the World's Strongest Man, in his Gladiator Display, Liberty Monday. Wire, Theatre, Esh Winning, Durham.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, the Russian Lion's Marvellous Little Wrestling Pupil, last week terrific success Lincoln. Crowds turned away nightly. 34, Margaret-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, by Salmon, the Novelty and Musical Cyclist, Nov. 12 and 19. Wire, P., Cork After Sunday, Albany-terrace, Burnley.

WANTED, Monday, Nov. 12, the Great Kyoto, Japanese Contortionist, Comedy Conjurer, Juggler; May Geraldine, Chic Dancing Comedienne. Wire, 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, London, S.E. Also Nov. 19, 26, and Dec. 3 Vacant.

WANTED, Known, that after Oct. 1, 1906, Alec Aubrey and Mlle. Devena will be known as The Garellys. Address, Mosebacke, Stockholm.

WANTED, Known, Letta and Minni, vacant Nov. 12, 19, 26, and Dec. 3.
Address, 11, Addison Park-mansions, Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, Monday next, Smalley's Comedy Bar Act; Nellie Duval, Comedienne; two first-class Acts. Wire, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Known, Ernie Myers and Lily Lonsdale have Nov. 19 and 26 vacant, through misunderstanding, Palace, Cork. Monday next, Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, Monday next, also Nov. 26, The Izons (Ada and Arthur), Duettists, Patterers, and Dancers; also Ada Clare, Serio and Dancer. Wire, Palace, Lancaster.

WANTED, Nov. 19, Mlle. Lillian and Clown, Contortionists; also Savaro, Bird Imitator; Liberty Panto. or Picture Tour. Offers. Palace, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Known, Le Brun and Irene, Double Jugglers, vacant Nov. 19. Only vacancy till July. Wire, 21, Shirley-street, Hove.

WANTED, Dec. 31, Jan. 14, by The Monckton, in latest successful musical farcical episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Nov. 12, also 19, by Merit and Moore, Comedy Duologue Artists. Share or salary. Wire, Post Office, Derby.

WANTED, Monday, by Chant and Chant, refined vocal comedy duo. Terrific hit, refer Manager, Hippo., Ton-y-Pandy, where wire.

WANTED, Nov. 19-26, Dec. 3, by Carl and Carr, Refined Comedians, Bottoming Bill Palace, North Shields. Next week, Aquarium, Scarboro'.

WANTED, 12th and 19th, by Gravetta and Parr, Clay Modellers, Impersonators, Conjurers, single if required. Wire, Hippo., Accrington (third return).

WANTED, the Cheers, vacant Nov. 19, Dec. 3, original speciality, special scenery and chimes, performing Cats. 80, Claremont-road, Sefton Park, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, W. Douglas, Douglas and Douglas, has entered into Partnership with Mr. G. Sherry. Now known as The Four Sherrys.
Will Miss E. S. write?
Pier Pavilion, Southport.

WANTED, Trillo, Remarkable Ventriloquist, Liberty Monday. Imitation of Musical Instruments. Trillo's performance shines in any programme. Wire, Public Hall, Grays, Essex.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday next and onward, by Gilroy, Vent. and Boston Bioscope, one or both acts. Wire, 55, Effingham-street, Rotherham.

WANTED, Nov. 19, 26, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist, two first-class acts. Letters, 5, Union-road, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Monday next, and 19th, by King Leo, smart ventriloquist. Wire, Hippo., Preston; after Sat., 29, Mytton-st., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Nov. 12 or 19, onwards, Maurice Love's Comedy Company, in Screaming Sketch, "Matchmaking." Wire, Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, that Calden's Successful Musical Skit, in three scenes, entitled "The Dandy Duke," will in future be known as "The Deputy Duke." Phenomenal Success this week, E., Dublin; Nov. 12, E., Belfast. Coms. direct.

WANTED, Xmas and New Year's weeks, that grand seasonable spectacle, "Santa Claus," including twenty local children, scenery, dresses, &c., carried. For terms, &c., CLARKE, 220, Hope-st., care of POLLOCK.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Vent. and Illusionist, Nov. 12 and 19. Permanent Address, 32, Courtenay-road, Walthamstow, London.

WANTED, Nov. 19, by Gulliver, the Smartest Vent. Act in the Country at the present time. Wire, Tivoli, High Shields.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show has returned from Spain.
Vacancies Dec. 3, 10, 17, and 24,
also Jan. 7, 14.
Address week, Nov. 12,
Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, Nov. 19, Chard's Dog Circus.
Great Victoria Hall,
Sunderland.

WANTED, Dates Nov. 17 on, Circling the Gap in Mid-Air, the Twentieth Century Cycling Sensation. PALMER and RIMLOCK, all coms., 13, Great Western-square, Dublin.

WANTED, by Assistant Illusionist, or Small Comedy Part in Sketch; now disengaged. HILDA BERESFORD, 58, Heron-road, Herne Hill, London.

WANTED, Engagements, public or private, Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

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WANTED, Known, Showmen's Letter Cloths, made and attractively painted in fancy colours. ROCHE, Artist, 22, Lansdowne-rd., Lee, S.E.

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Butter Scotch Packets, marked 3d. Per Packet 5s. per gross.
The Small Butter Scotch, 3s. 6d. per gross.
Best Quality only.

WANTED, Novelties, Heavy Lady and Midgets, those used to Fair Business preferred. Send photos. and lowest terms to HENRY WALL, 47, Sussex-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Novelties. Future Dates, for Large Shop, Overgate, Dundee; also Tattoo Artist. Open Nov. 12. EAGLE DAVIS, 124, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties, Paintings, present and future dates; great success this week of Pigmies. Address, THOMPSON, Manager, 78, Castle-street, Bristol.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks, Palmist, Pictures, &c., best shop Leith; good Doorsman, cheap. Wire immediately, wire, PROPRIETOR, 1, Promenade, Portobello, Scotland.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Novelties, for First-class Shop; also Lady Character Delineator; shares. Also wanted, Arthur Wilson to write at once re Living Waggon for Sale. Address, OWNER Pullman Carriages, Tanners-lane, Kettering.

WANTED, for Monday, Nov. 12, onwards, Good Living Novelties, two weeks certain (Yarmouth and Lowestoft 10 miles). Shares. Fares advanced. Wire, BARRON, Exhibition, Arcade, Lowestoft.

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WANTED, for Baines's New Novelty Palace, Freaks, Novelties, Second-sight Midgets, or any Good Show with Drawing Powers, good flash. Shares. Write or wire, 33, Bradshaw-st., Derby.

WANTED, Picture Shows, Novelties, Tattooer, Character Delineator, largest shop Kirkgate, Leith; also Spaces to Let, Dumfries Carnival. DIRECTOR, 1, Promenade, Portobello.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties. Open at Once, sale of books and post-cards allowed. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

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WANTED, Lady Character Delineator. Permanency.
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WANTED, a Giant or Giantess, for Exhibition in Great Britain.
Write full particulars to
Mr. BAER, Poste Restante, Charing Cross, London.

WANTED, at Once, Phrenologist, Wireworker, Tattooer, first-class shop, permanent exhibition, share or rental. ROBINSON, 217, High-st., Chatham.

WANTED, for Old-time Richardson's Show, at Olympia, London, commencing Xmas, onwards, Old Mummers in all Lines. Those used to Portables, Fairs Business, and Parading only apply, with actual lowest terms, photos., and full particulars, FRED KARNO, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, for Johnson's Circus of Varieties, two Young Lady Paraders, those used to fair business; also a Good Ground Act. All letters, Address,
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WANTED, First-class Doorsman, good powerful voice, commanding appearance, to open at Christmas-time, in London. Terms and references to FRED KARNO, Park House, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, London.

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WANTED, Known, Mlle. Flo, Tattooed Lady, and Ydac's Cabinet Act, Liberty Monday, onward. Shares or salary. CADY, Stewart's Waxworks, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Will Furniss, Pianist and Planksman, at Liberty. First-class Sight Reader and Vamper; rep. Wire or write, C/o Edwards and Page, Neath, South Wales.

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AT LEWIS'S.

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Apply at once to
W. H. WILLIAMS,
Exhibition,
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WANTED, all Showmen and Roundabouts Proprietors, Stall-holders, to know that Rochdale Christmas Fair will commence on Dec. 14, and continue till the 26th next, in the Cattle Market. All applications to WM. MITCHELL, Hindhill-street, Heywood.

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Three Performances Daily.

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WANTED, Known, Room to Let, suitable for Wire-worker, &c., splendid opening. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxwork Exhibition, Dublin. Palmistry excepted.

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Arthur Reece, Amy Sullivan, Mezzetti and Mora, Stein Eretto Troupe, Barton and Ashley, Mark Melford and Co., Ted and May Hopkins, Eadie and Ramsden, Ed. Laurie and May Beattie, Song "The Sioux."

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Three Olympiers, The Althoffs, Los Granadas, Harriett Vernon, Maudie Ford, Hale and Francis, E. J. Sheldon, Bioscope, Horace Jones, Geoffrey James.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
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EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Ludwig Amann, Victor Travers, Florence and Lilian, Avrigny Troupe, Amy Russell, Five Bogannys, Roy and Fenton, Dick and Dorothy, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Willie Edouin, Brett and Orford, Ray Wallace, New Macs, Sisters Dorrell, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, George Brooks, Lizzie Daniels, Alexandre and Hughes, Imperial Russian Troupe.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, Leslie Bros., Sisters Caselli, Preston and Balmaine, Selkirk and Co., Albert Christian, Katie Cohen, Nora Emerald, Chas. Whittle, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Karno's "Moses and Son," Bioscope, Ray Maskell, Lilian Lea, Jack Charman, The Manchester Mites, Chas. Fisher and Co., Indian Fakirs.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Fred Storey and Co., in "The Merchant of Venice," Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Molasso Quartette, R. H. Douglass, Katie Butler, Madge Morley and Co., Three Dumonds, Silent Tait, George Leyton.

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CLOSED.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

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Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Boswell's Circus, Elly Adair, Frank Sylvo, Ernest Ball, Burley and Burley, Pictures, Hanid Alexander, Joly, Two Tees, McConnell Trio.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
"The Dandy Duke," Beatrice Willey, Gus Dallon, Eight of Hearts, Marie Neilson, Harry Herbert, Mezzettis, Ford and Barris.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Fred Karno's Co., Jessie Burnett, Stelling and Dog, Clarice Netta, Frank Maura, Pictures, Tom Dunmore, Dolly, Agnes, and Maud.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Bob Hutt and Co., Edith Fink, Gicardo, Johnny Worman, Florence Hyde and Co., Pictures, The Dewars, Georgie Bartolotte, Doody and Wright.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Albertine Melisch, Lucia, Viata, H. O. Wills, Cosgrove and Burns, Three Prestons, Bros. Egbert, Lena Willard, Bioscope, Bonnie Goodwin.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Neil Kenyon, Poluskis, George Mozart, Alexandra Dagmar, Herbert La Martine, Harry Rassow, Leslie Race, Ted Cowan, Atroy, Sisters Pine, Gracie Graham, Violi, May Marton, Smythsons, Bliss and Bliss, Haytors, Society Quartette, Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
First Performance: Bros. Luck, Phil Ray, Michael Nolan, Bert Brantford, Sisters Pine, Ethel Ra Leslie, Gladys Mavius, Peggy Pryde, F. Bernard and Co., in "Hello," Anartos, Bliss and Bliss, Pictures.
Second Performance: Bros. Luck, Phil Ray, Arthur Prince, Chas. Clark, Sisters Pine, Gladys Mavius, Amber Austa, Peggy Pryde, F. Bernard and Co., Anartos, Goodfellow and Gregson, Pictures.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
"Mad Minstrels," Ryder Slone, Boy Glen, Carter Livesey and Co., Cussac Talma, May Orchard, Chas. Pastor, The Calcotts, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for those engaged at the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagement cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

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Written and Composed by Edward Montagu.

There's a mighty little island, where the west wind blows,
Where the oak tree grows, and the red, red, rose;
And her native sons have never failed to thrash her foes.
The whole world knows it well.
Though her rivals always envy her, and try to claim
That she's not the same at the fighting game;
Her sons throughout the world will still uphold her name,
And win anew the glories of her fame.

Chorus:—
At duty's call in line will fall, whenever danger's nigh,
The boys who'll waste no time in idle brag;
From colonies beyond the seas the men who'll do or die,
Underneath the same old flag.
The gallant Scotch, the old Black Watch, those fighting Highland boys,
And then that dear dare-devil Pat from Ireland,
Tommy Atkins tried and true, sailor lads in navy blue,
Fighting for their King and Sireland.

Write for Full Copy and hear the Melody.

"ARRAH WANNA."

(An Original Irish-Indian Song).
Words by Jack Drislane, Music by Theodore Morse.

'Mid the wild and woolly prairies lived an Indian maid,
Arrah Wanna, queen of fairies, of her tribe afraid.
Each night came an Irish laddie O, with a wedding ring,
He would sit outside her tent, and with his bagpipes loudly sing.

Chorus:—
Arrah Wanna, on my honour, I'll take care of you;
I'll be kind and true.
We can love and bill and coo.
In a wigwam built of shamrock green, we'll make those red men smile,
When you're Missis Barney Michael Carney from Killarney's isle.

Write for Full Copy and hear the Melody.

"THE GOOD OLD UNION JACK."

(A Dramatic Story and Stirring Refrain).
Words by Jack Drislane, Music by Theodore Morse.

Tell me, daddy, tell me, why those men in that big crowd,
Won't you tell me why they're cheering, what makes each one look so proud?
Listen, lad, he answered, it's the tune the brass band plays,
It's the song, "Britannia Rules the Waves," and you'll know one of these days.

Chorus:—
Makes no diff'rence where you wander, makes no diff'rence where you roam;
You don't have to stop and ponder for a place to call your home;
When they ask where you were born, lad, speak right up and answer back,
That you're proud of your own dear Motherland, and the good old Union Jack.

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See our Special Advertisement on Page 24.

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"MY BUNGALOW IN BORNEO."
"WHEN THERE ISN'T A GIRL ABOUT."
"THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR A GIRL."
"WHAT HAS BECOME OF OUR SONGS?"
"COLOMBO." "STOWAWAY."
"YOU ARE MY IRISH LILY."
"WALTZ ME AROUND AGAIN WILLIE."
"I WANT NO OTHER LITTLE GIRL BUT YOU."
"IF I HAD BEEN BORN A GIRL."
"SHE HASN'T DONE HER HAIR UP YET."
"WOULD YOU CARE?"
"LOOK OUT MR. MAN."

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Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously

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HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Lottie Lennox, Satsuma, Daisy Morrell, Great Scott, Harry Rogerson, Daisy Jerome, Harry Champion, Sammy Shields, Rowland Hill, Bros. Curran, Pictures, Charles Prelle.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Harry Ford, Helen Martine, The Wilfords, Bicknelle, Gus Garrick, Johnny Holland and Co., Harsey and Harden, Cissie Dryden, Pictures, The Waldrons.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
Arthur Roberts and Co., Charles Woodward, Three Pirmans, W. E. Gillen, Zeta Grey and Co., Alice Hollander, Martinetti and Grossi, San Remo Girls, Pictures, Jennie Johns.

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SEE ADVT. BACK PAGE.

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CALLS
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, NOV. 12, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls,
Monday, at 12-0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Marconis, Silvo, Daisy Martell, Maxim Girls, Frances Haskoll, Flo Chevalier, Pallister's Bioscope, Will Johnson.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Jake Friedman, Chas. Faning, Sisters Redfern, Bishop and Vale, Bijou Russell, Vox, Cissie Hare, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Harry Pleon and Co., Palette, Florrie Bray, Lytton and Bland, Gracie Bard, Harwood's Juveniles, Delomes, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
W. J. Churchill, Fred Land, Leotard Bros., Andie Caine, Sivronis, Chas. F. Best, Æolians, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Elliott's and Sivonas, Bert Harrow, Woolmer Young, Lillie Lassah, Belles Americaine, Geo. Hyman, Juno Salmo, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

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Carl Rosa Opera Company.

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"The Shadow of a Crime."

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Matinée Monday.
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Matinées Monday and Thursday.
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Matinée every Monday.
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Notice.—All artists carrying Scenery, must have it Fireproof, according to L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

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SCENE III.—**OUTSIDE A BANK.** Notson trips up an old gent, and steals his bag.
SCENE IV.—**BACK HOME.** The bag is opened, and Notson shows his wife and child his ill-gotten riches. His wife will have nothing to do with it. He quickly loads his pockets, and in reply to his wife's entreaties, knocks her down and departs.
SCENE V.—**IN THE STREET.** Notson meets a lady of his acquaintance, and suggests a visit to the Carnival at "The Bull and Bush."
SCENE VI.—**ON THE WAY TO THE CARNIVAL** (toned night blue). Notson and his lady friend are followed by his wife and child. The lady friend is put into a cab and sent on to the Carnival. Notson demands of his wife her reason for following him. Once more she entreats him to return the money and come home. Her entreaties are in vain. He fells her to the ground and rushes off to the Carnival. A Salvation Army Captain and Lassie find mother and child on the roadside. The S.A. Captain, the child, and a policeman go in search of Notson, who left his stick in the road.
SCENE VII.—**AT THE CARNIVAL** (stained gas light). Here is seen Notson and his lady friend enjoying themselves. His child comes in and points out her father to the S.A. Captain. The Captain proffers the stick. "Thanks," says Notson. "Then you are the man we want," says the Captain. "Off with that Domino."
SCENE VIII.—**THROUGH THE GARDENS** (stained gas light).
SCENE IX.—**OUTSIDE THE BULL AND BUSH** (toned night blue).
SCENE X.—**IN THE STREET** (toned night blue). Notson is given in charge.

EIGHTEEN MONTHS LATER.

SCENE XI.—**OUTSIDE WORMWOOD SCRUBBS PRISON.** A gang of prisoners are marched out. Notson gets his release. He is met by the S.A. Captain and hands Notson his stick once more. Notson will not listen to the Captain at first, but eventually agrees to go in a cab home to his waiting wife and child.
SCENE XII.—**HOME ONCE MORE.** Notson's wife is prepared for the event by the S.A. Lassie. The Captain enters, as does Notson, who clasps his little daughter to his breast. Notson is, indeed, a repentant and reformed man, and receives his wife's forgiveness.

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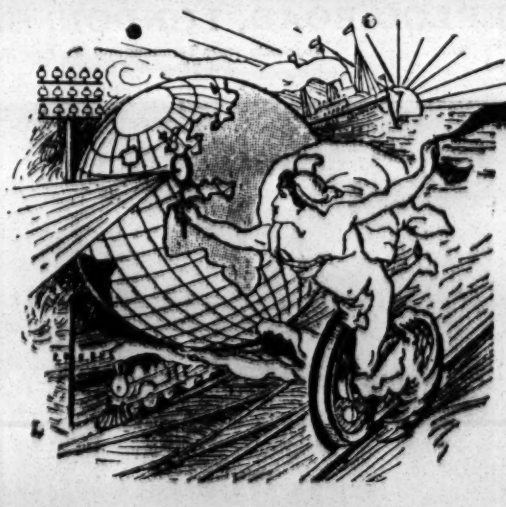

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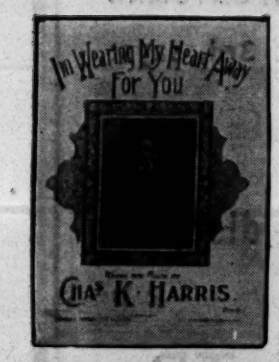

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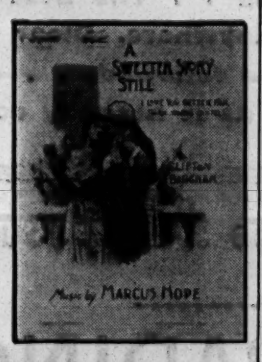

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At Lib. Lead. Concluded H. Lead V. Grantham, Esq. 68, Nicolson-street, Edinburgh.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER,

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ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

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Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.

Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.

Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.

Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.

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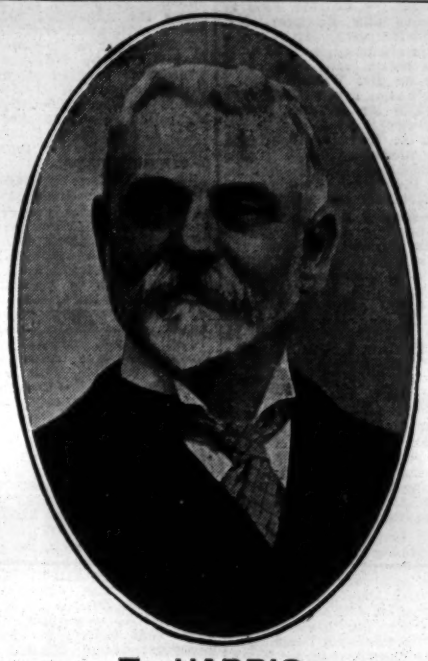

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New Theatre, St. Martin's-lane.
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Dear Mr. Harris,—Thank you so much for the quantity of costumes cleaned last week. Everything was beautifully clean, and most valuable pearls on dresses quite perfect. I had not a moment's anxiety as to their arrival at the theatre, and I must again thank you.—Yours very truly,
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108, Hartington-street,
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Nov. 13, 1906.
Dear Sir,—Thanks for brown jacket, received safely. It is most satisfactory, and am pleased with it.—Yours, &c.,
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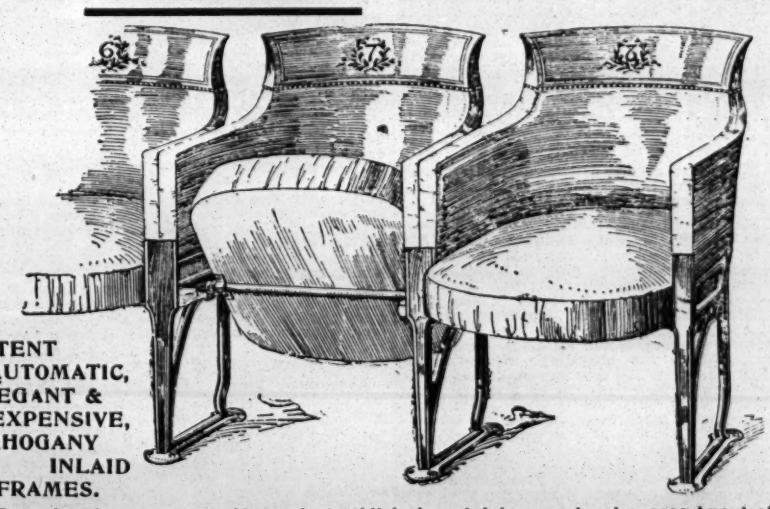

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
The thirty-ninth issue of "The Era" Annual has just appeared, and once more it supplies a useful record of the theatrical year. An editorial note reminds us that among the contributors to the first number, that of 1868, were E. L. Blanchard (its editor), Charles Mathews, T. W. Robertson, Andrew Halliday, H. J. Byron, Watts Phillips, and Dion Boucicault—a brilliant band indeed. The contributors to the present isue are almost exclusively actors rather than literary men, but upon the whole they make a very fair show; while the lists of plays produced in London and the provinces, and in Paris and Berlin during the twelve months under review are distinctly useful. There are a number of photographs including an exceedingly fine one of the late Sir Henry Irving.—Pall Mall Gazette, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual is published from the offices of the old-established organ of the theatrical profession, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. As usual, it is a carefully-compiled record of notable events of the year 1905. A pleasing feature is the selection of short stories, after recounting strange experiences, by "stars" of the dramatic and music-hall professions, these being in every case accompanied by photographs of the writers.—Newcastle Daily Journal, Jan. 27 1906.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
EARLY TRAINS.
The Railway Companies are despatching many morning trains earlier than hitherto. This will enable subscribers and advertisers in the provincial towns to get copies of "The Era" in time for the breakfast table. Advertisers are requested to forward their advertisements as early in the week as possible, and not later than 7 p.m. on Thursday.
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THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"HUSARENFIEBER,"
Comedy, in Four Acts, by MM. Kadelburg and Skowronnek, produced at the Lustspielhaus.
Nov. 9, 1906.

Von Ellerbeck ..... HERR PAUL
Waacknitz ..... HERR BACH
Von Kehrberg ..... HERR HARTING
Von Brentendorpff ..... HERR SCHONFELD
Orff ..... HERR SCHMIDT
Krause ..... HERR IMPEKOVEN
Kellermann ..... HERR SENIUS
Lamprecht ..... HERR BECKMANN
Frau Lamprecht ..... FRAULEIN LIMBURG
Rose ..... FRAULEIN CERIGIOLI
Marianne ..... FRAULEIN WALDEGG
August Nippes ..... HERR ENGELS
Frau Nippes ..... FRAULEIN BECKER
Erika ..... FRAULEIN WENDT
Borckmann ..... HERR PAULMULLER
Frau Borckmann ..... FRAULEIN HILLER
Lotte ..... FRAU MALLINGER
Suna ..... HERR WALTER
Agathe ..... FRAULEIN MARBA
Fränze ..... FRAULEIN WILHELMY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, NOV. 15.—The new work met with an enthusiastic reception, as was to be anticipated. Both authors are known for their bright humour, and—in addition to this—a military "milieu" would draw a full audience anywhere and at any time in this country. The farce reminds one of many others of a like character, from Gustav von Moser downwards; but if there is little originality there is plenty of innocent fun, and that, after all, is the chief qualification. The plot—which is very meagre—is as follows:—We are introduced at once to the Blue Hussars, who are stationed in a God-forsaken hole on the Russian frontier rejoicing in the name of Jakschéwo. These brilliantly-attired sons of Mars feel themselves absolutely thrown away; there is nothing with which to pass the time; they are even reduced to catching the flies on the walls. Suddenly the news of their release comes. The regiment has been ordered to Kirchhain—an important town of some 30,000 inhabitants, where there are wealthy manufacturers' daughters and all kinds of attractions. The ebullition of joy takes the form of all sorts of boyish pranks; it was so natural and contagious that the audience broke into storms of applause, and the piece won in a canter. In the next act we see the excitement into which the little town is thrown and the triumphant entry of the Hussars. The women, from the highest to the lowest, have taken the Hussar fever very badly, and the civilians have to content themselves with a back seat. The all-conquering charm of the soldiers—they are really a most amiable lot—smooths all difficulties in time. Even the margarine-manufacturer Nippes, who has set his face entirely against the invasion, is forced to give in; and the farce ends, as all farces should do, with nearly half a doen betrothals. Among many well-drawn characters those of Nippes and Lieutenant Diet von Brentendorpff stand out conspicuous. These are particularly happily conceived, and that Herren Engels and Schönfeld didevery justice to them, it is not neccessary to say. The whole cast was just as good as it could be, and artists and authors shared the never-ending applause. It was the greatest succese the Lustspielhaus has as yet recorded.

SIGNORA DUSE'S season at the New Royal Opera (Krolls) is proving another series of triumphs for the great actress. Her impersonation of Hedda Gabler has gained the unbounded admiration of the critics, although her supporters came all more or less short of the required demands. One of the most successful performances was on Friday, when Mme. Duse appeared in both tragedy and comedy—in Renan's *Abbess of Jouarre* and Goldoni's *La Locandiera*. The former made its customary profound impression, while the latter completely fascinated the delighted audience. Mme. Duse looked charming in rococo costume, and her voice and laugh seem even more beautiful than last year. To-night *Magda* will be given, and *Gioconda* finishes the set of nine performances, *Rosmersholm* being sandwiched in between. In the rôle of Rebecca West—which many persons declare to be the test-stone of Ibsen—Signora Duse was magnificent, every phase of the enigmatical character being illumined by her strong individuality. It was with *Rosmersholm* that she commenced her season.

"DER HOCHTOURIST," Herren Kraatz and Neal's laughable farce, has taken on a new lease of life at the Schiller N. The piece enjoyed an exceptionally long run here some years ago, and, after an interval of rest, has come forth victoriously. Its interpretation at the Schiller was very good, Herr Max Kirschner in the name-part displaying the quaint dry humour for which he is known to the best advantage. His supporters also came well up to the demands made upon them. A tremendously cordial reception was accorded to the farce, and "calls" were the order of the evening.

AT the Luisen a once-popular musical burlesque by Leon Treptow was revived on Wednesday, but it is scarcely likely to catch on again. The title is *Flotte Weiber*, and the piece ran to nearly two hundred performances at the Adolf Ernst (now the Thalia) Theatre many years ago. The experiment was hardly worth the trouble it entailed. The traces of time are too apparent, and, notwithstanding a capital cast, the applause was of that painful type known here as "respectful."

A NEW Christmas juvenile play is in rehearsal at the Theatre des Westens. It is called *Kindestreue und Weihnachtssegen*, and is by MM. Cossmann and Adolf Philipp. The play will be produced on the first Saturday in December. On Friday evening a new drama—*Die Hochzeitsfackel*, by Max Dreyer—will be given for the first time at the New Schauspielhaus. Another forthcoming novelty is Millöcker's operetta *Cousin Bobby*, to be given at the Theatre des Westens.

THE much-talked-of "Kammerspiele" (chamber plays) at the Deutsches Theatre began on Saturday. The opening piece was Ibsen's *Gespenster* (ghosts), which was so admirably acted that, if it be a specimen of the whole of the series, success is certain. Frau Agnes Sorma gave a faultless impersonation—original as it was characteristic—of Frau Alving, and Herr Merini, in the rôle of the ill-fated Oswald, appealed deeply to the hearts of his audience. Director Reinhardt himself played the part of Engstrandt, in which he is well known.

SHAKESPEARE'S *Midsummer Night's Dream* is still running at the Deutsches, drawing—principally by reason of its fine mounting—large audiences. On Sunday evening the Crown Prince and Princess, with Prince and Princess Eitel and a numerous suite, witnessed the performance. Their Imperial Highnesses at the close of the play complimented Director Reinhardt upon his success.

A PRETTY little fairy-play—*Rotkäppchen*, by Oscar Will—a variation upon the ever-popular *Cinderella*, met with the entire approval of an audience composed chiefly of juveniles at the Lortzing Theatre on Saturday afternoon. Being brightly acted and well staged, the piece will doubtless run well into the Christmas holidays.

MR. LIONEL BROUGH made his first appearance on the stage in the December of 1854 at the Lyceum Theatre, then under the management of Mme. Vestris and Charles Mathews, in an extravaganza by his brother, William Brough, entitled *Pretty Pet*, and in a farce called *My Fellow Clerk*. Since then, with brief intervals devoted to literary pursuits, the veteran actor has practically traversed the whole range of the theatrical profession, earning an unrivalled reputation in Shakespearean parts and in rôles of the legitimate order, his appearance in the character of Tony Lumpkin aggregating nearly 800 times.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

Provincial Correspondents are requested to forward with their next week's Reports a full list of the Theatres and Music Halls in their respective towns, also the names of the present Lessees or Managers, for insertion in The Era Annual, 1907.

ABERAVON. — Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. D. Jones.—Mr. Stanley Carlton's company is presenting two dramas here this week, *A Marriage of Vengeance* and *A Life's Story*. Mr. Stanley Carlton takes the principal part in both productions, and he is well supported by a very good company, including Messrs. Edward Pryer, J. W. Henson, Geo. Porteous, Victor Raymond, and Misses Alice Wood, Lizzie Burgess, Alice De Lacey, Susie Bevan, and Miss Ruhie Maude as the heroine.

ABERDEEN.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—The play this week is *An Actor's Romance*, American and sensational. There are some strong scenes in the various acts, and on the whole the piece is very favourably received. Messrs. E. Hardley Howard, C. E. Clive, Harry Agar-Lyons, and Harry Wren form a good combination, and Mr. Percy Warlow makes an excellent appearance as Ikey Isaacs. Miss Lillian Besant as Dotty Dillingham; Miss Florence Nelson as Florence Hastings, and Miss Beatrice Hono as Louise Davenport, play very effectively; and Miss Marian Ryder is exceedingly attractive as Phyllis Davenport.

Palace Theatre. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Mr. Harry Lauder continues his triumphal career, and hundreds have to be turned from the doors every night. The other members of the company are nearly all of first-class rank. The Four Jumels give a really admirable turn, and the audience are also delighted by the Les Valdos' comical act, *The Eccentric Motor-'Bus Men*; Acland is a dexterous and expeditious caricaturist and portrait painter; Major Moss and his son sing with exceptional taste; and among the other artists are Miss Ethel Loftus, a charming comedienne; Little Rose Pink, who sings tunefully and dances daintily; Carlile and Walker, resourceful comedians; and Mr. T. C. Callingham, a clever comedian with a distinctive style. The Bioscope pictures, "Love Wins Out," are provocative of much merriment.

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—*The Midnight Wedding* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Alfred Paumier must be highly complimented on his powerful and artistic portrayal of the leading part, Paul Valmar, and the rôle of Capt. Von Scarebuck is skilfully rendered by Mr. Clinton Baddeley; the Crown Prince Leopold is a good performance by Mr. Fred W. Freeman; Mr. W. S. Hardy's Gerrard is a careful and painstaking study; Mr. Ulick Burk depicts Lieut. Strelburg with success. The comedy element is well handled by the three comrades in war but rivals in love, Messrs. James E. Page, Percy Compton, and Algie Spalding, ably assisted by Miss Ada Compton as Kathie. Marie is well played by Miss Prudence Laurence. A high compliment must be paid to Miss Amie Laker for her admirable reading of Princess Astrea. Rozel is in the safe hands of Miss Florence Hunt.

Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Parsons.—The bill here includes the Ringling Trio, American eccentrics; Cardo, a clever magician; the Sisters Arndon in their musical speciality; the Brothers Hannaway, smart patter artists; the Violas, in their clever second sight entertainment; W. H. Downs, Gus Harris, Clark's Nippers, and some capital pictures.

ALDERSHOT.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Soanes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—The boards here have been occupied by the Aldershot Operatic Society in a representation of *Erminie*. Miss Susie Belmore has given professional aid. The society has the advantage of having Mr. Henry Sims and his famous Royal Artillery Band as conductor and orchestra respectively. Thursday night was military night. The proceeds go to help swell the funds of the Union Jack Club and other charities.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn. — The thrilling drama *In Holy (?) Russia* is being played here by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company. A good all-round company has been secured. A prominent personage in the domain of humour is Micky Nolan, an Irish servant, to which Mr. J. Rice Cassidy gives a peculiarly well-flavoured and racy impersonation. Col. Richard Forrest, of the Guards, is played with considerable fervour as well as humour by Mr. Arthur Stratton; Mr. Carl Rovinelli as Laurice Steragoff, a Nihilist leader, reaches a high level of excellence; Mr. Robt. Cockroft as the Czar of Russia displays dignity and command; Renée Rubinoff is well placed in the hands of Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy; Mr. Frederick Loyd is quiet but forcible as Count Gregori Petrolski; Mr. Terence Nerrey is sufficiently stern and unbending as the Russian Guard Michael Natolski. As the Baron Von Pleve, Chief of the Russian Police, Mr. Joe Cuthbertson meets with success; very forcible and fearless is the delineation given by the Russian spy, Catska Lavotski, by Miss Mavis Lee Anderson; and the Englishman's courage in the face of danger is vividly exhibited by Mr. Frank Copeland as Sir Harry Beresford.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech. — The week's programme includes Ted Lowan, comedian; Edie and Coons; Zertho's Dogs; the Smarte Bros., in an acrobatic speciality, *The Jolly Sportsmen*; La Belle Lillian, trick cyclist; Maude Vera, descriptive song and coon artist; David Poole, ventriloquist; Avon and Crest, in an amusing comedy act; and Little Dando, a smart eccentric comedian; "Kitchen Arguments" are depicted on the bioscope.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—Picture entertainments are still the attraction here, a well-assorted selection of films being shown, whilst the illustrated songs are especially popular.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. S. H. Laycock.—Wild, Willie, and West, described as the "bounding navvies," in a comedy, acrobatic, and trap scene, are hugely appreciated here, both for their ability and laughable by-play; Miss Grace Langley, prettily costumed, is an acceptable comedienne; Lord, Murray, and Lord provide a smart turn; Mr. W. J. Webber, basso, wins hearty applause; Conway and Garland appear in a laughable scena, in which they display the true spirit of burlesque; the Two Errolls are excellent in a leaping and acrobatic speciality; Mr. R. C. Clayton maintains the high reputation of the "Attergraph" pictures; and Mr. Herbert Rule appears as a comedian.

AYR.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—On the first three nights of the present week the theatre was occupied by Mr. Herbert Ralland's company, in the comic extravaganza, *La Poupée*. Mr. Harry Brayne was hilarious, and he did not belie the name of his part. He had admirable support from the other members of the company. The Lancelot of Mr. Arthur Cozens was made appropriately innocent; Father Maxim was well played by Mr. Walter Balfour; Baron Chanterelle had an able exponent in Mr. Fuller Allen; Miss Edith Hunter appeared to advantage in the part of Mme. Hilarius; Miss Doris Dickens made an admirable Henri; while Miss Mysie Devine as Alesia (the doll) was charming.

BACUP. — New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Dudley Harcourt.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company is the attraction here this week in the social drama *Her Fatal Past*. Mr. Stewart Lomath, as Mark Desmond, is conspicuously heroic; the sinister traits of Gilbert Fernside are vividly depicted by Mr. Wilson Coleman; and Mr. Victor Rowland is efficient as Leonard Fernside. Mr. Sydney Bryant's impersonation of Dickey Bird is very droll; Mr. T. Edward Ward introduces considerable humour into his performance of Jonathan Nobbs; Mr. Claude Paget makes a very funny character of Reuben Treadaway; Miss Ward acts with much feeling as Honour Symes; and Miss Adeline Raby is seen to advantage in the dual rôles of Ruth Fernside and Bella de Lara. Miss Kate Newman submits a carefully studied rendering of Sal Jenkins; Kitty Sprigwell is vivaciously portrayed by Miss Gertie Reid; and Miss Ettie Spalding is amusing as Martha Sprigwell. Miss Audrey Sutherland, as Little Leonard, is highly commendable.

BARNSLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Mr. E. Lockwood's company is here in the popular musical comedy *Sergeant Brue*. The title rôle is divertingly enacted by Mr. J. Harold Carson. Miss Reydon Dallas is a pleasing exponent of Lady Bickenhall, her singing winning much applause. Mr. Maitland Dicker is responsible for a great deal of irrepressible mirth as Crookie Scrubbs. Mr. Robert Selby as Michael, and Miss Florence Spurgeon as Aurora Brue, contribute largely to the success of the play. Mr. F. Laceby is capable as Mr. Crank and others who achieve success are Mr. Harold Godwin as Inspector Gorringe, Miss Dora Taylor as Daisy, and Miss Cathleen V. Grey as Mabel Widget.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. William Greet's company, in *The Earl and the Girl*, is paying a return visit here. Jim Cheese is amusingly done by Mr. William Cromwell; and Dick Wargrave has a typical exponent in Mr. Herbert Hyett; while Mr. Stanley Harrison is good as the Hon. Crewe Boodle. Mr. A. E. Coleby is a characteristic A. Bunker Bliss; and Miss Gertrude Simpson a pleasing Elphin Haye. Mrs. Shimmering Black has a good exponent in Miss Nellie Grant; and the 'Liza Shoddam of Miss Florence Wix is particularly attractive.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Baron H. Harris's company, in *The Prince of Pilsen*, is here. Mr. Harry Kilburn is a most amusing Hans Wagner; and the Carl Otto of Mr. Frank Crimp, who sings admirably, is good. Mr. Bernard Russell's conception of the dude, Arthur de Willoughby Rossmore, is clever; and the versatility of François, as played by Mr. Ernest Gifford, is conspicuous. Miss Sophie Harriss, as Mrs. Maddison Crocker, is very successful; Miss Mollie Wynne is a smart Minnie; Miss Dorothy Wynne is a winning Nellie Wagner; and Miss Connie Leon a piquant and smart Sidonie.

Tivoli Theatre of Varieties. — Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi.—The chief attraction here is Ella Shields, in her coon songs, and Mr. Alf. Gibson, the quaint comedian. Charles Mildare, the king of whistlers; Barington, who plays well; Bishop and Hanlon, comedians; Walter Stanley, comedian, are also popular turns.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Mr. William Greet's company is paying a return visit in that bright and amusing musical comedy, *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. Arthur Donohoe retains the important part of Jim Cheese, and right well does he provide the low comedy element, while his dancing is neatness itself. He still has Miss Lina Hicks to support him as 'Liza Shoddam, and the two create endless hilarity. Mr. Thomas Kennard is now seen as Dick Wargrave, which he portrays in the necessary light-hearted fashion. His sweetheart, Elpin Haye, is undertaken successfully by Miss May Yates, who has had to battle with a severe cold in rendering her musical numbers. Daisy Fallowfield has a charming representative in Miss Ida Stratham, who gives the popular "Freddie" song in capital style; Mr. Leslie Owen essays the rôle of Crewe Boodle, and assists to keep the ball rolling; Mr. Ernest A. Plumpton, Mr. Sam Lyson, Mr. Greville Hayes, and Miss Kathleen Gerard continue to create merriment in their respective parts. A special meed of praise is due to the hard-working chorus.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schuberth.—In a strong bill this week the Æolians, a sextet of high-class vocalists and dancers, give a delightful turn, that receives due reward; an immense favourite is W. J. Churchill, of "Uncle Willie" fame, whose songs and racy patter always command laughter; another comedian that secures a splendid reception is Fred Land; the Sivronis, comedy artists, are much appreciated for mirth-provoking work and vocalism; the Leotard Brothers do marvels as hat throwers; Chas. F Best, in his quaint act, *Macbunker, the Mountebank*, is on a successful return visit; Andie Caine shines as a step dancer, and sings a song with acceptance. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are fully up to their high standard of excellence.

BATLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Whitty.—The visit of *The Spider and the Fly* has proved acceptable to Batley theatre-goers. The play is admirably staged, and Messrs. Carpenter's and Cooper's company is a strong one. Mr. Stanley S. Gordon does infinite justice to the part of the hero; Mr. H. C. Lancely is a model stage parson; Mr. Frederick Ross gives a sound interpretation; and Messrs. Fred Terris and Charles O. Preece are distinctly successful in the comedy scenes. The heroine is played by Miss Nina Vaughton with great care and feeling; Miss Amy Venimere is realistic and powerful in the rôle of villainess; Miss Lucy Murray is a captivating and vivacious Irish servant; and Miss Ada Palmer gives a good character study of a lodging-house keeper.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. E. Lockwood and Mr. R. Crossman's company opened here on Monday with the capital musical comedy, *Sergeant Brue*. In the title-rôle, Mr. Arthur Reynolds caused roars of laughter; another capital impersonation was that of Crookie Scrubbs, by Mr. Chas. McLagan; a delightful impersonation of Lady Bickenhall was furnished by the charming *ingénue*, Miss Hebe Bliss; and Mr. E. Percy Rogers gained much approval for his impersonation of Michael Brue, his dancing being exceptionally good. Miss Mary Hay is worthy of much commendation for her impersonation of Aurora; Mr. Ernest Mozart was excellent as Gerald Treherne; Mr. Chas. Sims acted the magistrate, Mr. Crank, with the peculiar laugh, with much skill; and Miss Marion Hargrave was a capital Daisy. Other rôles were sustained by Miss Mabel Keith, Miss Lilian Pickering, Mr. Cecil Hood, Mr. Harry Soutar, &c. The augmented orchestra was under the able direction of Mr. Norman Latham.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The star here this week is the popular Belfast favourite, Mr. George Lashwood, who has been most successful with his capital rendering of several songs; Virginia and piccaninnies appear to great advantage in their entertainment, entitled *Koons Cutting Kapers;* Miss Bertha Stuart sings Scotch ballads with taste and expression; and the favourite comedians, Ike Scott and Son, score with their character songs. Cavalli is aptly described as a clever young ventriloquist; and others appearing are Mr. V. L. Granville, character impersonator; Mr. Tom Moore; and Miss Mollie Doon, comedienne and dancer.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—A capital sketch, entitled *The Dandy Duke*, is the leading attraction here, and has been ably performed by a clever company; Miss Beatrice Willey is a charming balladist; and a hit has been made by Ford, a marvellous legmania dancer, and the Barres Trio, clever bone soloists and vocalists. The Mezzettis appear in their comedy gymnastic act, *The Raw Recruit*, their performance being exceedingly smart; and the Eight of Hearts are exceptionally clever lady vocalists and dancers. Also appearing are the talented Darnton Sisters, splendid duettists; Mr. Gus Dallon, entertainer; Miss Marie Neilsen, comedienne and dancer; and Mr. Harry Herbert, comedian.

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—General Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—This week the capital Alhambra Dramatic Company is appearing in the drama, *A Woman's Honour*. Mr. Horace Denton must be commended for his fine acting as Ruel Jant; and Miss Nina Blake-Adams impersonates Mona with no little charm. Mr. Cyril Grier renders good service by his skilful impersonation of Dr. Ross Cowling; Mr. Elmore Frith deserves special mention for his finished embodiment of Sir Rowland Rawson; as Peter Puffkins, Mr. Tom H. Solly exhibits much humour. He is ably assisted by Miss Alice Clark as Sally Perks. Miss Belle St. Clement gains much approval for her really admirable impersonation of Mercy Mayne. Owing to the indisposition of Mr. Percy M. Stevenson, the rôle of Guy Thiel was, at short notice, undertaken on Monday by Mr. Arnold Allen, who was thoroughly successful. Miss Effie Macintosh is a delightful Fay. The Alhambra Bioscope exhibits a capital picture, entitled "A Night Out."

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Battersby.—*The Way of the World* is being presented here by an acceptable company, with talented Miss Sidney Crowe at the head, as Adele de la Roche. Mr. Malcolm J. Cummings makes a gentlemanly Cecil Montague; Miss Marie Fontaine as Kate is excellent in her rendering of the heroine; Mr. Victor Gordon's Captain Slade is effective; the disgraced clergyman, Malvon, has an emphatic exponent in Mr. Herbert Skardon; and Mr. Augustus Hammond scores in his work as Horatio Bluff.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux's company, in *The Walls of Jericho*, is paying a first visit to this town, and large audiences have been attracted. The performance of Mr. A. E. Anson, who as Jack Frobisher secures the interest of the audience throughout, is admirably supported by Miss May Taverner, who plays the important rôle of Lady Alethea Frobisher with great skill and judgment. Mr. Alfred S. Barber is a capable and amusing Hankey Bannister; the Marquis of Steventon is irreproachably enacted by Mr. Cecil Warde; and the thankless part of Harry Dallas is suitably assumed by Mr. A. W. Tyrer. Miss Mona Wynne makes the most of her opportunities as Lady Lucy Derenham; and the less promienent characters are all suitably represented. The production is carefully staged.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Few greater favourites come to the Argyle than Miss Lelia Roze, the charming comedienne, and her reappearance here on Monday last was hailed with acclamation, her clever and attractive act, *A Dressing Room Dream*, taking immensely. Jack Lorimer, Scotch comedian, is renewing previous successes; as also are Park's Eton Boys, who are always well received here; George Spry and Florrie Austin, variety artists, have again made an unmistakable hit; Dusty Rhodes, comedian, is a favourite turn; and Dawson Sewards, comedian, Miss Alice Blanford, soprano vocalist, Bob Hamilton, comedian, and Brown's Royal Bioscope are also interesting features in a capital programme.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company contrives to go one better every visit, and this time vouchsafes two important novelties, Gounod's *Romeo and Juliet*, and Nicolais' *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, both of which have packed the house. On Monday *Tannhäuser* gained impetus by the inclusion of Wagner's ballet-music from the original score, and the whole performance was one of the utmost magnificence. Mr. Wilson Pembroke was successful, dramatically and vocally, as Tannhäuser; Madame Fanny Moody as Elizabeth sang with exquisite purity of tone; Miss Toni Seiter was an alluring and a most melodious Venus; Messrs. Chas. Magrath, William Dever, and the others were in excellent voice; and the chorus and orchestra, under Herr Richard Eckhold produced an effect which has never been excelled here. *Lohengrin*, with Mr. Joseph O'Mara in the name part, and Madame De Vere as Elsa; *Faust*, in which Madame Fanny Moody and Mr. Wilson Pembroke take the leads; *Cavalleria Rusticana*, which includes Mr. John Child and Madame De Vere; and *Pagliacci*, with that sweet singer, Miss Kate Anderson, and Joseph O'Mara in the cast, have completed the feast of good things.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*The Girl from Kay's*, flowing with mirth and melody as of yore, is once more in our midst. Miss Nancy Hervyn assumes the title-rôle, Winnie Harborough, with the utmost charm and success, being thoroughly alive to the possibilities and opportunities of the part; Mr. Arthur Stigant as her vis-à-vis, Hoggenheimer, is highly entertaining, and is winning much popularity on his first appearance here in the rôle; Miss Aimee Grey displays fine taste as Norah Chalmers; Miss Chrissie Ralland elicits high encomiums as Ellen; and the Misses Clarice Cartner, Dora Gray, and Cruickshanks display much ability in their rôles. Mr. Herbert Franklyn acts in an irreproachable style as Harry Gordon; Mr. Tom Shelford shines cleverly as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle; Mr. S. Major Jones scores as Joseph; Mr. Buchanan Wake is successful as Quench; Mr. Chas. Lupton acts well as Mr. Chalmers; and the chorus and augmented orchestra, under Mr. Basil Horsfall, acquit themselves admirably.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager Mr. Victor Turner.—*The Lights o' London* has lost none of its effulgence, judging from Monday's performance of the play, which evoked much applause. Mr. Herbert Hollister, who is responsible for this company, plays the part of Seth Preene on commendable lines; Mr. C. F. Collings makes a manly and popular hero of Harold Armytage; Miss Jennie Burgoyne invests the rôle of Bess with irresistible pathos; Mr. Raymond Thomas exerts himself with fine effect as Clifford Armytage; Miss Constance Davey is meritorious as Hetty Preene; Mr. Herbert Lewis as Jarvis; and Miss Violet Temple as Mrs. Jarvis, enjoy much popularity; and Miss Renee Douglas gains favour as Shakespear Jarvis. Messrs. Sydney N. Hallows, F. V. Lloyd, H. W. Forster, Tom Raymond, George Wallace, F. H. Waters, E. H. Dolby, and also the Misses (little) Rita Wallace and W. Eves add to the success of the play. On Wednesday Madame Pollack gave a special matinée performance of *Lady Windermere's Fan*, under the auspices of the Garrick Amateur Dramatic Society. The house was full, and appreciated the many good points scored.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company appears here in *Bound to Win*. In the part of Gladys Orme, Mrs. Kimberley shows the exceptional resource and power; Mr. Kimberley gives a clever portrayal of Harry Lyndon; Mr. Charles Vivian wins excellent opinions as Phillip Ayre; Mr. Edward Bikker appears to eminent advantage as Squire Forbes; Mr. J. Franklin does smart service as Ned Oakley; Mr Allen Charles imparts zest to the rôle of Horatio Buffit; and Messrs. Dick Seddon, Sidney Rudge, Harry Hont, and John Clipper support in the most able manner; Miss Violet Langley acts with fine skill as Marion Forbes, and Mrs. J. Franklin as Harriet Forbes; Miss Annie Lee as Flo Searching; and Miss Trixie Toole as Winnie Oakeley fare well. The thoroughbreds, St. Elise and Dorothy Lee, excite tremendous enthusiasm in the race-course scene, and the entire play kindles genuine interest.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Flying Scud* is revivified here by the proprietor, Mr. Andrew Melville, who, as Nat Gosling, pleases his patrons immensely, and scores a notable success. Mr. Percy Dawsone's qualifications are well suited to the rôle of Tom Meredith; Mr. Montague Lane proves a most satisfactory Lord Cecil Woodbie; Mr. J. Milne Taylor magnetises the audience with the machinations of Capt. Grindley Goodge; Mr. F. A. Mackenzie plays a useful part as Col. Mulligan; Mr. Fred C Imbert is successful as Mr. Davis, and other able supporters are Mr. Edward Finlay as Bob Buckskin; Mr. Harry J. Worth as Mr. Quail; Mr. Tom Lidworth as Chousur; Mr. Arthur Hall as Ned Compe, and Mr. Francis Everard as Jerry Cobler. Of the ladies, Miss Rose Ralph charms with her brilliant and expressive acting as the devoted girl, Julia Latimer; and the Misses Jessie Yatman, Nelly Graham and Meta Jailsby impress the audience with their talents.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley. — General-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*A Destroyer of Men* is being played here by Mr. James Hare and his company. The hero, Michael Mischla, is enacted with praiseworthy spirit by Mr. Chas. Bickell; Mr. Harold B. Lewis shines in the opposite rôle. Count Starevitch; Mr. Hill Cremer acts creditably as the son, Paul Starevitch; Mr. Jas. Hare shows much art in his handling of the rôle of Carl Mischla, the exile; Mr. Frank Orchard gives a capital version of the police spy, Strellitzke; Mr. Arthur Swain is successful as the governor, Linievitch; Miss Gladys Lloyd proves an able and a sympathetic heroine as Vidal Ravel; Miss Irene Clifford appears with the utmost success and ability as her antithesis, Olga Mischla; and Mr. Ross Warren as Coco Tachoski, and Miss Alice Buckland as Nina Pattakake present the bright side of the picture in a most amusing manner.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Ugliest Woman on Earth* is represented here to crowded houses by Mr. Fredk. Melville's well-known company. Miss Beatrice Homer, as the veiled heroine, acts her trying part with her usual grace and ability, winning widespread sympathy for the character; Mr. Philip Darien is manly and popular as Jack Morriman; Mr. Leyton Cancellor acts as the leading villain, Hubert Gold, in a thoroughly finished manner; Miss Nell Oliver plays admirably as his associate, Rose Courtenay; and Messrs. C. Barrett and W. Wallace-Aston participate as Antonio and Raggles respectively. Mr. Allan Devonport as Tom Redvers; Mr. Cecil de Lee as Griffiths; and Mr. Leonard Thackeray as Dr. Carr, display able qualities; and Miss Nellie Jackson as Aggie Brown, and Miss Margaret Watson as Merita succeed; Mr. Tubby Edlin gives good support with his clever comicalities as Tubby Herrick.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Vesta Tilley is here. The audience accord her a remarkable welcome, her songs being loudly applauded. The De Wynne Brothers have a clever hand-balancing act; the Airdos Troupe of Japanese acrobats are very daring; Sydney Dolf is a juggler of exceptional ability; Adler and Sutton's Pierrots are a popular troupe; Marion Scott, comedienne; the Brothers Redmond, Bugler Carr, and Holma complete the bill.

Gaiety Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Tom Foy and company delight the audience with a comedy sketch, *A Yorkshire Lad in London*. Arthur Lennard, an old favourite with several new songs, is well received; Lennie and Hast, in *The Sea Nymphs*, are successful; and the Brothers Ashley are funny in their boxing sketch; Florence Esdale, Lizzie Fletcher, Nellie Martell, and the New York Nippers complete a good all-round programme.

Hippodrome. — Managing Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford.—Harry Ford has a trio of smart songs, which are well received. A laughable burlesque on *La Mattchiche* is presented by Gus Garrick; the Waldrons, in a sketch, entitled *The Silly Burglar*, are funny; Rex Fox gives a clever ventriloquial and musical turn whilst performing on the slack wire; Bickhelle, the clay-modeller, is an artist of merit; Johnny Holland and company, Harley and Harden, The Wilfords, Helen Martin, and Cissie Dryden are also in the bill.

Harborne Institute.—The Nevada Troupe have scored a big success here, headed by Mr. W. E. Newman, a clever and popular humorist, and Mr. C. A. Jackson, whose adroit playing on the one-stringed violin is much appreciated; Mr. Bert Errol, in some realistic female impersonations; Mr. Ernest T. Jones, the talented Welsh zither-banjo virtuoso; Mr. R. Leonard Brown, the eminent tenor; and Miss Dolly Summers, in a smart humorous interlude, have been loudly applauded. Miss Grace Ivell, contralto, is also successful, and Mr. Leslie Bartlett shows much ability at the piano.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Eden Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe and company opened here on Monday with *Lady Godiva*. In the rôle of Peeping Tom Mr. F. B. Woulfe was seen to great advantage; as Leofric, Earl of Mercia, Mr. R. Seath Innes gave a capital interpretation; and Mr. A. E. Dunstan is to be commended for his painstaking efforts in the character of Edgar, the foundling. The despicable Algar, Earl of Northumbria, was powerfully delineated by Mr. Wm. McCready; whilst mention should be made of Mr. Ernest Hamilton as Unwolf. Miss Ethel Griffies undertook the difficult part of Lady Godiva in a very praiseworthy manner; and Lady Aldyth had a capable artist in Miss Katharine Brook. The comedy was well supplied by Miss Edith Lorraine as Elfrida and Mr. B. Anderson as Robin. On Tuesday *The Three Musketeers* was played to a large audience, and on the remaining nights *Nell Gwynne*, *Hamlet*, and *Jane Shore* respectively.

BLACKBURN. — Theatre Royal.— Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—This house is given over to variety this week. Chief amongst the attractions is the Pichel troupe of acrobats, who perform some clever feats in a finished fashion; Will McIvor, a character vocalist; the Three Sisters Kilner, singers and dancers; George Young, the blind miner musician; Goeye, a comic juggler with his trained dog; the Three Deveres, equilibrists; Harry Nelson, comedian; and Bromby and Fontein, in their sketch, *The Lady and the Professor*.

New Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—A strong attraction is provided by Mr J. W. Whitehead's company of Irish players, including the well-known comedian, Mr. James O'Brien, in a repertoire of Irish plays. *Willy Reilly* was given on Monday and Tuesday evenings, and on Wednesday, *The Irish Dragoon*. On Thursday *Sarsfield* was played, and on Friday *The Colleen Bawn*.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone. — Unstinted praise is due to Mr. Harold V. Neilson, Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson, and company for their very artistic performance of *The Perfect Lover* here this week. A more charming portrayal of Lilian Tremblett than that presented by Miss Forbes-Robertson it is impossible to imagine. Martha Tremblett has an admirable exponent in Miss Dorothy Milne, and Miss Elizabeth Watson plays with complete success the part of Susan Lesson. Miss Renne de Lestrade is suited to the rôle of May, and Misses Helene Forest, Hilda Sims, and Elsie Saville faithfully play their parts as society ladies. A very striking impersonation of Lord Cardew is presented by Mr. Lewis Willoughby. Mr. Neilson gives a convincing study of Joseph Tremblett, and Mr. W. Lemmon Warde as William Tremblett also contributes a very finished performance. Mr. John Detliv's depiction of John Collis is likewise deserving of commendation.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Miss Grace Warner and company are paying a return visit here this week. *The Scarlet Clue* was the attraction on Monday with Miss Warner and Mr. George Gordon in the principal parts. *The Little Widow*, *My Artful Valet*, and *East Lynne* are also in the week's bill.

Palace. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Variety is the feature of this week's bill here. Mason and Keeler present an amusing sketch; Henri Bekker gives a clever conjuring turn; Robb Gilmore is a quaint comedian who sings and dances well; Les Rallis appear in an acrobatic sketch; W. B. Raby is popular as a musical comedian; Flockton, Foster, and company submit a very amusing farce; Neville Jolly and Beatrice Neilson contribute an enjoyable musical sketch; the Three Celtics are capable musicians; Ern Sparks scores with his singing and dancing; and the Brooklands give pleasure as comediennes and dancers.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. Reuben Payne's company has paid a successful visit here with the popular drama, entitled *The World's Verdict*. Mr. Albert Guyon is a capital Jasper Woodleigh, and Mr. Harry Stuart gives a powerful rendition of the part of George Ashford; Sammy Carretts, in the hands of Mr. W. G. Wesley, is made an amusing character; Mr. Eric Hudson, as the maniac, Nathan Black, is a prominent figure; whilst the Jeremiah Screw of Mr. W. Reuben Payne is satisfactory. Mr. Cecil R. Thompson is successful as Sir Geoffrey Woodleigh; Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh, as Florence Woodleigh, acts well; Miss May Avon being worthy of praise as Nellie Ashford; Miss Anend Walton creates much fun as Sally Jenkins; Miss Lily Roselle, as the adventuress, Cora Casillis, is a decided success.

The Gaiety.—Proprietor, Councillor John Grantham, J.P.; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur James. —Appearing here are the famous Henderson, the blind genius, who plays on the concertina in a marvellous manner; Gus Granville, comedian; and the Ashursts, in a farcical comedy sketch, entitled *The Dramatic Agent*. The Gaiety Bioscope displays several new pictures of an interesting description.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. William Tudor.—The chief turn here is that of the Five Saxonias in a high-class musical act; Mons. Carlos also renders a pleasing turn; whilst Mr. Tudor's series of pictures continue to prove a strong attraction.

BOOTLE. — Muncaster Theatre. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting Manager, Mr. H. Young.—Mr. Horace Stanley and company are presenting here this week the sensational drama, entitled *The 10.30 Down Express*. Mr. Geo. Beverley is a manly Jack O'Malley, and Mr. Alarie Burton is good as Cuthbert Leigh; Mr. Chas. Burdon gives a capital performance of James Inderwick; and Miss Elsie Capell makes a pleasing Bessie Leigh. Miss Evelyn Walton deserves special mention for her rendering of Letitia Leigh. The comedy portion is well sustained by Mr. Horace Stanly as Sam Wagstaffe, ably assisted by Miss Kate Kilpack as Peggy Potts.

BOSCOMBE. — Hippodrome.—Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Ball.—The marvellous Craggs top the bill here in a humorous and acrobatic sketch, entitled *Billy*, and score a huge success with their combination of comedy and skill. Dale and O'Malley, comedians, are a clever pair; the Two Hartfords give a wonderful performance on a bicycle; Jack Crawley, vocal and instrumental mimic, is excellent; Ruby and Laws, vaudeville entertainers, give a pleasing turn; Frank Harwood, actor-vocalist, gets a good reception; Rita Resdan, character comedienne, contributes two songs; and the Hippodrome pictures are amusing.

BOSTON.—Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. Saphrini.—Another capital bill is delighting large audiences here this week. The Albano troupe, who are the chief attraction, give selections on various musical instruments; Juan and McQue are excellent comedians; the Mays, in a comedy duologue, *The Maniac's Child*, are clever; the Sisters Beatrice, duettists; Pulo, Carl Osmond, and Jennie June, together with Mark Anthony, a clever comedian, conclude an enjoyable entertainment.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—*Beauty and the Barge*, which has been here twice previously, was presented by Mr. Arthur Hardy's company on Monday. Mr. Blake Adams repeats his clever performance of Captain Barley, and is well supported by Mr. Edward Coventry as Lieut. Boyne, Mr. Walter Pemberton as Major Smedley, Mr. Fred Knight as Tom Codd, Miss Ruby Wyndham as Mrs. Baldwin, Miss Mary Pemberton as Lucy Dallas, Miss Mona Robin as Mrs. Smedley, and Miss May Fairclough as Ethel.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager,

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is a capital company here this week. Ian Colquhoun, baritone vocalist, achieves great success; Fred Daniels, comedian, is well received; Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene win hearty applause for the able manner in which they submit the domestic episode, *His Birthday*; Charles Ulrick performs unique tricks with barrels and trunks; the Three Rubys are very successful in their equipoise and trapeze act; Charles Fraser and company are highly entertaining in *The Enchanted Iona*; the Allisons are pleasing ductitists and dancers; the Three Sisters Chester are effective banjoists, vocalists, and dancers; Ryder Davis sings in good style; and effective turns are given by Marie Empress and Maud Prenton, comediennes. The Alhambrascope furnishes an admirable series of pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—An attractive programme is sustained here this week. The performance of the light operetta, *The Romany King*, by four excellent vocalists, is warmly appreciated; Austin Rudd, comedian, achieves distinct success; Oswald Williams, American illusionist, performs some astonishing feats; the Mackways are very amusing in their "mad whirling on the wire"; Frank Hartley well deserves his title of "the juvenile juggling wonder"; Barton and Franklin contribute a good turn including vocal and instrumental music and dancing; Mac and Hill are entertaining patter comedians; Gracie Taylor is a pleasing comedienne; Babs Lloyd wins favour with her dancing and singing; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Norman Macowan's company is here this week with *A Soldier of Fortune*. Mr. Norman Macowan as Rupert Clive displays finished and convincing acting; Mr. Murray Hathorn gives an admirable impersonation of the Earl of Annandale; whose daughter, Lady Phyllis, is charmingly portrayed by Miss Violet Sterne; and Mr. Sydney R. Palfrey is very effective as the traitorous Sir Stephen Cunningham. Mr. Robert Entwistle's Dr. Thorn and Mr. A. Conybeare Gough's Phineas Sturge are well played; and other parts are ably sustained by Mr. Eric Forth (Col. Ferrars), Mr. Franc Stoney (Jerry Dobbs), and Miss Emil Leslie (Grace). The play is well staged.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute. — Mr. William Greet's principal London company is here with *The Earl and the Girl*. The musical comedy is staged with much liberality, and the company is a highly competent one. The chorus is strong and tuneful, the augmented orchestra being ably conducted by Mr. Evelyn Baker. Mr. William Stephens scores heavily in the part of Jim Cheese, being always amusing, and he is capitally supported by Miss Jennie Richards as Liza Shoddam. Miss Frances Earle is pleasing as Elphin Haye; Mr. Arthur Harrold is highly satisfactory as Dick Wargrave; Miss Beatrice Anderson is stately and effective as Mrs. Shimmering Black; Miss Gertrude Melville is successful as Daisy Fallowfield; Mr. H. Courtin is sufficiently blustering as A. Bunker Bliss; Mr. Percy E. Wright makes the most of the part of the Hon. Crewe Boodle; the two solicitors, Downham and Talk, are cleverly taken by Mr. W. Norman and Mr. Greene Taylor; Mr. Tom Redmond is a typical host of the Fallowfield Arms; and Miss Mary Morison displays becoming dignity as Miss Virginia Bliss. The smaller parts are all carefully taken, and some excellent dancing is introduced by the Misses Beatrice Ford, Enid Beverley, Lilly Doran, Blanchette Grand, Natallie Grant, and Geraldine Scott.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. P. Crowe.—*The French Spy* is here for the week, the drama being staged well, and capitally played by Mr. Fred Benton's company. Miss Madge Devereux evinces considerable power in her impersonation of the Countess Andre; Miss A. Harrison-Tate does full justice to the part of Olga; Miss Cissie Cleveland makes a capital part of Julie; Mr. Beresford Lovett presents a fine exposition of Captain Somers; Mr. Fred Benton is amusing and effective as Fritz; Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe displays dignity in his rôle of General Trepoff; Mr. Claude Aymond is well placed as Lord Aynsley; and Mr. George Sherraton is effective in the heavy part of Petross Romanoff. The torpedo boat and effects in the fourth act are effective, the same being invented and made by Mr. Fred Benton.

PALACE THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Treasurer, Mr. F. V. Welchman.—Jack McKenzie and company head the bill with their amusing musical comedy burlesque, *The Belle of Barcelona*. There are about twenty artists on the stage, and clever dancing is introduced by the Barcelona troupe. The Marlo-Dunham Trio present a fine gymnastic speciality on a newly-invented style of triple bars; the Vivians score with a pleasing musical playlet, entitled *A Reverie*; Harry Freeman, comedian, obtains considerable applause for his latest London successes; the Jalvans, Oriental entertainers, do a very smart and pleasing speciality turn; Nina Gordon is highly successful as a mimic and society entertainer at the piano; and Walter Clyde, tenor vocalist, obtains considerable appreciation. The performance concludes with animated pictures by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Dr. Carl Hermann (U.S.A.) is giving here his hypnotic and electrical entertainment with considerable success. *The Little Stowaway* is being performed here with Miss Eva Lumley in the leading part, the playlet being well staged and capitally played by a competent company; Colby and May do a pleasing speciality turn, *The Ventriloquist and the Dancing Doll*; Frank Leon, an expert in clog dancing, obtains much applause; the Three Bostonians score as singers and dancers; Ted Saunders presents some acceptable impersonations of popular artists; and Mary Glenn, Scottish vocalist, presents a pleasing and artistic turn. The performance concludes with some new animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Manager and Licensee, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—The attraction here this week is *Blue-Bell in Fairyland*, introduced to this district for the first time by Mr. Edward Graham Falcon. Miss Lily Eyton, in the title-rôle, has a part which is suited to her style, and she makes most of her opportunities. Dicky is well presented by Mr. Lawrence Emery; Mr. Harry Vernon and Mr. Will L. Clement as Blib and Blob, do some clever and amusing work; Jack Cromo makes a comical reigning king; and a good performance is that of the Sleepy King by Mr. Frank Leonard. Miss Constance St. Bride, as the Water Lily, and Miss Nellie March as The Autumn Leaf, sing well.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A hearty welcome is accorded *Sergeant Brue*, performed here this week by Mr. E. Lockwood and Mr. R. Crossman's excellent company. Mr. E. Russell is responsible for much fun as Sergeant Brue; Mr. T. A. Shale repeats his excellent performance as Crookie Scrubbs; Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy is an able Michael Brue; and a charming person is Aurora Brue as played by Miss Kitty Dale. Miss Lilly Lingard is a dignified Lady Bickenhall; Mr. Henry Chichester is good as Mr. Crank; Miss Constance Berkeley is vivacious as Daisy; and Mr. Clarence Napier does well as Inspector Gorringe. There is an excellent chorus and orchestra under the baton of Mr. J. H. Yorke.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A programme full of good things is submitted here this week, foremost of which are Signor and Madame Borelli, in comic duets; the Steinway Quartette, in Songs of the Sea, are deservedly applauded for several fine renderings; Mozzetto is a smart juggler, and Bert Williams gives a smart ventriloquial performance; Harry Conlin is a comedian of no mean order; Les Marsumas are very funny on cycles; Harry Raley, boy singer, scores; the Prince and Milner Trio give a good athletic turn; Rosie Coleman, comedienne, does well; and the New Empire Theatroscope projects several interesting pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. H. Dudley Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. G. Arkell.—A special engagement of Mr. F. R. Benson's (North) company this week is meeting with genuine success, opening on Monday with *The Taming of the Shrew*. A fine character-sketch was given by Mr. Henry Herbert as Petruchio, and, in conjunction with Miss Dorothy Green as Katharina, fairly took the house by storm; Miss Louis Graeme was pleasing as Bianca, whose suitors were cleverly impersonated by Mr. Gerald Ames (Lucentio), and Mr. Lionel Bevans (Gremio). Baptista was a finished and natural study in the hands of Mr. Reginald Davis; Mr. E. Spencer Greach as Tranio and Mr. Charles Francis as Biondello did well in the humorous line; and Mr. Philip Merivale (Vincentio) and Miss Mary Webb (Widow) also scored. *The Merchant of Venice, Hamlet, Macbeth, The Merry Wives of Windsor, As You Like It*, and *Richard III.* are included in the week's programme.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr. George Dance's principal company gave a bright and interesting performance of *The Cingalee* on Monday night. Mr. Jack Crichton, as Chambuddy Ram, was highly amusing, his dancing being a special feature; he was well assisted by Miss Gladys Grey, who made a sprightly Peggy Sabine. Mr. Helier Le Maistre was seen to advantage as Boobhamba; Mr. Cyril Dane sang well as Harry Vereker, as did Mr. Ethelbert Edwards (Bobby Warren); Miss Marjory Clark was excellent as Lady Patricia Vane; and Miss Georgina Middleton made a charming Nanoya.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—The first visit to the Cardiff Theatre Royal this week of the musical play, *The Blue Moon*, has been an extremely popular one, and Mr. Robert Courtneidge's talented company has been enthusiastically welcomed. Miss Clarice Lockstone in the title-rôle submits a charming delineation; Miss Florence Imeson's rendition of Millie has proved a great success; and Mr. Alec Fraser as Jack Ormsby gives a fine representation. Major Vivian Callabone could not be better interpreted than the part is by Mr. Alfred Clark; as Private Taylor Mr. Reginald Switz scores a great success; while Mr. Alfred Beers as Mooltaj easily contrives to keep the audience in the best of spirits. Mr. A. Wykes Ashdowne (Bobbie Scott), Mr. Arthur Soames (the Prince), Miss Ethel Callanan (Evelyn Ormsby), and Miss Kathleen Cartaret (Lady Augusta), are all responsible for capital portrayals.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—*The Indian Mutiny* is paying a return visit, being presented in lavish style by Mr. Frank E. Burdett's company. Mr. George Steel can safely be entrusted with the difficulties of Lieutenant Manley; Mr. Cyril Harrison achieves much distinction by his capable rendition of Captain Manley; and Mr. John Davidson in his portrayal of Major Ingleby displays unmistakable signs of histrionic ability. Mr. Villiers Stanley presents his carefully-studied delineation of the rebel leader, Nebu Singh; and as Ra Goonga, Mr. George Boult could not be more suitably placed. The ladies, Miss F. Melrose Millett (Ghuz-nah), Miss Agnes Kingston (Kate Ingleby), and Miss Lillie Grey (Mrs. Ingleby), are all excellent exponents of their respective parts; while the comedy, in the hands of Mr. Cecil Morand as Terry O'Brien, is a conspicuous feature of the production.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—The Three Olympiers are successfully presenting their interesting performance, *Beauty in Bronze*, at the Empire this week; two Welsh turns are provided by Horace Jones, a capital comedian, and Godfrey James, a genuine singer from the pit; Harriett Vernon, beautifully costumed, is as popular as ever; Hale and Francis give an original turn in hoop rolling and club juggling; the Althoffs provide an amusing sketch with musical surprises. E. J. Sheldon is a witty and entertaining humorist; and Los Granadas prove clever gymnasts. The bioscope, with instructive pictures, is also an attraction.

CARLISLE.—H.M. THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—*The Gondoliers* is the attraction here this week, and the Carlisle Philharmonic Society, who are responsible for the production, are to be congratulated on the all-round excellence of the performance.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Limited; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—An excellent programme is submitted here this week. Chief interest centres in Harry Tate's company in the farcical skit, *Motoring*,' which excites much laughter. Vosper contributes a series of facial portraitures, which are both interesting and amusing. Whistling comedians always get due attention here, and Mr. Harry Taft proves no exception to the rule. Mr. Arthur Aldridge is the happy possessor of a tenor voice of really fine quality and range, which he skilfully uses in the rendering of popular ballads. A refined humorous turn is provided by Mr. J. P. Ling, who, both as a comedian and mimic finds much favour. Rastus and Banks, song and dance artists and general entertainers, are popular, and the Lorrisons and the Pepiscope add enjoyable variety to the entertainment.

CARMARTHEN. — ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietors, Public Rooms Co.; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—This week Miss Inez Howard's company (under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell) has appeared in the military drama *Tommy Atkins*. Mr. C. H. Matthews was an unqualified success as Harold Wilson, the curate of St. Barnabas; Mr. Charles A. Baker, as Stephen Raymond, gave a powerful interpretation to the part; while Mr. Wilfred R. Mansfield, in the rôle of Captain Richard Maitland, submitted a clever inpersonation of the profligate and erring husband of Margaret Maitland, a part taken with dramatic affect by Miss Adelaide Chippendale; Mr. Fred Elvin, as the humorous and garrulous Colour-Sergeant Paddy Molloy in conjunction with Miss Doris Kelvey, as Kate Perkins (Ruth's maid), was responsible for much merriment, while Mr. Edward Swinton, as Ebenezer Skindle, organist and choirmaster, created roars of laughter. Miss Lena Gordon, as Ruth Raymond, gave a most realistic and powerful interpretation to this important character. Harold Wagner, as Captain Bob Sparrow, was a success, and the same may be said of Miss Mamie Stanton as Elsie Wilson (Harold's sister). Little Jack was faithfully portrayed by little Violet Geoffrey; Mr. Richard Harris powerfully and realistically interpreted the part of Private Mason, and Mr. Arthur Langton that of Perkins. Miss Gertrude Neville, as Rose Selwyn, Mr. George W. Hardy, as Colonel Hardwick, and Mr. Cyril Bowen, as Hommy Trotman, were also very good.

CASTLEFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager Councillor Hy. Masterman. — *Home, Sweet Home*, is interesting visitors to the Royal this week, and Mr. Frank Lindo's company gives an altogether enjoyable performance. Mr. Frank Lindo is a powerful exponent of Stephen Armitage; Miss Marion Wakeford makes a charming Joan, and quite wins the hearts of the audience by the intensity of her acting; Captain Gerald Gambier has an imposing presence and a polished manner as the Duke of Ancaster; the cool, calculating villainy of Lucas Lyle is ably depicted by Mr. F. Miles Hodgson; Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle makes a good impression as David Armitage; Mr. Jack Patrick makes a capital "dude" of the Hon. Percy; while Mr. Ernest E. Owens is an amusing Lord Silvermore. Miss Ray Rocheford is amusing as Sybil Fay; the Gaffer of Mr. Helsby Wright is a clever piece of character-acting; Mr. George Overs is seen to much advantage as Dick Redmayne; Mr. T. Lewis is good as bone soloist, and also does well as Solomon Keary; Miss Daisy Rochefort makes a pretty and pleasing Dora.

CHATHAM.—BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—The Achmed Ibrahim Troupe, in remarkable somersaults and pyramid building, are rewarded with enthusiastic applause; Frank Couch has some amusing gags; Ben Harris and his midgets interest all with their act, *A Promising Pupil*; "Ruined Lips," as depicted by Lacey's Erascope, is very amusing. Others in the bill are Harris and Worth, cross-talk comedians; Winnie Derson, comedienne; Arthur Boyne; Trick and Trixie, musical and comedy artists; and Cissie Adell Lupino, transformation dancer.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr. Frank E. Donne.—The bright particular star of this week's bill is Miss Winifred Hare, who succeeds in thoroughly delighting her auditors; Ross and Grayson are giving an original musical act; very spirited are the dances contributed by the Rales; Wee Mona displays ability and confidence in song and dance; Walter Munroe is as popular as ever; and Ethel May, comedienne; and Frank Boyce, comedian, complete the programme.

CHELTENHAM. — OPERA HOUSE. — General Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company introduced *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)* on Monday night. The title-part is cleverly studied by Mr. Morris Harvey; Miss Maimie Brickwell is captivatingly sweet as Le Bolero; Miss Claire Pridelle, as Violet Pridelle, sings and acts prettily; Miss Lois Louden, a capital soubrette, is much in evidence as La Bolero's maid, and her song, "The Black Sheep," is one of the best; Mr. Herbert Dickson, as Norman Popple, does good work and sings well; Mr. Fred Maguire does justice to the lyrics, "One little word" and "Love, why are you hiding?" The suburban quartette, Mr. and Mrs. Doring and Mr. and Mrs. Hennay, are humorously portrayed by Mr. Fred F. Allen, Miss Adice René, Mr. Augustin Symonds, and Miss Stella St. Audrie; Mr. Tom May imparts character to his study of Platt; and the minor parts are well filled. Misses Daisy Dennis, Margery Leigh, Louie Maitland, Ruby Eavis, and Phyllis Desmond form a smart quintet of up-to-date dancers.

CHORLEY. — GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hemingway.—Miss Marie Dagmar and her company are here this week, presenting *A Beautiful Criminal*. As Elinor D'Arville, Miss Dagmar is exceptionally powerful, while Mr. Fred C. Somerfield gives a fine rendering of Will Maynard; Mr. Roy Fortescue undertakes the dual rôle of Geoffrey and Leonard Langdon with excellent effect; and Mr. T. G. Vane is irresistibly funny as Leonard Vimbart; Mr. Chas. E. Warne, as James, and Mr. Willie Barret (Peter Miles) are also effective. Miss Clara Santley depicts Rosine Philipi admirably; Miss Lallah Shelton capitally rendering Lilly Lorrimer, and Miss Cherry Veheyne is capable as Phœbe.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert J. Montague.—The attraction here this week is the diverting farcical comedy *The 'Varsity Belle*, presented by Mr. Henry B. Leigh's company. Mr. James Danvers, as Professor Septimus Stoney, has a part that fits him like a glove; Miss Josephine Ellis is a sprightly and charming Gaye Sparkleton; Mr. Frank Lillput is a smart comedian, and does good work as Runyard; Mr. Edward Chester cleverly impersonates a showman, Theocritus Ward Sparkleton; Miss Emma Rainbow makes a dignified Mrs. Barker; Miss Beatrice Egerton is a decided success as Maud Stoney; Miss Nellie Beason acts and sings nicely as Eva Stoney. The two undergraduates are well acted by Mr. Morrice Holmes and Mr. Ray Barraclough.

COATBRIDGE.—THEATRE ROYAL.— Proprietors, The Coatbridge Theatre Company; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Commins.—The boards here this week are occupied by Miss Elaine Verner with a powerful company, and on Monday evening *The Middleman* was produced. Mr. Harding Thomas, an artist of considerable merit, displays ability in the rôle of Cyrus Blenkarn; Mr. Frank Lyndon scores as Joseph Chandler; Mr. Percy Brown makes a hit as Captain Julian; and Batty Todd is safe in the capable hands of Mr. Edward De Vere. Miss Elaine Verner capitally portrays Mary; Miss Ruby Romer exhibits talent as Maud Chandler; and Nancy has a good representative in Miss Ada Clarke. *Saints and Sinners* was presented on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and credit reflects on Mr. Harding Thomas for the manner in which both productions were staged.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—On Monday evening, Miss McIntosh and Mr. Lumsden Hare's company opened here in the well-known play, *Mollentrave on Women*. Mr. Herbert Grimwood as Mollentrave and Mr. Athole Stewart as Sir Joseph Balsted played their respective parts in a natural, easy, and artistic manner; Miss May Pardoe, alike in speech and gesture, gave an excellent rendering of the part of Lady Claud; Miss Eva Hamblin was ingenuous as the delightfully impressionable Margaret; and a very capable exponent of the part of Everard Gwenboys was Mr. Harry Kendal. Miss Ada King showed great ability in the rôle of Mrs. Martelli; and Mr. Stanley James as Dexter and Miss Belle Donaldson as Ideable were suitably placed.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece.—De Henau, the armless wonder, proves himself a clever artist; Ernest Montefiore and company, in a musical and dramatic sketch, entitled *The Little Colonel*, are a capital draw; and another item which receives great attention is Mlle. Aladina, with her highly-trained cockatoos. The Tatlers (Arthur and Eva) are a comedy pair of no mean ability; Helen Martin is a vocalist of great power, and with an attractive personality; Wallau, the boy juggler, is extremely versatile with his tricks; and Jennie Venton, comedienne and dancer, claims a big share of the plaudits, which are lavishly bestowed. The pictures conclude a very entertaining programme.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance. —Miss Mary Austin and E. Vivian Edmunds' company, with *The Golden Ladder*, is fulfilling a six nights' engagement here, opening on Monday night to a full house. Mr. Wm. Clayton gives an excellent rendering of the part of the Rev. Frank Thornhill, and as Michael Severn Mr. E. V. Edmunds is exceptionally good, being well supported by Mr. E. Graham Winsford as M. Peranza. Mr. Jos. Rowlands as Samuel Peckaby and Miss Mimi Edwards as Mrs. Peckaby are very amusing. Miss Mary Austin plays the part of Lilian Grant with great feeling, and is rewarded with well merited applause. Miss Teresa Haynes ably sustains the rôle of Mrs. Dixon, and Miss Winifred Acton as Victoria Alexandra Peckaby is satisfactory.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Edward Terry opened a week's engagement on Monday with *Liberty Hall*. Mr. Terry portrayed the part of Wm. Todman in delightful style, and was frequently applauded. The sisters Blanche and Amy Chilworth were represented by Miss Fyfe Alexander and Miss Gertrude Tate. Both played capitally, and were effective in the sentimental scenes. Mr. Allan Pollock, as Mr. Owen, supplied a convincing performance; the Brigginshaw of Mr. William Dexter was good; and Miss Eugenie Vernie, as the housemaid, created much fun. Mr. Frank Cellier, jun., as the Hon. Gerald Harringay, was interesting. *The Magistrate* and *Sweet Lavender* are also in the week's repertoire.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—An excellent programme here this week includes Fred Melton, comedian; Duncan's Scotch Collies; the McGregors, a charming musical turn; Takio, a Japanese artist and a clever mimic of animals, &c.; Hinton and Wooton, who gave a clever performance on bicycles; Hampson Brothers, comedians; James Shingleton, the Singing Collier; Alexandra Royal, burlesque actress; and the Lloyd Brothers, wire walkers and gymnasts.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—*The Sailors of the King* was accorded a hearty welcome on Monday night by a large audience. The piece is by Mr. Charles Harrington, who appears to admirable advantage as Admiral Drake. As Lieutenant Dick Drake, the hero, Mr. Frank Stevens is well received, the same remark applying to Mr. R. F. Stacey as Orrel Drake. Mr. Kenneth Black and Mr. Fred Owen contribute largely to the success in mirthful renderings of Barnet Fair, a steward, and a moneylender, Mr. A. D. Anderson being responsible for Rufford Dent. Miss Lily Prescott deserves great praise for her tactful rendering of the difficult part of Daisy Dent. Miss Madge North as Felicia Phrynne and Miss Sylvia Stella as Rebecca Crosley render capital accounts of themselves, an amusing part being that of Penelope Penn (a Quakeress), presented by Miss Hero Hathaway.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—Well-filled houses nightly witness the capital programme provided here, a popular turn being that of Haley's Juveniles, numbering about twenty, who render solos, duets, and choruses with marked effect, and are also responsible for some clever dancing. The Xentrix give a quick-change act, entitled *The Magic Garden*, in which are introduced the various Continental styles, accompanied by an appropriate song and dance. The Three Delaries give some clever acrobatic feats in the Demon Grotto; comedy acts are given with success by the Edgar Forrest Combination and Baker and Edwards. Charles Williams is a coloured comedian of talent, and Miss Dolly Denton is a clever comedienne. The usual Hippo Pictures conclude the bill.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. George Dance; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Rand.—The growing popularity of this house is shown by the large audiences which nightly witness the capital programmes provided. A clever turn is submitted by Carter Livesey, Lillian Rosebery, and Co., in *The Would-be Actors*, which keeps the house in roars. Mr. John Tiller's company in a musical extravaganza, *The Mad Minstrels*, are equally successful. A skilful illusion is introduced by Cusnac Talma and Mlle. Yvonne de Pevre. Mr. Charles Paston, comedian, is very successful as an inebriate merry-maker, and is well received. The Calcotte do some excellent banjo playing and step dancing. Boy Glen is a clever juvenile raconteur; Ryder Slone is a clever comedian, and May Orchard is a charming songstress.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's principal company is appearing here in *Her One Great Sin*. Miss Blanche St. Albans takes the part of Grace Warhurst with taste and feeling; Mr. John Cecil gives a very able presentment of Reuben Warhurst; Mr. J. Leicester Jackson has the heavy part, and as Arnold Thornhill delights his hearers. Miss Phyllis Damian is winsome as Charlie and Miss Nellie Lambert makes a capital Nancy Winpenny. Miss Maude Lambert is well placed as little Gracie, and Miss Louie Walton deserves special mention for her Bet Hundle. Mr. Fred Hodson is seen to advantage as Jerry Jumble, and Mr. Chas. E. Lambert is a pleasant Dan Humble, whose son, Jack Humble, has a careful exponent in Mr. Harold B. Ford. Mr. P. Nelis is a dignified solicitor, Mr. Benton and Mr. J. Crondase scores as Landlord Ben Barkley. Mr. R. Yale deserves praise for his rendering of Robert Brown, and Mr. H. W. G. Dudge is well placed as Jim Bates. Mr. Gerald Smythe as Tom Green is in his element, and Mr. C. Dale has the official manner as P.-C. Jackson.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor, J.P. — Mr. Alexander Loftus and company are here this week with *The New Barmaid*. Miss Amy Preston acts delightfully as Ethel Joy; and Miss Grafton gives a good rendering of Brenda Louth. Miss Violet Osmund charms everyone as Dora Heather; and Miss Winifred Preston makes an excellent Lady Moulton. Miss Marion Vyner is capital as Braddy. Mr. Leslie Austin sings and acts well as Captain Lovebury; and Mr. Charles Adeson as Bertie White keeps the house thoroughly amused. Mr. Alexander Loftus is also responsible for much merriment as William White. Mr. James Grant is suitably placed as Colonel Claymore; and Mr. W. E. Chewd is clever as Mons. Bonsor. Some smart dancing by the Star Trio is introduced.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—*What the Butler Saw* is being appreciated by visitors here. Mr. Lionel Rignold, a host in himself, causes much merriment as Pink; Mr. Charles Fawcett's free-and-easy style admirably suits the rôle of Jack Barrington; Mr. Reddick Anderson is quite in his element as Sir Charles Foden; Mr. George Ascott is the peppery old General Dunlop to the life; Mr. Harry H. Rignold is great as Abraham Weinstein; Mr. Lewis Lingard praiseworthy as Sydney Clifford; and good work is put in by Messrs. Alec Alves, Roy Byford, and Frank Kingsley, as Vere de Bogyns, Professor Shale, and Dr. Clayton. Miss Ada Blanche is a bright and attractive Mrs. Barrington; Miss Maria Dalbra a creditable Miss Foden; Miss Jennie Wigney a pretty Nora; Misses Hilda Davies and Vera O'Connell are neat as Clarissa and Selina Dunlop; Miss Violet Gould is well placed as Mrs. Fleming Smyth; and Misses Annie Goward, Minnie Willett, Agnes Webster, and Dorothy Garth render useful aid. Mr. Lawson Lambert's management of this comfortable house leaves nothing to be desired.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company, in *The Convict's Daughter*, is the attraction here this week. The parts of Weary Willie, Michael Grahame, and Convict 89 are well played by Mr. Frank Bertram, whose talents are greatly appreciated; Mr. G. Nelson Wallace is particularly able in the rôle of Frederick Neville; Mr. Herbert King is a prominent figure as Harold Trevalyen; Mr. G. Moreton Williams depicts the villain, Jasper Thorn, in excellent style; and Mr. Sam Roberts as Patrick O'Laragan calls for special mention. Miss Rose Carew as Marion Thorn makes the most of her limited opportunities; Miss Phyllis Gibbon as Betty Hyne is very smart; and Miss Nellie Clyde as Edith (Nevill's adopted daughter) is exceptionally good.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay.—Carl Hertz heads the bill here, and his illusions, marvellous changes, and surprises, cause quite a sensation; Clark and Hamilton are high-class entertainers, whose turn is enjoyed; Emmie Ames, comedienne, is always popular in Croydon; Horace White, ventriloquist, has some fine mechanical figures; Grant and Grant are excellent variety artists; Hicks' Clerks are interesting vocalists and comedians; Boden and Bell, juvenile coon vocalists and dancers, receive quite an ovation; and others worth seeing are L. B. Athol, comedian; Maynard Dakin, comedian; and Jane Temple, comedienne. The programme also includes pictures on the Bioscope.

DARLINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Charles Frohman's company in *Raffles* is here this week. Mr. Leonard Boyne as Raffles gives an artistic and natural presentation; Mr. Arthur Willoughby renders the part of the Earl to perfection; Mr. Lewis Edgard as Bunny is very effective; Miss Beatrice Fitzgerald is an attractive Marie; Miss Hilda Steward takes the part of Mrs. Vidal in able manner; that of Lady Ethel is admirably filled by Miss Madge Murray; and Mr. Clifford Brooke makes a splendid Curtis Bedford. *Raffles*, which is well mounted, is preceded by a one-act play entitled *A Lesson in Shakespeare*.

DARWEN. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is presenting *The Span of Life* here this week. Mr. R. S. Trelawney gives a powerful display of acting as Richard Blunt; Mr. Sanderson Moffat ably fills the heavy rôle of Dunstan Leech; Mr. Walter Dale is capital as Nutty, as is Mr. James Jarrett's impersonation of Gurnet. Miss Ella Wilber is well suited with her part of Kate Heathcote; Miss M. Douglas undertakes the dual rôles of Zeff and Blunt in a capital manner; Miss Kitty Russell is amusing as Shrove Tuesday. The Almo Trio of acrobats give some humorous comedy turns on the triple bars.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. George Dance's company is here this week with *The Spring Chickens*. Mr. Fred Payne as Girdle keeps the house in uproarious laughter. In Miss Crissie Leonard, as Rosalie, Mr. Payne has a charming partner, who stands out pre-eminently in the cast. Her Dutch dance, in which she is assisted by five or six charming little ladies, is capital. Miss Nellie Kavanagh as Mrs. Girdle, shows herself to be a comedienne of ability; as Babori, Mr. J. S. Durant works energetically and with much success. Mr. Edwin Dodde is a good actor and a clever dancer; Miss Florence Lee makes a delightful Dulcie, and the two children, Stephen-Henry and Emmy-Lou, are well played by Mr. Lewis Wigley and Miss Lilian Erroll, the latter being a captivating little dancer. The Baroness has a very charming representative in Miss Poppy Poole, and Mr. Harry Averell gives an amusing study of Boniface. An efficient chorus and orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Knight Pearce.

PALACE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Herbert Taylor.—Miss Sylvia Calvalho is the principal attraction here this week. She represents a powerful dramatic episode entitled *Lulu*, in which her own admirable efforts are excellently supported by Mr. Henry Bates, Miss Emma Chambers, and Miss Lena Pierpoint. Mlle. Lumière submits a charming spectacle, *The Fairy Grotto*, her butterfly dance securing her unstinted approbation. Heim and Cozens produce an amusing speciality called *Doctor and Patient*; and Grant and Allen are exceedingly smart burlesque comedians. Another comedian who deserves hearty mention is W. G. Lytton, and Allsopp and Bekwith are deserving comedy artists; while Fiorette and Elly submit a clever exhibition of jumping, &c. The Palace Bioscope again proves an interesting item.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King.—Messrs. Granville and Thorne's company presented *Napoleon the Great* on Monday to the patrons of the popular Devonport theatre. The title-rôle is undertaken with ability by Mr. Hugh Montgomery; Mr. Henry Barlesmere is dignified and martial as Colonel Lavarennes, and Mr. Bartlett Garth furnishes a clever study of Paul; Miss Marie Harcourt as Marcelle is attractive, and the acting of Miss Leslie Warner as Marie Walewska is meritorious.

DEWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—*Between Two Women*, the sensational play from the pen of Mr. Frederick Melville, occupies the boards here this week. The heroic character of the Rev. Philip Carton is finely acted by Mr. Godfrey Tearle; the unadulterated malevolence and rascality of James Durwood and Major Strangeways receive the fullest illustration from Messrs. Walter Thornton and Roland Yorke, whose acting respectively is of unquestionable quality. Miss Molly Malone plays the part of the heroine, Violet Thornton, with sympathy and tact; a very pathetic figure in the play is that of the blind boy, the delineation of whom by Miss Lulu Bowes is notable for emotional power and fidelity; Carmen de Savereaux, certainly a virile rôle, is ably portrayed by Miss Nellie Fletcher. Mr. Fred Goddard is the exponent of the Earl of Millard, being responsible for a well-studied piece of acting, Mr. Jackson Wilcox (Harry Millard), Miss Lillian Earle (Polly Sopp), and Mr. Fred Danvers (Jack Pringle) contribute useful histrionic aid.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon.—The muscular display given by the Three Romas is of remarkable excellence, being artistic in every detail, whilst their gladatorial skill is no less conspicuous; George Bernard earns applause as an actor-vocalist; Miss Gracie Moore sings sentimental and pathetic songs, accompanied by pictorial illustrations on the screen; Wallace Whitney evokes peals of laughter with his drollery and comical make-up as "The Fireman," &c.; Miss Fanny Humber, a burlesque actress and skipping-rope dancer, finds favour with the audience, who also signify energetic goodwill towards T. C. Jacques (comedian), Ford and Hanson (American musical millionaires), and Beattie Foster (low comedy art

Tennent, as the Hon. John Storm, acts with sincere conviction; Mr. Charles E. Dering presents an excellent character sketch as Canon Wealthy; Miss May Weir's Aggie Jones possesses the requisite touch of pathos; Mr. Frederick Scarth's Lord Robert Ure is excellent; Mr. W. Briscoe Owen does well in the rôle of Horatio Drake.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—Mr. Henry Pettitt's emotional play, *Queen's Evidence*, was received here on Monday with great enthusiasm. Miss Lily Hill's Kate Medland was pathetic; Miss May Robinson, as Ada Sydney, acted with dramatic force; Miss L. Hervey was sympathetic as Laura Sydney; Mr. H. Fitzpatrick was dignified as Sir Frederick Sydney; Mr. J. Lees scored as Walter Wynford; Mr. James Robinson made Gilbert Medland a gallant hero; Mr. A. Keenan worked hard as Matthew Thornton; Mr. Charles Carroll made Isaacs, alias Jonas Levant, into an amusing personage, who evoked peals of honest laughter. The little boy Arthur was prettily played by Miss Tessie Clayne. Mr. C. Woodward, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Develin, and Mr. James Keays were all excellent in small parts. Mr. J. Pascoe's stage management left nothing to be desired.

DOVER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—A clever company is here this week with *The Night of the Party*. Mr. Sebastian Smith's infectious gaiety as Crosbie is refreshing; an excellent portrayal of Frank Fayne is given by Mr. Frank H. Denton, and Mr. Douglas Munro submits a clever rendering of Mr. F. Lambert. A fine character sketch of Bogle, the hall porter, is contributed by Mr. Ernest Rivary, and Mr. Stanley Arthur's appearance fits him well for the part of Mr. Roundle. An amusing skit of a City Alderman is given by Mr. Edmond T. Sawyer; Mr. Adrian Lovett plays impressively as Sir Charles. A vivacious and sprightly Pauline is found in Miss Maud Liner; Miss Stanley Ronalds is a dashing Gipsy vandelier; and Miss Lena Graham does well as Mrs. Young.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The boards here are occupied by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in R. C. Carton's latest success, *Public Opinion*. Miss Hutchison, in the rôle of Lady Diana Caldershaw, has ample scope to display her excellent abilities, which she does to the fullest extent, and Mr. Fred Lewis presents a clever conception of the Hon. Justice Mulley. Mr. Percy Marshall causes much laughter, and scores successfully as Horace Wibsey, and Miss Nancy Beresford is particularly suited for the part of Pansy Bligh. Mr. Charles Harley gives an exceptionally good impersonation of Spencer Traughton, and Miss Connie Dene is graceful and pleasing as Phyllis Dagenham. Mr. Douglas Hamilton gives a good account of himself in the character of Sir Babington Mulley, and Violet Harley makes a lively lady's-maid as Charlotte. Mr. Douglas Greet does himself credit in the rôle of Viscount Poffley, and Mr. Ashton Pearse's portrayal of Lord Percy Kilgour is a capital piece of work, and the parts of Smeeton, Finchett, and Jowers have fitting representatives in Messrs. Charles B. Wentworth, B. Beach, and C. J. Barber. A clever comedietta, *The Stratagem*, precedes.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—Mr. Martin Harvey and company entered on their second week's engagement here on Monday night, when the *Breed of the Treshams* was presented before a large and appreciative audience. Too much praise cannot be given to Mr. Martin Harvey for his admirable presentment of Lieutenant Reresby (the Rat), and Batty finds an ideal representative in Miss N. De Silva. The part of Colonel the Hon. Clement Hungerford, as depicted by Mr. Charles Glenney, was a meritorious assumption, and Miss Amy Coleridge is to be highly commended for her embodiment of the Hon. Margaret Hungerford. Viscount Dorsington was in the capable hands of Mr. Charles J. Cameron, and Mr. Albert E. Rayner was successful as Colonel Sir Henry Curwen. The part of Colonel Bagshaw was finely interpreted by Mr. Fred Wright (senr.), and Miss Madge Fabian was admirable as Mrs. Bagshaw. Mr. Leonard Craske excellently sustained the part of Cornet the Hon. Francis Tresham, and Helena Pierrepoint was ably portrayed by Miss Bessie Elder. The other parts were creditably filled, and the scenery and dresses effective.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is appearing here this week in *The Eternal City*, and drawing good houses. The character of Baron Bonelli is well assumed by Mr. D. Lewin Mannering, and Miss Sarah De Groot is natural and effective in the rôle of Donna Roma. Mr. Henry Deas acts forcibly as David Rossi, and Miss Eva Stuart gives due prominence to the rôle of Elena. Mr. Jack Fortescue is a capable exponent of Pope Pius XI., and Miss May Fortescue is excellent as Princess Bellini. Mr. W. O'Flynn achieves success as Bruno Rocco, and Miss Violet Campbell makes an admirable Nattalina. Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood acquits himself well as Commendatore Angelelli, and Miss C. Stokes is capital as Francesca.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—A strong bill is headed here by Boswell's Circus, an enjoyable and entertaining turn, which is well received. Another excellent item is the McConnell Trio of musical comedy artists, who put plenty of "go" into their entertainment. Eily Adair is an engaging comedienne and dancer. Hanid Alexander, child pianist, scores, and Frank Sylvo, tramp juggler, speedily makes himself a favourite. Burley and Burley, in their twisting and twirling feats, are highly amusing, and the Two Tees, musical grotesques, play many instruments in a capable manner. Ernest Ball is a clever actor vocalist, and "Joly," Continental musician, also does well. The Empire pictures are, as usual, up-to-date.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Four Rio Brothers are the attraction here this week, and elicit loud applause for their clever and daring gymnastic act. De Vere and Kenwick, American comedy duo, arouse much merriment, and Lily Lena, comedienne, finds great favour. The Four Charles, in an original act, are clever and amusing, and Leonard and Larry, the komedy kouple, make a big hit with smart business. The Paolias supply an exceptionally good turn, and Lily Lonsdale is an accomplished soprano vocalist. Charles Banks and his dog "Woof" score successfully, as does also Ernie Myers, eccentric comedian. The Bioscope completes the programme.

DUDLEY. — EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. Nightingale.—Ferris and Farnley, the smart patter comedians, give a clever cross-talk turn, and also introduce some smart dancing; the Orchids are both pleasing and amusing. The company also includes the Reays, athletic equilibrists; the Lovelaces, American song illustrators; Arthur Elvy, comedian; and Lambert and Hands, who are excellent in vocal scenas. Some novel pictures are shown on the Empire Bioscope.

DUNDEE. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. George Dance presents his company in *A Country Girl*. Miss Nancy Rossiter is a capital Marjory; Miss Maisie Gay a sprightly Nan; Miss Winnie O'Connor an excellent Princess; Miss Addie Rennard a clever Sophie; Mr. Charles Walenn keeps the house in the best of humour by his antics in the part of Barry; and Mr. St. John Hamund as the Rajah and Mr. Percy Carr as Geoffrey are good in their respective parts.

PALACE THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—The Norman-Leonard Trio are skilful musicians; Vernando gives a clever ventriloquial sketch; Walker and Lake create much amusement with their quaint patter; the American Comedy team rouse enthusiasm; and Harry Thurston, mimic, Barney Stuart, in *The Miser*, Millie Denham, vocalist, and B. H. Almon complete the bill.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Mr. Williams has secured a great draw in the bioscope picture of the great boxing contest between Gunner Moir and Jack Palmer. Fred Karno's company create great hilarity with their sketch, *The Smoking Concert*. The Alleys introduce a clever animal act. The Royal Temples create a furore with their trios. Much amusement is caused by Stuart and Worth in a comedy act; and Andy Burn is a capital song and dance artist.

DUNFERMLINE.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—The British Empire Talking Picture and Variety Company opened here a six nights' engagement on Monday. The picture exhibits comprise a large variety of subjects and scenes. Songs beautifully illustrated are excellently rendered by Miss La Clair and Little Doris, and Professor Lehman, with the aid of his dummy, makes the most phlegmatic laugh with his ventriloquial capabilities, besides winning admiration for his clever paper-folding feats.

DUMFRIES.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. E. Potts; Manager, Mr. Payne Sedden.—For three nights this week, commencing Monday, Mr. Charles Windermere's company has appeared here in the farcical comedy *Facing the Music*. Mr. Windermere makes a capital John Smith; Dick Desmond is well portrayed by Mr. Gordon Phillott; Mr. W. H. G. Wynne is suitably placed as Col. Duncan Smith; Mr. C. Casson Freer is good as the Rev. John Smith; Miss Clark Manifield as Nora plays in a graceful manner; Miss Kathleen Willoughby is pleasing as Mabel; and Miss Evelyn Shelley as Mrs. Ponting is well suited.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Standen Triggs.—Mr. Cyril Keightley and company are appearing in a number of old English plays. On Wednesday afternoon a successful matinée was given of *She Stoops to Conquer*. Miss Haidee Gunn, bright and buoyant, was a very able Kate Hardcastle; Miss Ethel Dane a pretty Miss Neville; and Alice Arden an excellent Mrs. Hardcastle. Mr. Cyril Keightley did admirable work as Young Marlow; Mr. Henry Crocker as Hardcastle showed ability; and Mr. Baliol Holloway did capitally as Hastings. Tony Lumpkin was finely played by Mr. Iden Payne, Mr. Charles Medwin triumphed as Sir Charles Marlow, and smaller parts were well undertaken by Mr. Sidney Burton, Mr. B. A. Pittar, and Mr. Basil Dean.

THE PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is appearing here in *The Freedom of Suzanne* for the first three evenings of this week. Mr. Percy Hutchison is an easy and natural Charles Trevor; Mr. F. G. Thurstons gives an extremely clever character sketch as Fitzroy Harding; Mr. Patrick Quill is a satisfactory Sir Horace; Mr. J. H. Hastings, Mr. Townsend Whitling, and Mr. Richard Neville are all good representatives of Lord Dachet, Captain Cecil, and Tommy Keston. Miss Mabel Love is a pretty Suzanne, and played to the evident delight of the audience; Miss Florence Harwood is a conspicuous success as Miss Mincing; Miss Annie Stalman is a precise and dignified Lady Charlotte; Miss Violet Ley is a fine, handsome Lady Isabel; and Miss Dorothy Lart is a pleasing Mrs. Tustail. *Mary's Secret* precedes. Mr. Howard Cochrane's company is billed to appear here later in the week in *The Marriage of Kitty*.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—The Muir and Bartlett combination causes roars of laughter in their well-worked sketch, *The Collar Stud*; Messrs. Welda and Wynne are funny and expert jugglers; Miss Jenny Grey is an attractive comedienne, with clever legmania business; the Sisters Morgan sing and dance to a pleased audience; Sim Maree is an original contortionist; Mr. Dick Kendal and Mr. Charles Lilburn provided comedy with song and dance; and new pictures complete the bill.

EDINBURGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. George Musgrove's company has been drawing good houses here this week with that attractive musical farce, *The Prince of Pilsen*. Mr. Martin Adeson again distinguishes himself by his humorous impersonation of Hans Wagner; Mr. J. B. Fox, in the title-rôle, is heard to advantage in the songs which fall to his part; and Mr. Alfred Selby as François is genuinely humorous. Miss Nell Emerald gives a bright rendering to the character of the French maid, and Miss Isa Bowman is a graceful and vivacious Nellie Wagner, and sings with charm and taste. Mr. Lawrence Wensley is an entertaining Earl of Shrimpton; Mr. G. Villiers Arnold is admirable as Lieut. Tom Wagner; and Miss Meg Hamilton is very much alive as the bell-boy Jimmie. The unfortunate indisposition of Miss Millicent Marsden has given Miss Flora Gray the opportunity of representing with much success the part of Mrs. Madison Crocker. The large chorus sing with delightful precision and effect, and Mr. Thos. H. Tunbridge is an able musical-director.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard Wyndham, Ltd.; General Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshall.—The "Kendal week" has long been regarded as among the choicest dramatic treats of the Edinburgh season, and the engagement opened on Monday evening with *The Elder Miss Blossom*. In this delightful play, one of the most popular of her later repertory, Mrs. Kendal repeated her fine sympathetic rendering of the name-part, and Mr. Kendal was once more at his best as Andrew Quick. Strong support was given by an excellent company, which includes the authors of the piece, Mr. Ernest Hendrie and Mr. Metcalfe Wood, who took the parts of Christopher Blossom and Withers respectively. Mr. Bassett Roe made a capital Major Twentyman; Mr. Maurice J. Toke was good as the Rev. Arthur Leacroft; and Mr. R. Burnett developed the humorous element in the rôle of Tyrrel Jones. Miss Moore-Lane was very pleasant and charming as Sophia Blossom; while Mr. A. B. Tapping's impersonation of Cooper was as successful as ever. On Tuesday Mr. Metcalfe Wood and Miss Beatrice Heron-Maxwell's play *The Housekeeper* was produced for the first time in Edinburgh, and it received an admirable interpretation by the company. *The Ironmaster* and *A Tight Corner* have also been staged during the week.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells.—The place of honour in a capital all-round evening's entertainment is this week held by Chung Ling Soo, who by his marvellous skill and dexterity as an accomplished conjurer mystifies his audience in a most delightful manner; the Griffiths Brothers are old friends here, as everywhere, and their comical acts never fail to please; the Motramo couple also provide a very amusing turn with their fun and music; as a character vocalist Mr. Fred Clements makes a palpable hit; the Henri Taylor Trio of expert equilibrists create much interest; and the Selbinis appear in some daring and graceful exhibitions of trick cycle-riding. Miss Nellie Wallace ranks high as a comedy artist, and her sprightly singing is much enjoyed; Syd May gives exceedingly clever imitations of sundry music-hall celebrities; Beattie and Blanche are smart duettists and dancers; the Hope Sisters are also capable performers in the same line; and a new series of up-to-date subjects are displayed by the American Bioscope.

COOKE'S CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr. John Henry Cooke.—The programme here this week exhibits all the energetic proprietor's well-known ability for blending variety with humour. Mr. Alfred Leicester, an accomplished equestrian, is dramatic and picturesque in a bareback act of horsemanship, entitled *Rob Roy*, and a dashing exponent of the bounding jockey is seen in Mr. James Humel, a graceful and fearless rider. Verne gives proof of his dexterity and daring on roller skates. His feat of ascending and descending an inclined plane is a surpassingly difficult performance skilfully done; Horton and Linder, Frank Anderson, Sim Dempsey, and Little Bishop supply the humorous element with ingenuity and true comic effect; Gilbert's Bioscope, and the old-time farcical sketch, *The Rigg of Mr. Briggs*, heighten the attractiveness of an admirable bill of fare.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—This house, which has been closed for several weeks, re-opened on Monday with a variety programme, which includes the names of the Zam Brothers, and the Bonanzas, gymnasts; Hulbert, ventriloquist; and a number of strong comedy turns. The Bioscope is a feature of the entertainment.

EXETER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Chairman and Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. George Dance's company is presenting this week the comic opera *Veronique*. Miss Nellie Wigley does well in the title rôle, as does also Mr. J. Warren-Foster as Florestian; Mr. Ellis Holland's portrayal of Monsieur Coquenard is excellent, and causes roars of laughter; Miss Agnes Tandy is a charming Madame Coquenard; and Miss Edith Devonshire sings well as Emerance. Mr. Tom Seymour is amusing in the rôle of Monsieur Loustot; Mr. Scott Cullen as Seraphim, and Miss Neste Laurel as Denise ably sustain their parts.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—Mr. Chas. Carey's company opened on Monday with the musical-comedy *After the Ball*. The character of Nancy was capitally portrayed by Miss M. Sadie; Mr. Buckstone Clair was particularly clever as the servant Martin; Miss Queenie Finnis took the part of Nellie Mather. Added to a charming personality, Miss Finnis possesses a nice voice, and is a graceful dancer. She was ably seconded in her efforts by Miss Eva Ellis as Ruth Gay. The part of the gruff old colonel was capitally presented by Mr. Percy Baverstock; and Mr. Algernon W. Lee proved quite successful as Halliwell Menit. Mr. Norman Bowyer was funny as Dick Seymour. A smart set of Gibson Girls helped to enliven the piece. The dressing and setting were very pretty.

FLEETWOOD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—This week Mr. Hilliard Vox and company are presenting the American drama *Alaska*. Mr. Vox takes the lead as Shookum Jim with great success, and is ably seconded by Mr. C. D. Pitt, who represents Ned Larson. Mr. H. Naylor Grimson is very good as Baptiste, the half-breed; Mr. Albert Rogers makes an excellent Pompey Cæsar; Mr. John Ford is well adapted to the part of Malumite Kid; and Mr. Bevan Benton scores as Father Bernard. Mr. J. Howarth does full justice to the part of Lieut. Harding; Miss Leslie Wynne plays the Widow Casey with good effect, and little Winnie Webster scores as the Midow's Mite. Miss E. Turner-Elliot, as Jessie Dalton and Miss G. Hastings Walton, as Alaska, the Indian, both sustain their parts in a realistic manner.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—A great attraction is supplied in the wordless play, *La Main* that precedes *The Cornish Girl*, which is mentioned elsewhere. Mlle. Camilla D'Alberg enacts the difficult rôle of Vivette with vivacity and power, and executes a very clever dance; Mr. Richmond Howard plays the Baron exceedingly well; and Mr. Cecil King as the burglar leaves nothing to be desired.

GAINSBOROUGH. — KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Stear.—On Tuesday and Wednesday, Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company appeared here with *The Silver King*. This popular drama drew good houses. Mr. Horace E. Herbert and Mr. Oswald C. Cray were excellent exponents of Denver and Capt. Skinner respectively; Miss B. Doyle played Nellie in a sympathetic manner; Mr. Wm. Dempsey gave a clever character sketch of Coombes, being well supported by Mr. S. Bernard as Cripps.

GATESHEAD.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. France.—Messrs. Polini and Melford's talented company is presenting the ever-welcome *The Silver King* to large audiences. Mr. Fred D. Daviss is to be complimented upon an excellent performance in the title-rôle. Miss Daisy Scudamore compares favourably with any other actress who has played Nellie Denver in this town. Faithful old Jaikes receives the best of treatment at the hands of Mr. Edward J. George; Mr. L. St. George Lowther makes a capital Spider; and Mr. A. Hornby Warburton, in the part of Henry Corket, is highly amusing. Mr. Arthur Wright as Elijah Combe and Mr. Warris Lindon as Cripps make about as detestable a pair of villains as one could wish for; Mr. Byron Pedley as Sam Baxter is seen to advantage; Miss Dorothy Radford is an excellent Olive Skinner and Miss Flossie Hale Daviss a winsome Cissy.

KING'S THEATRE.—Licensee, Mr. E. Johnson; General-Manager, Mr. Harold Arnold.—The principal magnet at this comfortable house is the comedy sketch, *Did He Deserve It?* excellently done by Mr. James Willard and company, the struggle for life between Mr. Willard and his well-trained dog "Tiger" being much enjoyed. Refined comedy is presented by Rose and Calvert; and the Bouncing Dillons cause roars of laughter. Miss Eva Hope and Jack Wayho, in duologues from the works of Dickens, are great favourites; Victoria Dagmar is a graceful gymnast, and the funniosities of her clown assistant make the act a most attractive one; Elsie Rubina claims to be "England's premeir wire dancer"; she is certainly very clever. Flo Banks, a charming comedienne, scores a hit; and Osborn and Brooks have a high-class musical comedy act. Exceptionally smart lady acrobats are found in the Lizzette Troupe; and the pictures shown by Vernon's Bioscope make up a first-class entertainment.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Messrs. Mitchelson and Fineberg's company in *The Traitor* is doing good business here this week. Mr. Bensley Evans as Prince Rudolph scores heavily; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan, in the title-part, submits a polished portrayal; Mr. T. W. Hurst as the easy-going English naval captain is conspicuous; very amusing are Messrs. Frank Sutherland, Edward Lowrie, and Arthur McCulloch, as Boult, Zoff, and General Hertz respectively; Miss Ruth Sheppard as Zula wins general admiration; and Miss Isabel Hunt as Lieut. Nicholas gives a praiseworthy impersonation. Other ladies in the cast are Miss Katherine Vere (Elise Duprez), Miss Maud Stuart (Cen-Cen), and Miss Gwynne Warren (Countess Zeeka).

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—HIPPODROME.—Lessees, The New Bioscope Trading Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. R. Griffiths.—The pictures continue to draw large audiences. On Monday night the enterprising management exhibited the film taken at the local football match on Saturday between New Brompton and Tottenham Hotspur. Astley's American Circus is retained for a second week, and is maintaining its popularity.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—Pleasant memories are revived by the performance of W. G. Wills's beautiful play *Olivia*, which is being presented by Miss Winifred Emery and company this week. Miss Emery gives a touching rendering of the character of the vicar's elder daughter, Olivia; Mr. Brandon Thomas, as the Vicar, is excellent; Mr. Eille Harwood gives the necessary strength and dignity to the part of Burchell; and a dashing representative of Squire Thornhill is found in Mr. Franklyn Dyall. Mr. Harry Ashford imparts a touch of comedy to the part of Farmer Flamborough; and his daughter Polly is brightly acted by Miss Isabel Roland. Miss May Chevalier makes a pleasant and kindly Sophia; and the two young boys are cleverly played by Miss Maidie Andrews and Master Bobbie Andrews. Miss Keith Lytton, as the aspiring wife of the Vicar, is well suited; Miss Harriet French as a gipsy woman, Mr. M. A. Wetherell as French, Mr. H. Cannon George as Moses, and Miss Morel as Phœbe, complete an able cast. On Thursday, a new play, entitled *Her Son*, by Horace Annesley Vachell, was produced for the first time on any stage.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Mr. James Welch and company opened on Monday in *When Knights Were Bold*. The clever comedian has never given more enjoyment, and has added considerably to his popularity. As Sir Guy de Vere, he simply revels in the part, and impresses with his easy, unaffected acting. His company is well chosen. Miss Audrey Ford gives a fine study of the part of Rowena; and the Sir Brian of Mr. Edward Sass is a dignified impersonation of the Irish baronet. Mr. Isaacson, the money-lender, is capitally depicted by Mr. Arthur Grenville; Mr. Arthur Chesney, as the Dean, has the right clerical bearing; while the Valet and Butler of Messrs. Geo. F. Tully and Gordon Tomkins, are rendered very interesting. The ladies who distinguish themselves in the piece, include the Misses Emma Gwynne, Estelle Winwood, Mabel Wentworth, Daisy Cordell, Enid Sass, and Annie Chippendale. *The Lady Burglar*, as a curtain-raiser, proves enjoyable, thanks to Miss Estelle Winwood and Mr. Henry J. Ford. Mr. Welch appeared on Friday, by special desire, as Jabez Gover, in *The Man in the Street*.

KING'S, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. George Edwardes' company is this week paying a return visit with the refined and tuneful comic opera, *The Little Michus*. The foster-sisters, Blanche Marie and Marie Blanche, are charmingly represented by Miss Iris Hoey and Miss Thelma Raye; their voices blend very pleasantly in the duets, while the character contrast in the parts is nicely brought out. Mr. Eric Thorne retains the part of the highly-eccentric General des Ifs, and the fun is fast and furious while he is on the stage. As the soldier lover, Gaston Rigaud, Mr. W. Talleur Andrews sings and acts with capital effect; Mr. Leonard Mackay imparts considerable character to the rôle of Aristide Vert, and the little singing he has to do is done in splendid style; the Bagnolet of Mr. Jack Caunot is an exceedingly amusing performance; Mr. George Miller has a congenial part in Pierre Michu; and the rôles of the Footman and Market Man are well filled by Messrs. Frank Steward and Willie Warde, jun. Miss Florence Parfrey plays Mme. Michu with a good deal of spirit; Miss Vivian Talleur shows grace and agility as the dancer; and the parts of Mlle. Herpin (Miss Alice Oppitz) and Mme. du Terte (Miss Nora Brocklebank) are filled with distinction.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Arnold Bell's company in *Ben-My-Chree*, in which Mr. Bell plays with great dramatic expression the part of Dan Mylrea; Miss Frances Campbell giving a pleasing rendering of Mona Mylrea. Mr. Cuthbert Imrie, as the Bishop of Man, submits an impressive portrayal of the stern, but kindly, old clergyman; Mr. F. C. Robson gives an attractive impersonation of Davy Fayle, the fisher lad; Mr. H. Fulton is amusing as Hommey-beg, the deaf old serving-man; and the part of Kitty is pleasingly played by Miss V. Campbell. The characters of Evan Mylrea by Mr. Guy Morville, the Deemster by Mr. W. G. Gregory, and the Governor by Mr. Frank Carlile, are all ably handled.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Large audiences have welcomed Hardie and Von Leer's company in the popular play, *Two Little Vagabonas*. Mr. William Fazan as George Thornton gives a pleasing representation, and, in conjunction with Miss Laura Hanson, as Marion, is responsible for much of the success of the production. Mr. Henry Watson is also seen to advantage as Captain Darville; excellent support is given by Messrs. John F Traynor, Ernest H. Neison, Fred Archer, and Miss Mildred Hudson. Miss May Hart and Miss Margaret Nybloe act with much power and pathos as the two waifs.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. C. Watson Mill and company are here in *A Warning to Women*. In Dr. Marcus Dread Mr. Mill has a part in which he is well suited; Mr. George Harvey is admirable as the warm-hearted Irish minstrel, Shaun; Mr. Norman B. Cameron is powerful in his treatment of Fergus McNaughton; and Mr Henry Rutland displays ability as Squire Kennion; while Mr. G. M. Davidson, as Rev. E. Wallace, gives consistency and finish to his efforts. Mr. M. Carter Slaughter causes much merriment by his quaint style as Lord Eversleigh; and Mr. W. Palliser-Acock is amusing as Ferdinand de Joules. Mr Henry P. Kennedy is a typical Mike McQuade; Miss Edith Rutland does good work as the cripple, Myles O'More; Miss Emmie Barton acts in effective style as Sheila Kennion; as also does Miss Rosalind Tate as Moira Kennion.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—From the Princess's Theatre, Mr. Fredk. S. Jenning's new sensational drama, *As Good as Gold*, finds its way to the Lyceum. The company, which created such a good impression in the South side house, is successfully appearing here.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr Charles Mussett.—Louie Freear tops the bill here, and displays her versatility in the comic line, in a farcical sketch, entitled *Snooks*. Carlton, with his comic conjuring, causes much fun, and his talk is always entertaining; Captain Bevan's Gordon Highlanders give their wonderful drill and wall-scaling act; G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, gets an enthusiastic recall for each of his songs; Minnie Cunningham's quiet style is as popular as ever, and her songs go well; the Sisters Finney give their tank performance, which includes some wonderful feats; Rose Finette dances neatly, and comedy turns are contributed by Lily Esplin and Fred Bronte.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Milton Ray's popular comedy company remains another week, and their musical comedy, *The Cruise of the Calabar*, proves highly amusing. Marie Kendall heads the single turns, and sings some good songs with plenty of spirit; Mason and Bart give a thrilling bar and trapeze performance; the Montague Brothers, in their sketch, *The Sculptor's Dream*, provide an excellent display of posing and muscular development; Little Ganty keeps the audience in constant laughter with his patter and vocal parodies; Walter Curtis is another very funny comedian; Nellie Farrell is bright and amusing, and a clever dancer. The remaining turns include Steve M'Carthy, comedian; and Madge May, comedienne.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—An excellent programme is submitted this week. Rosina Casselli, with her Mexican dogs, provides an instructive display of animal training; Mathews and Cowper's comedy sketch, *When the Clock went Wrong*, is a very laughable piece; the Westwoods, trick cyclists, are much above the average in their line; Bob Baxter is well received; Alma Obrey is an entertaining comedienne; Vanola does some clever footwork with barrel and globe; Carden and Zoach are pleasing musical entertainers; George Fairburn sings some good songs, and gives clever imitations; Rappo and Ella, smart acrobats; and Wake and Dean, comedians, complete a successful programme.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Burdette.—The big attraction here is the musical sketch, *Casey's Court*, and the bright youngsters who take part again provide a most enjoyable entertainment. George Formby grows in popularity every visit; the imitations of music-hall artists by George Newburn are really life-like; Tom Maxwell and Virginia Frances again give a smart turn; Dutch Daly, with his concertina, provides a rare treat; Farr and Farriand contribute an amusing comedy turn and a banjo selection; Cairns and Lynch are extremely clever step-dancers; Russell Brandow also makes a hit in the dancing line; L. W. Harris is a light comedian with a taking style; and the Bioscope shows the latest pictures

PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Harry McKelvie.—*The Battle of the Belles* is a laughter-provoking sketch, played by Fred. Moule and E. D. Nicholl's company, *Miss Summerson's Baby* is another sketch, in a lighter vein, and proves quite enjoyable in the hands of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shelley; J. A. Wilson and his clever canine, "Private Towser," are a distinct success; Mount and Corelli give a pleasing society entertainment; while the Two Bees are heard in a duologue of considerable merit, entitled *The Man in the Moon*. Fun and athletics are combined in the turn of the Stebbings; and variety is lent to the programme by Herbert Cyril and Fred Dunstone, comedians.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. F. Brooke Warren's company, in *The Face at the Window*, is pleasing the habitués at the theatre this week. Mr. T. W. Dunscombe, as Paul Gouffet, gives a clever piece of character acting; Mr. Lionel d'Aragon scores in the dual parts of Lucio Delgado and Le Loup; Mr. Alfred Warne, as Henry de Brisson, is excellent; and Mr. Malcolm Mills does exceedingly well as Lucian Cortier; Mr. C. Alan Hineson (Peter Pottleberry) and Miss L. Leslie-Cudd (Babette) create much merriment; Miss Eugene Magnus appears to much advantage as Marie de Brisson; Miss Marie Tennant, as La Pinau, and Mr. F. C. Raphael, as Jean Barbelon, show skill and judgment in their respective parts. Capital support is contributed by Mr. Geo. Phythian, Mr. Walter Marriott, Mr. Arthur Hillier, Mr. Jas. Cox, Mr. George Lockwood, Mr. Robert Hamilton, and Mr. L. Ward.

GLOUCESTER.—PALACE.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Rea.—The programme here is opened by the Sisters Bronson, who contribute a neat song and dance turn; following this, Mons. and Mme. Sardou introduce their clever cabinet illusion; Dan Noble entertains with comic songs that are well received; and Mystery Gauze, a female impersonator, is responsible for a smart deception; Aerial and Astarte are remarkably clever on the horizontal bars and trapeze; and a taking performance is given by the Lynches, who are billed as American song illustrators; Miss Marie Yorke is a chic comedienne; and Mr. Allan Hanbury introduces some laughable patter and song. The star turn is Taro Myaki, the celebrated Jap wrestler and exponent of ju-jitsu. Some interesting bouts take place, and a packed house are roused to enthusiasm.

GOOLE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John B. Tomlinson.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, in *Florodora*, is the attraction here this week. A crowded house welcomed the company on Monday. Mr. Gus Danby plays the part of Tweedle-punch with all his well-known humour and zest; Mr. Colin Johnstone is seen to advantage as Cyrus W. Gilfain; Mr. Howard V. Cropton is highly successful as Frank Abercoed; Mr. H. Carnelley-Joye is excellent as Captain Donegal; Leandro is faithfully portrayed by Mr. C. A. Road-Night; Miss Daisy Lake plays in a charming manner as Dolores, her songs being delightfully rendered; Miss Dorothey Dempster sings and dances in dainty style as Angela Gilfain; Miss Rosa Sullivan is a vivacious Lady Holyrood, her songs being loudly applauded. The chorus is well balanced, and the singing all round is excellent.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. David Hart.—Here this week are Lee and Bentley, who present their farcical comedy, *Castles in the Air*, with marked success; Mabelle May, a truly dainty singer and terpsichorean artist;; and Wright and Elton, who score highly in their original movement "Mirthisms"; as duettists and dancers Fraser and Haley distinctly shine; Fred Alberto is decidedly original; Rosie Stuart is an admirable vocalist; and Tate and Tate, comedy acrobats, provide considerable merriment.

NEW PUBLIC HALL AND THEATRE.—Secretary, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke.—On Wednesday the Lyric Amateur Dramatic Society, under the direction of Mr. J. Cheek, presented *Sweet Lavender* for local charities. The title-rôle was entrusted to Miss Ena Fairlamb; the character of Minnie was most artistically enacted by Miss Violet Warren; whilst as Ruth and Mrs. Gilfillan Miss Blanks and Miss C. Reader respectively did well. As Clement Hale Mr. C. S. Gould was capital; Dr. Delaney was well sustained by Mr. Randall; as was Horace Bream by Mr. Hubert Wallis; and as Dick Phenyl Mr. T. Cheek scored a great success.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Bert Coote's company is paying its annual visit with the popular play *The Fatal Wedding*. The piece is admirably acted, and the children's scenes is excellently managed. The

Changes, heads the bill here, meeting with general acclamation. Plenty of good comedy emanates from Rezene and Robini, in *The Policeman and the Baby*; Josh Dixon is in good form, as usual; and Bros Durant, kings of the air-ship, score effectively. The Jansons; Belle Braham, pictorial songstress; and Mr. and Mrs. Finden, in *A Desperate Remedy*, are also here. Mr. Harrison's annual benefit was announced for Thursday, artists attending from the various halls on the Macnaghten circuit.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Douglas Elphinstone.—*The Belle of Mayfair* is being presented this week by Messrs. A. and S. Gatti and Charles Frohman's company. Miss Alice Russon is well placed as Julia; Mr. Vernon Davidson, as the Hon. Raymond Finchley, sings well; and as Sir John Chaldicott Mr. Charles McNaughton scores a huge success. Mr. Percy Yorke, as the Earl of Mount Highgate, plays the brusque aristocrat admirably; in the part of Hugh Meredith Mr. Wensley Russell is diverting; Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., stands out prominently in the part of Comte de Perrier; Mr. Trueman Towers, as the Bishop, does well; Miss Barbara Huntley is all that can be desired as Lady Chaldicott; and Miss Rosa Snell is seen to advantage as the Countess of Mount Highgate.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—*La Vivandiere* heads the bill this week, and is admirably presented. Miss Isabel Derrv. as Cigarette, acts cleverly, and introduces two horses, both of which went through the South African War. The Amaranths, as acrobatic dancers, are remarkably clever; a musical duologue, presented by Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas, is much appreciated; Jimmie Springthorpe, the tenor collier, meets with success; Brilliant and Brilliant, as xylophonists, contribute a pleasing turn; F. W. Millis is seen in his ventriloquial turn, which is excellent; J. W. Rowley sings his songs in capital style; and Chas. Vincent is also successful. The pictures are most interesting.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding Smith.—This week we are favoured with a return visit of Mr. Ian Maclaren's Shakesperean company. On the opening night *She Stoops to Conquer* was played before an appreciative audience. Mr. Maclaren was very fine as Marlowe, so also was Mr. Philip Gordon as Tony Lumpkin; and, as Hastings, Mr. Alfred Gray had a part which suited him well. Kate found a most charming exponent in Miss Edith Coleman; and Miss Neville was admirably portrayed by Miss Barnett. Mrs. Henry Howard deserves special mention for her impersonation of Mrs. Hardcastle. Other parts were taken by Mr. Vole (Sir Charles Marlowe), Mr. Stafford Dawson (Mr. Hardcastle), Mr. Whitford Kane (Diggory), Mr. Bryant (servant), Mr. Stevenson (second servant), Miss Ida Fitzpatrick (maid). The week's programme includes the *Merchant of Venice*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Othello*, *David Garrick*, and *Hamlet*.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The principal attraction—a strong one—is Rousby's *Around Paris*, an electrical spectacular display, exhibited by two ladies, in which some realistic scenic effects are contained; Zanfretto and Napier, the amusing and clever musical eccentrics; Jock Walker, Scotch comedian; and the Crown Trio of harmonic vocalists, have a pleasing welcome. A clever exhibition of jumping and tumbling is submitted by the Mozondos; the impersonations by Phil Rees, the double-voiced vocalist, are good indeed; a sketch by Drew and Alders is novel and exceedingly funny; the Sisters Tinsley, duettists and dancers, come in for a liberal share of applause; as also does a new film on the bioscope.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Mr. Edward Marris's No. 1 company opened on Monday a week's visit here in *The Dandy Doctor*. Miss Florence Smithers was excellent as the general "slavey," and gave valuable assistance to Mr. James Salter, who as Melchisadeck Brown afforded much amusement. Mr. Walter Nugent did well as the smart young doctor, Vandyke; Mr. Herbert Pearce played the retired Colonel effectively, and sang some pleasing numbers with Miss Bell Hamilton, who appeared as Miss Lorraine; Ivy Pendred was charmingly portrayed by Miss Elfie Vincent; Mr. Leslie Martin contributed to the success of the performance as Bertie Bolingbroke; Miss Rosie Chandler exhibited some graceful dancing, and the other characters had able exponents. The chorus and orchestra were effectively directed by Mr. George Jenkinson.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. J. D. Hunter's company is appearing here in *The Octoroon*. Pete, an old negro servant, is ably taken by Mr. J. D. Hunter. The repulsive character of Jacob M'Closky is powerfully drawn by Mr. Maule Cole, Mr. E. Beecher manfully represents Salem Scudder, and Mr. E. C. Lilly gives a fine interpretation of George Peyton. Mr. Charles Hawker makes an excellent auctioneer; a good character sketch of Sunnyside is given by Mr. Thomas Beecher; Miss Helen Anderson is natural as the unfortunate Paul; an intelligent and lady-like impersonation of Mrs. Peyton is given by Miss Eva Bayley; a brisk and vivacious representative of Dora Sunnyside is seen in Miss Blanche Bayley; Miss Blanche Stuart in the title-rôle brings all the necessary amount of feeling to bear upon the part of the poor slave girl.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Norman.—An excellent company is appearing here. An attractive vocalist is seen in Miss Gladys Williams. Besides being a brilliant pianist, Mr. Victor Courtney is a delightful patterer. *A Matrimonial Agency*, by Messrs. Hayman and Franklin, is very amusing; the Hippodrome Bioscope show some cleverly-arranged pictures; Miss Annie Casey is a pleasing ballad singer; *The Concert Rehearsal* is given by Messrs. Phern and Phern (George and Arthur); a ripple of merriment accompanies the excellent fooling of Mr. Chas. Chard; Captain Taylor introduces Lockhart's well-trained elephants.

ST. LEONARD'S PAVILION THEATRE.—Pier Master and Entertainment Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Howard Cochran and company presented on the first three evenings of the week the high-class comedy, *The Marriage of Kitty*. Unfortunately after the first performance Miss Aida Jenoure, who takes the character of Kitty, was indisposed, and Miss Gladys Dare stepped into the breach, and played the part in a charming and unaffected manner. As John Travers, the solicitor, Mr. Cecil Wilford gives an admirably-drawn sketch; Mr. Howard Cochran puts plenty of healthy vigour into the character of Sir Reginald Belsize, Bart.; Miss Helen Robertson is fresh and original as Rosalie, the French maid; Miss Betty Castle shows much dramatic skill in her impersonation of Mme. de Samiano.

HEREFORD.—GARRICK THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. Barnsley.—*Under the Russian Flag* is the attraction provided at this house. There was a crowded house on Monday, and Mr. Jack Haddon has good cause to feel satisfied with the warmth of his company's reception. Miss Marie Rayner (who was unfortunately suffering from a bad cold) is deserving of hearty congratulations on her assumption of Luka Marischla; the Alexis Skopolopki of Mr. Fred Haming was distinctly clever, and abounded with little touches of humour; Mr. Jack Haddon achieved a striking success as Captain Demetrius; Mr. George Herbert, always clever, surpassed himself as General Romanoff and Colonel Sogyaroff. Miss Elaine Vanbrugh, in the rôle of Vera Vassiloff, was successful; a capital piece of character-acting was given by Mr. Charles Liddon as Wolf Marischla; the part of the hero, Ivan Romanoff, was well played by Mr. Cecil Melton; and Miss Violet Lytton gave a vivacious performance of Orgareta.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Grainger.—A crowded house on Monday witnessed Miss Annie Bell's company in *Sapho*. Miss Bell's interpretation of Fanny Le Grande is forcible and artistic; Mr. Otto Minister's rendering of Jean Gaussin is a very fine performance; Mr. Geo. Antley, who plays Césaire, scores heavily; Mr. P. G. Beresford, as Fanny's bibulous father, is distinctly funny; and Mr. Pringle Roberts is a fine example of a bohemian sculptor.

HOYLAND.—METROPOLE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. R. Baker; Stage-Manager, Mr. J. Dyer.—Messrs. Elliman's No. 1 company opened here on Monday in *A Heart's Desire*. Mr. Cecil Gray, in the rôle of Jim Denman (Beautiful Jim), displayed much histrionic ability, and was heartily applauded; Mr. A. W. Beresford-Carl was a manly Eric May, and, as Luke Forrest, Mr. Booth Conway was very good. Mr. Aubrey Denham scored as David McCullock. The humorous element was well catered for, Mr. J. R. Tyrrell, as Bertie Beresford, being ably assisted by Mr. Fred Mansfield as Coombes, and Misses Kitty B. Russell and Frankie Newcombe as Gwendoline Ross and Julia respectively. Miss Lily Barley-Clarke was capital, and an excellent Oiya was found in Miss Dora E. Eastlake.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews. — Mr. Charles Macdona's principal company is here for the first time with *The White Chrysanthemum*. Miss Muriel George as O San uses with skill a light, flexible voice, of pure quality; Miss Nellie Groves is smart as Miss Vanderdecken; Miss Emily Taylor has the right touch of archness as Betty Kenyon; Mr. H. Langdon Bruce sings artistically and acts with freedom as Reggie Armitage; Mr. Charles Schmiedt is a brusque and burly Admiral Armitage; Mr. H. E. Garden is cleverly languid as Lieut. "Chippy" Belmont; Mr. Richard Telford is alert as Sin, the Chinese cook; and Mr. Jamie Dallas humorous as Perks.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Turns are provided by the Lukushima Troupe of real Japanese acrobats, whose smartness and daring are highly appreciated; the Sisters Brenton, soubrettes and dancers; Massona, boy juggler; the Three Whirligigs, in a distinctly refined and attractive medley of good singing and dancing; Polo and Florence, two artistic gymnasts; the Haverleys, in their illustrated songstories; Walter Ray, comedian; Harry D'Albert, a bass singer with a fine voice effectively used; Albert Athas and Miss Lizzie Collins, in their clever sketch, *The Tutor and Pupil*; and a change of films on the Biograph.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. W. Morton. — A very favourable impression has been created by the production in this city of *The Shulamite*. As the cruel, fanatical old Boer, Simeon Crillett, Mr. C. Weir has a rôle which he fills with life-like fidelity; as the wife, Deborah, Miss Evelyn d'Alroy furnishes ample evidence of her histrionic powers; Mr. W. T. Lovell plays the part of Robert Waring with success; while the small rôle of the Kaffir servant is capitally represented by Miss Marcella Hudson. The Tante of Miss Mary Griffiths is a fine study; and Mr. Reginald Dennison is equally well cast. In the curtain-raiser, *The Widow Woos*, Mr. de Solle lends efficient aid.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wyn Miller.—A welcome revival of *The Geisha* has met with much approval. In Miss Louie Collier we have an ideal Mimosa San, who sings the airs allotted to her with musicianly skill; Mr. Ed. Carlton hits off the eccentricities of Wun Hi with considerable verve; Miss Florrie Saunders reaches the high-water mark of success as Molly Seymour; the Marquis Imari of Mr Lionel Braham is a distinguished performance. For Friday night *A Greek Slave* was announced.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Morton's, Ltd. — General Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—*The Price of Her Soul*, a play in which there are many thrilling moments, is being highly appreciated here this week. As Lord Rolf Manderville, Mr. Shinton has a rôle which suits him well; as the Countess, Miss Ada M. Ryder earns the sympathy of the house. The tragedy of the play is cleverly intermingled with comedy.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham; Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn. — The Daunton-Shaw troupe of sensational cyclists top the bill here. Johnson and Bert submit a funny sketch, entitled *Queer Customers*; and the Morton Trio also present a laughable turn. Dorothy L. Clarke is an attractive vocalist; and Selby and Myers, excellent vocalists and dancers, and Minnie Wren, in some catchy choruses, complete a good programme.

THE EMPIRE—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Slingsby.—The Seven Zerbinis, in their latest creation, *The Enchanted Glen*, in which music is a prominent feature, top the bill. A. P. Boswell, an old Hull favourite, is as clever as ever; Barnard Carten, Hull's topical vocalist, gets a fine reception; Edie Anderson, owing to her great success last week, stays on in new songs and dances; Salida and Vone, Creole singers, shine in their dances; and other artists include Marie Ray and Geo. Raper.

THE PALACE—Appearing here are Ginnett's *Rejected Remounts*, Viviana, Fielding and Hull. Daisy James, Pat Rafferty, Lyons Trio, Rosie Archer, and Keith Kent and company, in their sketch, *Where's Aubrey?*

THE CIRCUS.—Manager, Mr. E. Emerson —Sydney Carter's pictures are a great success here.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather—*The Life of a Showman*, a drama on distinctly original lines, is proving a powerful magnet here this week. Mr. George Testo Sante displays considerable histrionic ability in the rôle of Brien Leader, and his feats of strength are vociferously applauded. Mr. Edward Warden makes the Rev. Cyril Arlis a fine specimen of manhood; and Mr. F. R. Gwyn Richardson doubles to advantage the characters of Sir Noel Hartland and Stickers. The shady side of nature is graphically depicted by Mr. H Lloyd as Henrick Marais, and Miss Amy McNeil as Agatha Winter. Master Harry Warden intelligently enacts the part of Dickie Henrick Marais; and Miss May Warden deserves encomiums for her clever study as Lynette Leader. Mr. Will Lindsey touches the risible faculties of his audience by his funny performance as Ben Tic Tac; and the comedy element is also ably contributed to by Miss Grace Harlington as Angelina Mutton, and Mr. Frank Sante as Tommy Allthere. The Brothers Sante create much laughter in a comic musical sketch.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—The drama presented this week is entitled *Her Luck in London*, and is played by Mr. Geo. Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company. The rôle of Nellie Harborne is exceptionally well sustained by Miss Neil herself, and that of the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor has a capital representative in Mr. Charles A. Leicester. Mr. Douglas Tremayne figures conspicuously as the Rev. Lionel Strong, and Miss Frances Bruce leaves little to be desired in her rendering of Lilian Harborne. Mr. Tyrone Power is seen to advantage as Stephen Harborne, and the like remark applies to Miss Ada Roscoe as Madame Gabrille. Mr. J. Telly Dillsen as Jerry, and Miss Florrie Groves as Maud work well, whilst Mr. Bruce Chapman is successful as Algie. Mr. Valentine Henry appears as Richard Lenowen; his performance is a smart one.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Leonard Grey.—Miss Maud Hilyard's company is here with the new play, *The Great Awakening*. Miss Hilyard depicts the character of Ida Selby, the unscrupulous adventuress, with intense power and passion, and makes a great impression. Mr. Bernard Copping gives much assistance as Jack Merton, the victim of Lola, and Mr. A. C. Hardie as the escaped convict does due justice to the character. Mr. Charles E. Linn as Guy Logan, and Mr. Herbert Evelyn as the Captain render assistance to the success of the piece, and Miss Doris Rigby and Miss J. Bellington deserve a word of praise for their respective personations.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The chief engagement here is that of Miss Ella, with her group of South African lions, who give a wonderful display. Other items include Carl Howard, a neat and clever conjurer; Rosie Lloyd, a pleasing comedienne; Eno, who gives some imitations of London comedians; Tom Fancourt and Jennie Rubie in a farcical sketch called *Out of Barracks*; the Brothers Hayes, vocalists and dancers; the Four Loubells in an act entitled *Uninvited*; and Geoffreys and Benson in a humorous sketch called *Spoofed*.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C. Rbt. Perkins.—*A Soldier and a Man* is being performed this week by Mr. A. Clifton Alderson and company, the opening performance on Monday night being under the patronage and in the presence of a large number of the officers and men of the East Surrey Regiment. Mr. Alderson as Harold Sinclair was, as usual, admirable, and Miss Ruby Loncraine acted very gracefully as Rose Milbury. Mr. Leonard Laurence was quite a success as Hubert Walgrave, and that versatile actor Mr. A. W. Norman gave a clever impersonation of the rôle of old David Melbury. Mr. Ernest G. Batley as Jim Farrow introduced a touch of light comedy, and Miss Ethyle Murray, who took the part of Sergeant Jane, filled a rôle which suited her admirably. Mr. Charles Locke was good as Jake Harding, and Mr. T. Kirkwood excellently acted the part of Sergeant Wicks, while Miss Emily Levettez sustained with credit the character of Norah Melbury.

KETTERING.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Payne.—Mr. Chas. Watson Mills' company is here with *A Wrecker of Men*. Miss Lucy Sibley presents the evil nature of Risca Mallison in a forcible manner, and Miss Cissie Podmore is successful as Doris Melville. Mr. Stanley Champion is an admirable Guise Strange, and Mr. Frederick Biron deserves hearty praise for his fine acting as Jim Murley. Miss Beatrice Reynolds is very amusing as Vavasole Slopper.

KIDDERMINSTER.—NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—A visit is this week being paid by Mr. F. Wybert Clive's company with the powerful drama *The Conscript*. Mr. E. Bellenden Clarke gives a capital rendering of the part of Karl the Conscript, while Miss Lilian Roes ably supports him in the rôle of Nadia, his wife. Messrs. Walter Steele and Chas. E. Johnson are respectively good as Ivan Mauloff and Count Paul Hordiski. Mr. William Head, nicknamed "Dangerous," is excellent in his part. The play is well mounted.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessees, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—Mr. Henry Swinerd's company has presened *Dare-Devil Dorothy* here this week. Miss Ida Kessanly is responsible for the title rôle; Miss Marie Vere gives a good rendering of Ruth Montrose; and Miss Nellie Harcourt makes a sprightly Judith. The dancing of Miss Mabel Blake, as Polly, and Miss Lillie Blake, as Rosy Ann, is clever and highly appreciated. The humour of the piece is sustained throughout by Mr. Will Brereton, as Silas Crump; Mr. Henry C. Ward proves an acceptable and manly hero as Captain Edward Dudley; and Mr. Walter Ashley is a sufficiently sinister villain.

KIRKCALDY. — KING'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Burton.—On Monday, the Midland Syndicate presented the musical comedy-drama *Life*. The cast includes Mr. Herbert Barrs and Miss Dorothy Oswald in the leading rôles of Jack Lockhart and Beatrice Ferras, and to them first honours fall; a large amount of the work is entrusted to Mr. E. Chatham as Zac Krabbe, and well he does it; Mr. Ronald Grahame is fairly successful as the villainous Sir Horace Lester; and as Detective Blake Mr. H. Ashie is worthy of special mention; Mr. Arthur Wilson is conspicuous as the pawnbroker, and Mr. Willis Collins is seen to advantage as Peter Thorpe; Mr. A. B. Lyons, as Joe Pippit, and Mr. Alf. Selwood, as the constable, are responsible for much laughter; Miss Maudie Vincent gives a clever rendering of Jess, the street waif, and her singing is much admired; Misses Edna Hana and Ethel Bateman are capable of all that is required of them as Ruth Thorpe and Agnes Mostyn. *After the Ball* is the attraction for the latter three nights of the week.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hook.—Mr. Monillot's company is appearing here this week, the programme consisting of three performances of *The Geisha* and three of *A Greek Slave*. Miss Lydia Bland takes the leading part in the popular Japanese opera, and renders the numbers allotted to O Mimosa San with delightful effect; the Molly Seamore is Miss Edith Adeson, who is in all respects admirably suited; and as Juliette the efforts of Miss Doris Langdon are also very successful. Mr. Wilfred Heath is a promising baritone, and makes an excellent appearance as Reginald Fairfax; the other officers being ably represented by Messrs. Edward Pollard, Ryton Hoare, T. Squire, and Miss Emily Loval as the Midshipman. Mr. Edward Kipling is Wun-Hi, and plays the part for all it is worth; and another capital performance is the Marquis of Mr. J. H. Booth. Mr. Albert B. Hunter, as Captain Katana, has a pleasing voice; and Miss Winifred Knightly makes an imposing Lady Constance. The other parts are ably filled, and the chorus, under the direction of Mr. Chevalier Legrand, is well balanced.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. Porter and W. J. Fergusson.—Another capital programme is arranged here, and crowded houses nightly assemble to support the management. The star turn is undoubtedly Gustave Fasola, a wonder-worker who baffles his audience from start to finish. Jimson's novelty sketch, *Burglar's Surprise*, is a capital turn, and is assisted materially by the dog Rover. The Fimans give an amusing scena, *In the Fire Station*, and the Gondoliers quartette sing nicely. Mulvey and Miriam, in a comedy act, *In the Studio*; Danby Wiske, magician; Miss May Fallowfield, vocalist; Leslie and Player, duettists; and Walter Payne's animated pictures all add to the enjoyment of the entertainment.

PALACE. — Proprietors, Messrs. J. and C. Fell; Manager, Mr. John Fell.—Miss May Lilian Levey is at the head of the bill here, and her song, "The Lady Member," has nightly been encored. The Three Panamas supply a clever acrobatic performance; Tom Kelso and company in a sketch, *The Silly Servant*, is well received; and Harry Gold is staying another week; Sisters Terry, duettists; the Schallers, comedy artists; Jones and Wallace, comedians; and the Edison-Swan animated pictures complete a varied programme.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Harry Hunter.—Mr. Turner and his opera company occupied the local boards the first three nights of this week, and were well received by large and enthusiastic audiences. On the opening night the company gave an excellent interpretation of J. Balfe's *Satanella*. Mr. Turner appeared with great success as Count Rupert, and sang like the fine artist he is. As Satanella Miss Kitty Brownless was remarkably good, and sang with great expression and wonderful dramatic power. Miss Christine Gomez sustained the part of Lelia, and displayed the pure quality of her beautiful young voice in a truly artistic manner. Mr. Sidney Clifford as Arimanes was also heard to great advantage in his renditions. Others who contributed in no small degree to the success of the piece included Mr. George Ridding, Mr. Richard Cummings, Mr. P. Newton, Miss Jessie Dennis, Mr. Sydney Appleby, and Miss Maud Esdale. There was a strong chorus, with an augmented orchestra under the direction of Mr. T. Lawton. On Tuesday night the company gave *The Bohemian Girl*, and on Wednesday *Maritana*.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—The comedy, with music, *Mr. Popple (of Ippleton)*, is at the Grand this week, and it is chiefly welcome in that it brings that clever comedian, Mr. G P. Huntley, on one of his rare visits to the provinces. Mr. Huntley is vastly entertaining in the rôle of the unsophisticated Mr. Popple, his refreshing humour keeping the house in a continual ripple of laughter. Miss Millie Legarde is delightfully piquant as the actress La Bolero; an attractive and vivacious performance is that of Miss Eva Kelly as Violet Brinton; and Miss Nellie Hodson is no less pleasing as Bolero's maid. Mr. Arthur Grover, as Jack Kenyon, sings love ballads in good style; the lady-killer, Norman Popple, has a handsome and dashing representative in Mr. Harry Watchman; Platt, the groom from Ippleton, is a clever performance by Mr. C. M Daly; and the two elderly and faithless husbands are in the able hands of Mr. Sydney Young and Mr. James Stephenson. Miss Kate Forster and Miss Ella Daincourt also distinguish themselves in leading parts.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—A story of powerful dramatic interest, *The Shadow of a Crime*, is well to the liking of the Royal habitués, and full houses are the rule. Mr. Stephen Crossley acts in manly and convincing style the part of Harry Bullington; Miss Ina Grant, in the leading rôle of heroine, plays with considerable distinction; whilst Miss Dorothy Riddles's rendering of the part of Dora Bullington is a sympathetic effort. The wrong-doer, Ralph Esmond, is a capable presentation by Mr. Robert Forder; and Mr. A. W. Avery is responsible for a welcome leaven of humour in the rôle of Tom Brown.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—Mr. Fred Granville is presenting here a piece under the title of *For Better or Worse*, and it is proving a striking success. Three leading military characters are acted in convincing style by Mr. Scott Leighton, Mr. G. Edwin Clive, and Mr. Owen Redmonde; and Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh displays rare dramatic ability in the rôle of Ned Earnshaw. The interesting part of Olive Heathcote has a charming exponent in Miss Ruth Nightingale; Miss Chrissie Dunbar and Miss Nellie De Lacy win much praise in the presentation of two actress characters; whilst in comedy parts Mr. Willie Black and Miss Jennie Hallworth have much to do with the success achieved. The Sages are in the cast with a pleasing specialty.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton.—A condensed version of the well-known dramatic episode, *Rogues of the Turf*, is effectively presented by John F. Preston's company. The Kremos fill the bottom of the bill with a wonderful acrobatic exhibition; Pat Carey and the Obo Brothers are well to the fore with acceptable comedy turns; Harry Carsdale mimics the calls of birds and animals true to nature; that clever little lady, May Henderson, scores her usual success in new items; The Maples sing and dance in good style; and a wonderful exhibition of trained birds is engineered by Rose Naynon. The pictures complete.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barraford; General-Managers, Mr. Claude Shayler and Mr. Chas. Weldon.—The engagement of Miss Ada Reeve is filling the house to overflowing at every performance, and the talented lady has had a flattering reception. A good company supports, Alice Raymond, the cornettist, being especially popular; whilst the Beau-Ideal Juveniles, presented by Claude Feldman, prove a clever lot, and come in for lavish praise; the Paragon Trio of vocalists are entertaining; the Three Sisters Thurban are also doing well in a similar line; Lily Sharplin, the mimic, is here again, pleasing numerous admirers; and Johnson and De Vere are doing a novel cycling act. A pair of sparkling comediennes, Billie Burford and Flo Cecil, are in the bill; and Mr. Arthur Stacey, eccentric comedian, also makes a successful appearance.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sam Jones.—Some excellent fun is seen in the comedy episode, *Casey's Court*, presented here this week. The Three Brothers Huxter score heavily with an eccentric specialty; the comedy element is well looked after by Barrett and Knowles, eccentric patter comedians; Will Driscoll and Fred Lincoln, and that clever pair of burlesque artists, Fields and Lewis. There is a novel ventriloquial turn by Oakdene, and vocal contributions by Georgina Leonard are a pleasing feature.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—The patrons of this theatre are being afforded the opportunity of witnessing for the first time locally an excellent performance of *The Little Michus* by Mr. George Dance's clever combination. Both Miss Alice Coverick as Marie Blanche and Miss Ethel Bryan as Blanche Marie give delightful portrayals; Mr. Foster Courtenay is clever as General Des Ifs, and creates great amusement; Mr. William Everard shines as Gaston Rigaud; Miss Florence Hylton is admirable as Madame Michu; Mr. Gilbert Childs is capital as Bagnolet; and Mr. Leon Simkin is all that can be desired as Pierre Michu; Mr. Robert C. Harcourt is a success as Aristide Vert; Miss Bessie Mackenzie is good as Mlle. Herpin; and the dancing of Mlle. Marjorie as Mlle. St. Cyr is a feature. The pretty dresses, well-balanced chorus, and augmented orchestra, under Mr. Otto Manns, are also adjuncts which call for commendation.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—A splendid reception and a big house here on Monday evening awaited Mr. Bert Coote's company, on a welcome return visit, in *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr. Wilson Howard is good as Howard Wilson, and both Mr. Guy Hastings as Robert Curtis and Miss Leah Marlborough as Cora Williams shine with portrayals of much merit; Miss Katherine Clarke plays well as Mabel Wilson; Mr. Edward Morgan as Toto, Mr. Walter Westwood as Peter Schwartz, and Miss Blanche Stanley as Bridget provide plenty of fun. To Miss Madge McCalla, in the child-part of Jessie, "the Little Mother," we have nothing but praise to bestow, the success she achieved being thoroughly deserved, on this, her first, visit to Leicester. Special mention of the well-known children's scene in the play must not be forgotten, as it introduces in all about thirty well-trained juveniles, included in which are Miss Winnie Crisp, a remarkably clever toe dancer; Miss Dolly McCalla, a smart dancer and vocalist; Master Walter Aubrey, a popular Lancashire clog dancer; Miss Ivy Westaby, an excellent vocalist; and Miss Madge McCalla, who makes a big hit by her versatility. The children's chorus is also deserving of much praise.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Bertram G. Iles.—The premier position is held here this week by Donaldson Bros. and Ardell and company, in their cleverly-worked and laughable pantomime, *A Zoological Comedy*. The Leslie Bros. create much amusement, and their musical abilities are also fully recognised; Professor Selkirk is presenting the juvenile spectacle, *In Bonnie Scotland*, which is exceedingly well dressed and performed; Albert Christian sings his two songs in his usual excellent style; the Sisters Cassell are expert dancers and dainty vocalists; Chas. Whittle is a quaint comedian, who creates much laughter; Kate Cohen uses her fine voice with the best results; Preston and Balmaine, song illustrators, are popular; and Nora Emerald is a capital comedienne and dancer. The American Bioscope is always popular at this hall.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—The great attraction here this week are the Marconis, in their electrical act and wireless telegraphy demonstrations; Musical Silvo delights all with his clever turn; Flo Chevalier, burlesque artist, repeats her usual success; Will Johnson is an entertaining and funny comedian; Frances Haskoll, in illustrated songs, remains another week; Walter H. Paflister's Bioscope is again proving a big hit; Daisy Martell is a capital comedienne and dancer; and the Les Maxim Girls are duettists and expert dancers.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. G. Stanyon.—Mr. Will Catlin and his versatile and clever troupe of Royal Pierrots opened a month's season here on Monday, and a thoroughly refined and enjoyable programme, replete with the latest songs, duets, dances, and trios was submitted. The advent of Mr. Will Catlin's well-known troupe (who, it will be remembered, gained the highest praise in their trial show in London, and were booked for the Moss and Stoll tour) is always a feature of the winter season at Leicester, where most of them reside. It is invidious to single out any artist where all are good alike, but mention must be made of Messrs. Geo. Houghton, Ernie Preston, Will Ambro, K. Scott-Barrie, Tom Catlin, Sid Frere, Will Catlin, and Wilmot Fowler.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Rousby.—A variety programme is the attraction here this week. The bill is topped by Mr. John Higgins, who claims to be the champion jumper of the world; Messrs. Earle and Melville introduce some merry patter and smart dancing, Messrs. Lorne and Rene, in a Lancashire singing sketch, *Capital and Labour*, find great favour; a laughable turn is provided by Messrs. Pearce and Ward, comedy artists and boxers; Messrs. Hanvarr and Leo make a great hit with their speciality act, *The Golfer and the Maid*; Will Pain and company also score in their novelty act, *The Motor Maniac*. Other good turns are provided by Messrs. Fred Tenby and J. C. Scatter, comedians. The Bioscope pictures are excellent.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—This place of amusement is occupied this week by Mr. Morritt and variety company. The programme includes Miss Sylvia Bond, vocalist; Miss Lillian Victoria, the Eton boy; Mr. Bob White, comedian; Mr. Will Souls, laughing comedian; Mr. Morritt, who gives a good display of sleight of hand tricks; and Little Hackenschmidt, boy wrestler.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Interesting musical and dramatic fare has been provided this week for frequenters of the above theatre. In Mr. Joseph Le Brandt's plausible play, *On the Stroke of Twelve*, some realistic and thrilling situations are ably handled by Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle and Mr. Fred Guinness as Jack Rutledge and his chum George Bainbridge; by Mr. Fred Ferne as Jack's father; as well as by Mr. H. Creagh Hunt and Miss Madge Laverton in the rôles of a pair of schemers. Jess Bainbridge and Doris Rutledge find pleasing representatives in the Misses Nellie and Beatrice Moore; while the comedy element is amusingly developed by Mr. Syd. T. Russell, Mr. Fred J. Little, and Mr. Will Bass in congenial character parts. Mr. J. B. Murray is strong in his impersonation of Van Dyke; and minor rôles are all well filled. Specialities in songs, dances, and other variety turns are acceptably introduced by Miss Nellie Moore, Messrs. Bass and Guinness, Mr. Syd. T. Russell, and Mr. Fred J. Little. Mr. Fred Darcy's romantic drama, *The New World*, was staged on the latter evenings of the week.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—A return visit of *Veronique* to this theatre has afforded every pleasure. Mr. George Dance's principal company presented it in grand style, and public patronage has been good. In the title-rôle Miss Ruth Lincoln scored a distinct success, her charming vocalism and vivacity earning for her loud plaudits; a particularly amusing Coquenard is submitted by Mr. Leslie Holland; as Madame Coquenard Miss Ethel Negretti displays high talents; Mr. Ronald Bottomley handles the part of Florestan with care and wins favour by his fine singing; Miss Lena Maitland displays marked ability in the character of Emerance, and sings tastefully; a humorous bailiff comes from Mr. Fred Lyne; and Mr. Courtenay Comber with his Seraphin contributes much to the fun of the evening. The remainder of the cast lend great support.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Mr. C. P. Levilly's original London company is here this week with a charmingly presented production of *La Poupée*, which has proved as acceptable as ever. Miss Stella Gastelle repeats her talented portrait of the dollmaker's daughter, singing her numbers with that sweetness and effect which have earned for her high credit. As Hilarius Mr. W. H. Powell is, if anything, funnier than ever, and during the time he occupies the stage his auditors are kept in constant laughter; Mr. Aubrey Carr acts and sings with much judgment as Launcelot; a dignified Father Maxime is presented by Mr. Frederick Hobbs, whose fine vocalism brings forth several demands for encores; Mr. Fred Seymour as Loremois and

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—*The Manxman* is here this week, with Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company. As Pete, a rôle played by him over 1500 times, Mr. Cross is as effective as ever; Miss Minnie Watersford proves a sweet Kate Cregeen; Miss Kitty Livesey gives every satisfaction as Bella Kelly; Mr. Sydney C. Kearns certainly distinguishes himself as Philip Christian; Mr. James Dillon plays carefully as Cæsar Cregeen; Mr. Dudley Stuart acquits himself well as Ross Christian; and good assistance comes from Mr. Tom Bowron and Miss Dorothy Duncan. The drama is staged in a complete manner.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan.—Top of the bill here this week is Charles Prelle, whose dog act has been watched with keen interest; for her capitally rendered popular songs Lottie Lennox is cordially received; Sammy Shields causes endless laughter with his quaint Scotch stories; the Brothers Curran present an amusing boxing act, *Taking the Census*; Harry Champion, a smart comedian, affords every pleasure; some remarkable conjuring is performed by Satsuma; Daisy Jerome proves herself a dainty and talented comedienne; the singing of Daisy Morell meet with acceptance; clever juggling on the balancing ladder is executed by Great Scott; Harry Rogerson, as the tired comedian, provokes great laughter; and Rowland Hill, comedian, also appears.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—George Reeves is here this week with his old and new favourite songs, which have given much delight; Denby and Dent, a lively pair of comedians, pay a welcome return visit; several well-received songs have come from Francis Drew; the Byrnes (Jack and Marie) are loudly applauded for their songs and dances; and others in the list are Harry Stuart, vocalist and dancer, and Marie Leslie, burlesque actress. The Royal Bioscope shows some good pictures.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. —*The Ticket-of-Leave Man* has proved a strong attraction here this week, being produced by the "Royal" stock company. Mr. Percy Boucher gives a capital rendering of Melter Moss; Mr. Harry Tresham plays with power the part of Brierley; Mr. Sydney Grant does every justice to James Dalton; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood handles the rôle of Mr. Gibson with care; as Maltby Mr. Robert Wilton ably acquits himself; May Edwards is sympathetically presented by Miss Florence Palmer; Miss Beryl Ravenswood is an excellent Mrs. Willoughby and Miss Sybil Hammersley a satisfactory Sam Willoughby. Pictures are also shown on the Bioscope.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. M. Montgomery. —Here this week the "Royal" Stock Company is presenting *When Rogues Fall Out*. Mr. Vincent A. Briscoe affords much satisfaction as Sir Henry Lorrimer; Mr. Albert Sember makes a fine Jack Lorrimer; Mr. Frank S. Strickland capably depicts Stephen Ralston; Mr. Walter Foster is well placed as Jack Burton; a deal of humour comes from Mr. H. G. Brandon, as Billy Faggles; Miss Lilian Burns plays with effect the rôle of Madge; and Miss Lina Nazeby is powerful as Hettie Stanton. The Royal Bioscope shows interesting pictures.

PARK PALACE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Harry Edson, with his performing dogs, is in big type here this week; another principal turn is that given by the Mayvilles (Harry and Elsie); the liliputian novelty artists, the Bohemian Boys, are a smart couple of coloured vocalists and dancers; some clever trick-jumping is shown by Sauteron; Macintosh and Royal are a talented pair of clog dancers; Patty Bella has a number of taking songs; and the Elgars go through a high-class vocal entertainment.

WESTMINSTER.—Lessee, Mr. Fred E. Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—An attractive bill is offered here this week, Frank Lynne, an able comedian, being at the head. Clifton and Gibson have caused roars of laughter with their knockabout business; some pleasing illustrated songs are provided by Fox and Melville; Burton and Trent, musical eccentrics and dancers, are highly approved; several sweet contralto songs come from Olga Fame; and others in the programme are Stephen Blythe, actor vocalist, and Myles and May, the merry huntsmen.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd. — The announcement of "Free list suspended" is made here this week owing to the important engagement of La Milo, who has certainly proved an immense draw. Harry Trevanion and company have presented a powerful dramatic sketch, *A Bolt from the Blue*; the Welsh Wanderers, a troupe of genuine Penillion singers, made their initial appearance on the variety stage, and had a pretty scene of a Welsh village. The work of the quartet—Madame Williams-Penn (soprano), Madame Blodwen Jones (contralto), Mr. John Devonald (baritone), and Mr. A. Gibbs (harpist) —was much appreciated. Victor Newman met with a flattering reception for his fine character impersonations; an acceptable turn came from the Three Sisters Sprightly; Mlle. Larivet had some pleasing songs; the eccentric dancing of Will Vokes was loudly applauded; the picture songs by Lilian Warren were received with favour; and Frances Letty, an American comedienne and dancer, was not the least attractive feature of the capital programme.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—Great crowds have flocked to this handsome building this week to witness the first production here of the aquatic spectacle *The Flood*. Mr. Tom McInerney, the well-known champion wrestler of England, a local athlete who appears as Harry Darvill, lends added interest to the event, and he is supported by T. E. Conover, Fred Neiman, Cecil Compton, and Mary Stafford Smith. The production caused great astonishment. Another big item is *A Trip to Coontown*, a negro sketch by the principal members of the *In Dahomey* company. Phillips and Terry do well as comedy sketch artists; a high-class vaudeville entertainment is submitted by Rita and Roma; Woodhouse and Wells distinguish themselves as comedians and dancers; a comic picture song comes from James Heron; and also in the list are Beatrice Rénée, dialect comedienne, and Lilian Lowe, vocalist. The American Bioscope had some fine pictures.

ROSCOMMON.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Frank Cass, a popular local comedian, is foremost here this week with some of his excellent songs; Stephens and Rennior are extremely funny, and also expert dancers; Cavern and Cave cause much laughter with their absurdity *An Early Morning Dip*; some pleasing illustrated ballads are provided by Georghegan and Downs; Frank Coyle is a comedian of much merit; and U. G. Ugo, the man of mystery, is likewise in the list.

LLANELLY. — ROYALTY THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting Manageress, Miss Alice Rochefort.—*A Miserable Marriage* is given here this week by Mr. John H. Negus's company. Mr. Tom Ronald appears with great success as Arthur Cameron; Mr. W. Robert Barbour is very good as Aaron Houseman; and Mr. Fred Carrol in the part of Midgers deserves great praise. Miss Patty Delahay as Agnes, Miss Mabel Rose as Lizzie Bowman, and Miss Florence Venimore as Lady Cameron supply excellent assumptions.

NEW EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. W. A. Totten.—Amongst the good turns here this week are Miss Katie Le Blanch, a clever serio and dancer; Miss Eva Frere, a charming character vocalist; and the very taking Miss La Belle Sylvia. Mr. J. K. Reynolds produces the sensational sketch, *Conscience*, with great effect.

LONG EATON.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—The re-opening of this theatre on Monday night was a wide event of interest, the house being crowded. Mr. Eade Montefiore's company, in *The Streets of London*, had a flattering reception. Mr. William Rokeby as Badger is conspicuous for his eccentricity; Mr. Jerrold Manville is amusing as Jonas Puffy; Mr. Riddell Robinson is the banker; Mr. Reginald Palgrave figures as Mark Livingstone; Miss Winifred Ingham and Miss Dorothy Cacey also do well.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Payne-Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards. — Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, with a repertoire of plays, is this week paying a visit here. *Mary Queen of Scots*, *Sapho*, and *East Lynne* are the selected plays. As Mary Queen of Scots, Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer acts with great success, and is well received. Other characters are in capable hands. The staging and dressing are excellent.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—This week we have the first visit locally of Mr. Andrew Melville's company in the drama *Driven from Home*. The dressing and scenery and general effects are noteworthy, and considerable sensation is created by the saw-mill machinery in full working order. Mr. Felix Pitt is particularly good as Anthony Raybrook and Mr. Percy Dawson as Willie, the outcast, is equally successful. Miss Florence Creagh submits a well-thought study as Laura Raybrook, and the remaining parts in the lengthy cast are sustained with credit.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Mr. F. Mouillot's *A Message from Mars* is here this week. Horace Parker is successfully portrayed by Mr. H. J. Bentley, while no better Messenger than Mr. W. H. Brougham could be found. Miss Ellis as Minnie Templer is excellent, and Miss Flora Hastings portrays the Aunt in a natural manner.

MACCLESFIELD. — THE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley. The attraction here this week is Mr. Lingford Carson's company in *The Drama of Life*. Mr. E. M. Hamilton as Harry Beech shows great dramatic ability; Mr. J. J. Hooker deserves great praise for his conception of Walter Beech; Mr. H. Roberts gives an excellent representation of Dobson Wilde; Mr. G. Child acquits himself admirably as Richard Brenton; Mr. H. M. Payne makes an excellent Jack Lawton; and Mr. S. Fiennes scores as David Crane. Miss Kate Hallam gains the sympathy of the house in the rôle of Sylvia Beech; Miss Florence French is seen to advantage as Lady Jane Wilde; and Miss Nellie Birchenough is a capital exponent of Betty Black. Miss Marie Pardy as Master Robert Buck is very good indeed.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Baskerville.—An excellent programme is submitted this week. Boyd and Gilfain present a clever burlesque operatic scena; Bert Woodward is a clever cyclist; Will Godwin, a very popular artist in Maidstone, is well received; Onda and Leon are clever and novel comedy bar performers; Miss Dolly Harmer, with her "Suffragette" song, soon gets on good terms with her audience; Pueblo and Cropp are smart sand-dancers and duettists; Levetto is a dancer of merit; and Miss Lorna Doone, in her scena, *Santa Claus*, dances daintily. The Biograph brings a thoroughly enjoyable evening to a close.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmonstone Shirra.—Mr. Tree's company in *Oliver Twist* pay a return visit here this week. The company is not materially changed; at the head is Mr. William Mackintosh, whose impersonation of Fagin—the central part—is marked by considerable dramatic power, and a certain cold subtlety that is at times distinctly impressive. An excellent performance also is that of Miss Marie Polini as Nancy; and much credit is due to Mr. Cecil A. Collins for a properly horrible delineation of Bill Sikes. Proportionately good work is added by Mr. E. C. Buffum as Mr. Brownlow, Mr. C. H. Croker-King as Monks, Mr. Harvey Braban as Harry Maylie, and Mr. T. P. Haynes as Mr. Grimwig; while among the ladies Miss Maudie Ray gives a new depiction of Oliver, Miss Elsie Carew acts neatly as Mrs. Maylie, and Miss Savile is satisfactory as Rose.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—See special notice.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company in *My Sweetheart*, with Miss Minnie Palmer in her original rôle of Tina, attracted an appreciative audience here on Monday. Miss Palmer, of course, did very well; but the honours were quite worthily shared by Mr. Robert H. Howard, who sang exceedingly well as Tony, and was frequently recalled. Others who contributed notably to the success were Miss Iris Lincoln as Mrs. Fleeter, and Mr. J. T. MacCallum as Dudley Harcourt, the dude; while all the remaining parts were capably filled.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —Mr. J. A. Campbell's company in *The Sin of Her Childhood* are here this week from the Grand Junction Theatre.

METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Here this week we have Peter Gotz, a light-weight wrestler, who is challenging all comers up to 10st 6lb. Ada Fawn, the popular comedienne, is also very well received; and other good turns are provided by the Spanish Goldinis, acrobatic and dance artists; the Sisters Bartholomew, duettists and dancers; King and Delane, comedy duo; Monty Walker, a clever Yorkshire comedian; Vaughan and Grey, in a smart duologue; Mephisto and Marie, in a refined drawing-room act; Vera Mayne, an accomplished Canadian comedienne; and the Bioscope pictures.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan.—Mr. John Gerant and company present here this week the interesting and popular military drama, *At Duty's Call*, in which Mr. Gerant repeats for nearly the 2,000th time his powerful depiction of the sinister Anglo-Egyptian, Harold Alison, and is supported in the heroic rôles by Mr. Harry Scott and Miss Lily Crammonde. Mr. Ernest St. John's impersonation of General Gordon is also noteworthy; and the action is enlivened by the humorous efforts of Mr. Harry Ugar as Terry, Mr. Walter P. Carr as Jack Spencer, and Miss Eva Belle as Mary, the lady's maid. The staging is very good.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —Messrs. Knight and Denham's company are here again in their popular attraction, *The Grip of Iron*, in which Mr. Fred Powell plays Simmonet with his accustomed power and success. Prominent also in the long cast are Mr. Wallace Curnock as Paul Blanchard; Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner as the adventurer, De Ribas; Mr. George Denham in a clever depiction of Loustalot; Mr. Charles Mackay as Captain Guerin; Miss Rosabel Dodd as Cora; and Miss Violet Ingram as Marie. The staging and effects are adequate, and the play seems to have lost none of its drawing power.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Mr. Walter Melville's successful drama, *The Female Swindler*, is presented here this week by Mr. Tom H. Taylor's able company. Miss Grace E. Leslie gives a strong rendering of Lu Valroy, the title-rôle; and an equally popular performance is that of Mr. Joseph Millane as Coulson, the criminal investigator. In a variety of parts Mr. Henry Wright has ample opportunities to demonstrate his comic abilities; and in this line his efforts are supplemented by Miss Mary Dawson as Mary Ann Mee. Mr. Wilford Cheetham as Geoffrey Warden makes a forcible villain; and in the third act Miss Florrie Kelsey as May Andrews shows marked ability. The play is capitally staged, and entirely interesting.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Fred Karno's popular success, *Moses and Son*, in which Fred Kitchen is seen in his inimitable creation of Perkins, tops the bill here this week. Incessant laughter accompanies the action, and the entire company are commendable throughout. A pleasing and excellent exhibition of juvenile singing and dancing is given by John Tiller's "Manchester Mites"; the Four Indian Fakirs present a wonderful mystic performance; Ray Maskell dances well; Fisher's Operatic Burlesque Trio are entertaining; Lilian Lea, vocalist, gives a couple of popular numbers with good effect; and Jack Charman proves an acceptable character vocalist. The Bioscope adds to the entertainment.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry.—Alice Pierce, a very talented actress, is here this week in her wonderfully clever impersonations, and gains much deserved applause. Another star turn is George Gilbey, the well-known comedian, who makes a big hit with funny songs and patter. Irma Lorraine, a charming Spanish artist, is also to the front in a series of beautiful and artistic poses; Gertie Gitana sings and dances nicely; and the Cattaness Troupe are clever acrobats of the eccentric order. Smart items are also those of Dandy George and his wonderful dog Rosie; Kathleen Grey, comedienne; Charles Cardow, light comedian; Collinson's burlesque company, in a laughable sketch, entitled *The Cook's Guest*; and the Palace Pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—The most prominent turns here this week are offered by Fred Storey, assisted principally by Lilian Holmes, in an act from *The Merchant of Venice*, very well played; and George Leyton, who is repeating his success in the well-known scena, *The Boys of the Chelsea School*. Popular also are R. H. Douglass, a clever monologue artist; the Molasso Quartet of cyclonic dancers; Silent Tait, the eccentric wizard; Madge Morley and company in a smart sketch, entitled *After the Races*; Katie Butler, a genuine comedienne; the Three Dumonds, accomplished itinerant musicians; and two items by the choir. To these is added a pleasing subject on the Bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—*Turpin Gone Mad* is a protean "nightmare" presented here this week by that capital comedian, Hal Forde. Charming Nina Martino sings two pleasing songs in a most delightful manner, and is warmly received; and Charles Santon, male soprano and double-voiced vocalist, meets with a big reception; Ernest Sewell, the modern wizard, is good at coin and card manipulation; Fuller, the human marionette, is very entertaining; Joe Archer, comedian, has some smart patter; Edith and Tony Felix, the comical clowns, present a somewhat original turn; Edna Cragge, burlesque artist, contributes two taking songs; Ellis and Watts, swell comedians, are very good dancers; and Kloof and Ramsay are vastly amusing musical novelty burlesquers. As usual, the animated pictures are good.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Three Boccaccios (including the famous Signor Francia, mandolinist) top the bill here this week in a delightful vocal and instrumental act, and are well received. Wyndham and Waters are successful in their laughable drawing-room sketch, *The Professor and His Pupil*; Marie Jones, assisted by Ernest Munro, is seen to advantage in her quick-change duologue, entitled *The Way to Win a Bet*; the Edwards Trio are wonderful equilibrists and jugglers; and clever and amusing are the Falcons in an acrobatic hand-to-hand balancing performance. Other capital turns are contributed by Jack Truman, tenor vocalist; Hardie Parm, a quaint comedian; Howard and Townsend, in vocal duets; and Sylvia Martin, lady horse trainer. "The Millionaire Man" is depicted on the Bioscope.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. —An attractive programme here this week includes Edward Garth with his dry humour in a laughable creation entitled *Matrimonial Bliss*. Prominent also is Billy, the famous talking horse, introduced by James De Voye. The Juggling Geraldos do some wonderfully neat manipulations of hoops and clubs; and Fred Carr and Ada Rose give a humorous singing sketch in good style. Harry Morris is a first-rate mimic; Street and Round are smart acrobats; Haig and Novel, comedy artists, are good; and Oliver Conroy, comedian, is amusing Mabel La Blanche, a charming and sweet singer, contributes an extra turn; and the Bioscope pictures are followed with interest. Little Tina, juvenile vocalist, did not appear.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Manager, Mr. W. B Broadhead; Acting Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Vonetta is the top star here this week, and her illusions and quick-change business are alike excellent. Harry Grey is a first-rate comedian, and makes a hit; George Edney, descriptive vocalist, is very good; Smith and Johnson, society coloured duo, as usual are well received; and the Kimberley Boys are smart comedians. Enjoyable items are also those of Percy Farrimond, the Lancashire singing collier; T. E. Johnstone, actor-vocalist; Little Tichborne, in songs and dances; Olive Armidale, comedienne; and the Monckton, in an original musical comedy act. "Coming Home with the Milk" is an amusing film shown on the Bioscope.

MANSFIELD.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Mansfield Theatre Company; General-Manager, Capt. Cecil Clayton.—Mr. Hoggan-Armadale and company were here the first three nights of this week. On Monday night *The Bells* was played. In the part of Matthias, Mr. Hoggan-Armadale had a good reception, and proved himself an excellent exponent of the rôle; Mr. F. Wilberforce gave a finished rendering of the part of Christian; Mr. Arthur Rose gave a good interpretation of the dual parts of the Judge and the Polish Jew; Father Hermann was in the capable hands of Mr. David Beattie; and Mr. Cotton Holmes was good as Mons. Bussey. Amusing parts were those of Mr. T. G. Westland (Fritz) and Mr. T. E. Liddle (Kaspar). As Mme. Mathias, Miss Violet Macree proved herself a capable artist; Miss Elaine Grant did well as Lucille; and Annette was ably played by Miss Nancy Roberts. On Tuesday night *The Lady of Lyons* was presented, and on Wednesday *David Garrick*, with Mr. Hoggan-Armadale in the title-rôle.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Herbert Darnley; Resident-Director, Mr. Tom Jennings.—Mr. Nat Travers, who tops the bill here, scores successes with all his items; the turn of Clark and Gold, banjo experts, is very interesting; the Two Jays cause a great amount of amusement by their quaint cross-talk; Little Ivy gives a good turn as a sand-dancer; and May Pritchard is also well received. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope is still here, and gives a capital series of up-to-date pictures.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. E. Michael; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin-Leigh.—S. Creagh Henry's original version of *The Sorrows of Satan* was presented here on Monday by Mr. A. Austin-Leigh and the stock company, who played the piece capitally. Miss Ethel L. Caryllon sustained the rôle of Lady Sybil Elton forcefully; and the part of Anna Chesney was admirably enacted by Miss Helena Millais. Miss Emmie O'Reilly was an effective Countess of Elton; Miss Marie Scharning a good Mavis Clare; Mr. A. Austin-Leigh a meritorious Prince Lucio; and Mr. Harold West made a capital Geoffrey Tempest.

HIPPODROME. — Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Bert Lytton, the swell comique, opens the list of turns here, and is followed by Penley and English, in the musical comedy duologue, *In Ould Kildare*. Kisbey, as the "call boy," is an excellent mimic; and Adey Spencer proves most entertaining. Jack Pleasants is a particularly droll comedian; and the concluding item is J. G. Grahame and Zerlina Harrington's dramatic episode, *A Daughter of Pleasure*, which is well enacted. Biograph pictures provide some amusement and plenty of sensationalism.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE. —Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is this week presenting here *The Little Breadwinner*. Mr. Eugene Santley gives a fine emotional rendering of Lord Dorrington; Mr. Matthew Boulton submits a manly interpretation of Richard Lawrence; a past-master in the art of villainy, Joseph Price, has a clever exponent in Mr. A. Maurice; Mr. Stanley Leedham is well placed as Charles Prior; little Emmie Thomas gives an intelligent and winning delineation of the title-rôle; Miss Mary Mallalieu imparts sympathy to the character of Margaret Daventry; Miss Jenny Bostock works well as Bridget O'Flanaghan; while Miss Nellie Thorne-Hallam and Miss Kittie Melville are successful in the respective rôles of Kate and Ruth Cherry.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—*The Lion and the Mouse* was produced for the first time in Middlesbrough on Monday by Mr. Walter Maxwell's principal company. Mr. Leslie Carter as John Ryder, the lion, gives a fine performance; Miss Christine Silver as Shirley Rossmore is powerful and effective; Mr. George Lyttleton proves a most able James Rossmore; and Mr. Stephen Wentworth is exceedingly good as Jefferson Ryder. Miss Maude Townsend is a charming Mrs. Rossmore; and Mr. John Wheatman acts with distinction as Whitmore Roberts; and Mr. J. W. Mackie is amusing as Fitzroy Bagley. Mr. Arthur Murray as Jorkins, and Miss Ethel Gordon as Mary also impersonate their parts exceedingly well.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. J. M. Barrie's latest play, *Alice Sit-by-the-Fire*, is being produced with distinguished success here this week. Mrs. Russ Whytal's portrayal of the title-character, created by Miss Ellen Terry, is excellent; Mr. J. Bartlett makes an excellent Colonel Grey; as Cosmo Grey Mr. A. W. Bascomb shows skilful acting; Miss Beatrice Bramah figures with great effect in the rôle of Amy Grey; and Miss Lilian Locke is exceedingly good as Richardson. A clever representative is found in Miss Ninon Dudley for the part of Fanny; and Miss Ada Marius does full justice to the part of the nurse. Miss Lucie Verrier is exceedingly vivacious as Leonora Dunbar; and Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu as Stephen Rollo leaves nothing to be desired. The piece is effectively staged, and the dresses are pleasing.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—John E. Coyle, who occupies the post of honour, creates roars of laughter with songs and patter; and the musical sketch presented by the local artists, Dr. Ernst and company, is very enjoyable. Miss Marguerite Broadfoote has a good reception; and Mr. Harry Lowther and Miss Hulo Hodgson and company are extremely good in their sketch, *The Barmaids*. Perrette and Mona cause much laughter in their sketch, *Teasing the General*; and Pike, Tholl, and Taylor do well in their comedy, *The Dancing Master*. Other turns are provided by Queenie May, comedienne; Vere and Royal; and the Bio.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf. Graham.—Horace Wheatley, the popular comedian, creates roars of laughter; and Natalia and Diana provide a clever gymnastic display. The Brothers Pasquali are clever acrobats and tumblers; Marie Reeve, comedienne, does well; George Rapley, comedian, causes laughter; as also does Blanco J. White, comedian. Leo Dryden is a fine actor-vocalist; and the Palascope projects interesting films on the screen.

MOTHERWELL. — NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant.—Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is this week paying a return visit in *The Still Alarm*. Mr. M. H. Glenville takes premier honours for his really fine conception of the manly young fireman; Mr. George Arthur is well suited in the rôle of John Bird alias Gorman. Special mention should be made of Mr. Fred Osmond as Doc Wilber. Willie Manley has an apt exponent in Mr. Tom Beasley, and Mr. Lewis Gordon does well as Franklin Fordham; Elinor Fordham is sweetly played by Miss Maud Warburton; Miss Mabel Veriton gives a really fine portrayal of the warm-hearted old-fashioned mother; and Miss Hettie Zillwood is bright and breezy as Carrie Wilber. The trained horses, Pegasus and Bucephalus, are a pleasing feature of the production, as is also the singing of the Lyric Comedy Four.

NELSON.—NEW GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. George E. Mudd.—Mr. Charles Macdona's chief company is this week presenting the farcical comedy, *Are You a Mason?* which piece is preceded each evening by a one-act play, entitled *The Ruby Heart*. Mr. Ernest Cossart is seen in the rôle of George Fisher, and the way in which he brings out the absurdity of the character, and its ludicrous qualities, is extremely diverting; Mr. E. H. Patterson gives a clever impersonation of Amos Bloodgood; Mr. Howard L. Tracy is to be commended for his representation of Frank Perry; Mr. Edwin Millins does good work as Jack Halton; Mr. Frederick Jaques furnishes a capital study of the eccentric actor, Hamilton Travers; Mr. Dare Austin is seen to advantage as Ernest Morrison, a Mason; the stern Mrs. Bloodgood is admirably portrayed by Miss Adelaide Grace; Miss Mabel Durrant is successful as Mrs. Perry; Miss Babs Stuart as Annie and Miss Madge Merrique as Lulu make a light-hearted pair of sisters; Miss Dora Frank Harvey is good as Mrs. Halton; and the whole production goes with a swing from start to finish.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe. —The programme is this week filled with Mr. Hall Caine's dramatic version of *The Prodigal Son*. Mr. Herbert Hewetson makes an excellent rugged, manly Magnus, and his performance won him warm appreciation. Mr. Norman Partridge gives a good impersonation of the weak yet attractive character of Oscar; Miss Lily Hall Caine's portrayal of Thora and afterwards of Thora's daughter is a great success; to both parts she lends artistic charm and grace. Miss Cecil Cromwell in the rôle of Helga Neilson is no less convincing; whilst Miss Alma Murray as the mother acts with consummate skill.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing - Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—In the second edition of the musical play, *The Spring Chicken*, Mr. George Edwardes' company is appearing at the Theatre Royal this week, and is meeting with high appreciation from large houses. Mr. George Gregory is a very diverting Girdle, his eccentricities and quaintness in song and dance causing a constant ripple of laughter during his frequent appearances on the stage. As the French advocate, Mr. John Brabourne scores a distinct success; and conspicuous too in the mirth-provoking incidents of the piece are Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., as the head clerk to the advocate; Mr. Ernest Mahar as the head waiter; and Mr. William Spray as the precocious Girdle. Miss Gertrude Glyn is a charming exponent of the part of Rosalie; Miss Irene Verona, with her many sly hits at foibles of society and her dispensation of sleeping draughts, renders her part of Mrs. Girdle to perfection; a charming Dulcie Babori is Miss Nancy Langtyre; and Miss Gertrude Gillian plays with great acceptance the part of Baroness Papouche. Others prominent in an effective representation are Miss Nellie Lennen as Emmy Lou (Girdle's niece), Mr. Frank Hector as Baron Papouche, and Mr. Jocelyn Hope as the proprietor of the "Crimson Butterfly."

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clarke.—The patrons of this house are presented for their entertainment with the stirring military drama *Under Two Flags*, and the manner in which it was received on the initial evening was conclusive testimony to its popularity. The chief characters are taken by Messrs. Wellesley Draper, Lionel West, Charles Brooke, Fred Paul, Arthur Elwyn, and the Misses Mabel Ormonde, Joan Sterne, Mabel Stevens, and Mary Thorn, whose delineation of Cigarette is an outstanding feature. The entire work of the company deservedly met with appreciation.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Mr. Chalmers Mackay's company is paying a visit here this week in *The Wearin' o' the Green*. Mr. Mackay, in the principal part of Barney O'Hea, is irrepressible; he sings, dances, and acts in a very worthy manner, and creates roars of laughter. Mr. Charles Homer makes a dashing Shamus McDermott, and his patriotic songs are effectively sung; Mr. David MacFarlane gives an excellent portrayal of Connor Martin; whilst in the hands of Haughton Macaulay the rascal Michael Kenny is quite safe. Mr. St. John Stuart as Gerald Courtney is admirable; Mrs. Chalmers Mackay is delightful as Norah McGrath; and Miss Adele Liddon is well placed as Mrs. McDermott; and Miss Nana Flensberg is lively and pretty as Biddy M'Ginn.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—Packed houses are the order here this week, and the bill is topped by Miss Marie Loftus, who is in fine voice, and was accorded a great reception, her songs meeting with instantaneous success. The Horne Brothers, in their pugilistic encounter, *The Biter Bit*, score heavily; Ancillotti and his thought-reading dog, Pilu, bewilder the audience; the Glenroy Troupe of International Dancers add to their triumphs; Walter King is a comedian who evokes roars of laughter; Selma Braatz performs some neat juggling feats; operatic vocalism is represented by Les Voces, who render some exceedingly pretty numbers in a charming manner; Tom Parker, comedian; the Stavordale Quartette; and the Palmer-Moir Fight on the Bioscope complete the bill.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Mr. Arthur Roberts is here this week, and with a company which gave him excellent support he on Monday night introduced the new comedy under the title *The Woman Who Was*. Miss Jennie Johns is a delightful comedienne of much ability; and a very gratifying success is earned by Zeta Grey and company in their musical comedy act, *The Lancashire Lass*. Martinetti and Grossi submit a most wonderful musical turn, in which a bicycle is turned into a variety of instruments; the Three Permans combine comedy with acrobatic feats with great success. A decided hit is made by Miss Alice Hollander, who possesses a powerful and pleasing contralto voice. The ventriloquial performance of Mr. W. E. Gillin is of great merit; Charles Woodward, comedian, creates much mirth, and scores heavily; Beattie and Bentley, comedy acrobats; and the San Remo Girls, comediennes and dancers, are the other contributions that make up a good evening's entertainment.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—*The Duchess of Dantzic* is being accorded good patronage here this week. Miss May Glenn as Catherine is simply charming; Mr. Ernest Torrence, who possesses an excellent voice, plays Lefebvre with much manliness; Napoleon in the hands of Mr. Albert York secures ungrudging praise; Mr. Steve Fitzgerald's Papillon is humorous; Miss Maggie White sings sweetly in the part of Renee; and Miss Buena Bent dances prettily.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Ludwig Amann, a really clever impersonator, heads the bill here with life-like impersonations; the Five Bogannys give some smart Risley feats; and Florence and Lillian show musical talent of a high order. Victor Travers is humorous; Dick and Dorothy are smart step dancers; and Amy Russell uses a powerful voice to advantage. Roy and Fenton, in the sketch *The Grass Widow*, are responsible for smart patter; the Avrignys are good jugglers; and the American Bioscope shows some fine pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Seddon.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company presents this week *Oliver Twist*. The central figure of the play is Fagin, and Mr. Stanley Drewitt may be highly commended for his dramatic skill. Miss Edith Anton Laing is well suited as Nancy; Mr. James Skea gives a powerful and convincing performance of Bill Sikes; Mr. W. H. Rotheram, in addition to his duties as stage-director, cleverly individualises the parts of Mr. Grimwig and Monks; Miss Dorothy Marsdin is a quiet and unassuming Oliver Twist; Mr. Charlie Clark, a clever Artful Dodger; and Mr. R. C. Hunter an effective Charlie Bates.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Representative, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. A. Evans.—The leading feature of this week's bill is Klio, who presents in person twelve examples of the masterpieces of modern sculpture. This is a chaste and high-class exhibition. Marba and Verity, with another lady, are amusing acrobatic humorists; Will Freda contributes a song and dance; the Sisters Reno are clever transformation and acrobatic dancers; the Bros. Bright are warmly welcomed as "Gymnasts du Salon"; C. Vincent presents new pictures on the screen; Curtis Leo, the magical marvel, is clever and smart; the Two Dixons, lady banjoists, succeed in song and dance; and Madge Seymour, comedienne, delights with her tuneful ditties.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. George Stephenson's company, with the musical comedy *Kitty Grey*, has attracted large audiences here this week. Miss Hilda Guiver gives an admirable interpretation of the title-rôle and has had a hearty reception, and Miss Dorothy Sephton, as Lady Binfield, wins golden opinions; Miss Nellie Lauraine proves a distinct success as Mrs. Bright; Miss Elsie Skilling is smart as Sadie de Poulson; as Lord Plantagent Mr. Leslie Steward is seen to the best advantage; Mr. Lauri Lyle makes a popular King of Illyria; Mr. Her

turns are contributed by Lulu (lady instrumentalist), Sands and Vincent (comedians), the Original Oldham Singing Girl, Mons. Reni and his cleverly-trained dog; Mlle. Corlettie (illustrated songstress), Stilvo (stilt performer), Martin Hope (comedian), Miss Madeline May Vela (wire performer), and The Cedrics (speciality artists).

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in the charming musical comedy, *Florodora*, opened here on Monday. Mr. Daley Cooper, who impersonates Anthony Tweedlepunch, contrives to keep the house in roars during the time he is on the stage. Miss Gladys Elvey is excellent as Dolores, and she sings sweetly; she is ably supported by Mr. R. Courtier Dutton as Frank Abercoed; Miss Nellie Bowman makes a capital Angela, her singing and dancing being much enjoyed; Miss Edith Housley is greatly appreciated as Lady Holyrood, and Mr. J. R. Tate is good as Cyrus W. Gilfain. Mr. Harold Perry makes the most of the part of Capt. Arthur Donegal, and Mr. Edwin Oxlee is an excellent Leandro.

COLOSSEUM. — Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Another of Mr. Frederick Melville's favourite dramas, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, is paying a return visit here this week. Mr. Henry Lonsdale takes the part of George Madison in a finished manner; Mr. Louis Hector is very good as the scoundrelly Charles Devereux, and he is well supported by Miss Octavia Noel as Lady Lucretia Lancaster; Miss Nellie Bonsor makes a sympathetic Lucy; and Miss Barbara Gott acts in a capital manner as the Mother Superior. Mr. Beresford Whitcombe is excellent as Sir George Lancaster, and Mr. Leonard Maxwell is good as Geoffrey Broughton. Mr. Philip Renouf scores as Joe Lambkin, and much hearty laughter is caused by Miss Denny Fitzherbert as Patty Lovejoy, Mr. Fred De Vere as Timothy Tuppett, and Mr. George Elsworthy as Benjamin Wardle. Other parts are taken by Mr. A. Hickman as John William, Mr. Rawdon Vivian as the Rev. Mr. Dean, and Mr. James Raymond as Dr. Fenwick.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Miss Ethel Arden, supported by Mr. G. Abel and company, create much hearty laughter in the cleverly acted sketch, *Three of a Kind*. The Melody Makers provide some excellent singing and dancing in a phantom scena, *The Burglar's Dream*. The Oldham Concertina Prize Band has had a good reception, and Fred Cary also does well; Miss Dora Martini is a graceful and daring gymnast; Mlle. de Rose is a good baritone vocalist, Charles Cardle has some capital songs, and J. H. Hawtrey, actor vocalist, is well received, and some amusing pictures are shown by the Royal Dottoscope.

HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—Austin and Cowan have had a capital reception in their vocal entertainment; Joe Gold and Dorothy Stirling are good in their musical comedy scena; Stanley and Vandyke do well in a novel act; Francis and Alfred are a couple of sensational comedy jugglers; The Toreadors provide some excellent comedy in their bull fighting act; Forest and King are rightly described as "the two pieces of elastic"; Florence Schubert is a good burlesque artist; and Baddow is a clever ventriloquist. A special feature of the programme are the pictures shown by the Dottoscope.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—On Monday Mr. Lionel Glenister and Mr. Wood-Ingram's company began a three nights' engagement here with *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*, which was well received by a capital house. Miss Decima Moore's delightfully fresh and dainty impersonation of Peggy quite captivated her audience; while Mr. Glenister's Jimmy Keppel was a natural and effective performance. They had admirable support from Mr. Frank G. Bayly, a quaint and interesting Anthony; Mr. H. Bland, an admirable Major Phipps; and Mr. H. Weston, a capable Jack Menzies. Miss Kate Wingfield was perfectly suited as Lady Crackenthorpe; Miss Barton-Astor was a bright and pleasing Millicent Keppel; and Miss Annie Brophy, with a delightful Irish brogue, made an excellent impression as Mrs. O'Mara.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*The Worst Woman in London* is being presented here this week, the company being that of Mr. Tom H. Taylor, which is ably piloted by Mr. Charles R. Stone. Frances Vere is powerfully and effectively portrayed by Miss Florence Dalton; Miss Elizabeth Watkins distinguishes herself by a sweet and winsome representation of Ruth Milford; Miss Emily Kelsey's interpretation of Matilda Parker is humorous; Mr. George Gaisford achieves success as Jack Felton; Mr C. R. Stone as James Milford furnishes a capital embodiment; Vincent Lyle is adroitly handled by Mr. Paul Barry Lewers; the mirth which is identified with the character of Bob Goldfinch is brought out in a striking degree by Mr. Willie Garvie; a characteristic sketch of Hugh Drayton is submitted by Mr. H. W. Monte; as Philip Armstrong Mr. Leonard Booker gives a manly and forcible presentation; and Mr. A. Rushen makes a mirth-provoking Kington.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Manager, Mr. Frank Wilson.—Another capital bill is delighting large audiences this week. The chief item is the renowned Martelloni Troupe of lady acrobats; Bennett and Martell are amusing in a nautical absurdity; Esme Gordon, comedienne and dancer, is a neat danseuse; Jack Neil, Scotch comedian, is loudly acclaimed; Adelina, facialist and impersonator, is highly successful; a capital vaudeville entertainment submitted by Harold Montague's Vagabonds; Vincent, acrobatic table expert and lightning Arab tumbler, is vociferously applauded; Smiler Lee is a quaint comedian; and the Hippodrome Bioscope shows a series of new films.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—A strong programme is presented at the Moss-street house this week. Bruce and Ross are popular in their acrobatic comedy business; Mary Gray, soprano, is successful; Frank Newbury has a gratifying reception as a whistler; Baroux and Bion submit a capital acrobatic comedy act; Florence Hill, comedienne and dancer, finds much favour; Mlle. Lockhart, tight wire artist, meets with success; the Vandyke troupe, retained for another week, are extremely funny, and the Empire Animatograph again shows admirable pictures.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Miss Ida Millais' company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Herne, is here this week in the well-known play, *No Man's Land*. Mr. Henry Herne assumes the responsibilities of hero in a thrilling and interesting play, and does ample justice to the part of Harry Oaklands; Mr. Frank Denis displays rare skill in the rôle of Silas Moore; Mr. A. G. Lytton is admirably adapted to the part of Mat Marsden; Mr. H. Payne Warburton assumes the double rôle of Gilbert Bathurst and Captain Norman Bathurst with evident acceptance; Mr. William Mallalieu, as Dr. Buxton, and Mr. Newton Pearce, as Solomon Jacobs, are amusing exponents of these parts, and are well received; while Mr. Alfred Byron makes an ideal office boy as Thompson Poodle. Mrs. Mallalieu is a charming and captivating widow as Mrs. Poodle; Miss Nancy Mitchell is a clever Bessie Poodle; and Miss Ida Millais becomes an early favourite, her clever impersonation of Mary Bathurst being well received.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—*The Catch of the Season* commenced on Monday a week's engagement at Plymouth. As Angela, Miss Moya Mannering quite captivated the audience by her winsome girlishness; Mr. Frank Lincoln as the Duke of St. Jermyns infected the whole performance with his whole-hearted bonhomie; Mr. E. H. Kelly as Lord Dundreary evoked merriment; Miss Ida Mann as Lady Crystal correctly interpreted the rôle of a cold and austere step-mother; and the Misses Margaret Savill and Jane Eyre as the Honourable Sophia and Honoria Bedford respectively were admirable assistants in the realm of tyrannical petticoat government; Mr. Julien Crop made a fatherly Sir John Crystal; and Miss Belle Napier a vivacious Lady Caterham. A special tribute is due to Master Grata for his distinctly clever representation of Bucket.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—Lewis Gilbert's highly exciting melodrama, *The Mysteries of London*, is this week being performed by the stock company. Mr. Edward Lloyd capably fills the part of Philip Conway; Mr. Alfred Brandon effectively impersonates Victor Levigne; Mr. Larry Clements is a versatile and humorous Dick Coppem; Miss Maud Burton, as Lena North, is a sympathetic heroine; and Miss Ethel Kay an emotional La Saleska.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Jack Field.—Mark Sheridan, the principal attraction here, as usual, is an entertainment in himself; the Delevines in their comedy act, *Flipp and Flopp*, deserve the unstinted applause accorded them; the Villions execute some smart business as acrobatic cyclists; Lily Langtry has lost none of her vivacity or breeziness; Will English has something distinctly new in the negro business; and other contributors to the programme are Nash and Noel (patter comedians), Maude Esmond (burlesque), the Three Ramoniers in a double balancing act), and Vernon's Pictures.

PORTH.—THE PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth. — For this week another attractive programme is arranged here. The bill is headed by Charles Matthews and Co., champion jumpers, who give an excellent display, and also includes Miss Marie Gibson, ballad vocalist; the Carvers (Tom and Lillie), comedy artistes and dancers; Angeline, the dancing juggler; Frank Keeton, comedian; Conan and Doyle, comedians and dancers; the Three Sisters Lee, dancers and acrobats; Mr. Harry Wright, comedian; Miss Jennie Sydney, vocalist and dancer; Cyclumina; Miss Peggy Fame, a quaint comedy lady; and the Bioscope.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Lewis Waller's able company, with the stirring romantic soldier play, *Brigadier Gerard*, is paying a visit here this week. Mr. Loring Fernie portrays Captain Gerard with an incisive boldness that is quite convincing; the Emperor Napoleon is depicted by Arthur Somers with conspicuous success; Talleyrand, in the hands of Mr. George Mallett, is a clever impersonation; Mr. Cecil Wynne is admirable as General de Caulaincourt; and Messrs. Frank Powell and J. Henry Twyford are well placed as Col. Guérin and Major Bron; the Comtesse de Roquelaure is sustained by Miss Maud Hoffman with true sympathetic womanly feeling and dignified manner; and Miss Gertrude Beattie is an efficient Agnes.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate —The exciting convict drama, *Sentenced for Life*, is here for the week, Mr. Bulmer Good's company being responsible for its presentation. Mr. R. Brancepeth Nevill makes an able and striking Sir Wallace Stillwell; Mr. Morris Maud, in the rôle of the Rev. Martin Orris, has a popular part, that suits him admirably; Mr. Ernest Vaughan plays Captain Paul Derrick in capital style; Henry Beckwith, the blackmailer, is personated by Mr. Howard Keane in a most telling manner; Messrs. Arthur Keand. as Bill Sharkey, and Reginald Oldroyd, as Toby the Tadpole, create plenty of fun as the two comical convicts; Miss Mary Dalby, as Lady Stillwell is excellent; Kate Rennell is admirably sustained by Miss Mary Neilson.

EMPIRE PALACE.—The bill of fare offered at this house for the week is of excellent quality. George D'Albert and company are appearing with the greatest success in the intensely dramatic episode, entitled *'Tis Never too late to Mend*; Howard and St. Clair, American comedy artists, are clever and amusing; Minnie D'Aubyn is a dashing soubrette; Keir and Kempton, vocal soloists and duettiste, have had a cordial greeting; George C. Doughty and company in the comic sketch, *Captain Cupid*, create roars of laughter; Tom C. Laurel, comedian and dancer, is clever; Vasey and Ramsey, in their eccentric dancing act, meet with great applause; also appearing are Bertha Norwood, comedienne; Chas. Bayman, Ethiopian entertainer; and Payne's Biophoscope.

PRESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company is fulfilling a return engagement here in *Sunday*. Colonel Brinthorpe has an excellent representative in Mr. Leonard Pagden; Mr. G. Wallace Johnston ably fills the rôle of Arthur Brinthorpe; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas acquits himself well as Tom Oxley. The parts of Towzer, Davy, Lively, and Jacky are admirably sustained by Mr. Wm. Lockhart, Mr. Sydney Rennef, Mr. Cecil Yapp, and Mr. Arthur Vezin respectively. Much praise is due to Miss Emilie Polini for her clever and charming portrayal of Sunday; Miss M'Aimee Murray succesfully impersonates Mrs. Naresby, and Miss Muriel Pope is seen to advantage as a nun.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Messrs. W. H. Hallatt and Walter Howard's company is appearing this week in *Her Love against the World* here. Miss Ellen Snow could scarcely be surpassed in her portrayal of Princess Iris; Eric, Earl of Strathmere, is admirably delineated by Mr. Walter Howard; Miss Rossie St. John entirely wins the sympathy of the audience by her charming portrayal of Nello; Mr. Major Cook is to be congratulated on his dramatic ability in the part of Ulric, Prince of Ravensburg; Mr. Raymond Wood is a capital Prince Othmar; Mr. Henry B. Lewis as Heinrich Pimpernickle and Mr. Richard Webb as Fritz Pimpernickle evoke much laughter by their quaint and original style; Mr. Gerald Venning is an ideal Prince Maurice of Saxonia; Mr. J. Fulton Miller gives an excellent impersonation of the gruff but kindly Sergeant Kaspar; Mr. Curtis Groves acquits himself well as Surgeon-Captain Helgar; Mr. Walter Langley in the rôle of the fighting General Gessler gains deserved applause; Miss Victoria Douglas cleverly fills the rôle of Shulah, Countess of Rassellyn; Miss Lizzie Lennon as Katinka and Miss Harrington Bailey as Crenchen ably sustain their parts.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—The chief attraction here this week is Percy Honri is his beautifully staged and delightful musical fantasia entitled *Concordia*. Others who contribute successfully to the entertainment are Billy Williams, "the man in the velvet suit"; the Four Keith Masons in character sketches; the Canarys with *The Flying Kitchen*; the Howards, instrumentalists; Nancy Renshaw, negro comedienne; the Marions, juvenile vocalists; Lilian Herol, ballad vocalist; and Jim Alston, comedian.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—Miss Evelyn Moore's company, under the personal direction of Mr. Percy Shaw, is paying a return visit with *The Crimson Club*. Mr. Shaw undertakes the character of Reginald Adolphus Garside in his own inimitable manner; Mr. Fred G. Kay is satisfactory as Sir Philip Garside; and Mr. Mill Shaw is responsible for a good rendering of Richard Fenton. Mr. Franklin Heyward is satisfactory as the Hon. Herbert Selby; Miss Florence Delmar, in the dual rôles of Julia Marsden and Julia Howard, gives a fine portrayal; and Miss Sydney Barrasford is an agreeable and praiseworthy Muriel Lockwood.

RAWTENSTALL. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur De Frece.—A well-packed house witnessed a fine performance of *The Christian* on Monday evening by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's excellent company. Miss Laura Walker, as Glory Quayle, gave an admirable rendering, and Mr. E. Stanton-Sharp, as John Storm, submitted an equally admirable portrayal; Mr. Duncan Yarrow was a capital Horatio Drake; and, as Lord Robert Ure, Mr. P. Gedge Twyman gave a fine impersonation. Miss L. Kingston was a clever Polly Love; and Miss Alice Maude, as Mrs. Callander, gave a successful portrayal. Parson Quayle was ably impersonated by Mr. Percy Johnson; and Mr. Harry Colbeck was good as Father Lamplugh. Mr. Phipps Stanley was a capable Archdeacon Wealthy.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Michael Dempsey.—*The Walls of Jericho* is being played here this week by Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company. Miss Florence Jackson plays the part of Lady Alethea with much ability, Miss Molly Carton gives a good impersonation of Lady Lucy, and the other parts are well taken.

ROCHDALE.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague. —*Miss Lancashire, Limited* is the attraction here this week. It is a laughable farce, without a dull moment from rise to fall of curtain. Miss Florence Baines as Mary Ellen Thompson kept the audience convulsed with laughter; Mr. Burt Burton was capital as Isidore Moses; Mr. Patrick Evans was all that could be desired as Harry Higgins; Mr. Payne Fletcher as the burly farmer, William Henry Thompson, submitted a typical impersonation, and Miss Pattie Groves acted with distinct success the part of Bridget Thompson.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—The management continue to cater exceedingly well for the patrons here. Regan and Ryan are a pair of comedians whose boisterous business is much appreciated; the Montaldos submit a most attractive turn with parrots and cockatoos on the slack wire; Percy Curry scores with his "Rags and Bones" song. Other artists appearing are: Patty Yole, comedienne and dancer; Arthur Albert, actor vocalist; the Clarkes, guitar and banjoists; Tom Shenton, comedian and dancer; and the Empire Bioscope.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Smith and Co.—The company engaged here this week is one of all-round excellence. The Carpos Brothers are deservedly applauded for a clever acrobatic turn; Caillier performs some remarkable feats of strength; Valesco, with his trained horses, dogs, and monkey, submits a capital show; Lil O'Gorman, vocalist and dancer; Eugene, on musical instruments; Dean and Lester, cake walkers; Harry Barker, descriptive vocalist; Vowles and Bryan, duettists; Three Orchids, comedians; and Vernon's Bioscope complete a long programme.

ROTHERHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. W. H. Hallett and company are here this week with *Two Little Sailor Boys*. Mr. Jerrold Heather is a manly Commander Noel Tregarthen; Mr. Ellerslie Pyne is seen to advantage as Lieut. Richard Redstone; Mr. J. Court Harvard is a typical Admiral Grey; and Mr. W. H. Hallatt is deserving of mention as Captain Tom Yorke; Mr. Oscar Power is a breezy Jack Jolly; Mr. Tom E. Sinclair scores as Ben Baxter; and Mr. Ambrose Horton is also successful as Jim Royston. Miss Alice Defoe is a pleasing Mildred Grey, being ably supported by Miss Lizzie Chambers as Lucy Wilson; Miss May Day as Cyril Grey and Miss Ethel Frances Green as Tom Yorke give clever and interesting portrayals; Miss Blanche Steel as Lola Gray alias Yorke, is deserving of praise for a capital portrayal of a difficult part.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—This week Miss Lena Stanton and Mr. Harry Joseph's company is presenting here the musical comedy *Bonnie Boy Blue*. Miss Lena Stanton, as Boy Blue, is quite as successful as on her former visits, proving herself to be a general favourite; Miss Nora Neville is charming and pretty as Dolly Dickory; and as Dame Dickory, Mr. Bruce Green gives a very humorous rendering. The dairymaids are all pretty girls, good vocalists, and dancers. Mr. Adrian Power scores as Squire Longacre; and, as Lawyer Coppall, Mr. Will Terry does very well. Little Keeno, as Jack Lively, causes no end of amusement.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*An Abandoned Woman*, the drama by Myles Wallerton and Francis Gillerton, has a good story, well worked out by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company. Miss Georgette Thierry makes a great impression as Ninon; a good Eleanor Dean is found in Mrs. Harry Foxwell; Mr. Wolston Foster as Captain Herbert Seaton and Mr. P. Marton Wright enlist sympathy; Mr. Harry Foxwell as Paddy Boyle, Mr. W. Glaze as Sammy, and Miss Elsie Dean as Sally Sloper are entrusted with the comedy business; little Frances Madocks as Mona Dean and Mr. Bernard J. Liell as Philipe Malsoisin are well placed; and a dignified Sir Marmaduke Seaton is presented by Mr. J. G. Gormley.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Mendel, the marvellous blind pianist, is much applauded here; the Cleveland Burlesque Company (two ladies and three gentlemen) are very amusing and smart in dancing, tumbling, comedy juggling, &c; Fred Earle compels the audience to laugh at his songs; a pleasing act is given by the Tally-Ho Trio in mirth and harmony; G. H. Greener, the singing pit lad, gains much applause; and the programme also includes Alice Ormonde, comedienne; the Decars, comedy acrobats; Blanche Marion, comedienne and dancer; Joe Oliver, coon singer; and Esta Stella, comedienne and dancer.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—The Eight Lancashire Lads do some smart dancing; France and Francis are clever acrobatic comedians; a smart comedy quick-change act is given by the Three Behans; O. B. Krebo does some good comic juggling; and Birkett and Wade, comedy acrobatic artists; Ray Royal, contralto; Walter Wade, vocal comedian and mimic; Davis and Davis; the Three Sisters Hayden, vocal comediennes; and Tom E. Hughes, vocal comedian, also appear.

SCARBOROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietress, Mrs. Henry Mayhew; Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan.—For the last week of the season, Miss Adria Hill and Robert Ayrton's company presented *A Gambler's Daughter* here. Mr. Ayrton, as Desmond O'Dare, makes a capital Irishman, and acts soundly; Miss Adria Hill, in the dual rôle of Mildred and Miriam Grant, presents her part with much fervour, and is well received; Mr. Richard Pitt, as John Grant, plays the rôle of the villain in an admirable way; Mr. Victor Millard taking the character of his son with much originality; Mr. Milton Curtis makes an ideal American capitalist; Mr. Wm. T. Riley, as "The Weazel," sustains his part in a capital manner; and Miss Harriett Lloyd is delightful as Auntie Zeb, the negress.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The Musical Keiths submit an up-to-date programme; Shavo causes much amusement by his comic juggling; Carl and Carr are comedians who greatly please the audience; Henry Forden is a marvellous hand jumper; La Petite Carlina executes her dances with much agility; Sword and Robb give a comical entertainment; Henri Rook sings his baritone songs in a pleasing way; and Flo Melville is a clever comedienne.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—A capital programme is submitted here. Algie, the peerless juggler, executing his tricks with much neatness. A. Minor is a young and talented ventriloquist; Phil Raby is a comedian of merit; and J. F. Morris causes laughter by his quaint patter. The Metropole Animated Pictures also form an important part of the programme with up-to-date films.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company is here this week with *The Temptress*. Sir Oswald Fordyce is capably acted by Mr. Claude Ashworth, Phillip Welford receiving a vigorous rendering from Mr. Wallace Campbell. Mr. Weldon Atherstone plays the exacting rôle of Lucas Denbigh with commendable skill; and Pedro Gonzales is strongly depicted by Mr. Fred H. Constable. Mr. C. Quinton Fulford ably sustains the part of Mr. Austin Dale. Plenty of fun is caused by the adventures of Mr. William P. Sheen as Bob Tanner and Mr. Allen Carruthers as Francis FitzFluke. John Gregory and Roda Brown are well represented by Mr. Charles Reyne and Miss Ivy Chandos. Miss Violet Sims gives a good performance of Marion Fordyce; and Miss Effie Bartlett is effective as Madge Denbigh. Miss Lydia Donovan presents a strong impersonation of Stella.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy's company occupies the boards here this week with *The Executioner's Daughter*, under the management of Mr. Will White. Monsieur Roche is vividly drawn by Mr. Stanley Radcliffe; Felix Marius is played with sound judgment by Mr. Juan de Alberti; Mr. W. Ruddle Brown plays effectively as Paul Rovel; Mr. W. S. Stevenson, as Kretch, is prominent; Mr. Willie Hicks plays earnestlly as Tom Holmes; Mr. Geoffrey Chafe is an amusing Vivian; Ferrand is carefully sketched by Mr. Will White; Miss Nellie Howitt portrays Annette with much skill; as Felice, Miss Evelyn Robson merits warm approval; Miss Bella Moody is a pleasing Sally King; Miss Flora White plays with ability as Madame Claun; as Christina, Miss Marie Ada Downing earns much sympathy.

SHEERNESS. — THE HIPPODROME. — General-Manager, Mr. F. Leighton.—A programme of unusual interest is provided here, and comprises the Davis and Gledhill Trio, roller cycle experts, who gain hearty applause for their skilful exhibition of pace records; Tony Iveson, as the tramp at the piano wins favour; and Germane proves himself a thoroughly capable juggler, his entertainment meeting with well-deserved recognition. Georgie Beaufort, burlesque actress, is pleasing, both in song and dance; and the Cardiffs, comedians and cross-talkers, are highly amusing. Frank Gee, eccentric comedian, and Amy Hilton, serio, are also enjoyable turns. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope is included in the bill.

THE PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond.—Another good all-round company occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Frank Godfrey is a clever comedian and reciter; Miss Berris Forde proves herself a popular serio, and is loudly applauded; Mr. Nick Ohlson is a quaint comedian; the Maynard and France company produce a capital dramatic sketch, entitled *A Life of Sin*; Miss Topsy Levane fully sustains her reputation as a burlesque actress and dancer, her new songs going splendidly; a comedy sketch, by the Rishaw company, *Not Dead Yet*, concludes the bill, and causes roars of laughter.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The delightful musical play, *The White Chrysanthemum*, was performed for the first time in Sheffield on Monday by Mr. Frank Curzon's company. Beautifully mounted, and acted in a spirited manner, the piece met with the cordial approbation of a large audience. Those two old local favourites, Mr. W. H. Rawlings and Mr. Horace Mills, kept the fun going as Sir Horatio Armitage and Lieut. Belmont respectively. Mr. Harry Paulton was, as usual, first rate as Private Birks; Mr. F. Pope-Stamper acted and sang effectively as Lieut. Reginald Armitage, and Mr. O. B. Lennon was very amusing as the almond-eyed Sin Chong; Miss Katie Vesey made a graceful Cornelia, and danced daintily; Miss Daisy Le Hay acted with charming naïveté as Betty Kenyon, and Miss Nora Guy was a pretty and piquant Sybil. There was a large and well dressed chorus.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—A favourite drama with popular audiences here is *A London Actress*, which was again played to a good house on Monday by a strong company, headed by the talented authoress, Miss Emma Litchfield. Mr. Stuart Cleveland did good work, and others who acquitted themselves to advantage were Mr. Douglas Howard, Mr. Carl Vellender, Miss Beatrice Annesley, Miss Grace Fordham, and Miss Maud Seeple.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Mr. Melville's latest success, *The Beast and the Beauty*, was successfully presented here on Monday. Miss Alice Bowes as Violet made a picture of feminine beauty, and she acted with grace and dramatic power. Miss Daisy Gwynne was a handsome and alluring representative of Delilah Vane and Miss Mamie Rendel as Mimi acted with characteristic vivacity. Mr. W. S. Hartford played cleverly, and showed versatility in his depiction of the various stages in the career of Jack Barrymore. Mr. W. E. Passmore was good as the Earl of Loman; Mr. H. Talbot was a very amusing Tom Chicken; and all the other characters were excellently played.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The star novelty this week is the historical sketch in three scenes, entitled *Nell Gwynn*, in which the clever comedienne, Miss Dolly Elsworthy appears with great success as Nell, supported by Mr. Adderley Howard and a competent company. Messrs. Hall and Earle, in their Chinese laundry act, brings down the house with their smart tumbling and comic business; the Arthur Lloyd Trio provide genial amusement in a lively comedy sketch; Lady Mansell and her talented boys and girls are cheered to the echo; Techow's cats win deserved applause; a humorous and clever ventriloquial performance is given by Prof. Dunning; and other artists engaged this week are Kahn and Kahn, in a well-worked illusionary entertainment; the two Wedburns, duettists; Mr. Harry Hayton, comedian, in an up-to-date parody; and Mr. Phil Herman, in selections from his Tyrolean and Anglo-Dutch répertoire of serio-comic ditties.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Richard Rafli.—This bright and comfortable resort was filled on Monday, when the following artists appeared:—Mr. Harry Pleon; Miss Celia Kent and company in a sketch; Miss Gracio Bard, comedienne; the Delomes; Harwood's Juveniles; Palette; Miss Florrie Bray; Lytton and Bland; and Pallister's Bioscope, with up-to-date pictures.

SHREWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—Mr. H. F. Maltby is here this week, supported by a talented company in the delightful romantic costume piece *The Youngest of Three*. Mr. Geo. Wendover, as Geo. Wendover, is an accomplished actor; Mr. W. H. Hargreaves is natural as Gerald Wendover; Mr. A. E. Wyn Weaver plays carefully and well the part of the sympathetic friend of the family, Philip Radford; Mr. Kingsley T. Candler makes a capital Samuel Johns; Mr. Reginald Favell is an amusing time-serving landlord of the inn; Mr. E. Nobel is good as Luke; Mr. Harris Fraser, a satisfactory Hickey; Mr. Ernest Noble merits praise as Paul; Mr. Geo. Laidlaw, in the part of Perkins, makes the best use of his opportunities; Miss Janet Hodson, in the thankless rôle of Anne Dulley, plays in a talented manner; Miss Mara Maltby is effective as Florence, and her sweetly-given song in the last act is a pleasant addition to the play; Miss Beatrice Marsdene is a graceful and capable Lucy Dulley; and Miss Nancy York is an amusing Jane.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*Life's Sweetest Sins*, a modern drama of exceptional interest, has been well received here. Mr. T. Arthur Jones and company present the play. Mr. T. A. Jones makes a sympathetic and manly hero; while the part of the heroine is ably sustained by Miss Hazel Dent. As Dr. Colbrooke, the villain-in-chief, Mr. Oswald Douglas is most effective; and he is ably assisted by Mr. Robert Sawin as Kimberley Coutts, and Mr. Clem Horlock as the Rev. Edward Grey. Messrs. Edgar Morgan and Bertram Lee, as Bob Tanner and Martin respectively, create amusing diversions, and are ably assisted by Miss Elsie Walton. Mr. Fred Wilson as Ernie Wadstone, Mr. G. Organ as Sergeant Bates, and Miss Mary Ainslie as Fay Colbrooke, are well placed in their respective rôles. The bioscope pictures continue to please the local patrons.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company, in *A Royal Divorce*, is filling the popular parts of the house nightly. The acting of Miss Edith Cole (Josephine) and Mr. Frederic Victor (Napoleon) is admirable. The other parts are all well played, and the engagement is a popular one.

PALACE. — Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—The chief attraction here is Mr. Leonard Mortimer's sketch, *The Better Man*, which is capably presented. Another popular success is Sid Cotterell and company in *The Substitute*, which provokes hearty laughter. Dancing of the highest order is introduced by Susie and Protti in their Continental dances; and the Dancing Gilberts, whose step-dancing is quite a feature. The Davenports are smart magicians; and Harry Weldon, comedian, and The Almos, equilibrists, prosper well.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. de Frece and F. Mouillot; General-manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Hardeen, the handcuff king, successfully frees himself from all kinds of handcuffs; Alec Hurley, in *The Costers' Friendly Lead*, wins golden opinions; and Rich and Rich are a couple of cross-talk comedians who prosper well. Cole and Rags, eccentric jugglers, receive quite an ovation for a capital turn; and Arabella Allen gives a number of Dickens' impersonations in realistic style. Others who do well are Fred Poplar, comedian; Kitty Wager, a dainty comedienne; and Elsie Roby, in *The Slavey's At Home*.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE, LTD. —Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. James Willard, who is presenting Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company in *The Midnight Mail* this week, is to be complimented on his most successful and enthralling production, and his capable company all work hard in this clever play. Mr. Alfred Goddard's impersonation of Harry Steyne is a fine study; Mr. Fred. G. Evison is a thorough master of the difficult rôle of Billy Brewer, and wins deserved praise; Mr. Robert Grey well embodies Leonard Royle; and Donald Graigg is ably taken by Mr. Chas. McCann. Mr. Arthur Gilroy portrays the villainous Hassan Padisha satisfactorily; the Misses Grace Chesterfield and Phyllis Dailley are worthy exponents of Mrs. Mildmay and Lady Phyllis Eustace respectively; Miss Mildred Carr, as Nancy Brewer, is delightful; and in Miss Ada Oakley a really talented impersonator of Mary Steyne is found.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS. — Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. R. Singleton.—An attractive bill of fare is provided during the current week by the return visit of Mr. George Dance's principal company, in the musical comedy, *The Orchid*. Mr. Bertie Wright repeats his former successes in the rôle of Meakin, which he depicts with irresistible humour and versatility; Mr. Edward Nainby is very effective and volatile in the part of Count Raoul; Mr. Sinclair is highly diverting as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour; Mr. J. R. Val cleverly enacts the character of Zaccary; Lady Violet Anstruther has a commendable and piquant representative in Miss Dorothy Firman; Miss Desiree Desmond is a charming and vivacious exponent of Josephine Zaccary; Miss Emily Stevens excites much merriment as the matrimonially inclined Caroline Vokins. The piece is well mounted and dressed, and there are some excellent dances, contributed notably by Miss Ruby King and Mr. J. R. Val.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee, Mrs. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz. —The star turn in the exceptionally good programme submitted here is supplied by Russell Wallett,

STOCKPORT.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Lady Madcap* is a popular attraction here, and large audiences have been delighted with the representations given by Mr. George Dance's excellent company. Mr. J. Knox Orde, as Count de St. Hubert, impersonates the character with marked cleverness; and Mr. Bay Russell sings and acts with ability as Bill Stratford; Mr. Harold Parkes is quietly humorous as Oroya Brown; and Mr. James Graydon is amusing as Posh Jenkins. Miss Isabelle Dillon creates abundant merriment as Lady Betty Claridge; and Miss Maude Davis makes a charming and graceful Gwenny Holden.

Empire.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—The French conjuror Melot has mystified large audiences here with his wonderful illusions; and another remarkable act submitted is that of Tom Grave is his sensational feat, "Flying the revolving wheel." Amusing and clever are the Ramlos in their comedy triple bar act; Charles Somers, quaint comedian, provokes plenty of laughter; the Sisters Lytton are applauded for their vocalism; Will Cornish, in his musical bell act, meets with much success; the Olive Trio, comedians and dancers, are most entertaining; and Evelyn Desa, banjoist, vocalist, and dancer, and Sadie Seymour, descriptive vocalist, are deservedly appreciated.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—Grand.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The Vasilescu Troupe are exceptionally clever on the triple bars, and earn unstinted applause; *Rejected Remounts*, introducing four trained horses, is very laughable; the Six Imrie Girls are smart jugglers; and the Nettas sing duets, both having capital voices. George Milner, comedian; Jenny Douglas, champion lady dancer, along with Mr. Chas. Austin, a comedian with a style of his own, complete a good programme.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Geo. and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Wm. Ainsworth.—The management are trying to secure tip-top talent at this hall. This week Happy Fanny Fields is the chief attraction, and takes well. Other good turns include Barnard's Mannikins, which cause loud laughter; Barney, Burke, and Bray, in a good sketch; Charley Dixon, eccentric comedian; the Walleys, jugglers; Mabel Hind, comedienne; Violet Beatrice, boy impersonator; and Matt Wilkinson and company in a laughable sketch, *The Registry Office*, contribute to a capital programme.

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Theatre.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—Mr. Fred J. Kirke's company opened here on Monday in *Our Sailor Lad*. Of the artistes, Mr. Walter T. Hybert is certainly one of the best comedians seen here for a long time; while Miss Louie Fountaine is possessed of a capital voice, and uses it to the best advantage. Mr. Mark Practice causes roars of laughter for his skilful representation of Slippery Bill; Mr. Frank Beaulieu's portrayal of William Fenton was very fine; Mr. Laurence, as Our Sailor Lad, did creditably; Miss Annie Brunette scored as Rita Velois; while Miss Lily Seymour, as Mrs. Loveman, played the character admirably. The Misses English are very able dancers.

SUNDERLAND.—Avenue Theatre.—Director and Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—*The Sign of the Cross*, played by Mr. William Greet's company, still proves a strong attraction. Mr. Frank C. Petley submits a forcible yet dignified rendition of the important rôle of Marcus Superbus; the trying rôle of Mercia is evenly and pathetically portrayed by Miss Marie Leonhard; Mr. C. Yorke supplies an excellent interpretation of the Emperor Nero; Mr. Charles Alfred is responsible for Tigellinus, and Mr. E. Yaldwin for Viturius. Mr. Frank Wood contributes some effective humour in his amusing representation of the bibulous Glabrio; Mr. H. T. Harris as the spy Servillius is deserving of mention, as is also Mr. Walter Fleet in the character of Favius. Miss Effie Dane successfully delineates the rôle of the boy Stephanus; Miss Mary Newcomb as the Empress Poppœa, and Miss Gertrude Price and Miss Cissie Carlton as Berenice and Dacia respectively are to be commended, as is also Miss Jessica Thorne as Aucaria.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jos. Hemingway.—The American drama *At Cripple Creek* is meeting with success here this week. Mr Stanley Bedwell gives a hearty and bright representation of the hero, Joe Mayfield; Mr. Chas. H. Lester succeeds as the villainous Martin Mason, and receives able assistance from Mr. J. G. Maine as Manuel Martin; Mr. Arthur D. Layland in the character-part of the Indian Wahketah is highly successful; Mr. Sydney Benson is amusing as the darkey Ben White; Miss Agnes Verity does full justice to the rôle of Dynamite Ann; Miss Daisy Carlton is sprightly and piquant as Maggie Mason; and Miss Lilly Beagle finds favour as Belle Gordon. Mr. Will Hook is good as Reggie Harwood; and Mr. Chas. Watson is well suited as the Rev. Mr. Wilson; as are also Messrs. Chas. Watson, Alf Cooper, and Ed. Rochester as Davy Puncher and Sloggins respectively. Little Rosie Hopkins as Little Totta is commendable.

Palace of Varieties.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Rozen and Bliss; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Browne and Stringer.—A diversified bill is headed this week by Jock Whiteford, the Scotch comedian; the second place is given to Le Diabelo, in what is described as "Looping the Devil's Wheel." Other items include Spry and Monti, a couple of sprightly entertainers; the Ten Dixie Girls, in a vocal and tersichorean scena; Alex Lukos, actor-vocalist; the Three Guitanos, smart pantomime eccentric acrobats; Fyne and Hurley, comedians; and Vernon's pictures.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Edward Gray.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's *In Sight of St. Paul's* company occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Ernest R. Allen as Tom Chichester, Mr. E. Valentine as Fretley Burnside, and Mr. Herbert Sydney as Blidstein, all achieve success; Mr. Herbert Colley infuses plenty of "go" into the comedy part of Jim Palfrey, the cabman; as Cynthia Dell, Miss Lallah Davis scores; and Miss Cissie Bellamy is good as Aileen Millar.

SWINDON.—Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Local playgoers are enjoying a strong attraction this week, Mr. Bannister Howard's No. 1 *Florodora* company opening another visit on Monday. Miss Josephine Sullivan, a Swindon favourite, is most delightful as Dolores, being heard to distinct advantage in her musical numbers; Miss Lily Gullick is pleasing and dainty as Angela Gilfain; and Miss Kate Leicester must be highly commended for her work as Lady Holyrood. A particularly fine and humorous interpretation of Tweedlepunch is provided by Mr. A. E. Passmore, whose rich fun is greatly appreciated; Mr. Stanley White ably plays Gilfain; and Mr. Allen Morris undertakes the part of Frank Abercoed with decided success; while Mr. Herbert St. John deserves mention for his capital portrayal of Capt. Arthur Donegal.

Swimming Baths.—Secretary, Mr. William Spruce.—Swindonians were granted an unusual treat on Monday, when Mr. George Grossmith and his party visited this town, and gave one of their delightful drawing-room entertainments. That eminent humorist was heard at his very best with a nicely varied selection of his clever sketches and songs. He was supported by Miss Dorothy Scott, whose stories with music were admirable, and Miss Dorothy D'Egville, whose songs were charmingly rendered. Miss Dorothy Forster proved an accomplished pianist.

TORQUAY.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. A. Pearse.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company has paid a visit to Torquay this week. Seventy strong, the company has a splendid repertoire, and opened on Monday with Gounod's *Faust*, which was finely rendered. Mr. Charles Carter was very successful in the name part, and as Mephistopheles Mr. George Neilson scored greatly; whilst Mr. Marshall Vincent, as Valentine, was exceedingly good. The Marguerite of Miss Enriqueta Crichton elicited loud applause. *Maritana* was presented on Tuesday, and the principal honours were shared by Miss Alice Boaden in the title rôle, and Mr. Seth Hughes as Don Cæsar de Bazan ,each of whom was rapturously encored. Miss Rosina Beynon was loudly applauded for her song as Lazarillo. Mr. Frederick Erle was good as Don Jose; and Mr. Neilson was admirable as the King of Spain. On Wednesday afternoon *Tannhäuser* was given, preceded by a short explanatory chat, musically illustrated, by Mr. Harrison Frewin, who conducted an augmented orchestra admirably. A crowded house assembled on Wednesday evening for *Carmen*, other operas for the remainder of the week being *Il Trovatore*, *Lohengrin*, and the *Bohemian Girl*.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—The Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. C. Carey; Manager, Mr. L. J. Gunnell.—Mr. Mouillot's company in *The Blue Moon* is the attraction here this week. Mlle. Marguerite Naudin gives a charming interpretation of the title-rôle; Mr. Victor Wallace is excellent as the gallant Major, who commands the garrison at Noga, and is well supported by Mr. Arthur Radcliff, who undertakes the part of Capt. Ormsby; the comedy parts of the juggler and marriage-broker, in the hands of Mr. Ainslie Burton, and of the bandmaster of the native band, sustained by Mr. Charles Stephenson, leave nothing to be desired; while Mr. Fred Inwood is a sufficiently impressive native prince; Mr. J. W. Kibble, a volatile globe-trotter; Mr. Arthur Lawrence, an effective A.D.C.; and Mr. Otto Alexander, a state official, who makes the most of his part. Mr. Basil Mercer, as the journalist, and Miss May Audrey, as a vivacious maid, both put in some excellent work, and their character duet is one of the features of the evening; Miss Mary Glanbrane is an aristocratic representative of Lady Brabasham; and Miss Dorma Morgan gives a charming impersonation of Evelyn Armsby; while minor parts are successfully filled by the Misses Kitty Baughton, Emily Wallace, Mabel Loton, and Cherry Louissant.

WAKEFIELD.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—*Sherlock Holmes* is here this week. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart gives an impressive and able rendering in the title-rôle; Mr. W. F. Stirling is good as Prof. Moriarty; Mr. Ernest Gray is seen to advantage as James Larrabee; Mr. Edward Mervyn does justice to the rôle of Sydney Prince; and Mr. Fred Bell is capital as John Forman; Mr. Stanley Logan ably depicts the part of Dr. Watson; Miss Constance Leigh makes a charming Miss Faulkener; Miss Dot Sellby is effective as Mrs. Faulkener; and Miss Lindsay Fincham is pleasing as Madge Larrabee.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Miss Dinah Morris and company are very clever in a musical sketch, entitled *The Lost Coon*. The Lannons are smart pedestal dancers; Tom and Alec Levines appear in an interesting acrobatic turn. Other turns comprise Miss Lillie Coleman, ballad vocalist; Percy Johnson, comedian; Florence Wood, comedienne; Clown Jardine, and the Bioscope.

WALSALL.—Her Majesty's Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.: General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Those delightful acrobatic comedians, the Brothers Egbert, head the bill here this week, and prove most successful; Albertine Melich gives a capital turn with his wonderful birds; the Three Prestons, in their comedy act, *The Liftman's Rise*; H. O. Wills, comedian; Cosgrove and Burns, a talented duo of singers and dancers; Lena Willard, comedian, appear with success; and Bonnie Goodwin's real Apollo piccaninnies create quite a furore, the dancing of the youngsters securing them many recalls.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Augustine Knight and company are appearing here this week with *The Assassin*. Mr. Knight gives a highly dramatic portraiture of the villain, Prince Demetri; Mr. Edward E. Ashby supplies a careful rendering of the part of Ivan Ipanoff; Mr. Chauncy Morris makes a capital General Nicol; Mr. Theo Balfour is an impressive Duke Carl; Mr. Edwin Jenner is well placed as the Irish officer, Capt. O'Neil; Mr. Cecilo H. Raymond is an amusing Baron Alphonse; Mr. Tom Taylor is humorous as Peter; Miss Ella Vane gives a clever representation of Countess Wanda; and Miss Frances Waring does well as Nita.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. Joseph Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is here in *Leah Kleschna*. Miss Bessie Rignold plays Leah with a sympathetic, convincing manner, the gradual dawning of a better nature in the character of the girl thief being admirably shown; Mr. Paul Belmore, as Kleschna, presents a striking portrait of an extremely complex character; Mr. William F. Grant is a dignified and restrained Paul Sylvaine; and Mr. Hamilton Deane, as Raoul Berton, is very successful. Mr. Campbell Goldsmid is a capital representative of the faithful Schram; and Mr. Roland Daniel, as General Berton, and Valentine Favre also scores well. Miss Ethel Russell, as Madame Berton, and Miss Helene Belgrave, as Claire, make the most of their small chances; and a lively Sophie is Miss Violet Thorold.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Barney Armstrong made a hit here on Monday night; the Harrison Brothers, in new business, also won favour; and Adams and Ward are two really clever comedy acrobats. Leoni and Leon, in their musical act, score, and Miss Lena Brunton is a smart impersonator of music-hall celebrities. Elton and Elma are good knockabouts on the bar, and Leah Ardens has a good voice and a capital collection of songs. The Royal Bioscope pictures are a choice collection.

WEDNESBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr. Kuner.—A return visit of Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's No. 1 company in *A Beautiful Fiend*, is attracting large houses. Ivan Paulovitch, alias Count Fedor Karateff, is in the worthy hands of Mr. Tom Robertson; Mr. Albert Wray also displays exceptional ability as Sergius Strogoff; the humorous interpretation of Christopher Crackles is ably presented by Mr. Harry Oaks; Miss V. St. Lawrence as Wanda Lubinoff, the beautiful fiend, is loudly applauded; and Nadine Karateff is cleverly impersonated by Miss Irene Munro. The part of Patty Woodlands finds an excellent exponent in Miss Blanche Hill. The scenery and staging prove most effective.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Grand.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—*For Life—and After* is being played here this week by Hardie and Von Leer's company to appreciative audiences. Mr. Vernon Sansbury's rendition of the rôle of Richard Grey is a capable one, and reflects credit upon him; Mr. Sydney Vautier displays considerable dramatic versatility in his delineation of Gilbert O'Neill; an appreciable touch of comedy comes from Mr. Chris. Mason as Joe Grimper; and Miss Edith Barwell's representation of Mrs. Grimper is an exceptionally realistic one. As Marion Grey, Miss Grace Heywood gains much sympathy; Miss Muriel Dean gives a studied rendition of the rôle of Dora Grey; and the parts of Jenny Huggett and Loo Hexham are well played by Miss Marion Fawcett and Miss Rosslyn Vayne.

Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Julius Simpson.—A turn that appeals to all this week is Maurin's Fountains, a beautiful display, in which some thousands of gallons of water and fairylike electrical effects are brought into requisition; Allis and Cassati, in a singing, comedy, and dancing act, keep the fun going briskly; Horace Monto, in his novel musical act, *Tommy Atkins at Play*, gives evidence of skill; Moon and Morris are amusing in comedy, but excel as dancers in unison; Charles Gardner, eccentric comedian, and the Zampas, dancers and bâton manipulators, are good in their respective lines; the paintings by Angelo are executed with surprising quickness, and a degree of likeness to the original; Ethairien Brothers are responsible for much merriment; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are this week exceptionally good and amusing.

WEST STANLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing Director, Mr. M. H. Lindon.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company, in a drama entitled *The Plucky Nipper*, is here this week. The title rôle is in the hands of Miss Bonwin Carlton, a smart and vivacious actress. Mr. H. J. Butler is a commanding Colonel Fenwick; Mr. Ed. Stream is responsible for some powerful acting as Captain Frank Leslie; the charming portrayal of Ian Fenwick by Miss Evelyn Dewent wins applause; Miss Kitty Maynard is a capital Daisy Paget, the blind girl. The part of Henry Paget is played in a cool and cynical manner which befits the rôle by Mr. Claud Kingston; and Mr. Douglas Campbell is smart as Tommy Atkins.

Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; Responsible-Manager, Mr. John Cassidy.—Mr. Housden is presenting here a clever drama, *A Woman's Past*. Mr. J. Myron Howard gives a fine impersonation of David Heath; Mr. David Phillips is good as Frank Dellauney; the rôle of Clement Harper is finely played by Mr. H. F. Housden; Mr. Clifton Earl submits a powerful portrayal of Uriah Craven: Miss Doris Cameron is clever as Dorothy Heath; Miss Irene Carrington is responsible for a vivacious portrayal of Clara Darrel. The acting of Miss Dorothy Wallace as Bessie makes her a general favourite. Miss Mabel Northam gives a good account of herself as Kate.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Jas. Kiddie.—This week we have here Mr. Fred Wilmot's variety artists. The two houses a night experiment inaugurated a month ago, has proved such a success that it is likely that the system will bo permanently adopted next season. The Alberto troupe are clever equilibrists; T. W. Barrett does a clever turn; Zelda is an expert performer on novel musical instruments; Claude Tomlin, actor vocalist, is a finished artist, who earns much applause. Miss Flo Warner is a great local favourite; the Thompsons, midget boxers and club swingers, are a turn which catches on well; Charlton, with his magic kettle, is very mystifying and entertaining; the Sisters Russell are dainty comediennes. The local pictures on the Bioscope, arranged by Mr. J. Gar Kiddie, are a great hit.

WIGAN.—Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—The late Wilson Barrett's spectacular play, *Claudian*, has attracted large and appreciative audiences during the week. Mr. Wm. Maclaren gives a brilliant representation of Claudian, and Miss Lily C. Bandmann as Almida is a great success. Other parts are ably sustained by Mr. F. Owen Chambers, Mr. Edward Grogan, Mr. Douglas Earle, Mr. Chas. T. Challenor, Mr. Weston Hubbard, Miss Rosa Webster, and Miss Maud Garth.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, The Wigan Entertainments Co.—Eugene Stratton, the popular coon, is the leading turn this week, and he has met with a most cordial welcome. In addition there is an excellent company of artists, including the Wiltons, Tennyson and Wallis, Chas. Craston, Ward and Davies, and Maggie Rimmer, in comedy; Winona, crack rifle shot; Marie Blythe, contralto; Bros. Babusio, equilibrists and strong men; and Vay's Juveniles, who, in a sketch, give both phases—humorous and pathetic—of slum life.

WORCESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. le Wards.—Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is providing a most acceptable week of comedy, the programme including *Cousin Kate* and *A Country Mouse*, each preceded by an excellent curtain raiser. Miss Earle achieves great success in the title-rôle of Cousin Kate, exercising great charm by the naturalness of her impersonation. Miss Honiss is well suited as the somewhat priggish Amy, and Miss Coleman is dignified as her mother; Miss Marshall is seen to great advantage in the curtain raiser, *Rough Diamond*. Mr. Temples Powell in the part of the Bohemian artist, Heath Desmond, makes the most of his opportunities; and Mr. Cox and Mr. Barrett made a very comical pair as a pompous curate and a college student respectively.

WORKINGTON.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—On Monday night there was a large audience to witness Mr. Charles Macdona's company present *The Toreador*, and the performance was a delightful success. Mr. H. Batt was amusing as Pettifer; Mr. R. Lynn was droll as Archie; Mr. George Austin was manly as Trail; as Curapolo, Mr. S. Granville sang with spirit, and was loudly applauded; Mr. W. Champney as the Tiger played excellent low comedy, convulsing the house in the scene with Teresa, who also acted with verve. Miss L. Howard was charming as Susan; Miss B. Grosvenor was vigorous and amusing as Mrs. Hoppings; Miss Alice Sands was lively as Maud; and Miss Marie Beresford was delightful as Nancy. The chorus gave satisfaction.

WREXHAM.—Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week a capital company here includes Prince Ishmael and Mlle. Valeria, Hindu magicians and illusionists, who are remarkably clever; the Cosmans, in their comedy act; the Sisters Hypatia, duettists and dancers; Rex and Ford, cross-talk comedians; Arnetti, an eccentric musical comedian; and the pictures.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. S. Dacre.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company has appeared this week in *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy is particularly suited to the rôle of John Durham. He is an actor of great power, and his manner is most convincing; Robert Forsyth, in the uncongenial rôle of Lord Mountfallon is exceedingly clever and praiseworthy; Mr. Arthur Leigh does well as Reginald Steighton, and Mr. W. F. Clitherow causes much amusement as Ben Verstein; Miss Alice Esther Belmore is a delightful Helen Vallerton; Miss Louisa Gourlay is pathetic and natural as Mrs. Durham; Miss Frances Wolviston is a handsome Lady Mountfallon; and a c'ever Margaret Steighton is seen in Miss Florence Dulhuntly.

Empire.—Managing Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—Rubens and Dow, with their wonderful mechanical changes, are a special feature this week; Harrigan and Holt are comedians of more than average ability, who never fail to amuse; G. Linton, on the wire, secures applause; Mountford and Walsh are clever in their sketch; and Drum and Major are quaintly funny. Much amusement is caused by Julian Mack; Flo Hilton is lively as of yore; and Karl and Mary Ohm's hippodrome is a special feature.

Provincial Correspondents are requested to forward with their next week's Reports a full list of the Theatres and Music Halls in their respective towns, also the names of the present Lessees or Managers, for insertion in The Era Annual, *1907.*

HOCKEY.

Mr. Norman V. Norman's XI. v. Atalanta Hockey Club, Hastings.

Played at Ore, Hastings, Oct. 12. The ground was exceedingly rough, and in a very bad state, and accurate hockey was quite out of the question. A very scrambling game resulted in a win for the Atalanta Club by 3 goals to 2. The goals for Mr. Norman's XI. were shot by W. H. Ashley and N. V. Norman.

Mr. Norman V. Norman's XI.—Forwards, N. V. Norman, Miss West Symes, W. H. Ashley, Miss Gregory, and Kenneth Bruce; half-backs, Brember Wells, W. Marshall, and Dennis Cleugh; backs, Miss Stannard, S. Wilkinson, and Miss Ruskin.

Mr. Norman V. Norman's XI. v. Atalanta Club (Hastings).

Played at Bopeep, Hastings, on Oct. 19. A decidedly one-sided game resulted in a victory for Mr. Norman's XI. by 10 goals to nil. The goals were shot by W. H. Ashley (9) and Kenneth Bruce (1). The teams were mixed.

Mr. Norman V. Norman's XI. v. Hastings and St. Leonard's.

Played at Bopeep, Hastings, on Oct. 20. A very fast game resulted in a victory for Hastings and St. Leonard's by 3 goals to 2, though a draw would have more nearly described the game, so evenly was it contested. The goals for Mr. Norman's XI. were shot by W. H. Ashby (1) and Norman V. Norman (1).

Mr. Norman's XI.—N. V. Norman, W. H. Ashley, Dennis Cleugh, Kenneth Bruce, forwards; Brember Wills, W. R. Marshall, G. Elliott, half-backs; H. Davenport, S. Wilkinson, G. Vintrey, backs.

Misses Cecilia Fowler and Winifred Bradley's Ladies' XI. v. Jack Leonard's Gent's. XI.

Played near Clifton Downs, Saturday, Oct. 27. Miss Lillie Belding, J. Leonard (3), and B. Green scored the goals. The following were the teams:—

Misses Fowler and Bradley's XI.—Miss May Fisher, goal; Miss Alice Gibbs and Miss Ivy Bowman, backs; Miss Cecilia Fowler, Miss Lillie Belding, and Miss Edie Lawrence, half-backs; Miss Winifred Bradley (captain), Miss Rosie Davies, Miss Minnie Leonard, Miss Gracie Leonard, and Miss Florrie Hooper, forwards.

J. Leonard's XI.—M. Leonard, goal; B. Green and G. Alway, backs; S. Coombes, J. Ridler, and P. Hewlett, half-backs; J. Leonard (captain), F. Worth, G. Haskings, L. Clayton, and H. Williams, forwards.

Referee, Miss Kit Montgomery. Result, Misses Fowler and Bradley's XI., 1 goal; J. Leonard's XI., 4 goals.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

London.

Oct. 1. *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning*, play, in four acts, by Walter Melville—Standard.
" 1. *Lured to London*, drama, in four acts, by Edward Thane—King's Theatre, Hoxton.
" 8. *The Soldier's Wedding*, drama, in four acts, by Walter Melville—Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe.
" 8. *The Four Just Men*, play, in four acts, founded on Edgar Wallace's story of the same name, by George Warren—King's, Hammersmith.
" 13. *The Lemonade Boy*, play, in one act, by Gladys Unger (Jerrard Grant Allen's season)—Criterion.
" 13. *The Amateur Socialist*, eccentric comedy, in three acts, by W. Kingsley Tarpey (originally produced as *Windmills* at the Comedy Theatre, June 17) (Jerrard Grant Allen's season)—Criterion.
" 17. *Robin Hood*, romance, in four acts, by Henry Hamilton and William Devereux (Mr. Lewis Waller's season)—Lyric.
" 18. *Who's Afraid?* farce, by Henley Attwater—Bloomsbury Hall.
" 23. *The Charity that Began at Home*, comedy, in four acts, by St. John Hankin—Court.
" 23. *The Virgin Goddess*, play, in three acts, on the Greek model, by Rudolf Besier—Adelphi.
" 27. *The Merveilleuses*, comedy-opera, in three acts, adapted for the English stage by Basil Hood, from Victorien Sardou's *Les Merveilleuses* (Varietés, Paris, Dec. 6, 1873), lyrics by Adrian Ross, music by Hugo Felix—Daly's.
" 30. *Uncle Jack*, comedy, in three acts, by Robert Ganthony — Castle Theatre, Richmond.

Revivals.

Oct. 11. *The Good-Natured Man*, comedy, by Oliver Goldsmith, arranged in three acts by William Poel—Coronet.
" 29. *Man and Superman*, comedy, by George Bernard Shaw—Court.
" 31. *The Sun's Darling*, ancient masque, by Ford and Dekker (English Drama Society)—Queen's Gate Hall.

Provinces.

Oct. 1. *The Chevalier de St. George: A Tale of the Old Pretender*, comedy, in three acts, by Frederick Langbridge—Brighton West Pier Theatre.
" 10. *The Corsican Brothers*, a new version of Alexandre Dumas's novel, "Les Frères Corses"—Theatre Royal, Birmingham.
" 11. *Matt of Merrymount*, drama, in four acts, by B. M. Dix and E. C. Sutherland—Theatre Royal, Newcastle.
" 12. *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, opera, founded on Shakespeare's comedy, by Otto Nicolai (revived by the Moody-Manners Opera Company) — Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.
" 15. *Lady Kinton's Necklace; or, The Hypnotist*, play, in three acts, by George Henry Trotman—Theatre Royal, Ilkeston.
" 19. *The Intriguers*, drama, in four acts, by Frank Nasmith and Stanley Houghton—Manchester Athenæum.
" 29. *Jack and Jill*, musical farce, in three acts, written by Barton White, composed by Antoine Banes — Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.
" 29. *The Girl from Biarritz*, comedietta, by Leonard Robson — Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.
" 29. *The Gaol Gate*, tragedy, in one act, by Lady Gregory (Irish Literary Theatre)—Abbey Theatre, Dublin.
" 29. *The Mineral Workers*, play, in three acts, by William Boyle (Irish Literary Theatre)—Abbey Theatre, Dublin.
" 25. *What True Love Can Do*, play, in a prologue and one act, by Basil Young (produced by amateurs)—Public Hall, Croydon.
" 31. *Beryl*, play, in three acts, by L. M. Baker (copyright performance), Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

Paris.

Oct. 4. *Heureux Père*, vaudeville, one act, by Léon Abric—Palais-Royal.
" 4. *La Carte Forcée*, musical farce, one act, by H. Delorme and C. Cuvillier—Palais-Royal.
" 4. *Totote et Boby*, one-act play, by Maurice Hennequin—Palais-Royal.
" 4. *L'Extra*, comedy, one act, by Pierre Véber—Palais-Royal.
" 7. *A Perte de Vue*, revue, one act, by P. Ardot and Rip—Palais-Royal.
" 10. *Les Passagères*, comedy, three acts, by Alfred Capus—Renaissance.
" 16. *La Courtisane*, play, five acts, in verse, by M. Arnyvelde—Comédie-Française.
" 25. *La Préférée*, comedy, in three acts, by Lucien Descaves—Odéon.
" 26. *Amour et Cie*, vaudeville, three acts, by Louis Forest—Folies-Dramatiques.
" 28. *Résigné*, comedy, two acts, by Yves Mirande and René Guilleré—Bouffes.
" 31. *Ariane*, opera, three acts, by Catulle Mendès, music by Jules Massenet—Opéra.
" 31. *Le Coup du Million*, farce, three acts, by Maurice Desvallières and Eugène Millon—Cluny.

Berlin.

Oct. 6. *Das Blumenboot*, play, in four acts and a prologue, by Hermann Sudermann—Lessing.
" 9. *Die Hochzeit von Poel*, three-act comedy, by Georg Engel—Neues.
" 11. *Der Herrgottswarter*, three-act play, by H. Lilienstein—Schiller O.
" 12. *Verwehte Spuren*, adaptation from M. Sardou's three-act comedy *La Piste*, by Oscar Blumenthal—Lustspielhaus.
" 17. *Der Liebeskönig*, play, in four acts, by Leo Greiner—Deutsches.
" 27. *Die Drei Rolandsknappen*, three-act opera, by Lortzing—Des Westens.
" 31. *Die Condottieri*, drama, in four acts, by Rudolf Herzog—Neues.

CASTLE THEATRE, RICHMOND.

On Thursday, Nov. 15,
the comedy,
"LADY URSULA'S EXPERIMENT."

How history and the drama repeat themselves. The public Press for past weeks has been relating wonderful stories of a girl who had left her home in male attire, and no one can find her. So it is with the drama. In Cellier's dainty, delightful, tuneful *Dorothy* there was the mock duel with the ladies in male attire, and at Richmond this week charming Miss Beatrice Wilson is showing what a swaggering, rollicking hero she can make in boy's habilments as the wilful Lady Ursula. Mr. Norman V. Norman is a dashing Sir George, and plays with all his accustomed ability. Mr. D. Cleugh is capital as the Earl of Hassenden, and may be highly complimented; equally successful, in a somewhat diverse rôle, is Mr. Francis Hope as the Rev. Blimboe. Miss Sybil Ruskin plays prettily as Dorothy; while Miss Gregory does admirably as Mrs. Fenton. As we have already pointed out, to Miss Wilson belongs the premier honour; her interpretation of the rôle of Lady Ursula proved a perfectly legitimate success. The play was received with every token of favour.

"THE CORNISH GIRL."

A Pastoral Romantic Opera, in Two Acts, founded on a Historical Cornish Story, Written by Edward C. Arden, the music composed by Jullien H. Wilson and Clement Locknane, Produced at the Pleasure Gardens Theatre Folkestone, on Monday, Nov. 12.

Characters in Act I.

Colin Yeo ..... Mr. T. C. Maxwell
H. Gall ..... Mr. John Morley
John ..... Mr. A. E. Wilson
Gaffer ..... Mr. Allen
Ruth ..... Miss May Rawlinson
Thomasine Bonaventure. Miss Lillian Hubbard
Oberon ..... Miss Mary Ambrose
Mab ..... Miss Ruby Carter
Donkey ..... Mr. Albert Felino

Characters in Act II.

Sir John Percyval ..... Mr. Tom Blacklock
Clown ..... Mr. Kennedy Allen
Corineus ..... Mr. John Morley
Gogmagog ..... Mr. A. E. Wilson
Bill Marlinspike ..... Mr. Walter Wood
Gipsy Chief ..... Mr. T. C. Maxwell
Gipsy Witch ..... Miss Buckley
Dame Percyval (Thomasine).. Miss Lillian Hubbard

(from our own correspondent.)

In a pretty orchard at St. Mary, Cornwall, the village maidens are gathering apples. Colin, a rustic swain, comes on the scene with his sweetheart Ruth. He praises Thomasine, a Cornish shepherdess, and causes Ruth to be jealous. Thomasine soon makes her appearance. Colin tries to win her favour, but she bids him take Ruth and win her love. Later on Thomasine returns to find that the Fairies have visited the orchard, and, remembering the superstition, enters the fairies' ring and utters a wish that some day she may leave her native village and travel. No sooner has she spoken than she hears the sound of approaching huntsmen, and the villagers hurry to the spot. One of the hunters, a London merchant, explains that they have lost their way. Perceiving Thomasine he immediately falls in love with her, and proposes that she shall marry him and go to London. She consents, and in Act II., which is Temple Bar in the time of the Tudors, shows Thomasine as the Lady Mayoress—very happy, but longing for a glimpse of her old Cornish home. Miss Lillian Hubbard, an attractive Thomasine, sings her vocal numbers charmingly; Miss May Rawlinson plays Ruth in a graceful manner; Mr. T. C. Maxwell as Colin Yeo uses his fine voice to advantage; Mr. Tom Blacklock is praiseworthy as Sir John Percyval; Mr. Kennedy Allen is an amusing Clown; Mr. Albert Felino cuts some queer capers as the Donkey; and Miss Ruby Carter as Mab executes some smart dancing. The choir of children and Miss Dolly Bell's Six English Violets contribute to the success.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL THEATRE.

Miss Davies Webster and Miss Rose Cazalet's entertainment company gave a performance on Wednesday evening at the Albert Hall Theatre, the chief item being a one-act play by the late Lord Tennyson, *The Falcon*, in which Tennyson has dramatised a story of Boccaccio. The play was originally produced by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal; but, notwithstanding their excellent acting, it did not succeed. On Wednesday evening the character of the Lady Giovanna was capitally undertaken by Miss Davies Webster, and that of Elizabetta, the Count's mother, by Miss Rose Cazalet. Mr. John Macfarlane made a manly and picturesque Count Federigo Degli Alberighi; while Mr. H. P. Owen cleverly enacted the humorous part of Filippo, the Count's foster brother. The music for the Count's song was specially composed by E. S. Mitchell, student of the Trinity College of Music, and the handsome costumes by Nathan. Besides *The Falcon*, several dramatic and comedy sketches were performed. *The Crystal Gazer*, a dramatic sketch by Leopold Marteyn, proved most attractive. Miss Davies Webster appeared as Mme. Le Sorcière and Miss Rose Cazalet as Mrs. Blank, the lady that calls for the address and some particulars of a gentleman that she is engaged to, great merriment being caused by the lady, the fortune-teller thinking she had come about a lost dog. The little piece was brightly acted and much applauded. In Mr. George P. Hawtrey's new comedy sketch, *Flat Burglary*, Miss Rose Cazalet was very successful. Later in the programme Miss Cazalet was set down for *The Flower Girl's Story*, by H. Little, and Miss Davies Webster for a dramatic study, *Jeanne d'Arc*, written by Augusta Webster. A number of admirable musical items were given by Miss Eugénie Caverhill-Shiels (pianoforte), Mrs. Paul Zeidler ('cello), and Mr. Robert Königsberg (violin), these artists giving Komsak's Trio, 'Leiben und Leben in Wien." Mrs. Paul Zeidler produced a good rich tone in her 'cello solo of Handel's "Largo," and Miss Violet Cecil gained a hearty encore for her dance, "The Housemaids." Miss Gertrude Wood greatly pleased the audience in two songs by Amy Woodforde-Finden, "Far across the desert lands" and "Where the Abana flows," and Mr. Noel Fleming displayed a very pleasing and well-trained voice in "If I built a world for you" and "Passion Flower," two songs by Mme. Liza Lehmann. Two violin solos were given by Mr. Robert Königsberg, and another dance by Miss Violet Cecil. Mr. Noel

NEW ENGLISH AND FOREIGN PLAYS.

In order to assist managers and others in the selection of pieces for production and adaptation, we are publishing from time to time synopses of likely English and Continental plays, so that dramatic speculators may judge for themselves of the suitability of the plots for their purpose. Authors wishing for this publicity should forward synopses to "Playwrights," care of *The Era*, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR."

Melodrama, in Four Acts, by Frank L. Bixby. (All rights reserved.)

A play of American military life, at the time of the Sioux Indians' rising. Sergt.-Major Breen tries to dissuade his daughter Agnes from marrying Lieutenant Harry Batton, because the other officers' wives would not treat her as their social equal, American democracy being, it appears, inapplicable to military circles in the land over which "Old Glory" waves. But it seems not incompatible with traditions of transatlantic "honour" for Major Geddes to have a liaison with Mrs. Totten, Colonel Totten's wife. In order to marry Agnes, Batton sends in his papers to Washington, U.S.A., resigning his commission. A newspaper correspondent, Isaac White, arrives at the barracks at Fort Keough to obtain the latest tidings of the reported Indian restlessness. While he is there news arrives that an exploring party has been ambushed and almost annihilated. While awaiting details, he flirts with Miss Lettie Shroyer, sister of Captain Jack Shroyer, a typical slangy American young lady, who ultimately marries Lieutenant Darling, a foolish, kind-hearted nonentity. When Darling brings news of the ambush, Batton is ordered to command the attacking force, and is accused of cowardice when it becomes known that he has sent in his resignation. Thereupon Agnes steps forward and states, before the hurriedly-assembled officers, that Batton's resignation will be withdrawn, and that she is to be his wife. Six months later there is a reception at the military post headquarters, to which Isaac White has obtained an invitation. Agnes and Lieutenant Harry Batton are married, but their happiness is clouded by the treatment meted out to her by the other officers' "ladies," which become intolerable during the course of the evening. Maddened by some bitter remarks made by Mrs. Totten, whose liaison with Major Geddes is discovered before the guests leave, Agnes decides to leave all and earn her own living amongst new surroundings. After telling her father, and leaving a letter for her husband, she profits by the arrival of a telegram of urgent recall for Isaac White, and drives away with him to catch the midnight train. Three months later we are at Fort Sheridan, Chicago, on the shore of Lake Michigan. The officers are the same as those formerly at Fort Keough, Mont. Batton is still with his old regiment, and is ignorant of Agnes's whereabouts. There is to be a trial of new high explosives. Major Geddes is interested in a new patent, and stands to win a sum of $10,000 should it prove a success. Batton is to fire the test shots and report on the experiments. The explosives are kept in Batton's quarters. Geddes obtains access to them, and damps the rival chemicals to secure his own success. Batton surprises him, there is a struggle, a light falls into the chest of chemicals, and the resulting explosion wrecks the house, kills Major Geddes, and temporarily blinds Batton. Three weeks later Batton is at the Post Graduate Hospital, Chicago. Mrs. Totten occupies another bed in an adjoining ward, and is expected to become insane, her lover having been killed in the explosion, and the Colonel, her husband, having committed suicide two days after the catastrophe. "Nurse Lee," who is none other than Agnes, is told off to attend to Batton. The doctor is of opinion that Batton's sight will be restored to him, and the bandages are to be removed for the first time. Before this takes place, however, "Nurse Lee" is called to Mrs. Totten's bedside. The old antagonists recognise each other, and Mrs. Totten expires, after Agnes has forgiven her for all injuries and unhappiness. A group is formed about Batton's bed, the bandages are removed, and he is restored to light and happiness in his beloved wife's arms.

BI-MONTHLY MEETING OF THE A.A.

The sixth bi-monthly meeting of the members of the Actors' Association was held on the 8th inst., when the following were present:—Miss Gertrude Bibby, Miss May Conrade, Mr. F. H. de Quincey, Mr. A. E. Drinkwater, Mr. Frank G. Dunn, Miss Gladys Ffolliott, Miss Georgina Hamilton, Miss Katie Johnson, Miss Rose Mathews, Mr. Arthur Morris, Miss Helen Mosley, Miss Doris Regan, Mr. Adnam Sprange, and Mr. Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). Miss Georgina Hamilton was voted to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Miss Ffolliott spoke of the "struck-off lists" of this and last year showing lack of interest and want of *esprit de corps* among the members. She referred to the Variety Artists' Federation, with its newspaper and death levy and old-age fund. She thought it would be better for the A.A. if the members did not want so much for nothing. She recommended that the rules and regulations of the V.A.F. should be applied as far as possible to the A.A. It was agreed that Miss Ffolliott should attend as a delegate to the Council and voice her views on the adoption of a scheme of subscription similar to the V.A.F., which the meeting recommended to the consideration of the Council.

Miss Rose Mathews spoke at some length on the question of Sunday evening concerts, &c., and suggested that the rooms should be opened from 8 to 11, the first part of the programme to consist of a lecturette by some prominent member, and the second part of a concert. It was resolved that refreshments should be sold at cost price, and that only members of the A.A. should perform except on one night a month, when prominent and distinguished people might be asked to do so. It was also decided that a collection to defray expenses be made at each meeting, when not less than 2d. be put in the plate.

The following ladies and gentlemen were elected on the Entertainment Committee:—Mesdames Gertrude Bibby, Gladys Ffolliott, Georgina Hamilton, Rose Mathews, and Rita Milman, and Messrs. Clive Currie, David Denard, and Frank G. Dunn. Miss Gladys Ffolliott suggested that when an applicant sought to be elected as a member, references from managers should be applied for, if thought desirable, at the discretion of the Council; and it was agreed that this suggestion be placed before the Council at their next meeting.

A vote of thanks to Miss Georgina Hamilton for presiding concluded the proceedings.

MR. W. C. SIMPSON, who during the past two years has brought the Great Western Railway into the front rank for its enterprise in connection with the journeys of the theatrical profession, was on Saturday last made W.M. of the Earl of Zetland Lodge, No. 1364. The Dangerfield Printing Co., Ltd., produced a very artistic programme and menu card for the occasion.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

BUSINESS MANAGERS.

MR. STEWART D. WRIGHT.

Mr. Stewart D. Wright (for some time professionally known as Stewart De Winton), the young and pushing business-manager, was originally intended for the law, having served, when quite a youth, for some time with Messrs. Scott and Japp, solicitors, Glasgow; but desiring a change, he shortly afterwards joined his father, Mr. D. A. Wright, who, by the way, is the senior partner of the old firm of John Wright and Co., world-known shipowners, shipbrokers, commission and forwarding agents, of Glasgow and branches, with agencies at home and abroad. He remained there some time, but owing to a little trouble with a relative of the firm, he left, and later started work with the great "Rhoderick Dhu" house—Messrs. Wright and Greig, Ltd. (also of Glasgow, London, &c.)—where he rose to be chief clerk of the beer department. Although always fond of commercial work, he had a strong desire to enter the profession, the while being a prominent member of local amateur clubs, and being very popular both as an actor and socially.

After consulting one or two well-known actor-managers as to the advisability of entering the profession, and being told the "ups and downs" of it, he resolved to chance his fortunes, like many another good man, and signed his first contract to play Dr. Luck in Mr. Frank Adair's *Favourite* company in 1898, which part he represented till the end of the run, afterwards joining Mr. James Alexander's "fit-up" companies, and playing consecutively in such pieces as *The Power of Gold, Master and Man, The Face at the Window, The Trail of the Serpent, East Lynne*, &c. Then for a while he was engaged as manager with an American (real coloured) minstrel troupe and variety combination. Having had about three years in "fit-up" work, both as player and manager, he thought he would like to return to the theatres, so after having a spell of out of work, commonly known in the profession "out of a shop," he resolved to go in for management entirely, and settled with Mr. Sydney T. Pease in this capacity, going on tour with *The Man from Down There*. Then followed a long engagement with Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren and Mr. Henry Furnival as manager ahead. This position he held with this firm for fifty-three weeks, with offer of re-engagement. During his engagement with them they produced such pieces as *Proof, The Lady of Lyons, East Lynne, Life and Honour, As You Like It*, &c., in the latter two pieces Mr. Wright playing principal parts. At the conclusion of this engagement, Mr. Wright opened with Messrs. Fred J. Little and Fred D'Arcy's *Sinbad the Sailor* pantomime as acting-manager, which proved one of his most comfortable tours.

Photo by Breach.

MR. STEWART D. WRIGHT.

Other successful engagements followed. Mr. Wright is at present directing the tours of the Holmes and Wright sketch companies, the pieces including *A Sister of the Red Cross, A Soldier's Honour, and Bertie's Adventure*, the latter being written by Mr. Wright in conjunction with Mr. F. L. Webber, and is a bright, rollicking little farce teeming with funny situations, the scene being laid at a seaside hotel. It was recently produced at one of the London halls under the supervision of Mr. Wright, and met with enormous success. Mr. A. T. Henden, Mr. Edward Morgan, Mr. E. H. Dobell, and Miss Cecile Egerton, who appeared in it, had a splendid reception, and had to "take" the curtain three times. The well-known variety agents, Messrs. Richard Warner and Co., Ltd., are doing the booking. Mr. Wright relinquishes this engagement shortly, however, to go on tour with the No 1 Company of *The Country Girl* (N.) as manager ahead for Mr. Geo. Dance.

Mr. Wright was born December 17, 1879, at Pollokshields, Glasgow, and was educated at the Cumbrae College, Isle of Cumbrae, and Hillhead High School, Glasgow. He is a lover of dumb animals, and detests to see them ill-treated, his particular favourites being dogs, cats, and horses, and, we might add, he is not a bad horseman. He prefers spending his summers as purser's assistant on an ocean liner to basking on the sands, and has fulfilled engagements in that capacity with the Allan and Star Line, Elder Dempster Line, &c., to and from Canada, America, and the West Indies (Jamaica). Mr. Wright, who is a shrewd man of business, has been offered re-engagements with nearly every firm he has been associated with. His permanent address in London is the Actors' Association, of which he has been a member for some years.

COVENT GARDEN BALL.

The fourth ball of the season at Covent Garden Theatre fell on the evening of Lord Mayor's Day, a very fitting occasion for music and festivity. A silver James I. tea service on a plated tray was given as a first prize, and there were several other beautiful awards. The scene, with the Italian garden background of the stage, the floral decorations—among which a fine collection of chrysanthemums made an excellent show—and the dazzling array of colours in the costumes, was very brilliant and varied when dancing began a little after midnight. The march-past, which is always the most attractive spectacle of the occasion, took place at about three o'clock. Mme. Jeanne obtained first prize for a topical dress, entitled "The Toast is—the King." Over a costume of white chiffon were panels of white satin fitting close to the figure. On these were painted pictures of Sandringham and the performance of *The Man from Blankley's*, while round each picture were clusters of red and white roses. Mr. W. Clarkson was successful in gaining second prize (lady's) for "Royal and Civic Birthday Honours," and third prize for "My Lady's Mirror," sixth prize "All Hot," and others for the "Blue Chrysanthemum," "Guy Fawkes," "Harvest," &c.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS VIOLET OSMUND.

Miss Violet Osmund was a pupil of John D'Auban, and after a long course of lessons in dancing (of which she is extremely fond) she was drafted into one of his troupes, and eventually went to Drury Lane pantomime in one of his special acts. From there she went to America with the same company. She speaks in high terms of our cousins from the other side of the "herring pond." She thinks they are as a rule better business men than we are; they make up their minds to do a thing and do it while the Englishman is considering whether he will or not. On her return to England she took a series of lessons in singing from Mr. John Crook, and eventually settled to go on tour, and played the Lady Journalist in *The New Barmaid*, a part she has performed with much success for a year. Miss Osmund, after a well-earned rest in Windermere, returned to her old part in *The New Barmaid* till Christmas, when she was engaged for one of the principal parts in the pantomime Mr. Charles Carey, in conjunction with Mr. Alexander Loftus, produced at Birkenhead.

Photo by Langfier.

MISS VIOLET OSMUND.

Miss Osmund is a very good sportswoman; she used to ride a good deal until she had a nasty spill, being thrown over a horse's head. Since then she has confined herself to bicycle-riding and swimming.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

On Wednesday afternoon at the Royal Academy of Music Sir Alexander Mackenzie, in continuing his lecture on "Bohemian Music," said even in the early days the Bohemians did not neglect the great masters of music, especially Berlioz, but the great need of the hour was for a famous musician of their own country. This need was supplied in 1861 by the rising genius Smetana, the son of a brewer. The lecturer here remarked that the great Dvorák's ancestor was also in trade, being a butcher. Although Smetana was not a prodigy, like Mozart, who performed in public at four years of age, still at an early age he gave promise of musical talent. When he was nineteen years old he set out for Prague, the desire of his heart being to become a pupil of Liszt, which desire was fulfilled. Smetana's talent was recognised at an early age by a Symphonic Poem which he wrote while in Sweden. Sir Alexander remarked that Smetana's master, Liszt, was the inventor of the Symphonic Poem, and that Smetana has written nine; but with all his (the lecturer's) research he could not trace a Symphony written by Smetana. Under Liszt's tuition the young composer wrote in a national manner and like most Bohemian musicians the Polka, which, Sir Alexander remarked, meant a half-step, and was a great favourite. One of the lady students of the Academy here gave examples, one of the older form and one more modern, which proved very interesting, and was much applauded. Smetana's first opera hardly satisfied the composer, but, after a few months, he did please himself in the opera *The Bartered Bride*, originally intended as a comic opera. The public gave a hearty welcome to *The Bartered Bride*, but the critics were less pleased with it. This fine and spirited opera at once brought the composer fame. Smetana also composed a tragic opera, which the critics at that time said owed much to the influence of Wagner. Sir Alexander said he could find no imitation of Wagner in this opera. In addition, Smetana wrote *The Two Widows, The Secret*, and *The Kiss*. It was during this latter opera that Smetana became deaf. While under the influence of Liszt he wrote the Symphonic Poem "Mine Fatherland," in which he refers to the sea. Sir Alexander caused much amusement by saying Shakespeare took the same poetic licence in *The Winter's Tale*, where the plot is laid in Bohemia, and mentions the sea—where there is no sea. The second portion of "Mine Fatherland" is a panorama in music. Number 3 is entitled "Sazga," and deals with the history of an Amazon Queen; and Number 4 the subject of Bohemian woods and fields. This, the lecturer remarked was played some time ago in England at a Royal Academy concert. While Smetana was quite deaf he wrote a string quartet, entitled "From my life." Four students then gave a pleasing rendering of the slow movement and the lively Scherzo, which, Sir Alexander said, was also a polka. The lecturer said: "Could anyone think that the music of a dying man?" Smetana, like some other great musicians, had a sorrowful life, and his end was tragical. It was after he became deaf his finest work was written; but, as Sir Alexander Mackenzie remarked, deafness was not the worst thing that could befall a composer. Smetana lost his reason, and eventually died in an asylum.

At the end of his instructive and interesting lecture Sir A. C. Mackenzie said his next address would relate to the great master Dvorák.

FOOTBALL.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. FIRST AND SECOND ELEVENS V. HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUB.

Played near Bristol on Saturday, Nov. 10. In the evening an orchestral and gramophone concert was arranged by Messrs. Archie Hamlin and Harry Hare. In the match the following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.—H. Belding, goal; F. Thorne and J. Lewis, backs; S. Carter, A. E. Bailey, and E. Poole, half backs; H. Clements, E. Belding, A. English, J. Aubrey, and E. Palmer, forwards.

H. Hare's Band.—W. J. Horton, goal; A. Hamblin and A. Mattock, backs; F. Harrison, P. Hewlett, and F. Stevens, half backs; L. Hamlin, H. Edwards, E. Bowman, H. Welann, and B. Everitt, forwards.

Referee, C. Watson. Linesmen, H. Hare and W. Lloyd.

Result: Bristol X.L.C.R., 1 goal; H. Hare's Band, nil. J. Aubrey scored the only goal.

THE WILLIAM MORGAN JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

In August last Mr. William Morgan, managing-director of the Scarborough Aquarium, entered upon his fiftieth year of service as a public caterer, and the celebration by a banquet and testimonial at Scarborough is fixed to take place on Friday, Nov. 30.

In his long and distinguished career as a provider of entertainment Mr. Morgan has done much to advance the cause of healthy popular amusement. He has been a noted pioneer in the development of dramatic and musical enterprise, and has achieved a success that it has been given to few to equal. Mr. Morgan was the first to introduce complete London companies into the provinces, the first to give concerts by the greatest artists at popular prices, and the first to open all-day entertainments for a covering sixpenny admission.

In Bradford, Blackpool, Scarborough, Morecambe, Preston, Bridlington, and elsewhere Mr. Morgan's active, varied, and extensive managerial efforts have been greatly appreciated. In Scarborough he has enjoyed the distinction of filling the position of mayor for three successive years.

Such a long and honourable career as this, it was felt by Mr. Morgan's host of friends and admirers, was worthy of some special recognition, and the hearty co-operation of many well-known gentlemen in promoting a testimonial was obtained.

Sir Henry Irving, when visiting Mr. Morgan at Scarborough a couple of months before he died, expressed the opinion that Mr. Morgan had catered for the public longer than any man living in Great Britain.

The following letter from Mr. Edward Terry appeared in *The Era* of Oct. 20:—

Sir,—"Lest they forget," will you kindly permit me, through the medium of your columns, to call the attention of the many friends of Mr. William Morgan to the forthcoming celebration at Scarborough, when, as a recognition of fifty years of management, he will be entertained at a banquet, over which the Earl of Londesborough will preside, and be presented with a testimonial of the esteem in which he is held by the members of the dramatic and musical professions and other friends?

Mr. Morgan, as manager of the early Bradford theatres and proprietor of the Aquarium at Scarborough, of which city he has twice served the office of Mayor, is so well esteemed that I feel sure his friends only need this gentle reminder to make them anxious to participate in this interesting celebration. Mr. Valentine Fowler, of Scarborough, as hon. secretary, will be pleased to give all further particulars.—Yours faithfully, EDWARD TERRY.

MR. WILLIAM MORGAN.
Thrice Mayor of Scarborough.

The following is a list of subscribers to the Jubilee Testimonial:—

	£	s.	d.
Earl of Londesborough	1	1	0
Countess of Londesborough	1	1	0
Sir George Sitwell, Bart.	1	1	0
Lady Ida Sitwell	1	1	0
Ald. David Wade, J.P.	1	1	0
Chas. Gott	1	1	0
Frank Johnson	1	1	0
John Hart	1	1	0
G. H. Harrop	1	1	0
J. H. Huddleston	1	1	0
Thos. Sergenson	1	1	0
James Pearson	1	1	0
Geo Lord Beeforth, J.P.	1	1	0
J. W. Chapman	1	1	0
V. Fowler, J.P.	1	1	0
Wm. Sayner	1	1	0
James Pirie, J.P.	1	1	0
Ald. E. H. Gawne, J.P.	1	1	0
Dr. Handcock	1	1	0
Lea Priestley Edwards, J.P.	1	1	0
Francis Goodricke	1	1	0
C. E. Bradley	1	1	0
Councillor W. Ascough	1	1	0
J. L. Smith	1	1	0
Ald. John Grime	1	1	0
Ald. James Fish	1	1	0
Ralph Rushton	1	1	0
James Burnley	1	1	0
A. C. Burnley	1	1	0
T. C. James	1	1	0
J. Pitt Hardacre	1	1	0
Ernest Schutt	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Kendal	1	1	0
Edward Terry	1	1	0
J. C. Derham	1	1	0
J. Overend	1	1	0
T. C. Hope	1	1	0
T. Loftus	1	1	0
Major Russell	1	1	0
Joshua Sheldon	1	1	0
Wm. Peacock	1	1	0
Dr. Osmond Carr	1	1	0
The Mayor of Blackpool (W. H. Broadhead)	1	1	0
Tasker Hart	1	1	0
Duncan Gilmour and Co.	1	1	0
Worthington and Co.	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Kendal	1	1	0
Edward Terry	1	1	0
W. H. Broadhead, Esq.	1	1	0
Mrs. d'Oyly Carte	1	1	0
J. N. Maskelyne	1	1	0
J. W. Rowley	1	1	0
Jack Morgan	1	1	0
Thos. Blanc	1	1	0
Thos. Bickerstaff	1	1	0
Geo. Padley	1	1	0
J. C. Derham	1	1	0
J. Overend	1	1	0
T. C. Hope	1	1	0
T. Loftus	1	1	0
Major Russell	1	1	0
Wm. Peacock	1	1	0
Joshua Sheldon	1	1	0
Dr. Osmond Carr	1	1	0
Duncan Gilmour and Co., Ltd.	1	1	0
Worthington and Co., Ltd.	1	1	0
W. H. Clough	1	0	0
W. W. Leadbeater	0	10	6
Walter Curtis	0	10	6
Walter Curtis	0	10	6
J. R. Birkett	0	10	6
S. C. Platts	0	10	6
Rev. E. B. Lavies	0	5	0

The following influential committee has been formed consisting of the following gentlemen:—The Right Hon. the Earl of Londesborough, Sir George Sitwell, Bart., and Messrs. Lea Priestley Edwards, J.P., George Lord Beeforth, J.P., Alderman E. H. Gawne, J.P., Councillor Ascough, George Padley, Francis Goodricke, C. E. Bradley, Alderman J. Grime, J. H. Huddlestone, Thomas Sergensen, Alderman Fish, G. H. Harrop, Ralph Rushton, John C Smith, Alderman D. Wade, J.P., John Hart, T. C. Hope, Charles Lund, Frank Johnson, W. H. Clough, Edward Terry, James Burnley, E. Schutt, and Dr. Handcock; hon. treasurer, Mr. Wm. Sayner, York City and County Bank, Scarborough; hon. secretary, Alderman V. Fowler, J.P., Huntriss Hall, Scarborough; hon. treasurer for London, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era*, 5, Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, OCT. 9, 1906.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. G. L. Goodman. — *The Squaw Man*, with its abundance of human interest, its picturesque setting, and with capital all-round acting, is still a strong attraction here.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Sub-Lessee and Manager, Mr. Bland Holt; Business-Manager, Mr. Christie Simonsens.—*The Great Millionaire* is in its last week, and in view of the approaching Trafalgar celebration, Mr. Bland Holt will next produce the nautical drama of the Nelson period, called *A Sailor's Knot*.

THE TIVOLI.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harry Rickards; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward Maas.—Miss Minnie Duncan and Mr. Arthur Godfrey made their first appearance on the 6th, and created an intensely favourable impression by their admirable acting of the coster romance, *Me and 'Er;* Augustin and Hartley do wonderful barrel jumping; and Casselli and James, Miss Cassie Walmer, the Musical Ibsens, Harry Bedford, Victor Kelly, Olive Sexton, and Mr. Richard's double company give a bright performance.

CRITERION.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Musgrove; Directors, Messrs. Meynell and Gunn; Business-Manager, Mr. Homan Barnes.—*The Fatal Wedding* is again drawing packed houses. The "kiddies'" scene, cleverly managed by Mr. C. R. Stanford, and the acting of Miss Maisie Posner, are the chief attractions.

MISS HILDA BEVEGE was accorded two nights of complimentary patronage at the Palace Theatre on the 4th and 5th. The clever elocutionist appeared in *Milky White*, with Mr. P. Belfield as the irascible milkman, and in *In Honour Bound*, with Mr. Neville Meyman in the leading part. The whole affair was a pronounced success.

MELBOURNE, OCT. 9, 1906.—PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Holloway; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Cowan.—After a most successful run of two weeks, *The Two Little Vagabonds* was withdrawn on Friday evening, the last six nights of the present season being reserved for a special revival of *The Shraughraun*, which was staged on Saturday evening. Mr. J. P. O'Neill made an excellent Conn; Mr. Inman was a satisfactory Captain Molyneux; the part of Robert Ffolliott was ably played by Mr. Godfrey Cass; and Miss Beatrice Holloway made a charming Clare Ffolliott.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. Geo. Tallis.—After an interval of some ten years, *The Belle of New York* was revived by Mr. Williamson's Royal Comic Opera Company on Saturday evening before a packed house. The performance was in every way satisfactory. Miss Florence Young scored a success in the character of Violet Grey, and received hearty applause for her singing. Mr. George Lauri seemed hardly at home as Ichabod Bronson, but no doubt will improve upon his performance of Saturday night. Mr. Roberts as Harry Bronson has a part which suits him admirably. The interesting and piquant Fifi Fricot was neatly played by Miss Alma Barber; and Mr. Fred Leslie, as Blinky Bill, found scope for some excellent dancing.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Sheridan; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant.—It is difficult to find room for the audiences which gather to witness *The Earl and the Girl*, performed by Mr. John F. Sheridan and his musical comedy company. Nevertheless, the piece will only run for four more nights, as a special revival of *Fun on the Bristol* is announced for next Saturday evening, when Mr. Sheridan will appear as the Widow O'Brien.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon.—The Alaskas (lady and gentleman) made their first appearance on Saturday, and instantly leaped into public favour. They presented a remarkably clever acrobatic turn, which took the audience by surprise. The male performer is undoubtedly one of the cleverest artists in his particular line we have had in Melbourne. Les Cabiacs are still "going strong" with their clever balancing and tumbling act; Miss Henderson and her dogs are established favourites; Howard Hall is back with new songs; while a host of others contribute interesting items to a particularly strong bill.

THE LYCEUM THEATRE will be offered at auction by Messrs. Glasier and Sons, at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, E.C., on Thursday, December 13. The theatre, the position of which has been greatly improved by the construction of the new thoroughfare from the Strand, covers, with adjoining premises, an area of 23,500 square feet, or over half an acre. It has recently been entirely reconstructed and brought up to the standard of modern requirements, and has a capacity for seating 2,750. Famous for its long association with the late Sir Henry Irving's greatest triumphs, the Lyceum Theatre offers a unique opportunity for the founding of a National Theatre, by which the name of the great actor might be best perpetuated. The property, which also includes shop and business premises in Exeter-street, will be sold in one lot, and vacant possession of the theatre may be had immediately.

THE LYCEUM THEATRE, ECCLES, is henceforth to be known as "The Grand Theatre and Opera House," the proprietor being Mr. C. Hamilton Baines, and the manager Mr. Ernest Hales. A formal opening was made on Monday by the Mayor (Alderman Schofield), in the presence of a large audience, including the councillors of the town. The play presented was *A Noble Brother*, in which the impersonation of Jerry, the tramp, by Mr. Charles Carte, was agreed to be a very clever piece of acting; the pleasing and dainty Miss Doris Brookes successfully took the part of Nana Leigh; the Colonel and his wife were ably characterised by Mr. Howard Thorne and Miss Alice Ballard respectively; the Henry Travers of Mr. Arthur A. Tomlin was good; Mr. Bert Osborne, as Jack Elsworth, filled his part ably; Miss Rosie Conroy and Mr. Michael Madden were pleasing with songs and dances; and Mr. Ronald Douglas, as the Strange Preacher, acquitted himself admirably.

A FEW more contributions to the Fred Locke Fund have come to hand this week, and Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow, gratefully acknowledges the following: Scottish Musical Artists' Benevolent Fund, £1 1s.; Two Bees (Harry and Flora Blake), 5s.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE BLUE MOON."

The half dozen authors and composers concerned are to be complimented upon their united efforts in placing before the public a delightfully bright entertainment, which is well worthy to rank high amongst musical plays, and will assuredly prove one of the most successful. Mr. Robert Courtneidge has lavishly assisted his colleagues by furnishing a production regardless of cost, both as to artists, costumes, and scenic display. For Chandra Nii (the Blue Moon) he has engaged Miss Florence Smithson, who originally played the part at the Lyric Theatre. A more charming representative could hardly be found, and coupled with a voice of exceptional sweetness it is easy for Miss Smithson to establish herself in the good graces of the audience. As Moolraj, the Indian juggler from the East End, Mr. Edward Lewis has a part quite to his liking, and in consequence he scores immensely. His acting promotes genuine and uproarious laughter, and the play owes not a little to his undoubted abilities. Another performer whose ability is admirably shown is Mr. Bert Gilbert, who as Private Charles Taylor gives a representation which is enjoyable to the utmost. His acting is side-splitting, and his music hall imitations (ably assisted by Miss Lulu Valli) simply convulse the audience, who keep on asking for more until the two artists are quite exhausted. Mr. Leslie Gaze makes a capital Major Callabone, and Mr. George Mudie, jun., is a dashing Bobby Scott. As Captain Jack Ormsby, Mr. Herbert Clayton worthily upholds his well-won reputation as singer and actor. The Prince Badahur of Kharika is exceedingly well played by Mr. Thomas Holding. Messrs. Arthur Wyndham and Horace Manger are very creditable as Hon. Archie May and Clive Mansfield. Miss Daisy Revett makes a pretty and vivacious Evelyn Ormsby; Millicent Leroy is undertaken by the talented Miss Lulu Valli, whose brightness and energy are extremely popular. Miss Mabel Lorrel is a satisfactory Lady Augusta Brabasham. The ladies of the chorus form pleasing and animated pictures, and Mr. Ernest Hurman capably directs the orchestra. The Indian scenes are feasts of colour, and do infinite credit to the painters—Mr. R. McCleery and Mr. Stafford Hall.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Musical Play, entitled
"THE DAIRYMAIDS."

Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company opened here to a good house on Monday. The present company is fully up to the average that have appeared here of late. The large chorus of ladies and gentlemen is powerful and well balanced, and reflects great credit upon the conductor, Mr. Alfred Bartlett, who also directs the really careful and earnest workers in the Marlborough orchestra, specially augmented for this play. Miss Violet Lloyd and Miss Rhoda Gordon equally divide the honours as the two Dairymaids, Peggy and Winifred, winning high praise at the hands of the audience. Both are charming vocalists, which adds in no little way to their very successful portrayals. Miss Violet Lloyd's principal numbers are "Tinker, tailor, soldier, sailor" and "The Sandow Girl," for which she is warmly encored. Miss Rhoda Gordon's singing of "Where is it all going to end?" with the assistance of a quartette of small maidens, is equally successful. Mr. H. Dent and Miss Rose Musgrove merit unstinted praise for their portrayals of Joe Mivens and Eliza respectively. Their acting, singing, dancing, and genuine comedy are delightful. Mr. E. Statham Staples is a comedian of no mean order, and keeps the ball of fun rolling merrily whenever he occupies the boards. His Sam Brudenell is effectively and skilfully played, and his smart humour and able comedy could not be improved upon. Mr. George Desmond's Lieut. Brudenell, R.N., is free, natural, and full of rollicking fun. Mr. Forbes Dawson contributes effectively to the whole by a smart performance as Dr. O'Bryne, R.N. Miss Edith Blanche is to be complimented on an excellent embodiment as Lady Brudenell, and the austere academy mistress, Miss Penelope Pyechase, is portrayed in a clever and diverting manner by Miss Madge Avery. As Helene Miss Beryl Vaudrey gives an able performance, playing with discretion throughout, and her musical number in Act 1 is much aplauded All the remaining parts are pleasingly interpreted. The scenic effects are brilliant, and the costumes bright and sparkling; in fact, the piece is a success from every point. The work of Mr. Stage-Manager Arthur Paterson is arduous, but most effectively and skilfully performed.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Play, in Four Acts, entitled
"CHARLOTTE CORDAY."

Mrs. Brown Potter, who is appearing here this week, is attracting good audiences. *Charlotte Corday* is written round a most interesting personality, but the piece drags very heavily at times. Mrs. Brown Potter, who looked the part well, was in every way excellent as the heroine, and gave a very dramatic rendering of the rôle. Her acting in the scene of the murder of Marat was very fine indeed. The Marat of Mr. Clarence Blakiston is a powerful impersonation, full of artistic finish, and altogether carefully thought out. Mr. Esme Percy, a young actor of marked ability, as Adam Lux called forth the highest praise, and was much admired. Mr. Edwin Palmer was good as the Comte d'Armont; Mr. F. Morland deserved credit for his fine portrayal of the Abbé Fleuriot; the artist, M. David, was presented in capital fashion by Mr. Laurence Grant, who had a fine grip of the part; Potin, the barber, was amusingly depicted by Mr. Frank Collins, who made much of a small part; Mr. Harold Payne was seen to advantage as M. Lagarde; the part of Rose de Corday D'Armont was charmingly filled by Miss Dora Maitland; and Miss Lena Pierpoint did well as Simonne Eveard. The play was preceded by Mr. Barclay Gammon "and a piano," the combination causing much amusement. His description of an oratorio, and his impersonation of a German professor were highly diverting.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Romantic Drama, entitled
"DOROTHY O' THE HALL."

Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry always find great favour in the eyes of Kensingtonians, and the romantic drama, *Dorothy o' the Hall*, by Paul Kester and Charles Major, with its exciting episodes and its introduction to the audience of the ill-fated Queen of Scots, and her vain, jealous, and imperious rival, "good Queen Bess," is exactly suited to their taste. Miss Julia Neilson has a grand part, and one suited to her charm and versatility, as Dorothy Vernon, the passionate, impulsive, self-willed, and beautiful. Her changes of mood, her mother wit, her material temperament, her love of romance and resentment of all control, and, above all, her courage and resolution, are depicted with grace, refinement, and fascinating artlessness. Unfortunately, Mr. Fred Terry was indisposed early in the week, but an able substitute was provided in the shape of Mr. Alfred Kendrick, who is the reckless young gallant, the daring and dauntless young lover, to the life. Handsome and debonair, and full of energy and vitality, and by no means lacking in distinction and nobility of bearing, he has earned encomiums galore. Miss Miriam Lewes has won golden opinions by her telling impersonation of Elizabeth Tudor, Queen of England, her vanity and caprice, her jealous suspicion and petty tyranny and weakness, and her marvellous knowledge of statecraft, are admirably indicated. Miss Lilias Waldegrave contributes a deeply pathetic portraiture of the beautiful and ill-starred Mary Queen of Scots; Miss Claire Pauncefort is exceedingly entertaining as the fond mother, Lady Vernon, Sir George's kinswoman; and Miss Mary Mackenzie is a pretty and vivacious maid, Jenny Flaxton. Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw does not spare himself in his depiction of the villainous and craven cur, Sir Malcolm Vernon, and both in manner and appearance is every inch a villain of the deepest dye. The scene of the sword-play between himself and Dorothy in the watch tower of Rutland Castle keeps the audience in breathless suspense. Mr. Horace Hodges is admirable as Perkin, a dwarf and jester to the Earl of Rutland, and his simple loyalty and affection deeply moves the spectators. Mr. J. Carter Edwards, as the choleric and self-willed Sir George Vernon, gives yet another excellent exposition of character; and Mr. D. J. Williams renders the rôle of William Cecil, Lord Burleigh, with most impressive realism; whilst Mr. Frederick Groves, as the Earl of Rutland, and others are well in the picture in minor rôles. Mr. John R. Turnbull is stage-manager and Mr. Arthur Garrett business-manager, Mr. Sydney Falkes directing the music written by Mr. Raymond Roze especially for this New Theatre production.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Play, by Walter Melville, entitled
"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."

For those who like something sensational, there is nothing more suitable than the kind of play which is being presented at the Dalston Theatre this week in the shape of Mr. Walter Melville's piece entitled *Her Second Time on Earth*. Miss Hilda Beverley has a trying part to play as Dora Grey, but she sustains it in a way that proves her to be an actress of considerable power. The female cast has really much to recommend it in the matter of sincere acting. Miss Polly Marsh, as Elizabeth Burk, a drunken woman, affords real amusement by the clever character-sketch of a certain class of society woman which she represents; Miss Alexandra Lisle and Miss K. Garrett represent a couple of hospital nurses calculated to soothe the most irritable invalid. Miss Dorothy Hildebrande portrays the vivacious daughter of Captain Norman, and Miss Agnes Rose and Miss Marie Kildare are servants of the usual knowing and up-to-date class. Captain Jasper Norman, of the passenger ship Albatross, has a realistic representative in Mr. John Nolan, and a typical hero is provided by Mr. Frank R. Robinson. Mr. Cyril Vernon is Tom Norman, the captain's son; Mr. Leonard Aardale is properly mysterious as Beppo, an Italian, and the villainous element is effectively introduced by Mr. W. H. Porter as Guy Brand, who is rightly labelled a parasite. Others in the cast are Mr. Fred Yarnold, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Will Corrie (Teddy Butterfly), Mr. A. McWilliam, Mr. C. Hermon, Mr. J. Willmore, Mr. W. Clarke, and Mr. Webster.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Drama, entitled
"THE SILVER KING."

There can hardly, one would think, be anyone among the regular Woolwich theatre-goers who has not seen the above time-honoured drama, but its power of drawing good audiences, and keeping them thoroughly interested, seems not to have abated one jot so far as this town is concerned. On Monday night there was an excellent house to welcome Messrs. G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company, who worthily kept up the traditions of Mr. H. A. Jones's great play. Mr. Herbert Ford is responsible for a sterling representation of Wilfred Denver, and, though he plays the part on the accepted lines, yet infuses it with an individuality all his own. Mr. Ford is perhaps at his best in the great dream speech in the third act, which he gives with a force and earnestness that hold the house spellbound. The rôle of Daniel Jaikes could scarcely be in better hands than those of Mr. Tom Paulton; the old man's fidelity to his master and mistress, his humour, and his pathos, are rendered with the truth to nature and the artistic skill that mark the work of the genuine actor. As Nellie Denver Miss Victoria Addison proves herself an emotional actress of considerable power, and fully enlists the sympathies of the audience for this unfortunate woman. Mr. Charles Baird, as the Spider, is indeed a villain of the deepest dye, and easily earns his reward in the shape of hearty execrations from the "gods." Mr. Henry Osman is really humorous as Elijah Coombe; and Mr. Claude Vernon's rendering of the inane Henry Corket causes a good deal of laughter. Miss Viola Holland plays Olive Skinner with distinction, and makes the most of a rather poor part; Miss Amy Wood is amusingly loquacious as Tabitha Durden; Mr. Percy Stone makes a hit as the parish clerk; and Miss Jessie Apted is an intelligent Cissie Denver. The play is well mounted and staged, a particularly effective set being the cottage scene in the third act.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Drama, by G. R. Sims and Robert Buchanan, entitled
"THE TRUMPET CALL."

It is many years since the *Trumpet Call* was produced at the Adelphi Theatre with Mr. Leonard Boyne, Miss Evelyn Millard, and Mrs. Patrick Campbell in the leading rôles, but the piece has never lost its hold upon the affections of the playgoer, and accordingly at Peckham, as elsewhere, it receives a very heary welcome. The interpretation of the well-known play by Messrs. Charles F. Cooke's company is excellent in every respect. Mr. Leonard Yorke makes a tall and soldier-like hero as Cuthbert Cuthbertson, and soon enlists the sympathies of the house. Miss Elsie Evelyn Hill achieves a great success in the part of the sorely-tried young wife, Constance Cuthbertson, acting with much pathos. Miss Doris Gilham gives a very fine performance as the gipsy adventuress, Astrea, and is loudly applauded for her fine acting, especially in the "Doss-house" scene in the third act. Mr. Joe Bracewell has a good low comedy rôle as Professor Ginnifer, which he makes very amusing, and Lavinia is brightly played by Miss Phyllis B. French. The not-wholly bad Richard Featherstone is excellently acted by Mr. John Dennys; and Mr. Charles F. Cooke is a bluff and soldierly Sergeant-Major Milligan. Mr. Freddie Bentley, as Tommy Dutton, contributes an amusing character-sketch as the young private. Mr. W. G. Blunt is powerful in the rôle of the dissolute James Redruth. The other characters are all adequately played, and the scenery and effects leave nothing to be desired.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, entitled
"THE COUNTRY GIRL."

The charm and attraction of *The Country Girl* have been in no way diminished by her long sojourn in the metropolis, and with new dresses, and songs and dances, she is this week adding large numbers of the Clapham playgoers to her list of conquests. Mr. George Dance has got together a highly-talented company, and the piece goes with a swing from start to finish. Mr. John M. Hay as Geoffrey Challoner is seen to advantage, and his rendering of the song, "My little girlie girl," elicited rounds of applause. Mr. Arthur Jackson is thoroughly efficient as Sir Joseph Verity; and Mr. Charles Stafford, who is also stage-manager, does all that is possible in the rôle of Douglas Verity. Mr. Coningsby Brierley as Barry is irresistibly droll, his clever acting keeping the audience in a state of uproarious laughter throughout, and ensuring the success of the play. The part of the Rajah of Bhong is in the safe hands of Mr. F. J. Rooney, who scored a success with the topical song in the second act, the allusion to local events being received with hearty cheers. Granfer Mummery has an excellent representative in Mr. H. A. Mather, who gives an admirable study of an old countryman; and Mr. H. W. Hewlett as Lord Anchester and Mr. J. Valentine as Lord Grassmere prove highly capable exponents of their respective parts. Miss Ellaline Thorne is a sprightly Nan. Throwing herself whole-heartedly into her work, and singing several songs with considerable skill, Miss Thorne acquits herself with great success. A delightful foil is the Marjory Joy of Miss Barbara Babbington, who acts her part with quiet sincerity, and renders her songs with much expression, the "Coo" ditty being warmly applauded. Miss Ernestine Desborough makes an ideal Princess Melaneh, and her singing was greatly admired, especially in the song, "Under the Deodar," which was deservedly encored. Miss Sissie Sephton as Mme. Sophie comes out very strong indeed, her singing and dancing make a deep impression, and her "Two little chicks" duet with Barry is one of the tit-bits of the piece. Miss Muriel Johnson is well suited to the part of Mrs. St. Quinton; and Miss Leslie St. John capably sustains the rôle of Lady Anchester. The minor parts are well played, and the chorus, under the direction of Mr. Herbert Robertson, render the concerted pieces with considerable effect. The play is staged with completeness, and the costumes, &c., excite general admiration. Mr. George Blunt is business-manager for Mr. Geo. Dance.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Comedy Drama, in Three Acts,
by Herbert Keith and J. T. Tanner, entitled
"THE BROKEN MELODY."

M. Auguste van Biene, the well-known actor and musician, is this week fulfilling a return engagement in the evergreen play, with which he has been so long associated. Time apparently has had no effect on the public favour that has for so many years attached itself to the production, and as a result we see it now practically on the eve of celebrating its 5000th performance. By far the greatest reason for this is, of course, the acceptable manner in which it serves to introduce M. van Biene in the dual rôle of actor and 'cellist. And, as a consequence, good business has been the result at the Grand, M. van Biene himself winning golden opinions alike for his excellent portrayal of Paul Borinski, and his skill as a 'cello soloist. Both have given great pleasure, and his reception has been gratifying in the extreme. Mr. Henry Ludlow, as the General, gives a good performance, never overdone; Mr. Falkner Cox as Mortimer submits a humorous reading; and Mr. Lawrence Grove as Beaujoir also contributes to the amusement of the audience with success. Mr. Archie Selwyn, as the Hon. Richard Spinnacker, acts with an evident realisation of its opportunities; and Mr. W. Thomson, as the Doctor, submits a neat little study. Miss Rosemary Rees, as the Duchess, gives an excellent and clever impersonation, and contributes materially to the success of the evening. Miss May Mannering, as Mrs. Spinnaker, portrays the vulgar, but good-hearted, woman, in a natural manner; Miss Rosie Lewis as Mrs. Dickson deserves mention; and Miss Lena Burnleigh as Borinski's wife again repeats her sympathetic performance of a part she has made entirely her own. The remaining smaller parts are all in good hands. As an after piece, M. van Biene has chosen *The First Night*. His reading, which is in a purely comic vein, is very successful, and he receives excellent support from the members of his company.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Play, by Jacob Gordon, entitled
"MAN AND DEVIL."

In Jacob Gordon's *Man and Devil* the author has not struck out any new ground in his play, as it is soon apparent that the main argument has been taken bodily from Goethe's *Faust*. On Monday night the piece held the audience, and was successful in arousing their sympathy, although the redundancy of dialogue delaying the incident, kept the house thoroughly interested until a very late hour; while the suicide in the concluding scene was worked so ineffectively as to become almost bathos. The performance by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company left nothing to be desired on the score of efficiency, all being well up in their parts, while great care had been exercised in the mounting and scenery, which was in every respect admirable. Mr. S. Feinman was good, but a trifle lugubrious, as Herschele Dubrovner, and played throughout with much earnestness, feeling, and judgment. Although Mr. M. D. Waxman did his best as Uriel Mazik (Mephistopheles), the characterisation seemed to be forced, while the necessary "abandon" appeared to be singularly lacking. A remarkably fine portraiture of Freidele was given by Mme. F. Waxman, which was marked by such artistic skill as to call forth the gratifying acknowledgments from the well-filled house. Excellently made-up, Mr. S. Schilling displayed his wonted cleverness as Reb Leizer Badchen; and Mme. R. Waxman gave a finished impersonation of Sesele; while Mme. Goldstein deserves unstinted praise for her reading of Doba. Mme. J. Kayzer scored a decided success, and was bright, pleasing, and vivacious as Zipenu; and Mr. N. Hamburger made a competent Workman. A vigorous representative of Chazkel Drachma was found in Mr. J. Fineberg, who, by his intensely fine performance in the trying last scene, fairly roused the audience to enthusiasm; while that talented artist, Mr. J. Scherman, who possesses rare and versatile powers, presented a picturesque portrayal of Motele, his splendid acting in the death scene being a histrionic triumph. During the week *A Father's Sacrifice*, *The Rich Beggar*, *David's Violin*, *Schmendrick*, and *Holy Sabbath* have been played.

THE GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the D'Oyly Carte Principal Répertoire Opera Company, in Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan's Operas.

That the vogue of the Gilbert and Sullivan opera is as great as ever is amply shown by the crowded houses all this week at the Fulham Theatre. There is something in the work of Gilbert and Sullivan, when the two great collaborators were in their prime, that places their productions on a different plane to that of any other librettist and composer. Amongst other works, the eminently bright and merry *Gondoliers* is not the least attractive, and an excellent performance of it was given on Tuesday. It is claimed for this company—and probably with justice—that they are the truest inheritors of the old Savoy traditions. Mr. C. H. Workman enjoys a high reputation as an exponent of Grossmith parts, and did full justice to it in his rendering of the part of the Duke of Plaza Toro, being delightfully quaint and amusing. Mr. Fred Billington is a tower of sternth as the Grand Inquisitor, and in his inimitable manner fully brought out the dry humour and biting satire of the lines. Mr. Pacie Ripple and Mr. Albert Kavanagh made an admirable pair of gondoliers, and both were in fine voice; while Mr. Leicester Tunks did well as Luiz. Miss Mabel Graham was charming as Casilda, and sang admirably; and Miss Hope Hastings and Miss Lulu Evans gave excellent renderings of the parts of Gianetta and Tessa. Miss Theresa Rassam was a stately Duchess; and Miss Ellen Whyte was satisfactory as Inez. All the favourite songs had to be repeated, and the whole went with admirable brightness and precision, to which the skilful conducting of Mr. T. Silver contributes not a little. The other operas given were *The Mikado*, *The Yeomen of the Guard*, *Patience*, *Princess Ida*, *Pinafore*, and *Trial by Jury*.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, entitled
"THE GAY PARISIENNE."

Mr. Charles Macdona, supported by a capital company, is appearing here this week in this highly successful musical comedy. Mr. Macdona represents Major Fossdyke, of the Battersea Butterfly Shooters, and deserves warm praise for a highly finished and artistic performance. Mr. Will Harman is exceedingly good as Mr. Ebenezer Honeycombe, whose wife is capitally impersonated by Miss Holford Beringer, while the daughter, Sarah, is represented by Miss Ethel Ivimey with much success. Miss Madge Soutter is an admirable Ruth; the four daughters of the Major—Angela, Maud, Ethel, and Gladys—have charming representatives in Misses Kathleen O'Malley, E. McHardy, Gertrude Davies, and Nance O'Neill. Mr. Douglas Howard is good as Amos Dingle; Mr. Edgar Ashwin is a manly and earnest Tom Everleigh; Mr. Dutton Nicholls is excellent as the American, Algernon P. Ducie; while his friend, Percy Tooting, is well played by Mr. Harry Bedbrook. Mr. J. Fitzjames is good as Hans, and the same remark applies to Miss Loie James, who depicts Gretchen; Miss Florence Vickers is an amusing Anna. The remaining male characters are in the capable hands of Messrs. Bloomfield Jones, Richard Rose, Laurie Graham, Leslie Hetherington, Stewart Williams, and Clifford Leyler. Miss Elsie Scott is bright as Susan, and Miss Evelyn Hughes' performance of Mlle. Julie Bon-Bon is full of dainty charm and attractive vivacity. Miss Hughes is altogether delightful in the part, and was warmly welcomed by the large audience. A whistling solo is introduced by Mr. Cecil Lawrence and vocal quartettes by the Imperial Glee Singers—Messrs. Jones, Rose, Ashwin, and Fitzjames—are applauded. Mr. George Encyl Lewis is the musical conductor, and Mr. Charles Besley is the manager for Mr. Macdona.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
The Chinese Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, entitled,
"SAN TOY; or, THE EMPEROR'S OWN."

The ever-popular *San Toy* is at Poplar this week, and the members of Mr. Mouillot's clever company deserve the highest praise for the excellent manner in which they present this charming musical play. Miss Bessie Allayne as San Toy wins all hearts by her bright and joyous manner. She is possessed of a beautiful voice which is heard to great advantage, especially in her duet with Fo Hop, entitled "When you are married." Miss Irene Lavington gives a picturesque and dainty rendering of the part of Poppy, and sings with taste and feeling. As Dudley, Miss Lottie Sargent is brilliant and full of life. Her duets are particularly successful, and the solo "Rhoda and her pagoda" gained a well-deserved encore. The Yen How of Mr. William Jordan is exceedingly good, and his songs, bristling with topical allusions, are all well received. In the "Six little wives" song, which is well received, Miss Martini, Miss Dorothy Amery, Miss Kitty Maclaren, Miss Francis Lane, Miss Gladys Whate, and Miss Grace Rosaire (the principal wife) all admirably enact their parts. Mr. Arthur Cartwright as Captain Bobby Preston gives a capital performance, and his "Motherland" song is received with acclamation. Mr. Robert Rivers makes an excellent Sir Bingo Preston, and the Emperor of Mr. Ernest Gadstone could not be bettered. Mr. George Taylor looks and acts well as Lieutenant Harvey Tucker, and Mr. Charles Cobb is well placed as Sing Hi. As the mirth-provoking Li, Mr. Bert Edwards is truly whimsical and funny. His singing is equally successful, and his duets with Dudley are enthusiastically encored. In addition to being a finished comedian, Mr. Edwards is a capital dancer. Smaller parts are all well cast, and the piece is admirably staged.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Musical Play, by Gustav Kerker, entitled
"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

After an absence of nearly four years "the Belle" was as warmly welcomed back to the riverside town on Monday evening as on the occasion of its last visit. Mr. Geo. Musgrove's company is a strong combination, and amongst its members are some artists who have already won the hearts of Kingston playgoers. A particularly cordial reception was given Miss Empsie Bowman, who again appears as the belle, and plays well up to the traditions of the part. Another favourite is Mr. Frank Lawton, who is as entertaining as ever in the part of Blinky Bill, his whistling and dancing being particularly appreciated. Miss Florence Hersee makes a very acceptable appearance as the Pell-street, girl; and Miss Florence Maxwell, as Fifi, sings and acts most agreeably. Others deserving of particular mention are Mr. John Doronu as Harry Bronson, Miss Winnie Browne as Cora Angelique, Mr. Max Copeland as the polite lunatic, and Messrs. P. Dupres, Alfred Sandoe, Walter Uridge, Lionel Yeoman, and R. Ray L. Cody. The chorus and an augmented orchestra are under the direction of Mr. E. Woodville.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Howard, entitled
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."

A very favourable reception has been accorded Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in Marylebone this week, Mr. Bailey's cosy theatre being well patronised on the night of our visit. Mr. Archie Helsby gives a forcible portrayal of Capt. George Darrell, and thoroughly succeeds in bringing his villainous machinations well to the fore. Mr. Edward Bikker presents a dignified bearing as General Kingsley, V.C.; Mr. Fred Emery commands much sympathy as Capt. Frank Carsdale; Mr. Harry Lindon works with energy and will as Timothy Trimmer; whilst Mr. J. Magrath's broad and humorous delineation of Quiney O'Quirke is provocative of much genuine merriment. Miss Mildred Eversleigh sustains the rôle of Alma Kingsley in a tender and sympathetic way; Miss Kathleen Magee acts Margaret Rivers with such life-like fidelity that all hearts go out in sympathy to the sorrowing drunken wastrel she so vividly presents; Miss Edie Macklin is pert and engaging as Molly Meadows, the pet of the regiment; and the two little drummer boys, Eric Carsdale and Jack Smith, find capable exponents in Miss Lily Beverley and Miss Maggie English respectively. The play is well mounted and staged, Mr. Harry Lyndon being the acting-manager for Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

In Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's play *The Village Blacksmith*, as presented by Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company, there is quite an old favourite at the Lyric Opera House this week. The story which Mr. Wallace gives us is an admirable combination of the ingredients that go to the making of melodrama. The village blacksmith has married a woman with a past, and her evil genius soon appears on the scene in the person of Captain Leo, a professional athlete and a rogue to boot. The hero is tricked into believing that his wife is unfaithful to him, and breaks the neck of the villain in a wrestling match. This great struggle is the outstanding feature of the play, and occupies the greater part of the last act. Mr. Sam Livesey, as John Strong, the village blacksmith, acts powerfully, his "insanity" being cleverly done, and his splendid physique standing him in good stead in the wrestling match. Mr. Joseph Carter is also well fitted to play his part of Captain Leo. To see these two struggling on the mat one would think that they were wrestling for a purse of gold instead of each playing a part. The whole scene is very realistic, and is watched with keen interest by the audience. In consequence of the illness this week of Miss Maggie Edwards, her part of the heroine, Kate Strong, has been played, and played most effectively, by Miss Cassie le Grande, who has been obliged to give up her rôle of the tinker's daughter to Miss Edith Giddens, a talented daughter of George Giddens. Mr. Thomas E. Marshall as Jeremiah Parkins, a travelling tinker, submits a good character performance, and Mr. George V. Campbell, as Billy Twigg, a country lout, creates roars of laughter. The part of Captain Leo's confederate, Lucas Marlow, is most graphically delineated by Mr. Edwin Maydew. The other members of the company ably sustain their individual rôles, and the play—which, by the way, has now been running for two and a half years—is staged in an exceptionally elaborate manner.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE FOUR JUST MEN."

The air of mystery which surrounds the doings of *The Four Just Men*, a self-constituted tribunal which has for its main object the thwarting of a Parliamentary Bill for the extradition of foreign political offenders, provides a subject of absorbing interest, and those present at the Borough Theatre on Monday night followed with the closest attention this clever stage adaption of Mr. Edgar Wallace's popular book. The leader of "The Four," Geo. Manfred, is realistically portrayed by Mr. H. A. Saintsbury, whose acting is most impressive and convincing. Jules Poiccart has a manly and fluent exponent in Mr. Gordon Bailey; Mr. Hubert Willis exhibits much resource and versatility in his embodiment of Leon Gonsolez; and the fourth of the conspirators, Miguel Thery, is powerfully and graphically played by Mr. E. H. Dobell. The unbending Foreign Secretary, Sir Philip Ramon, is incisively portrayed by Mr. H. Elliott Ball; and Mr. Legai Robinson is seen to advantage in such contrasted rôles as Mr. Greenham, M.P., and the gaol-bird, Billy Marks, the latter being especially good. Mr. Lewis Scott plays Sir Charles Barrington very appropriately, and Mr. Algernon J. Hicks renders good service as General Trelovitch. Mr. Leonard Williams as Manuel Garcia plays with buoyancy and ease; the *Megaphone* editor is smartly impersonated by Mr. Edward Russell; Superintendent Falmouth is admirably depicted by Mr. Charles Terric; and Mr. Wm. Allison makes an alert Inspector Howard. As the impressionable and incautious Juanita Ramon, Miss Dorothea Desmond plays with much charm; and as Mrs. Travers, a widow "from the other side," Miss Alys Rees acts capitally. The company is under the direction of Mr. Cecil Barth, and the piece is exceedingly well staged.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Drama, by Arthur Jefferson, entitled
"THE ORPHAN HEIRESS."

The members of the able stock company at this theatre are seen to their accustomed advantage this week in the above drama. Mr. Arthur Jefferson has done his work excellently, and his production is full of incidents and hair-breadth escapes, while that very necessary item, "the comic relief," is well provided for. Mr. Astley Page has a heroic part after his own heart in Lawrence Gordon, and, needless to say, he gets every ounce out of it. Miss Marion Denvil makes an excellent representative of the sorely-tried young maiden, Mabel Ainsley; and Edith Mowbray, her faithful friend, is very well acted by Miss Ida Phillips; Miss Maggie Lindsay makes a notable success as Lady Ainsley, acting with much delicacy and pathos. Her death scene is very effectively rendered. Mr. Alfred Harding shows the villainy of Douglas Kingston in most lurid colours; and Mr. John Sargent contributes another of his clever character-sketches as the circus proprietor, Loski. Mr. Johnny Chippendale has plenty of fat as the ubiquitous Ginger, being, as usual, intensely amusing; while he is ably assisted in the fun making by Miss Mattie Everett as Betsy Baggles, and Mr. Gerald Morgan as Jenkins. Miss Georgie De Lara contributes a clear-cut sketch of depravity as Olive Kingston. Mr. Tom Taylor as the blind Lord Ainsley, and Mr. Hal Travers as Craven, are both well played. The scenery and effects are capital.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Drama, in Four Acts,
by Arthur Shirley and Wm. Muskerry, entitled
"A CITY OF SIN."

In taking the French capital as a city of sin, the authors have abundant scope for a plentiful supply of thrilling incidents, and in depicting scenes from the seamy side of the "gay city" they have provided a dramatic dish which should exactly suit the tastes of popular audiences. It is the return visit of the piece to Stratford, and on the opening night of the week it secured an enthusiastic reception. Messrs. Dottridge, Longden and Elliott's company has evidently been selected with care, and the mounting of the piece is very appropriate. Mr. Conrad Heywood, as Paul Lorraine, a hunted man, is often called upon for quick changes of personality, which are accomplished with a Fregoli-like alertness, and throughout he plays with much ability and resource. Mortain, of the police, is portrayed by Mr. J. Berresford Innes with a quiet incisiveness which is most effective; and a fine sketch of the brutish Zip Barzon comes from Mr. Wilfred Braham, who declaims his lines with much vigour and fluency. Mr. W. H. Burton fulfils all requirements as Bertrand; Mr. J. Gardner is well placed as Boulard; and Mr. W. G. Clements makes a smart Sergeant of Police. Miss Edith Wallis is a charming Alice Bertrand, and acts throughout with much expression; and Ilma, Mortain's victim, is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Jenny Weston. Comic relief is provided by the exuberances of Bibi Lebœuf and Titi Culotte, two much-married men, who are most divertingly portrayed by Mr. C. W. Spencer and Mr. Val W. Gully, though they should scarcely bewail their lot when allied to such sprightly damsels as Zazotte and Chonette, who have very prepossessing exponents in Miss Polly Denville and Miss Elvira Stuart.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN and Miss Beatrice Wilson will form one of the chief attractions of a bazaar to be opened by the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk at Hove on Thursday. The popular players will appear in a duologue.

THE Sir Michael Costa Scholarship (composition), in connection with the Royal Academy of Music, has been awarded to Oskar Hambleton Borsdorf, a native of London. The adjudicators were Messrs. F. Corder, Stewart Macpherson, and Sir Alexander Mackenzie.

"THE VICAR OF WAKEFIELD."

A light Romantic Opera, in Three Acts.
Lyrics by Laurence Housman, Music by Liza Lehmann.
Produced for the first time on any stage at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Nov. 14.

Dr. Primrose ..... MR. DAVID BISPHAM
Mrs. Primrose ..... MRS. THEODORE WRIGHT
Olivia ..... MISS VIOLETTE LONDA
Sophia ..... MISS EDITH CLEGG
Moses ..... MR. ARTHUR ELDRED
Dick ..... MASTER GORDON TRAVIS
Bill ..... MISS ELFIN ARTHUR
Mr. Burchell ..... MR. RICHARD TEMPLE
Squire Thornhill ..... MR. WALTER HYDE
Mr. Jenkinson ..... MR. C. ORAM LANDER
Farmer Williams ..... MR. POWIS PINDER
Lady Blarney ..... MME. AMY MARTIN
Carolina Wilhelmina Amelia Skeggs ..... MISS VALERIE DE LACY
A Gipsy ..... MISS BELLA WALLIS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Described as a light romantic opera, *The Vicar of Wakefield* was produced by Mr. Hugh Moss, for Mr. David Bispham, at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday last, the 14th. The texture of the adaptation (about the authorship of which the programme says only that Mr. Laurence Housman is not to be held responsible) might have suggested a better description. It is light and idyllic, presenting the sentiment of the story rather than exploiting its dramatic possibilities. The whole production, in short, is in the nature of a musical idyll, and would gain in total effect by being so described.

The action opens in the Vicar's garden, in summer, and the theme of Olivia's inclination toward the wicked young Squire Thornhill is gently played upon—to the accompaniment of her father's desire that she shall wed Farmer Williams, and the watchful, but inscrutable, presence of Mr. Burchell. Signs of the rakish propensities of the Squire are not too obtrusive. He sings a song which makes the Vicar shake his head in protest, but on the whole his function is to answer the musical requirement of a lover with a tenor voice. Unobtrusive also is Mr. Burchell, a character capable of much greater development. The love theme is amplified in the second act, which takes place in the cornfield in autumn. It is obvious that Farmer Williams has no chance of the prize, and that Olivia must bestow herself upon the Squire. But sinister suggestions are afoot. The Squire's secretary, Mr. Jenkinson, the disgraced priest, who nevertheless is still in holy orders, is evilly insistent upon inveigling Olivia into a disgraceful mesh, by which he shall gain a hold upon the Squire, while giving the latter his opportunity of betrayal. Lady Blarney and Miss Skeggs make their appearance to this end; but they are routed by Mr. Burchell, who is made to suffer the penalty of his interference. The act ends by the elopement of Olivia with the Squire and the setting forth of the Vicar in search of her. The culmination occurs in the Vicar's cottage at Christmas, where the Vicar has returned with his daughter, and the Squire turns up to claim his lawful wife. This act is rather lachrymose, and might be "cut" with advantage; but it offers Squire Thornhill an opportunity of acting heroically, which redeems him in the eyes of everybody—the audience included—and brings about a happy settlement of affairs.

This outline of the story is filled in by characteristic details, of which one is the revelation of Mr. Burchell's identity, and another may be summed up as the exposition of Mrs. Primrose. The latter is not vocal; she is a consummate piece of acting in the person of Mrs. Theodore Wright, and may be set down as one of the best—certainly the most natural—features of the play. Praise may be freely accorded also to Mr. David Bispham for his singing, which was always beautifully modulated and full of individual expression, while his embodiment of the Vicar, if somewhat overstudied in tone, was dignified and appealing. As Olivia, Miss Violette Londa showed herself even more skilled in singing than in acting; her voice is remarkably clear and sweet. Miss Edith Clegg was excellent in all respects as Sophia, here movements being always natural and lively and her voice of a rich, full tone. As Squire Thornhill Mr. Walter Hyde sang strenuously and well, deserving his share of the frequent applause that fell to all the singers, individually and collectively. In a minor way Mr. Richard Temple sang also, but his opportunities were stinted, though his impersonation of Mr. Burchell was interesting and effective. One of the treats of the evening was the singing of Master Gordon Travis as Dick. The remaining parts were rendered satisfactorily.

As for Mme. Lehmann's music, it was a considerable factor in the success which the production undoubtedly gained on Monday night, and nothing would satisfy a clamorous audience but her appearance on the stage. The orchestra (augmented) and chorus were conducted by Mr. Hamish MacCunn. For the sake of the music alone it is to be hoped that Mr. David Bispham's expressed belief in a prosperous future for the piece will be realised.

MR. BOURCHIER AS MACBETH.

We should but discount the forthcoming appearance of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier in *Macbeth* at the Garrick Theatre in December were we to devote detailed analysis to what must have been a more or less experimental performance of the play at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, on Tuesday. Mr. Bourchier, who has been appearing with his company in *The Walls of Jericho* at Birmingham, certainly gave a reading of the rôle of the murderous Thane which was thoroughly original, and quite untrammelled by musty traditions. His presentation of his conception of the character to Londoners is certain to be deeply interesting, and may be awaited with the most agreeable expectation. Miss Violet Vanbrugh's Lady Macbeth was entirely free from the stiltedness and staginess which have marred some previous presentations of the part, and was full of picturesque power and individuality. Mr. Arthur Whitley was excellent as Banquo; Mr. Leveson Lane's Duncan was a dignified and kindly conception; and Mr. Lawson Butt was energetic and earnest as Macduff. Mr. H. Nye Chart, Mr. Harrison-Carter, and Mrs. Nye Chart were grotesquely weird as the Witches; and the support in other instances was sound, careful, and satisfactory. Notwithstanding the limited size of the Memorial Theatre stage, the mounting of the play was very artistic and effective; the dresses designed by Mr. Percy Anderson were sumptuously rich and splendid; and Mr. McCleery's scenery and Mr. Rickett's music contributed greatly to the general success of the revival. Mr. Bourchier dispensed with the Hecate scene, but retained the often-omitted fourth scene in the second act; and he dealt quite reverently with the Shakespearean text. A large and enthusiastic audience, many of whom had come over from Birmingham by special train, gave the revival a highly enthusiastic reception, and at its conclusion Mr. Bourchier was obliged to make a short speech, in which he thanked the governors of the Memorial for inviting him to Stratford-on-Avon, admitted the valuable help in the production which had been given to him by Mr. Alan Mackinnon, and expressed his pleasure at having presented *Macbeth* in the town of Shakespeare's birthplace.

AMALGAMATED MUSICIANS' CLUB OPENING.

The Amalgamated Musicians' Union opened their new club premises at Trafalgar House, 9, Great Newport-street, W.C., on Sunday last. Mr. J. O'Grady, M.P., performed the opening ceremony, and amongst the guests and friends present were Mr. J. M. Glover, Mayor of Bexhill and Musical Director of Drury Lane Theatre, Mr. A. Wood, chef d'orchestrè of the Apollo Theatre, Mr. C. Bowerman, M.P., L.C.C., Mr. G. Dew, L.C.C., Mr. H. Gosling, L.C.C., Mr. J. A. Dawes, J.P., L.C.C., Councillors B. Cope and P. MacDonnell, of Southwark, Mr. Frank Gerald, of the Variety Artists Federation, Mr. J. B. Williams, general secretary of the A.M.U., and Mr. F. Young (Glasgow), Mr. E. S. Teale (Manchester), and Mr. R. Chamberlain (Nottingham), of the General Council of the A.M.U.

The Chairman, in declaring the club open, mentioned that one of the objects of the institutions was to provide a central meeting place for all branches of the entertainment profession in London. Hitherto there had been a great need for such a club, but no one had taken the trouble to work the matter out. The London branch of the A.M.U., having to obtain new premises for their own use, had decided to take the initiative. The result was, as they saw, a magnificent new club, with a billiard room, which had two up-to-date billiard tables, lavatory accommodation, with hot and cold water, a reading and writing room, where the members could rest themselves in luxurious arm-chairs, and a bar, where refreshments could be obtained at most reasonable charges. No one could gainsay the fact that the Musicians' Union had done their work well in providing this club, and he felt sure that the musicians, artists, choristers, and heads of stage departments, for whose benefit it was provided, would soon appreciate its advantages. He understood that the use of the club would be free to the members of the A.M.U., because it was they who had provided it, but it was open to any member of the profession to join the club for a nominal subscription of 10s. per annum. That, he considered, was a great inducement to all those engaged in the West End houses, particularly those who could not get home between the matinée and evening performances. It would also be a great advantage to those who were out of employment, as well as those who were in employment, as a place of meeting. He hoped, however, that the musicians using this club would not look upon it as the only object the Musicians' Union had in view. He understood that the principles of the A.M.U. were to raise the position and status of those following the profession of music as a means of livelihood. That was a noble object, and he trusted that all present would remember that without organisation they would never achieve their objects, and in these days of keen competition and syndicates and trusts the man who was not organised went to the wall sooner than the man who was. He concluded by asking all present to drink "prosperity to the A.M.U. Club and Institute."

Councillor J. A. Dawes, J.P., L.C.C., followed with a few brief remarks in support of the toast.

Councillor J. M. Glover, on rising to support the toast, was received with loud cheers. He said he believed in the principles of unionism, and he generally found that the man who did not join a union of some sort generally ended his days in one. Mr. Glover described how musicians, by not standing together, and having a recognised scale of prices, cut the ground from under the feet of those who tried to help them. He pointed out that men who were receiving certain fees from some conductors would, without any hesitation, accept lower terms offered by other conductors when they had nothing else to do. He contended that they should have prices for all engagements, and stick to them. In a racy, humorous way, Mr. Glover went on, combining sound advice with side-splitting Irish jokes, told chiefly against himself. He said he had been conductor of Drury Lane Theatre for the past fourteen years, and that no one else had been there longer than three years. The reason for this was, he considered, that he seldom turned up to conduct. Whenever he was away from Bexhill for awhile something always happened. He happened to be away for a few days recently, and during his absence someone went and made him the Mayor. He could not understand why people did these things. Mr. Glover concluded by telling the following amusing story concerning his own electioneering experiences. It appears that Mr. Glover had an Irish servant girl. When he removed to Bexhill he sent for Bridget, and explained to her all about election matters, and told her that he was going to stand for the Council. Just before the election, for which Mr. Glover was one of the candidates, he arrived at Bexhill one day, and outside the station he met an old fisherman who was well known in the town. He approached Mr. Glover, and explained that times were very hard. He was hard up, but he hoped Mr. Glover would win his election. He then offered to sell him two large fish which he had with him. Mr. Glover told him to take them to his house, and he would buy them. Soon after Mr. Glover's arrival home Bridget came up to inform him that a man had come with some fish. She said, "We don't want any fish; they are too big for the cat, and you have had fish all the week." Mr. Glover explained that it was all right, and told her to go down to the door and take the fish in and ask how much they were, and then to come up again to him and he would pay her the money. Mr. Glover heard a dialogue going on at the front door and shut himself in his room, as he did not want to be bothered with it, and sat himself down to his table, which was covered with a plush cloth. Presently Bridget came bouncing into the room and slapped the two big fish on the table, saying, "There you are, it's 2s. 2d., and the man doesn't live in our ward."

Mr. Frank Gerald followed, and sketched out the scheme the artists had in view for their "Federation Day," which was to be celebrated by performances in all parts of the world on June 22 next by the International Artists' and Musicians' Unions in the various towns and cities where they happened to be engaged. Mr. Gerald hoped the Musicians' Unions of the world would co-operate with them in carrying out this gigantic programme, and share with them the proceeds for benevolent purposes amongst artists and musicians. He trusted the Musicians' Club would be a great success, and he was proud he was a member of it, and hoped that it would lead to a closer alliance between all branches of the profession.

Mr. A. Wood, the conductor of the Apollo Theatre, then gave a brief outline of his experiences while in America with an English company. He explained that he was not allowed to appear at any theatre in America until he had become a member of the Musicians' Union there, and that it cost him £20 to join it. He had the highest admiration for the way they conducted their business there, because it resulted in the musicians getting about £5 per week and the managers seeing that they obtained the very best value for their money. He wished the musicians of this country could only understand what the musicians of America had done by combination on the lines suggested by the Amalgamated Musicians' Union here. He believed it would be a grand day for all connected with the profession when all worked together for the best interests of the profession. He concluded by wishing the club success in a Yorkshire toast.

Several other toasts followed, and a very pleasant function was brought to a close early on Monday morning.

THE MOODY-MANNERS COMPANY AT BIRMINGHAM.

Birmingham has shown splendid appreciation this week of Mr. Charles Manners and his works and ideals, and has witnessed with considerable enthusiasm the novelties presented at the Theatre Royal. The first of these, *Romeo and Juliet*, was done on Tuesday, when Gounod's exquisite music was rendered absolutely without a blemish. Mme. De Vere as Juliet looked a vision of purity and loveliness, and sang with a delicacy and fervour that sent the audience into continual raptures. The famous valse song was the forerunner of many artistic triumphs of the night for this accomplished singer, who throughout acted with charming tenderness and sweetness. Mr. Joseph O'Mara acted the part of Romeo and sang the music apportioned thereto with romantic fire and feeling, soaring at times to great altitudes of art, vocally and histrionically. The merry, mocking Mercutio was played and sang in appropriate style by Mr. William Dever; Mr. Brode made an impetuous Tybalt; Mr. Charles Magrath proved a fine Capulet; Mr. Charles Manners, whose voice is a pleasure to listen to, was impressive in the rôle of Friar Laurence; and Miss Baker as the Nurse, Miss Garland as Stephano, Mr. Carter as the Duke, Mr. Rowe as Paris, Mr. Halpin as Gregory, and Mr. Davies as Benvolio completed the excellent cast. Signor Romualdo Sapio conducted the opera to its utmost advantage. The stage-crowds were cleverly managed, the scenery was effective, while chorus and orchestra were, as usual, admirable.

On Wednesday *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was given, with Percy Pinkerton's version of the libretto, introducing the Falstaffian episodes of the clothes-basket scene, the escape as "the fat woman" from Brentford, and the fairy scene in Windsor Forest. The opera, which was done originally at Her Majesty's Theatre, London, in 1864, with Titiens as Mistress Ford, Santley as the jealous spouse, and Guiglini as Fenton, is in three acts. The overture, with its familiar strains, was conducted with admirable spirit by Herr Richard Eckhold, who from beginning to end gave fine expression to Nicolai's music. Act I. shows Mistress Ford and Mistress Page in receipt of Falstaff's amatory effusions leading up to the duet "Dotard, now in cunning fashion." This was received with the most thorough satisfaction, the ladies, Miss Kate Anderson and Mlle. Zelie de Lussan, playing their respective rôles with obvious relish and freedom. Indeed, Miss Anderson, who has always been appreciated here as a sweet and sympathetic singer, proved herself a most accomplished actress, her transitions from anger with her husband, Ford, to her roguish glances with Mistress Page being admirably done, and altogether Miss Anderson was a success of the first order. Mlle. de Lussan threw all her zeal and ability into the part of Mistress Page. Her song, "Of Herne, the hunter," was a treat richly enjoyed. Mr. Charles Manners as Falstaff pleased the house immensely. Of tremendous girth and rubicund of countenance, he surprised even those who expected much of him, while his rich, resonant voice was in accordance withal and made the character complete. His amorous advances with their subsequent interruptions, his frights and discomfitures, and final undoing and condign punishment in Windsor Forest, caused unlimited mirth, so comically did Mr. Manners portray the abject condition of the sly, fat knight. In a vocal sense, of course, Mr. Manners was again perfection, his "Drinking song" showing off his magnificent singing voice to the uttermost. Mr. Lewys James gave distinction to the part of Ford, his enactment of the excitable and jealous spouse being quite one of the good things of the performance. Mr. Charles Magrath lent much weight to the rôle of Page; Mr. Wilson Pembroke, with his fine voice, made the part of Fenton interesting; Miss Garland was quite adequate and sang finely as Anne Page; and Messrs. C. Moppett and Bailey were satisfactory in the humorous rôles of Dr. Caius and Master Slender respectively. The midnight revels in Windsor Forest were done in a thorough and enjoyable style, and the entire opera was most exhilarating, and should become a fixture in the Moody-Manners répertoire. The chorus and orchestra again did splendidly, while the ballet work was also very meritorious.

A NEW PLAY AT THE SARAH BERNHARDT THEATRE.

"LA VIERGE D'AVILA (SAINTE THÉRESE)."

Play in five acts and nine tableaux, by M. Catulle Mendès.
Produced at the Théâtre Sarah-Bernhardt, on Nov. 10.

Sœur Thérèse ..... MME. SARAH BERNHARDT
Ximeira ..... MLLE. BLANCHE DUFRENE
Anne de Saint-Barthélémy .... MLLE. JANE MEA
Sœur Juana ..... MLLE. VENTURA
La Novice ..... MLLE. SEYLOR
Philippe, roi d'Espagne .... M. HENRY KRAUSS
Don Luis de Cyntho ..... M. CHAMEROY
Fra Quiroga ..... M. DENEUBOURG
Don Alphonso Sanchez ..... M. REBEL
Don Thomasso Fargès ..... M. MAXUDIAN
Ervann ..... M. GAVARRY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The story of M. Catulle Mendès' new piece is a highly dramatised version of the life of the great Spanish saint, St. Theresa. Mme. Sarah Bernhardt took endless trouble with the work, and the talented artist may be congratulated upon the triumph she achieved. Written in beautiful flowing verse, it will rank among M. Catulle Mendès' best productions.

In the opening scene we are in the house of Ervann, a priest, the lover of Ximeira, a gipsy sorceress, with whom he lives. Owing to his liaison with that women he feels himself utterly unsuited for his holy office. Thérèse, the nun, then enters his house to ask him for communion, whereupon the inflammable priest at once falls in love with her. Her beauty and her purity, however, have such a potent effect on him that he repents and resolves to throw himself at the Pope's feet to implore his forgiveness. Ximeira not only tries to prevent him from leaving, but she stabs him with a stiletto, wounding him slightly. When we meet Ervann again he has been to Rome and has joined the Reformed religion, for he has discovered that his repentance is not real, and only the upshot of an unholy love for Thérèse. Nor have his passionate declarations any effect on the virtuous woman. Thérèse, in her religious ecstasy, is craving for martyrdom; and she takes the place of a woman sentenced by the Holy Inquisition to be tortured and executed. The woman escapes, and it is Thérèse who is tortured in her stead until the truth suddenly leaks out. Thérèse then leaves for Madrid on foot, refusing all offers of a conveyance; and on the way discovers that several wayside crosses have been knocked down. The people in the country believe this to be the work of the Anti-Christ. In truth, it is no other than Ervann, who then is arrested and condemned to death. Luckily for him, Thérèse and her nuns are admitted into the presence of King Philip, and she touches the King's heart by her appeal to his mercy and forgiveness. In the final tableau we see the saint on her death-bed. She lies in the church on a magnificent bier among a mass of white flowers; and to her come the King of Spain and the principal characters in the play.

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt was superb in the part of Thérèse, and the other parts were also well sustained. The scenery and dresses are worthy of the traditions of the Sarah Bernhardt Theatre.

"CÆSAR AND CLEOPATRA."

A "History," in Four Acts, by G. Bernard Shaw, produced at the New Amsterdam Theatre, New York, on Oct. 30.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The success of Mr. Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott in this clever compound of truth, travesty, and satire, was most emphatic. Rarely has an audience shown such enthusiastic approval so early in the evening as was exhibited at the opening performance of this play when the curtain fell at the close of the first act. One was prepared for this genuine outburst of delight, however, by the signs and manifestations which preceded it. Mr. Shaw's paradoxical wit, particularly when it is employed in "guying" historical personages, is quite *en rapport* with the American sense of humour, and the author was fortunate in his choice of interpreters, for Mr. Robertson and Miss Elliott, as Cæsar and Cleopatra, were thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the play, and each scored a personal success of the first magnitude.

The story treats of the visit of Julius Cæsar to Egypt at the end of the thirty-third dynasty, the winter of 706-7 in Rome; Christian computation, Oct. 48, B.C. to March 47, B.C. Two factions are contending for the throne at the time of Cæsar's arrival. Ptolemy Dionysius, aged 10, reigns in the palace at Alexandria, supported by Achillas, the General of the Roman army of occupation left by Aulus Gabinius. The supporters of Cleopatra have fled with her to a palace on the borders of Syria. The opening scene is laid within the walls of this palace, a low building of whitened mud, which, according to Mr. Shaw, was not so ugly as Buckingham Palace. The courtyard is filled with officers and soldiers of the Egyptian army, and the action begins with the arrival of Bel Affris, a military novice from the temple of Ra, in Memphis. He brings to Cleopatra information of the approach of the Roman army, under Julius Cæsar, who, it is announced, has landed on the shores of Egypt, and will make himself master of the country. Great excitement follows this announcement, and Ftatateeta, the nurse and guardian of Cleopatra, finds that in the confusion the young Princess has disappeared.

The scene changes, and a striking picture of the Sphinx in the desert is disclosed. To call it a picture, though, is to do the creator of this most effective scene an injustice, as a life-sized reproduction of the Sphinx stands out in bold relief in the moonlight against an admirably-painted background, while between the paws of the fabulous monster lies Cleopatra asleep on a head of red poppies. Then, out of the darkness of the night there emerges a manly figure in Roman armour lost in contemplation. It is Julius Cæsar. According to Shaw, he was fifty-four years old at this period, and growing bald, while Cleopatra was sixteen, gloriously ingenuous, but with a fast-developing eye to the main chance. She had intended offering the sacred white cat as a sacrifice to the Sphinx, but the sacred white cat had gone in pursuit of a black cat, and Cleopatra had laid herself down to rest where Cæsar found her. She reveals her identity, but does not recognise Cæsar as the Roman conqueror. The scene changes to the throne-room of the palace, where Cleopatra, still ignorant of Cæsar's identity, is crowned by him Queen of Egypt. As the Roman soldiers troop in tumultuously they raise their swords in salutation, and cry "Hail, Cæsar!" to Cleopatra's astonishment.

The scene of the second act is the council chamber of the chancellors of the King's treasury in Alexandria, some days later. King Ptolemy, in character a mixture of boyish impotence and petulance, is on the throne. Prompted by his guardian, Pothinus, he recites the history of his house and the restoration of his father to the throne by Mark Antony. Now his sister Cleopatra has cast a spell over Julius Cæsar to lead him to uphold her false claim to the rulership of Egypt. Cæsar comes and demands payment of the debt contracted by Ptolemy's father with the Roman Triumvirate. This being refused, he desires to settle the matter in dispute between Ptolemy and Cleopatra, and to the surprise of all produces the young Queen. His proposal that Ptolemy and Cleopatra shall reign jointly is rejected by Achillas and Lucius Septimius, who command greater Roman and Egyptian military forces than Cæsar, and the act ends in a battle and the great fire in which the library is destroyed. In this act Cleopatra mentions to Cæsar the beautiful young man with strong, round arms, who came over the desert with many horsemen and slew her sister's husband, and restored her father to his throne. "I was only twelve then," she says, wistfully; "I wish he would come again now that I am Queen. I would make him my husband." And Cæsar responds: "It might be managed, perhaps, for it was I who sent the beautiful young man to help your father."

The third act has two scenes, the first representing Cleopatra's room in the palace, and the second the roof gorgeously decorated. Pothinus, Ptolemy's guardian, proposes to Cleopatra that she betray Cæsar. When she refuses, he denounces her to Cæsar as a traitor. She revengefully orders Ftatateeta, her nurse, to kill Pothinus, and this tragedy brings about an attack on the palace by his followers. The act ends with the killing of the nurse by Rufio, Cæsar's lieutenant. The final scene shows the East Harbour, with Cæsar's galley ready to sail for Rome. The campaign is over. Ptolemy has been drowned in a battle with the legions of Cæsar, and Cleopatra is now really Queen. Cæsar appoints Rufio Roman Governor, and is about to board his galley to depart, when Cleopatra appears, dressed in black, being in mourning for her nurse. Their parting is brief, and as he sails he tells her he will send Mark Antony, "a Roman from head to heel," for whom she has shown a decided preference.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The concert of Wednesday evening commenced with Benedict's melodious duet, "The moon hath raised," from the *Lily of Killarney*, cleverly sung by Mr. Harold Watts and Mr. J. H. Anderson. In the more ambitious scena from *Romeo and Juliet*, "Since yesterday in vain I've sought my master," Miss Ethel Elmes sang with good taste and expression, and Miss Muriel Clark displayed a fine-quality contralto voice in Gluck's "Che faró," always a popular aria with students. Mr. Leonard Wright, who has a very pleasing tenor voice, sang "Angels, guard thee," in an expressive style; there was, however, no need for Mr. Wright to force his voice, as he has ample power. Mr. Harold Watts, who sang admirably in Benedict's duet, the first item in the concert, was somewhat overtaxed by the difficulties of Meyerbeer's aria, "Sei vendicata assai," from *Dinorah*. The instrumental solos given were only a pianoforte solo, "In der nacht," played by Miss Daisy Cadney, with evident appreciation of Schumann's beautiful music, and a violin solo "Romance (Max Bruch) given with capital intonation by Miss Yathe Mandelbom, who must try and guard against a tendency to drag the time. The concert concluded with lively duologue, "Joint Household," in which the characters of Mrs. Smithers and Mrs. Tallett were cleverly impersonated by Miss Julie C. Huntsman and Miss Nellie Lake, pupils of Miss Kate Rorke. Miss Jenny Hyman accompanied.

THE ALDWYCH.

The comeliness of *The Beauty of Bath* has been materially enhanced since the production last March by the infusion into the dainty play of many fresh numbers, so that the 240th night, which was reached on Tuesday, witnessed a piece that was, in many respects, new. Among the latest introductions is the song, "My little hyacinth," a tender little ballad, which Miss Ellaline Terriss, radiant in silken robes, sings to an accompaniment of the chorus, who gently wave garlands of the pretty bloom. Miss Terriss, whose first entry is heartily welcomed, has also an original song in "Geography," which contains a series of cleverly-turned verses, dealing with the most up-to-date topics of political and social interest. The success of the dainty number, "Bridge," is shared by Miss Terriss and Mr. Seymour Hicks, whose ebullient wit keeps the audience continuously on the alert for fresh freaks of fancy. The meeting between the affectionate Dick Allington and his devoted mother still throbs with a few seconds of sentiment, which go straight to the heart.

A new interpolation is that of a scena in which popular favourites, in various characters, are travestied. In this way, Mr. Laurence Caird becomes Nero, Mr. Stanley Brett and Mr. Murray King share the responsibilities of appearing as Sandow girls, Master Valchera is transformed into a miniature Hall Caine, and Miss Maudi Darrell, as the Belle of New York, impresses a felicitous kiss upon the lips of Miss Sydney Fairbrother, garbed as a Gibson girl. All the characters, including Miss Terriss, who retains her own charming personality, join in comic revels, which prove very diverting. Miss Barbara Deane as the Hon. Dorothy Quorn finds an agreeable means of exercising a strong and mellifluous voice in the singing of a number of popular choruses in the time of a sentimental ballad. The expression that can be put into the rendering of "The Old Bush and Bush" and "Stop yer tickling, Jock," is thus demonstrated, and Miss Deane, who acts throughout in an engaging manner, the delivery of her lines being as admirable as her singing, was heartily recalled on Tuesday, giving in response an equally interesting rendering of "It's all right in the summer time."

Mr. Murray King, the droll exponent of Sir Timothy Bun, has also been invested with a new song about "London," in which a quartet of chic Parisiennes, clad in a costume made up of the Tricolour, assists vivaciously, and serve to furnish a most acceptable morceau. Mr. Will Bishop now fills the rôle of Tattersal Spink, formerly occupied by Mr. Bert Sinden, who was obliged, unhappily, to relinquish the part on account of illness. Mr. Bishop dances with his accustomed nimbleness with Miss Topsy Sinden, who acts bewitchingly as Jane Topit, and the *pas de deux* is loudly encored.

The best of the entertainment, despite the alterations, is still retained, and Mr. Hicks's "Joey Chamberlain," brightened by new verses, raises many a laugh. Nor could the "Hearts of Bloomsbury" duet, sung by Miss Fairbrother and Master Valchera, whose appearance is always cordially received, be spared from the programme. Miss Maudi Darrell gives her fascinating performance of Miss Truly St. Cyr, and sings her song, "By the Zuyder Zee," with the most artless expression. Miss Rosini Filippi, maternal, lovable, and cheery as Mrs. Allington, exacts well-merited tributes of praise; Mr. William Lugg makes the most dignified and most estimable of "stern parents" as Viscount Bellingham; Mr. E. W. Royce, who plays the Earl of Orpington characteristically, is responsible also for the arrangement of the dances and choral effects; and good work is also done by Mr. Reginald Kenneth, Mr. Cecil Kinnaird, Miss Marguerite Leslie, Miss Hilda Antony, and Miss Marion Lindsay in their respective parts. The Bath Buns have retained their delicious flavouring of grace and daintiness, and *The Beauty of Bath* remains, of Mr. Charles Frohman's enterprises, one of the most meritorious.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 12,
the Farce, in Three Acts, entitled
"MR. HOPKINSON."

Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here for the first time with the above well-known piece, and it has produced a most favourable impression. As long as Mr. Frank Stanmore was on the stage as Samuel Hopkinson laughter was the rule, for his study of the "mean little bounder" was very complete, even to details, showing the gradual advance from real uneasiness in the presence of the "upper ten" to cheeky confidence in himself and his bearing. The Duke of Braceborough was a clever sketch, delicately limned by Mr. Arnold Lucy, and forming a striking contrast to the peppery humour of Mr. Shirley Lea as the valetudinarian Earl of Addleton. The dudish Lord Cawthorne was appropriately acted by Mr. Reginald Dane, who gave an underlying impression of the really good spirit which actuated his lordship in spite of his amusing affectations. Mr. Charles M. Heslop as the Hon. Otho Dursingham, the *cher ami* of the Duchess of Braceborough, was a smart and easy-mannered member of the aristocracy to the life. Miss Marie Hassell was a typical *grande dame* as the Duchess of Braceborough, her fine figure, good diction, and society air being most helpful to the piece. The somewhat thankless part of Lady Tyra Egglesby was tactfully rendered by Miss Gladys Jesson, who wore some charming costumes; and Miss Katherine M. Romsey gave much point to the part of Eliza Dibbs, the whilom fiancée of Hopkinson. Mr. J. G. Lowther submitted a subdued rendering to the small part of Blisset, the Earl of Addleton's man; and the scenery, by Mr. Julian Hicks, was appropriate.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

On Friday, Nov. 9, the students' concert begun with Mozart's "Quartet for Strings, in E Flat." Mr. Thomas Peatfield, Mr. Arthur Beckwith, Mr. Frank Bridge, and Mr. Charles Warwick-Evans were the executants, and secured a very creditable performance, the third movement being particularly well played. In Mr. W. Hurlstone's song, "Litany," Miss Dorothea Kershaw was much applauded; and Miss Sylvia Capel-Cure gave the requisite delicacy of touch in her piano solo, "Suite Bergamasque," by Debussy. Perhaps the most effective number in the programme was Brahms' "Sonata for Violoncello and Piano in E Minor," capitally performed by the talented sisters, the Misses Marion and May Harrison, the violoncellist producing a full rich tone. Mr. Percy Pitt's three not very interesting French songs, entitled "Trois Poésies," were cleverly sung by Miss Ethel Duthoit; and Miss Doris Simpson was equally successful in Hasse's "Ritornerai fra poco" and Wagner's "Dors, mon enfant." Mr. Harold Rhodes's organ solo of Buxtehude's "Præludium et Fuga, in F sharp minor," concluded the concert. The accompanist was Miss Alice Cotton.

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THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Charles Wyndham, who gives a special matinée of *David Garrick* at the New Theatre on Thursday, with himself as Garrick and Miss Mary Moore as Ada Ingot, will be supported by Messrs. C. W. Somerset, Sydney Brough, Harry Paulton, Reginald Walter, and Bertram Steer, and Misses Emily Vining and Caroline Ewell. Hopes of Sir Charles's more enduring return to the London stage are encouraged by the news that he has acquired the rights of *Les Passagères*, a comedy by Alfred Capus, which has won great success in Paris.

Mr. Cyril Maude will open the Playhouse, now rapidly nearing completion, on Jan. 26. The seating capacity of the theatre is 1000, and is so arranged that a view of the stage will be obtainable from every part of the building. There will be no pit, the floor of the house being given over to stalls, while former "pitites" will find a haven at the front of the second balcony.

Mr. Arthur Collins now has his hands full in arranging the scenes in the second part of the forthcoming pantomime. With one heavy set following another, it requires a nice knowledge of stage working to so arrange them that there shall be no hitch at Drury Lane on Boxing night. The incident of the monkeys and the cocoanuts, inseparable from a pantomime of *Sinbad*, will receive specially comical treatment at the hands of Mr. Walter Passmore and Mr. Harry Randall. The antics of the grateful elephant who leads Sinbad to the stores of ivory will also be to the taste of the youngsters. In Mr. Arthur Collins' Christmas annual there are two "big" scenes each ending a part; but judging by the beautiful designs for the costumes by Comelli and the work of the scenic artists, it will be difficult to determine to which to give the palm for splendour.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier, with his customary good nature, has lent the Garrick Theatre to the committee of the Irving Memorial Fund for the purpose of holding a conference on Friday, Dec. 14. Mr. Cecil Raleigh will be the chairman, and Mr. John Hare will be among those supporting the movement. Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks is the secretary.

Encouraging reports of the new Managers' Club, formed out of the members of the Touring Managers' Association, are to hand. During the last month over fifty new names have been added to the roll, and the total membership now numbers 175. Touring managers without exception would be well advised to join the Association, and everyone interested in theatrical management should become a member of the club. A musical evening has been arranged for Sunday, Dec. 9, when Mr. J. Bannister Howard has kindly consented to organise the programme. During the winter it is contemplated that these concerts should take place about once a month. An excellent opportunity will be thus afforded for ladies and gentlemen to display their talent before the various touring managers who will attend. A billiard handicap is also in process of arrangement, and those who wish to enter should at once notify the secretary, Mr. G. B. Lambert.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree will, on Monday, begin his three weeks' season of *King Richard II.* at His Majesty's. Mr. Tree will repeat his masterly performance in the title-rôle, and the Queen will be played by Miss Viola Tree. The long cast will also comprise Messrs. J. Fisher White, Chas. Quartermaine, Lyn Harding, Julian L'Estrange, Basil Gill, Clive Currie, Reginald Owen, Robert Atkins, Sworder, David Powell, E. Egerton Hine, Elvey, Hewett, Edward Ouston, Palmer, A. C. Grain, Stuart Grahame, Reginald Craven, S. Yates Southgate, P. Forbes, James Smythe, G. W. Anson, and Warmington, and Misses Hilda Moore, Florence Wells, Evelyn Beaumont, and Elizabeth Gilson.

The foyer of Covent Garden Theatre presented a festive appearance on the night of the 9th inst., when Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rendle and Mr. Neil Forsyth entertained the members of the San Carlo Opera Company, now visiting London, at a banquet. Among the guests, who numbered 120, were Mme. Melba, Signora Giachetti, Signor Giovanni Zenatello, Cav. Mario Sammarco, Signor and Signora Tosti, Sir William Bell, Mr. Percy Eales, Mr. W. K. Pearson, Signor Scandiani, Signor Fernando Carpi, and Signor Mugnone. The toast of "The King" was proposed by Mr. Rendle, and that of "Mrs. Rendle," was given by Mr. Richard Northcott. The visitors remained for the fancy dress ball, and during the interval Mr. Max Malini did some card tricks and Mme. Helen Mar told quaint American yarns.

Mrs. Kendal recalled a fateful incident of her earlier life in presenting the prizes at the chrysanthemum show of the Scottish Horticultural Association in Edinburgh on Thursday. When the Haymarket company went to Edinburgh some years ago, she said, its members were entertained to a picnic, and one year it was held just below Arthur's Seat. While the preparations were in progress the younger members of the company strolled away, and on the very top of Arthur's Seat a young man proposed to a young woman and was accepted. She would not tell who the young man was, because he ought to have been there beside her on the platform. She had been looking for him everywhere. "He was far more attentive on the day of the picnic," added the popular actress, smilingly.

The King and Queen, T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, and many other distinguished personages were present at the performance of *The Man from Blankley's*, given by Mr. Frederick Harrison's company at Sandringham on the 9th inst. Mr. Charles Hawtrey headed the cast, which also included Messrs. Weedon Grossmith, Henry Kemble, Welton Dale, E. Holman Clark, H. Laurent, Charles Crawford, and Arthur Playfair, and Misses Fanny Brough, Alice Mansfield, Gwynne Herbert, Lydia Rachel, C. Ewell, Maud Wynter, Winifred Winter, Dagmar Wiehe, Muriel Alston, and Mary Leslie. The arrangements were superintended on behalf of His Majesty by Mr. George Ashton.

America continues to give a warm-hearted welcome to English artists. Miss Olga Nethersole sailed for New York with her company last week; Mr. Forbes Robertson is touring in America with Miss Gertrude Elliott; Mr. H. B. Irving and Miss Dorothea Baird are also in the States, as are Mr. E. S. Willard, Miss Lena Ashwell, Mr. Kyrle Bellew, and Mr. Ben Greet.

The Irving Memorial Committee held a meeting on the 8th inst. under the chairmanship of Mr. Cecil Raleigh, who was supported by Messrs. Cyril Maude, Lawrence Grant, Lewis Casson, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). Several important matters were discussed at considerable length, and the secretary received various instructions, while the chairman promised to give effect to a number of suggestions. The Committee held a further meeting on Tuesday last, when Mr. Cecil Raleigh (the chairman) reported progress, and a date was arranged for holding a meeting of the profession, such date depending upon certain details being carried out in the immediate future. There were present Messrs. Cyril Maude, Lawrence Grant, Lewis Casson, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary).

Mr. George Edwardes will present the revised version of *The New Aladdin* at the Gaiety on Saturday next. The occasion will be further notable by the return to the theatre of Miss Gertie Millar, who will then take up the rôle originally intended for her, but which she was obliged to relinquish owing to the illness of her husband.

Lord Kilmorey is organising a Jubilee Concert for the great baritone, Charles Santley, who made his first public appearance forty-nine years ago last Monday. "Of Charles Santley, during half a century of famous engagements, it may be safely said he never disappointed the public, and now, in his old age," says his lordship, "I venture, as one of his innumerable friends and admirers, to call attention to the undeniable propriety of paying a public tribute to his talent and services by organising a Jubilee Concert at the Albert Hall in his honour at some convenient day next May."

Lord Kilmorey has already secured the patronage of many members of the Royal Family, while a large and increasing number of ladies and gentlemen have consented to allow their names to appear on a general committee, to which his lordship has offered his services as hon. secretary and treasurer, and anyone desirous of joining the movement may communicate with him at the Albert Hall.

Mr. Luscombe Searelle, the co-author with Mrs. Ella Wheeler Wilcox, and sole composer of the poetical and musical drama of *Mizpah*, which is now in its third season in America, arrived from New York on Wednesday. His four years' absence seems to have made him look younger and more energetic, if that were possible, than ever. It is probable that *Mizpah* will be produced at a West End theatre on Boxing Night. The scenery will be an exact replica of that used in the New York production, and is now on its way to England. It weighs about two hundred and sixty tons.

While sojourning in the interior of Mexico, Mr. Searelle played the organ at a Catholic cathedral. Just previously a Mexican mummy, probably over 2,000 years' old, had been unearthed, and in the wrappings were found sixteen large cut turquoises, beautifully cut and curiously engraved. One of these the priest of the cathedral presented to Mr. Searelle, who wears it as a signet ring. Mr. Searelle has to be back in America, under a heavy forfeit, by Jan. 27 next to produce his new opera at the New Berkeley Theatre, New York, on Feb. 24. The full score of *Mizpah* is published by Witmark and Sons, and the play is issued in New York in two editions—an edition de luxe with illustrations and a popular edition.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier, just as he had finished dressing and making-up as *Macbeth* at Stratford-on-Avon on Tuesday last, was presented with a touching memento of the late Sir Henry Irving by Mr. George Fox. It was a lock of Sir Henry Irving's hair.

Stockton-on-Tees, which has been without a theatre since the Royal was burnt down a few weeks ago, is to be furnished with a new home of the drama by a well-known syndicate. The site which has been procured is centrally situated at the junction of High-street, Bridge-road, and Castlegate, and has an area of 1350 superficial yards. The auditorium, which will accommodate 2500, will be arranged on the two-tier-principle, and will comprise orchestra stalls, stalls, circle, and upper circle, pit, and gallery. The stage is to be 44ft. deep from the entrance to the back wall, and 66ft. wide, while the auditorium will be 66ft. wide and 84ft. deep. A spacious covered arcade will be placed at the grand entrance, and shops will occupy the front of the site. The architectural work has been placed in the hands of Mr. Wm. Hope, of Newcastle-on-Tyne. Mr. J. C. Imeson, the well-known proprietor of the Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough, will be the lessee.

The Theatre Royal, Belfast, will on Monday begin a three weeks' season of variety. On the other hand the Palace, at which music-hall programmes have been presented, will be devoted to grand opera, furnished by the famous Carl Rosa company.

A grand Scotch night will be celebrated at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, Dec. 1, when a concert will be given by artists including Miss Lenora Sparkes, Mr. William Maxwell, and Mr. Charles Bennett. The violin soloist will be Miss Jessie Bowater. The Crystal Palace choir will be conducted by Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock, the musical director of the Palace, and Mr. Herbert Godfrey will conduct the Crystal Palace Military Band. The programme will include Scotch songs, old and new, part-songs from over the Border, and settings of the poems of Robert Burns, Sir Walter Scott, &c. A violoncello and pianoforte recital will be given this afternoon at the Crystal Palace, the executants being Jean Gerardy and Harold Bauer. The programme includes selections from Rubenstein, Schumann, Chopin, Weber, Bach, Schubert, and other classical composers.

The Crystal Palace Theatre, which is quite realising Mr. Bannister Howard's highest expectations is sure to be crowded throughout next week when *The Earl and the Girl*, the successful musical comedy, which has delighted all London, will be the attraction. The cast is an excellent one, and the piece will be mounted with exceptional care and elaboration.

Mr. Reg. H. Hamber, who during the past year has been meeting with great commendation as Old Joe in Mr. Edward Marris's company, being specially retained by that gentleman for pantomime, scored another success at Kilmarnock on Monday evening as Rudolph in Mr. W. H. Kisby's *Beauty Shop*. He was particularly effective in the song and Devil dance, "Tameroo," which is the work of Messrs. Douglas B. Watson and Geo. Ess, and was repeatedly encored. The authors personally complimented Mr. Hamber on the artistic way in which he had rendered the number.

Her Highness Princess Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein will distribute prizes at the special meeting of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, to be held at the St. James's Theatre (kindly lent by Mr. George Alexander) in the afternoon of the 29th inst. Mr. Sidney Lee will preside.

Mr. Richard Vane has just concluded a most successful tour as Prince Mazaroff in *Held in Bondage* with Mr. Vivian Grantham.—Mr. Cecil Kingsley has been engaged by Mrs. Michael Gunn for her forthcoming pantomime at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

Miss Marion Lind, we regret to hear, is suffering from a severe attack of influenza. The popular heroine of *Rob Roy* will have the consolation of knowing that she is not the only victim of our changeable climate, but we wish her nevertheless a speedy recovery from the distressing ailment.

At the invitation of the Worcester Branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, Mr. Acton Bond read the part of Wolsey at a dramatic reading of *Henry VIII.* which was given at the Theatre Royal, Worcester, on the afternoon of the 8th inst. Speeches were made by Lady Isabel Margesson (the secretary of the branch), the Mayor of Worcester, Mr. Acton Bond, and others, and the afternoon's proceedings generally afforded ample testimony of the success of the Society's efforts in that centre.

Mr. Martin Harvey was present at a meeting at Dublin on Monday, held for the purpose of furthering the arrangements for the Lifeboat procession to take place in the Irish capital to-day. Mr. Harvey, who was most cordially welcomed, deplored the fact that out of the 282 lifeboats in the United Kingdom Ireland had only thirty-six. When one thought of the perilous nature of the Irish coast, that number seemed inadequate, and he hoped that the time would come when every seaside village would be supplied with its lifeboat, which would mean adding to the splendid roll of 45,439 lives saved since the foundation of the Lifeboat Institution, by the bravery of those who were always so ready to sacrifice themselves in order to save their fellow-creatures. It was announced at the meeting that Mrs. Harvey would preside at one of the booths.

Mr. Harvey's season in Dublin is proving immensely successful, and looks like beating all previous records. The third and concluding week commences on Monday, when a triple bill will be presented for the first time. It will be composed of *Rouget de l'Isle, Ib and Little Christina*, and the new "tragedy of truth," by Rosamond Langbridge, entitled *The Spell*, in which Mr. Harvey and Miss de Silva made such a profound impression at Manchester the other day. For the first time this season, *The Only Way* will be played on Tuesday.

Last Wednesday afternoon Mr. Harvey lectured at Trinity College on "The Art of Acting," the occasion having the cordial support of the University authorities and of the Provost and Fellows. Applications for tickets four times over exceeding the capacity of the seating accommodation were received, and a great deal of disappointment at non-admission was necessarily caused. On Monday week Mr. Harvey, Miss de Silva, and company commence a week's engagement at Cork, Belfast following.

Miss Marion Draughn, the American actress who was the plaintiff in the breach of promise case against a German millionaire's son, in which the jury disagreed, has accepted a part in *The New Aladdin* at the Gaiety Theatre, and will shortly join the cast. Miss Draughn has received letters from many sympathisers, including members of the jury, regretting that she did not win the case.

Mr. Charles Thorburn, who has, during the past five years, been responsible in every detail for Mr. George Musgrove's productions—viz., *The Belle of New York* and *The Prince of Pilsen* (two companies) will be shortly relinquishing his duties. Mr. Thorburn holds an enviable reputation in the provinces for his productions, which are considered to be among the smartest all-round theatrical enterprises touring, and a post of equal importance should be quickly secured.

"Lights Out," from the Waldorf Theatre, is going on tour shortly, and will be presented by Mr. J. O. Fawdy-Gregory, who has acquired the rights together with Mr. Leigh Lovel. Miss Octavia Kenmore has been specially engaged to play the lead.

Miss Nellie Clyde, who has just concluded an autumn tour, playing the title-rôle in Mr. Frank Bertram's company *The Convict's Daughter*, has been re-engaged by the same management to take up the part of Margaret Hungerford in *The Breed of the Treshams*.

Mr. G. Moreton-Williams concludes to-night at Croydon his fourth tour and 384th performance as heavy lead with Mr. Frank Bertram's company *The Convict's Daughter*, and has been re-engaged to play his original part in Mr. A. Hamilton Warden's forthcoming tour of *A Woman's Past*.

Mr. Holbery Hardy, the energetic manager of the Theatre Royal, Rotherham, is taking his first annual benefit on Wednesday, Nov. 28, when a fine programme will be submitted.

Mr. Alfred Manners, of the Queen's Theatre, Swindon, who met with an accident with a firework on the 5th inst., has made such excellent progress that all danger to his eyesight is practically removed, and he is now able to take outdoor exercise. On Tuesday Mr. Manners came before the footlights at his theatre, and in a brief speech sincerely thanked his patrons and the local public generally for their sympathy.

Mr. W. W. Kelly, proprietor of the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, and owner of *The Royal Divorce*, is a candidate in the Conservative interest for one of the local municipal wards. Mr. Kelly has for a long time taken an interest in Imperial and municipal questions, and rendered good service to the party at recent elections.

Mr. J. G. Grahame, so well known on the stage, will on Monday, for six nights, at the Empire, Camberwell, produce a most powerful dramatic sketch. It is the star attraction, and is expected to prove a great success.

Miss Agnes Molteno, of grand opera fame, was the vocalist at an organ recital in the Town Hall, Middlesbrough, on Saturday last, and she delighted the large audience by her finished singing. Her rendering of "Villanelle" (Eva Dell 'Acqua) was very fine, but most enthusiasm was aroused by the beautiful way in which she gave Balfe's pretty vocal waltz, "What joy and gladness." A well-deserved encore was demanded in each case.

Mr. Amand Mascard, who has been acting-manager at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow, for the last three years, leaves shortly to take up his new position as resident-manager at the handsome King's Theatre, Edinburgh, which opens early in December with Mr. Robert Courtneidge's *Cinderella* pantomime.

At the matinée for the assistance of Jews in Russia at the Royalty on Tuesday, Nov. 27, when *Wasps*, a three-act comedy, and *Daughters of Shem*, a one-act play, will be produced for the first time, parts will be taken by Misses Nancy Price, Milicent Gwynne, Sime Seruya, Annie Hill, M. Carmel Goldsmid, Maud Henderson, Kate Osborne, Ruby Miller, Margaret Bussé, Dinah Freudenheim, and Maud Wynter, and Messrs. Matheson Lang, Daniel McCarthy, F. H. de Quincey, J. Jefferson Farjeon, Hugh Ardale, A. Morrice Seaton, A. G. Melford, and Rudge Harding. The plays will be produced by Miss Seruya.

Owing to sudden indisposition, Miss Aïda Jenoure was unable to play her part of Kitty in *The Marriage of Kitty*, at the Pier Pavilion, St. Leonards, on Tuesday, and a capable substitute was found in Miss Gladys Dare, her understudy, who appeared with gratifying success. Great credit is due to this young lady from the fact that she has not yet reached her seventeenth year.

Mr. Henry Doughty and Miss Vera Leslie have finished their first tour of *Geoffrey Stirling*, and are so satisfied with the reception accorded to the play that they intend producing it in the spring on an elaborate scale. Many improvements have been effected since the trial performances at Fulham, with the result that the action has been quickened and the humorous passages much amplified.

Mr. Bannister Howard will have no fewer than three of his companies in the suburbs next week, viz.: *The Belle of New York* at the Crown Theatre, Peckham; *Oliver Twist* at Dalston Theatre; and *The Earl and the Girl* at the Crystal Palace.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh made a successful first appearance as Macbeth and Lady Macbeth at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, on Tuesday night. Both artists were heartily cheered, and at the close Mr. Bourchier made a speech of thanks.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last, when there were present Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Messrs. Burton Cooke, C. Hayden Coffin, F. Cremlin, A. E. George, Lawrence Grant, Norman McKinnel, Quinton McPherson, A. B. Tapping, and Spencer Trevor, with Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The hon. solicitors reported they had advised several members on points submitted. W. Richardson Rice, Esq., B.A., M.D., M.B., B.Ch., L.M., Gosford Green, Coventry, was elected as an hon. medical officer. The secretary gave the report of the proceedings at the last bi-monthly meeting of the members, and arising out of such report a discussion arose, and ultimately the hon. solicitors were requested, if possible, to arrange certain details.

Miss Gladys Ffolliott attended as a delegate from the members assembled at the sixth bi-monthly meeting, held on the 8th inst., and voiced her views upon the question of rearrangement of payment of subscription on some such lines as are adopted by the V.A.F. Miss Ffolliott was informed that the matter had been under consideration for some little while. Miss Rose Mathews attended before the Council, and submitted a number of revised suggestions as to the carrying out of the arrangements in connection with the proposed Sunday concerts, but as nothing definite could be arranged immediately, the questions involved were left open for further discussion. The secretary reported that Miss Gertrude Bibby had withdrawn her name from the list of those suggested as members of the proposed Entertainment Committee. A former member was reinstated, while another was nominated for reinstatement.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday last, when there were present Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater (in the chair), Lawrence Grant, C. Aubrey Smith, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). The secretary received instructions to circularise the hon. medical officers, thanking them for their invaluable services and drawing their attention to the certificates to be issued to the members in 1907, and also to other matters affecting their respective appointments.

Mrs. Henry Courte, an actress who will be well remembered by the older members of the theatrical profession, died at Cardiff on the 7th inst. at the advanced age of eighty-two. She was for many years at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, under the management of Messrs. Glover and Francis, but her last appearance was at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, on Jan. 18, 1884, as Mrs. Sternhold in *Still Waters Run Deep;* she was also a favourite Helen Macgregor in the then annual productions of Rob Roy. Latterly the deceased lady lived in retirement at Cardiff with her only son, her husband, Mr. Henry Cooke (Courte), dramatic artist and teacher of elocution in Glasgow, having died many years ago.

Miss Jennie Armstrong, the attractive and dashing Abdallah of the Alexandra, Stoke Newington, and Royal, Sheffield, last year, has been engaged by Mr. John Hart for the Theatre Royal, Manchester, at Christmas.

Miss Ida Millais is meeting with great success on tour this autumn with the popular *No Man's Land*, of which the tropical storm scene, with its heavy downpour of rain, is a sensational feature. The piece is well booked through 1907, under the direction of Mr. Henry Herne.

Miss Lily Brayton, happily recovered from her accident, resumed her place in the cast of *The Virgin Goddess* on Wednesday. Mr. Rudolf Bessier's play is to be withdrawn at the end of next week, but a revival at a no distant date is contemplated. In the meantime the Adelphi will, in about a fortnight's time, be occupied by *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, with Miss Thyrsa Norman as Titania, the play being otherwise sustained by practically the same cast as that of Mr. Stuart's former revival.

Stanford's opera *Shamus O'Brien* will be performed by the Royal College of Music on Friday afternoon next, at the Scala Theatre, the handsome building in Fitzroy-square.

An interesting feature of next week will be the appearance of Miss Edith Wynne Matthison in Wilkie Collins' strong play *The New Magdalen*, at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith. The part of Mercy Merrick is one which has taxed the powers of many of our great actresses, and Miss Wynne Matthison's recent work at the Court and Adelphi Theatres, her success as leading lady in Sir Henry Irving's last tour, and her triumph as Everyman, serve to render her appearance in the part very welcome. Mr. Mulholland has engaged a specially strong company to support her. Mr. Mulholland, by the way, owns the autograph manuscript of *The New Magdalen*, having paid a hundred guineas for it at Sotheby's some years ago. In connection with this MS. he claims to have made a literary discovery, inasmuch as internal evidence proves that the play, contrary to the view hitherto held, was written before the novel. The MS., all in Wilkie Collins' own handwriting, will be on view at the theatre during the week.

Mr. Robert Forsyth is to be congratulated on his election to the Folkestone Town Council. We understand Mr. Forsyth's win was a most popular one, his majority being nearly 200. Mr. Forsyth was for six years the manager of the promenade concerts at Clacton-on-Sea, and last year, for the Bognor Council, ran the Pier Pavilion in addition to the band-stand concerts.

Mr. H. Tripp Edgar, who is making an excellent impression by his performance of the Rat in *The Breed of the Treshams* on tour, encouraged talent in a sister art at Blackpool last week. A boy of sixteen, who is engaged in the town in the lowly occupation of running errands, but has developed considerable promise with the pencil, went to the theatre and took a sketch of Mr. Edgar in character. The actor was shown the lad's work, and immediately gave him a commission to execute a full-length portrait of him in the part of Reresby.

Mr. H. A. Chappell, the business-manager of the Standard Theatre, was the hero of the hour at the popular Bishopsgate house on the 8th inst., the evening of which was devoted to the commemoration by a benefit of his twenty-fifth year under the Melville management. At the close of the second act of *The Girl Who Took the Wrong Turning* an appreciative reference to the bénéficiaire was made by Mr. Roy Redgrave, after which Mr. Walter Melville, in a felicitous speech, presented Mr. Chappell, on behalf of the Standard and Terriss companies, the touring companies, and the various staffs, with a handsome framed testimonial, signed by all the subscribers. Mr. Fred Melville then presented a purse of gold, and expressed the hope that it would be another twenty-five years before Mr. Chappell had had enough of them. Mr. Chappell, who had an enthusiastic reception, in fitting terms thanked the managers, the companies, and staffs, both home and touring, for the very handsome testimonial, and the audience for their kind support.

Mr. J. B. Mulholland has accepted the Aldermanic office to which we alluded last week, and his election took place at the first meeting of the Hammersmith Borough Council amid scenes of enthusiasm unusual to such occasions. Mr. Mulholland is one of the founders of the Suburban Theatre Managers' Association, and has occupied the position of organising honorary secretary since its formation—a post which is by no means a sinecure. He is also a very active member of the Theatre Managers' Association, and was elected Vice-President of that body when Mr. Tree reached the Presidency in succession to the late Sir Henry Irving. Mr. Mulholland may therefore be rightly set down as a public-spirited as well as a busy man.

At Manchester on Monday his Honour Judge Parry, himself a dramatist, heard an application on behalf of Miss Eunice Hamilton Moore, of Whalley Range, for an order for the return of the MSS. of two plays alleged to be in the possession of Mr. Flanagan, proprietor of the Queen's Theatre in that town. It was stated that the plays were entitled *My Neighbour* and *Love and Hate*, and plaintiff took them to Mr Flanagan some time last winter. Subsequently she received a letter stating that the two plays could not be found, and since then there had been no communication from the theatre proprietor. His Honour directed the plays to be returned, with £3 as damages. In the event of the plays not being returned, Miss Moore was awarded £8.

Miss May De Sousa will not be the heroine of this year's pantomime at Drury-lane, having retired from the cast. The part of the principal girl has just been allotted to Miss Marie George, whose clever work in recent pantomimes at Old Drury, the continuity of which was, unfortunately, interrupted by illness, will be well remembered. Miss George played in *Mother Goose* in 1902, in *Humpty Dumpty* in 1903, and in *The White Cat* in 1904.

The Elephant and Castle is doing well this week with *The Little Breadwinner*, which is being presented by the stock company organised by Mr. Albert Ward, who enacts the hero with his accustomed manliness and vigour. Miss Kathleen Russell, who was some time ago accepted by the patrons of the theatre as their ideal heroine, quite sustains her reputation in the part of Margaret Daventry. An outstanding feature of the performance is the acting of Mrs. Calhaem as Bridget O'Flanaghan. She plays the part of the kind-hearted Irishwoman with rare dramatic resource, and gives a rendering of the rôle such as could only emanate from a finished performer. The humour of Charlie Prior is capitally brought out by Mr. Teddy Coleman, while Mr. W. H. Hatchman as an old Quaker, Mr. Horace Hunter as the villain, Miss East Robertson, and Mr. Brian Daly should be selected for special praise from amongst a thoroughly commendable cast.

Three remarkably good games at hockey were played last week between Mr. Norman V. Norman's XI. and Colchester Garrison, drawn from the Artillery, 60th Rifles, and 8th Hussars. The first game resulted in a draw of one goal each, the second a win for the Garrison by 3 goals to nil, and the third a victory for Mr. Norman's XI. by 3 goals to 2 goals.

The music and lyrics for Mr. Norman V. Norman's production of *Robin Hood* have been written by Gustav Von Holst. Mr. Norman will introduce two of the old folk-songs of England into the play.

Mr. Trueman Towers, through the courtesy of Messrs. Gatti and Frohman, has been enabled to accept a re-engagement with Mr. George Edwardes to stage-manage *The New Aladdin* tour, which commences in Manchester at Christmas.

The concert organised by the Playgoers' Club in aid of the Pantomime Fund for Poor Children will take place at His Majesty's Theatre (kindly lent by Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree) on Sunday, Nov. 18. Last year nearly 20,000 children were enabled to enjoy one afternoon's amusement which they otherwise would have been without, and the whole of the proceeds of the concert will go towards the fund for the same object.

A settlement satisfactory to all concerned has been arrived at in the suit of the "Dover-street Studio Company *v.* Hall Caine, the Associated Newspapers (Limited), and the Ballantyne Press (Limited)," which was due for hearing in the Chancery Court yesterday, and the case has been withdrawn. There is no longer any restriction on the sale of "The Bondman" Play.

In the Court of King's Bench on Thursday Mr. Charles Frohman sued Mr. Lawrence Brough for £75, due under an engagement, and for £33 11s. 9d. for fees in respect of performances of *The Dictator* in the provinces. Counsel for the plaintiff said that the defendant hired from Mr. Frohman the provincial rights of *The Dictator*, the price to be paid being £150, £50 to be paid down and the remainder to be paid in subsequent instalments of £25. Three of these instalments were never paid on becoming due, and £75 was now claimed in respect of them. It was the business of defendant to furnish Mr. Frohman with nightly returns of the money taken on tour, and to pay a percentage of 7½ per cent. to plaintiff, this amounting to £33 11s. 9d. There was no defence. The jury returned a verdict for plaintiff, and judgment was given for the amount claimed.

For the first reading of the season the Belfast branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society chose *Coriolanus*, which drew a fashionable audience to the Ulster Medical Institute, Belfast, on the 7th inst. In the title-rôle, Mr. Sinclair Neill exhibited exceptional skill, and was deservedly congratulated on his success. Miss E. McKisack was a dignified Volumnia, speaking her lines with rare charm and effect; and Mr. S. Bulloch gained approval for his finished rendering of the rôle of Menenius Agrippa. Miss May McTear is worthy of much praise for her reading of the small part of Valeria; and other rôles were capitally portrayed by Miss K. Nesbitt, and Messrs. R. Leighton, C. G. Boas, G. G. Aikinson, and others.

Miss Edna May, who is spending a holiday in the country, is applying herself industriously to the study of her part in *Nelly Neil*. The production will take place early in the new year at the Aldwych, then to be vacated by *The Beauty of Bath*, who will be the first tenant of Mr. Charles Frohman's new theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue. The cast of *Nelly Neil* will include Mr. E. Dagnall, Miss Mary Brough, Mr. Robb Harwood, Mr. J. J. Dallas, and Mr. Akerman May.

The revival of *Peter Pan* at the Duke of York's on Dec. 18 will see Miss Pauline Chase, who played one of the Twins in the original production, promoted to the title-part. Mr. Gerald Du Maurier, giving up his rôle of Raffles, will again be the Pirate King, and Miss Sybil Carlisle will play Mrs. Darling, with Mr. Marsh Allen as Mr. Darling. Miss Hilda Trevelyan will repeat her charming performance of Wendy. Mr. Du Maurier's character at the Comedy will be taken up by Mr. Henry Ainley, who should be admirably suited to the part of the chivalrous burglar.

An interesting ceremony took place at the registrar's office, Oldham, on Saturday, when Miss Ina Hill and Mr. C. H. S. Dring were married by special licence. Miss Doris Woodall and Mr. Julius Walther were witnesses.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

MR. SIDNEY LEE, by his remarks on modern mounting, in his new book, "Shakespeare and the Modern Stage," has drawn out—*vid* an *Evening Standard* interviewer—Mr. Beerbohm Tree, who has thus commented upon Mr. Lee's arguments:—"Mr. Lee holds that we lose the 'literature' of Shakespeare when we place his plays upon the stage with all the beauty that colour and music can give. He says that it is in reading his works alone that one can enjoy their full imaginative beauty. Very well, I will go further, and say, for the sake of argument, that Shakespeare should not be produced at all—if he is only to be considered from the 'literary' point of view. There is nothing between this and producing his plays upon the stage to the *n*th degree of beauty. I would rather not revive his plays at all than stage them merely 'adequately,' as it is called. To have two fat fairies of forty representing the revels of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* seems to me entirely inadequate in its 'adequacy.'

"HAMLET and *Macbeth* can quite reasonably be staged with severe simplicity, but, on the other hand, *Antony and Cleopatra* demands, it clamours for, the richest of treatment. I have always, with the humility of the artist, thought that it is better to do the thing well, and so fill the theatre and to make thousands of fresh Shakespeare admirers, than to do it 'adequately,' and so please only the epicures who do not come to the theatre, and who attack productions which have not yet even been given to the public. Either let us keep Shakespeare to the study, and not stage his plays at all, or let us bring to their interpretation every means which our generation has placed at our disposal.

"WE are told that Phelps—it was Samuel, not Edmund, as commentators have hastily mis-stated—with his modest, 'adequate' performances at Sadler's Wells, made his venture pay. But there is a wider public to-day than in his time, a more solid and widespread public for the plays of Shakespeare. It used to be thought that representations of his plays must be dull, and there was a small erudite public which went steadily and frequently in a staid and scholastic frame of mind to see revivals of his works. To-day, Shakespeare upon the stage appeals to the great body of general playgoers.

"MR. LEE holds that the adornment of Shakespeare by scenery and music is wrong. I say that anything which diminishes the beauty and appeal of his work is obviously wrong; anything which increases it and helps to stimulate the imagination is obviously right. The present-day public, which crowds the theatre to see our productions—the vast public which has learned to find in Shakespeare a delight when placed upon the stage beautifully, would laugh to scorn the old inadequate 'adequacy'; it would not submit in a representation of *Antony and Cleopatra* to the bringing of Bermondsey to Alexandria. . . . Music and painting illuminate Shakespeare's plays upon the stage; they do not obscure them. We shall continue to use them both and all else which helps to show our reverence, our love for the poet. All the arguments in the world will not persuade us to treat him shabbily, or merely 'adequately,' which comes to the same thing."

MR. R. BACCHUS, in *Fry's Magazine*, has a quaint anecdote anent actors' golf. "A vast number of the dour middle classes of Scotland," he says, "regard the actor as an intimate ally of Beelzebub. The dourest of dour ministers was one day soundly taken down by an athletic young stranger on the links near Falkirk. Surprised that a Sassenach should have the impertinence to beat him on his native heath, but admiring the young man's skill, he asked him to the Manse for tea, where he found his guest polished, well read, and interesting. Half-past six brought the announcement that he 'must be off to his work.' 'And where will ye be working this time the day?' 'The theatre, of course. I act.' 'Act! An actor! Tae think I hae harboured a son of Satan in the house of God.' 'Have you ever been to a theatre?' 'The Lord forbid!' 'Then how can you know anything about it?' The minister paused. "Weel, weel, if ye can act as weel as ye can gowf, ye canna be sic a bad man. I'm minded to come an' speir at ye—I suppose ye can gie me a free ticket?'"

MISS MAUD BRANSCOMBE, who emerged from her retirement to appear at Miss Emily Soldene's matinée at the Palace on Tuesday, told a *Daily Graphic* interviewer of an adventure of her "palmy days," in which she imitated the hero of *Davy Garrick*. The youthful son of a colonel fell in love with her, and followed her for many weeks while she was on tour, although he never saw her except across the footlights. This was unknown to his parents, who, not hearing from him, feared he had come to an untimely end. When they discovered what was afoot, the colonel went to Miss Branscombe, and implored her not to marry his son. She told him that she had no intention whatever of doing so. "I'll give him a sound hiding," said the colonel. "Don't do that," said Miss Branscombe. "There's a better way of curing him. After the performance this evening I'll put on an old dress and hat, and make myself up to look quite ugly. You bring your boy round to the stage door, and point me out to him as I come out." This was done, and so cleverly was the ruse carried out that Miss Branscombe heard the youth exclaim to his father as she passed them, "My golly! I thought she was pretty!"

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER, in a "curtain" speech at the conclusion of his visit to the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, on Saturday night, mentioned that while *The Walls of Jericho* was enjoying its year's run in London he was asked if it was true that he contemplated preaching every Sunday afternoon in Hyde Park. "They wouldn't listen to you there," said the sarcastic querist, "without the jam that makes the audience swallow the pill in your theatre." When I was in Scotland, two policemen were overheard talking outside the theatre. Said one, "I hear the smart set are getting a fine bit of talking to inside." "Yes," replied the other, "I've sent my wife there to-night, and I'm thinking it will do her a power of good."

MR. IAN ROBERTSON made a distinct hit as Cæsar's secretary, Britannus, in Mr. Bernard Shaw's *Cæsar and Cleopatra*, at the New Amsterdam Theatre, New York, on the 30th ult. Britannus is a Briton, but Mr. Shaw has made him not an ancient Briton, but a very modern and priggish one—smug, self-satisfied, and decorous. He tells Cleopatra that blue is the colour worn by all Britons of good standing. "In war we stain our bodies blue; so that although our enemies may strip us of our clothes and of our lives, they cannot strip us of our respectability." And, again, when he is assured by an Egyptian that Ptolemy and Cleopatra were born King and Consort just as they were born brother and sister, the shocked Britannus exclaims, "Cæsar, this is not proper," and brings down the house.

THE risks which are run by the super-subtle dramatist are shown by the remark said to have been made by Royalty on the character of Bluntschli in *Arms and the Man*, on a night of its run at the Avenue, when King Edward, then Prince of Wales, occupied a box with the Duke of Saxe-Coburg. According to Mr. Yorke Stephens, in an interview in the *Daily Chronicle*, "he looked anything but pleased. Indeed, after the play we heard that his Royal Highness regretted that the play should have shown so disrespectful an attitude towards the Army as was betrayed by the character of 'the chocolate-cream soldier.'"

CHAT WITH EMILY SOLDENE.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Let no one imagine that Miss Emily Soldene is old. Not a bit of it. She is as young as you or I, gentle reader, however young you be. Youth and age are not to be judged by years.

"How old do you think I am?" The question is asked with all the vivacity and expectancy of a maiden of nineteen who wants to be flattered. The writer makes a mental guess, takes ten years off that guess, and then tells the lady "so much." And he feels quite triumphant when the lady cries, "I'm twenty years more than that!" So that, as we have already said, let no one imagine that Miss Soldene is old. And if anybody wants to know how it is she has kept young, we cannot do better than give the lady's own recipe, "I never worry about anything."

In her bright, lively, interesting manner, Miss Soldene goes on to talk about her benefit performance at the Palace Theatre last Tuesday, when she made her last appearance on the stage. "Everybody," she says, "has been so good to me that I feel I am under a great obligation. I don't exactly recognise what I have done that I should have—what shall I say?—such a universal coming-out-to-me."

"And so you chose to let us hear you in the balcony duet from *Genevieve de Brabant*, Miss Soldene?"

"My favourite—yes! It reminds me of old times. It takes me back to 1877. I was in the States at the time, and Mr. Morton, of the Alhambra, sent me a cablegram—quite an important document in those days—and I then and there entered into a contract with him to open in *Genevieve*. On my return to London a German opera was being played at the Alhambra to what we call in the profession a 'corporal's guard'—that is, a practically empty house. On the night that I opened in *Genevieve* no less than four thousand people paid for admission."

"And what do you consider the hardest work you did in your professional career?"

"When I played Carmen at Liverpool for eighteen nights straight off the reel. From a physical point of view, I think that is a record. Durward Lely shared the honours with me. We used to be so very earnest that we would not speak to one another between the acts because we did not wish to disturb our environment, or, to put it in another way, the actor's sphere."

"Shall I tell you how I got a big salary for not playing a part I wanted to play? Sounds paradoxical, doesn't it? I got £105 for seven performances of Madame Lange in *Madame Angot*. I got that money because I wanted to be Clairette in the piece. You know, Clairette is a singing part, and I thought fitted me admirably, and I used to like to sing those Republican songs. You understand—I have a great affection for songs of the people. That, of course, was at the Gaiety, and Mr. Hollingshead and Mr. Morton had to stand shares in my salary, which, by the way, they thought too awful for words."

"But, if we are to believe rumours, bigger salaries than that are paid nowadays."

"Yes, and I wonder how some of them are paid. I calculated in the case of one play, the total amounts reported to be paid to three principals, and they almost covered the pay-box receipts. Then it occurred to me that some managers must have a truly remarkable affection for art. I've got a good deal of love for art myself, but I like a bit with it. Then we are constantly hearing talk about the decadence of the theatre. The theatre now holds an infinitely higher place in the public opinion, and as an actual department of life, than it did in my young days. Every-this is done on a better scale, and yet nobody gives the management credit for the superb way in which the plays are mounted and dressed. When I hear people shouting about the decadence of the drama, I say to myself, 'rot!' or 'rats!' or something like that! But the productions at the present time, from a scenic point of view, are indeed very beautiful. You must not forget that women go to the theatre to see fine clothes. Some critics will tell you that a piece is covered with millinery. That is a good thing sometimes, and it has been known to save a play. It may be that the comedy's rotten, but so long as the frocks are all right, why grumble!"

And now for the mood reminiscent. If Miss Soldene did nothing else for the rest of her life she could easily keep her mind fully engaged with thoughts of the past and the experiences she has undergone. "The first time I met Irving," she says, "was at a party, when he recited 'Eugene Aram.' He fixed me completely. I think he is a delightful man. Oh, I must tell you about my Australian tour in 1892. At Sydney I came into contact with Max O'Rell, who joined our boat on the conclusion of a lecturing tour in Australia. That very day I went up to the Grosvenor Hotel. Who do you think was there? Foli—dear Foli, with the grand bass voice—Foli, with whom I used to sing at the temperance concerts up Glasgow way when we went a-gypsying a long while ago! Foli was giving a concert at the Town Hall. I went, and that was the first time I heard 'Off to Philadelphia in th' mornin'.' He sang it, and, to my mind, I've not heard it quite so sung since.

"It was on this visit to Sydney that I personally saw the late Robert Louis Stevenson for the last time. I met him at a friend's house, where we had fruit salad of the finest. Of nice, gentle manner, with a far-away look in his eyes—such was the great author. He did not go about much, his health not being very good. Crossing the Pacific again in 1897, I went ashore at Samoa, on a pilgrimage to the grave of Stevenson. I travelled along the road made by his 'young men'—so delightful, so peaceful—a fine road cut through the bush. On each side grew bananas, cocoanuts, and wonderful flowers. Here and there in a clearing was a native house, and out from it would come the native women and children, bearing on their heads green cocoanuts, &c., while the men—nude, except for a tappa mat—stood, splendid, graceful, smoking cigarettes with the air of Bond-street habitués. Looking up this visit in my diary, I find a faded blossom: 'Flower from a dead man's grave—Robert Louis Stevenson—Tusitali.' I gathered it at Samoa on March 24, 1897."

Miss Soldene has quite a host of old Gaiety memories, and we are scarcely surprised to hear her say that funny things happened there sometimes. "At a Gaiety matinée, during the Phelps season—I think the play was *Richelieu*, anyway, it was at the time of the American Revivalists—in the front scene, one of the characters, pointing off 'o.p.,' said, 'He comes, he is moody.' 'Where's Sankey?' loudly queried a voice in the gallery. That broke up the audience, and spoilt the Cardinal's entrance."

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

In Gounod's *Faust*, given at Covent Garden on Wednesday night, Mme. Wayda, a vocalist who some years ago sung in London, gave a pleasing reading of the part of Marguerite. Mme. Wayda has not a voice remarkable for power, but she sings with taste and expression, while her acting merits praise. The new Marguerite also is youthful, and thoroughly looks the character she impersonates. Signor Zenatello as Faust also gave capital support to the new vocalist, and in the Garden Scene Signor Walter as Mephistopheles and Signora Liviabella as Martha rendered excellent service. Signor Thos and Signor Purvis appeared with success as Wagner and Valentine, and the orchestra was ably conducted by Mr. Percy Pitt.

THE EMILY SOLDENE MATINEE.

An almost forgotten figure in the world of the theatre came on the stage of the Palace Theatre on Tuesday afternoon to remind us of the days in 1871, when Mayfair and Belgravia went to Islington to be gladdened by the tunefulness of Offenbach and to applaud *Geneviève de Brabant*. Emily Soldene, indeed, may be regarded as the greatest star of her day in opéra-bouffe. It was she who inspired the lines:—

If Offenbach still pleases
More than the fugues of Bach,
We shall not have Bach often,
But often Offenbach.

That she had not been forgotten was testified by a thousand throats and by a benefit that produced a sum of £800. Truly the lovers of the theatre in England are staunch to their old favourites. The festival programme arranged was for the most part a theatrical one, music-hall favourites being conspicuous by their absence. The chief novelty, a tragedy, in one act, specially written for the occasion, by Owen Hall, was entitled

"AGNESE'S SECRET."

Agnese .....MISS IRIS HOEY
Jacopo .....MR. PERCIVAL STEVENS
Vesci .....MR. LESLIE STILES
Mario .....MR. WILLIAM DEVEREUX

The secret of pretty little Agnese is that she paints daily in the cathedral in Venice, disguising herself as a boy. Mario, a young sculptor, whose love she returns has his jealousy aroused by a rival suitor—Vesci—a Venetian nobleman, who speaks of the visits of a youth to Agnese's room. The two men retire into the shadow as the unsuspecting Agnese, in her boy's clothes enters, and throws herself upon her couch. Mario does not penetrate her disguise, but in a torrent of rage stabs the prostrate form of the girl. When he discovers to his horror that his victim is Agnese he would add to his crime by killing Vesci; but the dying Agnese makes him swear on the cross of the fatal dagger that there shall be no more bloodshed. A gory, depressing little play, and constructed so artlessly as to suggest that the author had not yet emerged from his novitiate as a playwriter. Mr. William Devereux gave a powerful performance of Mario; Miss Iris Hoey hardly sounded the possibilities of the rôle of Agnese; Mr. Percival Stevens did capable work as Jacopo; but Mr. Leslie Stiles was totally undistinguished and awkward as Vesci.

The Privy Council, by Major W. P. Drury and Mr. Richard Price, was in pleasant contrast to this sombre little piece, being agreeably presented under the direction of Miss Alice Crawford, who was again successful as Mistress Knipp, Miss Alexandra Carlisle showing excellent qualities as Mistress Pepys. Mr. Cecil Rose, Mr. S. Laurent, Mr. R. Tarver, Miss Mona Harrison, and Miss Muriel Alston also lent effective aid.

Of the variety and excellence of the miscellaneous programme there could be no doubt. Señor Sarasate made his first appearance upon a variety stage to play in his customary brilliant fashion a couple of violin solos. Mr. Lewis Waller recited; Lionel Brough told anecdotes, and Harry Paulton lectured—all of which they have done before on the Palace stage. A new comer was Miss Mariette Sully, who delighted the house with "Toujours gai," by Franco Leoni; Miss Margaret Cooper repeated her success in "My heart's at your feet"; Mr. John Le Hay and Miss Pollie Emery interested the stalls in Mr. B. W. Findon's well-written playlet, *'Melia, 'Enery, and It*; and the funniest thing of the programme was the celebrated "Gendarmes" duet, "We'll run 'em in," sung with real comicality by Mr. George Grossmith, jun., and Mr. Edmund Payne (conducted by Mr. Jacques Greebe), a number that took the town by storm when *Geneviève de Brabant* was produced on Nov. 11, 1871, at the Philharmonic. Its success at the Palace on Tuesday was so great and immediate that Mr. George Edwardes might do worse than introduce it into his version of "Aladdin" at the Gaiety. Miss Carrie Moore came with the Sandow Girls; Miss Camille Clifford, Mr. Leslie Stiles, and a chorus of ladies ensured an enthusiastic reception of "Why do they call me a Gibson girl?" (conducted by Mr. Edward Jones); Mr. Arthur Strugnell sang the Prologue from *I Pagliacci*; Mr. Fred Wright gave "Chin, Chin, Chinaman," from *The Geisha*; Miss Billie Burke appeared in the scena, *The First Post in the Morning*; and Miss Florence St. John was heard to advantage in "When the tide comes in." The most interesting item of the matinée was the singing by Miss Emily Soldene of the Serenade from the famous opéra-bouffe in which she made her name, entitled "Lady: look down." For a woman of sixty Miss Soldene—who once again donned the white costume of Drogan, the pastry-cook—sang remarkably well, and was capably assisted by Miss Violet Ludlow.

At the conclusion of the famous duet, which was so enthusiastically applauded that it had to be repeated, Miss Soldene, still wearing the costume of Drogan, and carrying a bouquet, was led forward by Mr. Beerbohm Tree, whose graceful address was as follows:—

"Ladies and Gentlemen,—Mine is indeed a pleasant task to-day. I shall not attempt to harrow your feelings, or those of the lady in whose honour we are assembled here, with any pathetic phrases, but a song is none the less tender because it is not in the minor key. My task is joyfully to congratulate Miss Soldene on the success of this afternoon, and to hand her, on behalf of her friends, absent and present, a cheque for £653. I am sure, dear Miss Soldene, that I am expressing the feelings of this great audience and of your comrades on the stage when I say that while we have appreciated your work as artist and woman in the past, we all wish you every happiness in the future. There comes a time to us all when we must retire from active life on the stage, and the great philosophy for us is to retire gracefully, unlike the provincial Mayor who fell over his gown in walking backwards. You are retiring gracefully, and we are glad to know in full enjoyment of health.

"I shall not attempt, ladies and gentlemen, to recount to you a biography of Miss Soldene's varied career. She has herself given us her reminiscences in a volume of theatrical and musical recollections in her own witty and attractive manner. I am glad to think that this book is even accessible to readers of *The Times*. In this book you will find some delightful stories of her life, from the early days when she made her first appearance at Drury Lane in 1865, and then under the manager who afterwards became famous in this very house—I mean that dear old friend of the public, Mr. Charles Morton. I may, perhaps, however, be permitted to add my own little tribute to those of her many admirers, for when our beneficiare made Islington merry with *Geneviève de Brabant*, I used, as a boy, to take flights to this "Angel of Islington" in order to applaud her and to hear her sing. That, I believe, was in the year 1871. I need hardly tell you, ladies and gentlemen, that I was then almost in long clothes—I am sure Miss Soldene was in short skirts. Many others present here will remember her in *Geneviève de Brabant*. Ladies and gentlemen, I feel that you will also desire me to express the appreciation of the splendid work which Mr. Northcott has done as honorary secretary for this afternoon's festivity. Only those who have organised such entertainments as this know what work they entail upon the organiser and master of the ceremonies, and I am sure we all give our heartiest thanks to Mr. Northcott, who has been so untiring in his efforts to bring about this splendid result. Ladies and gentlemen, I have done. Parting is always something of a sweet sorrow, but there is one delightful consolation to Miss Soldene—that she carries with her into that graceful retirement to which I have referred the affectionate memory and regard of thousands of admirers."

After several endeavours to master her emotion, Miss Soldene commenced in tremulous accents: "I can't make a speech. I'm like the gentleman in Shakespeare, who was poor in thanks. My heart is so full that my woman's tongue won't wag as it ought. I had no idea that the result of this benefit would be so magnificent. I had been away from England for so many years that I thought I had been forgotten. My career has been a chequered one, and here's the end of it—only it's a different kind of cheque." [Here Mr. Tree, who was standing by the side of the beneficiaire, took the hint, and laughingly handed her the cheque, which she smilingly kissed and placed in her bosom.] It had all been such a surprise to her that so many people should know her, "a back number"—even young people to whom she must be little else than a legend. She warmly thanked Mr. Northcott and the Press, who had been so kind with paragraphs—so much nicer than advertisements. Their sentiment was allied to practice, and the result was so beautiful and so nice. "Even the King knows all about me and my matinée," she exclaimed; "he has reason to, for I simply bombarded him." When an enthusiastic recall brought Miss Soldene back, this time between the tableaux curtains, she said: "I can't tell you how lovely it is to come back to the stage once more, if only for five minutes." And with a kiss of the hand the popular opéra-bouffe artiste of the seventies left the footlights for ever.

"AMASIS" SCORES A CENTURY.

Mr. Louis Calvert "presented his compliments" to a delighted and enthusiastic audience on Friday, the 9th, when, in celebration of the 100th performance of *Amasis*, he also endowed each patron of the beautiful playhouse in St. Martin's-lane with a souvenir in the shape of a vocal score and a book of the words of the Egyptian opera, which has weathered the slack season, and is one of the brightest and most humorous productions in London at the present moment. There have been alterations since the production of the opera, which, on the "century" night, were recognised as decided improvements, the most important being the introduction of Mr. Rutland Barrington, the old Savoyard, into the first act. An uproarious reception told the comedian how welcome was his earlier appearance, and he immediately proceeded to justify it by the comicality of his scene with Sebak, the keeper of the crocodiles, and his dance with the seven wives, who are in such parlous straits through the locking-up by their jealous and absent lords of indispensable articles of their clothing. "'Twas such a forceful argument" is now Mr. Barrington's opening number. It tells the grim story of the operatic Pharaoh's succession to the throne of the Ptolemies in a droll way, and its humour is cleverly accentuated by the singer, whose elocution in song is a lesson to the younger vocalists of the day. In the second act, besides the great topical success, "The inference is obvious," Pharaoh sings of "lovely woman," and the new number goes admirably.

Miss Ruth Vincent, who was overwhelmed with applause on her entry as Amasis, was evidently overjoyed at her reception, and sang more brilliantly than ever her opening solo, "Little Princess, look up," still one of the most deservedly appreciated numbers in the score. As the more pensive and troubled Amasis of the second act Miss Vincent is no less successful, and her grip and sincerity in the more dramatic situations are important factors of the success. Her rendering of "The morning's heartless sun will gild" is charged with a genuine melancholy, and her impersonation adds largely to her high reputation.

Mr. Lauri de Frece, in the part of Sebak, makes the auditorium resound with laughter by his amusing behaviour with a property crocodile, and gags amusingly in his introduction to his song in the first act, "I'm adviser to the Royal pair."

Mr. Whitworth Mitton, in the serious part of Cheiro, displays the power and charm of a cultured voice in his several soli, being especially successful in "I prayed for life, a little life."

Such a singer, too, as Mr. Norman Salmond, is of immense value in opera, and in the part of the high priest, Nebenchari, this excellent basso's fine work brings the part into deserved prominence, and he rightly shares in the honours of the representation.

Mr. Herbert Ross has added many touches of humour to his realisation of the character of the Court embalmer, Ptolemy Theopompus Allakama, whose philosophy of life bears a decidedly twentieth-century complexion. Mr. Ross always plays with a grim drollery, and gets the hearty approbation of the house in his first song, "A very nice world for me."

Mr. Roland Cunningham has deepened the favourable impression formed of his abilities as a singer and actor on the first night, and he shares the success of the principal scenes with the charming Amasis, but scores quite on his own in his story of the assassination of the sacred cat, a catastrophe that has such serious consequences.

Miss Madge Vincent is the most bewitching Egyptian soubrette, and when Natis sings, "I'm a lonely little maid," with the most engaging coquetry of which the tall and handsome Mr. Frank Perfitt, as the Psamtik, is the willing victim.

A newcomer to the cast is Miss Winifred Hart Dyke, who must have been delighted with her reception on the festival night. English dancers possessing the gifts of this artist are rare on the stage, and her début at the New Theatre was made under the happiest auspices. Needless to say, the delighted house gave her a rousing greeting, and encored her. The 100th performance was conducted by the composer, Mr. Philip Michael Faraday, who had an enthusiastic welcome on taking his seat in the orchestra. The whole representation was a delight to a house crowded in every corner.

ACTORS' DAY.

Nominations for the proposed Advisory Board, particulars of which we gave in a recent issue, must reach the Organising Committee not later than the last day of November, and must be sent on copies of forms printed below:—

NOMINATION FORM.

Name of proposed representative.....
Permanent Address .....
*Class .....
Name of Proposer .....
Permanent Address .....
*Class .....

If elected, I consent to act as representative on the Advisory Board to the trustees of the Actors' Day Fund.

Signature .....

Date.....

* State here whether Actor, Manager (resident, touring, acting), or Author.

Those who have promised, and have not yet sent in their contribution, would greatly oblige if they would forward them as soon as possible to the Committee, 10, King's-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

A NEW play, entitled *One of Cleopatra's Nights*, by Duse Mohamed, will be produced by the author at the Gaiety Theatre, Dundee, on Dec. 3.

"THE ELECTRIC MAN."

A Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Charles Hannan, Revived at the New Royalty Theatre, on Saturday, Nov. 10.

Walter Everest and "The Electric Man" ..MR. HARRY NICHOLLS
Mrs. Everest .....MRS. B. M. DE SOLLA
Mary .....MISS PHYLLIS RELPH
Jack Strange .....MR. H. MARSH ALLEN
Mr. Potterfield .....MR. SYDNEY PAXTON
Trooper Jenkins .....MR. J. A. BENTHAM
Ems .....MISS FRANCES DAY
Jobbins .....MR. H. DE LANGE
Mrs. Anderson .....MRS. CHARLES CALVERT
General Dudgeon .....MR. A. G. BROWN
Stella .....MISS JUNE VON BUSKIRK

The Electric Man, originally produced at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on April 4, 1904, was revived by Mr. E. B. Norman at the Royalty Theatre on Saturday evening. In farcical comedy a plot based upon the supernatural element is by no means a novelty, and in skilful hands has proved highly amusing. The principal characters in Mr. Hannan's piece is Walter Everest, the son of a great scientist and electrician. He has had a curious legacy left him by his late father in the form of an "electric man." Walter is living in lodgings, and keeps the dummy figure, which is the exact image of himself, locked in a cupboard. He declares to his chum, Jack Strange, a young physician, that the invention is a failure, inasmuch as he has not been able to impart to it life and action. However, his calculations are quite upset, for left alone in the cupboard with the figure, it suddenly becomes endowed with vitality, overpowers Everest, and makes its way out of its prison house. Walter is at first mistaken by his friends and fiancée, Stella, for the invention, and has great difficulty in convincing them of his identity. The figure makes its way into the street, and commits, in its headlong flight, frightful havoc; but eventually finds its way back, though not before a private detective has been employed to trace the electric man. It is unnecessary to relate the laughable complications and mistakes that ensue until the automaton's machinery goes wrong, and it collapses to everybody's great joy. It should, however, be explained that Everest's original intention is to make use of the figure to prevent the marriage of his stepmother with a plausible gentleman, who turns out to be an adventurer of the worst description, but who is "bowled out" by his own daughter.

The burden of the work devolved upon Mr. Harry Nicholls, who represented Walter Everest and his counterpart, the electric man. Mr. Nicholls years ago earned a reputation for clever work as a comedian, his portrayal of Cockney character being particularly realistic, and his return to the London stage after a considerable interval is a matter for congratulation. To play Everest and his double was no easy task, but Mr. Nicholls, thoroughly experienced in stage-work as he is, proved quite equal to the effort. As Walter Everest he depicted very naturaliy the young man about town, who is apt to arrive home at the hour the milkman makes his first call. Walter's indignation when he is mistaken for his electric double was most amusingly expressed, his attempts to speak when securely strapped in a chair and gagged arousing the hearty laughter of the audience. As the machine-made man Mr. Nicholls gave a decidedly clever imitation of the mechanical movements of an automaton, that in its jerky progress across a room overturns chairs, and comes into awkward collision with more substantial articles of furniture. Its vocabulary is limited to less than half-a-dozen unintelligible words, repeated at intervals, and its features are, of course, stolid and expressionless. Mr. Nicholls had, in the course of the performance, to make some very quick changes of at least one garment, and these were quite successfully accomplished. He received very loyal support from the members of the company. Mr. H. Marsh Allen as Walter's friend, Jack Strange, was always alert, and rattled through his part at precisely the right pace. Indeed, the rôle of the young medico, who naturally takes a professional interest in the electric man and his "symptoms," could not possibly have been in safer hands. Mr. J. A. Bentham was also excellent as Trooper Jenkins, the rough-and-ready bellicose manner of the soldier being admirably depicted; and Jenkins' sweetheart, Ems, a coloured girl, was capitally embodied by Miss Frances Day. Mr. Sydney Paxton, another actor whose return to the London stage is very welcome, did all that was possible with the part of the adventurer, Mr. Potterfield, who makes love in a comically unctuous style to Mrs. Everest, Walter's stepmother, a part that Mrs. B. M. de Solla played with much humorous appreciation of its possibilities. Mr. H. de Lange gave a good embodiment of the private detective and enquiry agent, Jobbins, who sends countless telegrams relating to the runaway automaton. Mr. A. G. Brown was a capital exponent of General Dudgeon, a stuttering, blustering old soldier. Mrs. Charles Calvert, in the part of Mrs. Anderson, gave a very laughable rendering of a Cockney landlady, who mangles the King's English terribly, and whose catch-phrase, "Pore young man," has reference to her eccentric lodger. Miss Phyllis Relph was a pleasing and pretty representative of Walter's cousin Mary; and Miss June von Buskirk played with bright intelligence and charm the rôle of his fiancée, Stella.

The Electric Man was preceded by the play in one act, by Charles Hannan, entitled

"THE SETTING OF THE SUN."

Rev. James Moorfield .....MR. SYDNEY PAXTON
Harry Lane .....MR. HUGH ARDALE
Janet Moorfield .....MISS PHYLLIS RELPH
Lucy Moorfield .....MISS RUTH MAITLAND

Mr. Hannan's one-act play was first produced under the direction of the late Mr. Wilson Barrett at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, on Oct. 13, 1892. The story briefly is as follows:—The heroine, Janet Moorfield, the elder of two sisters, has for years been engaged to a young soldier, Harry. Their marriage-day is approaching, but he is ordered to leave home with his regiment. He has however, come to love another, and that other is Lucy, Janet's younger sister. After consulting with the father of the girls, Harry tells Janet everything, and then it is that the beauty of her nature becomes apparent. With her own heart breaking she forgives Harry, and releases him on one condition—that he shall be truer to Lucy than he has been to her. In a touching interview between father and daughter, Janet tells him of the self-sacrifice she has made; and the curtain falls as Janet is left sadly contemplating "the setting of the sun."

Mr. Sydney Paxton gave a delightful sketch of the kindly clergyman; Mr. Hugh Ardale put considerable feeling into his impersonation of Harry Lane; and Miss Phyllis Relph depicted with genuine ability the part of Janet Moorfield, though, in appearance, looking scarcely old enough for the character. Miss Ruth Maitland was also well placed as Lucy Moorfield. The little piece was very favourably received.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—Your Paisley correspondent alluded to me as George Gray, comedian. It should have been, yours faithfully,—GEO. RAE, Scotch comedian. 6, Vinicombe-street, Hillhead, Glasgow. Nov. 10.

THE marriage of Mr. T. Arthur Plummer and Miss Cora Linda, who are playing in *Man to Man* (Chattell's company), took place at Stirling on the 8th inst. Mr. Plummer plays the part of "the mad parson" and Miss Cora Linda that of the gipsy Madge.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

A large number of the friends of the late Mr. Samuel Curtis, who died on the 6th inst., assembled at the Gilroes Cemetery, on the Groby-road, Leicester, on Monday afternoon, when all that remained of one of the most respected and gentlemanly of theatre employees were laid to rest, amid many manifestations of regret. The deceased, who was only in his twenty-fourth year, had been employed since boyhood at the Royal Opera House, Leicester, where he commenced his career as call-boy, and at the time of his death was employed in the advertising department and also as money-taker. He was a true and faithful servant, and won the esteem of everyone he came into contact with, which fact is testified to by the large number of beautiful wreaths that were sent and the inscriptions attached.

Wreaths were sent by the following:—"With deep regret," Milton Bode and Edward Compton; "With sincere sympathy," Henry Dundas; "Deepest sympathy and every token of respect," Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Winstanley (his old employer); "Deepest respect for a good man," Mrs. J. A. Winstanley; "In sorrowful memory of a good comrade," staff in front of Opera House; "With deepest sympathy, from the members of the orchestra of the Royal Opera House"; "With deepest sympathy," from the management and staff of the Theatre Royal; "With deepest sympathy," back staff of the Royal Opera House; "In loving memory," mother and children; "A token of sympathy," from the neighbours; "Bert, Harry, and wives, affectionate memory and deepest sympathy"; "In loving memory," Alice; "In loving memory," Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Lewin; "A tribute of sincere sympathy," from Barry and F. B.; "With deep sympathy," Mr. and Mrs. Fellowes; "An old friend, W. G."; and several others.

The deceased, who was unmarried, was carried to his last resting-place by his old comrades and loving friends, viz., Messrs. Arthur Lawrence, Harry Hobbs, Fred King, Joe White, W. Wildbore, and J. Fowkes. Assembled at the graveside were Mr. Chas. Lacey (the advertising manager of the Royal Opera House) and the following ladies and gentlemen of the staffs:—Messrs. J. J. Clarke, Wm. Hyde, Walter Dudgeon, Geo. Foxon, Jno. Lloyd, Harry Adcock, Jack Robinson, Frank Richardson, Andrew Humberstone, Miss P. Doggett, Miss Maud Percy, Miss Du Val, Miss Mabel Percy, Mrs. Timson, and Mrs. Robbins. The Rev. James Mountain, the vicar of St. Mary's Church, Leicester, officiated at the burial service.

The committee arranging the fourth annual concert in aid of the benevolent funds of the London branches of the National Association Theatrical Employees have now completed the programme, the following artists having generously promised their services; Mme. Alice Esty, Mme. Mary Conly, Miss Edna Thornton, Miss Helen Blain, Miss Marie Stiven, Mr. Joseph O'Mara, Mr. Herbert Grover, Mr. Charles Knowles, Mr. Hector Lightfoot (the new Australian tenor), and Mr. Denis O'Sullivan. The London Symphony Orchestra will be conducted by Mr. Landon Ronald, and play seven numbers, including overture, *Zampa* (Herold); overture, *Tannhäuser* (Wagner); 2nd and 3rd Movement, Pathetic Symphony (Tschaikovsky); overture, *Rienzi* (Wagner); overture, *William Tell* (Rossini); two songs without words (*a*) "Spring Song," (*b*) "Bee's wedding" (Mendelssohn); and the "1812" overture (Tschaikovsky).

The following additions to the list of patrons have been made: Sir Charles Wyndham, the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Miss Jessie Bateman, Mr. Granville Barker, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Alfred Butt, Mr. Louis Calvert, Miss Kate Compton (10s.), Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. J. H. Leigh, Miss Evelyn Millard, Miss Julia Neilson, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh (who will take a box), Mr. Alfred Rothschild (£5 5s., including two boxes and stalls), Mr. Paul A. Rubens (£1 1s.), Mr. Otho Stuart, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. J. E. Vedrenne (who will take four stalls), and Mr. Lewis Waller.

A number of the libraries have kindly undertaken to sell tickets, and those friends of the society who wish to secure seats should apply without delay, as the committee anticipate that all will be sold before the day.

At the adjourned meeting of day men connected with the stage departments of the West-End theatres and music halls, held on Sunday evening in the Nag's Head Hotel, Floral-street, it was unanimously resolved to form a branch of the National Association to consist exclusively of day men. A provisional committee was appointed, consisting of twenty-three representative day men, and this committee met on Friday evening at the offices of the society in Wellington-street, when the benefits to be provided and other questions were considered.

The annual dinner of the staff at the Court Theatre will take place on Sunday evening at the Horse Shoe Tavern, Tottenham-court-road. After the dinner a smoking concert will be held.

The inauguration dinner given at the New Club instituted by the Musicians' Union, on Sunday last, was a most successful event. A full and interesting report appears in another column. The long-discussed club for stage employees ought to be helped forward by the bold and enterprising action of the Musicians' Union.

A meeting of theatrical stage employees will be held on Sunday evening, at 8 o'clock, in the Hare and Hounds, Upper-street, Islington.

Mr. G. Bastard, sen., who recently wrote to us, should send his address to Mr. William Johnson, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, as a letter addressed to Mr. Bastard has been returned by the Post Office.

Into their excellent entertainment at St. George's Hall, Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant introduced on Monday a new candidate for popular favour in the person of Mr. Harry May Hemsley, who at once was recognised as a cartoonist with a decided talent for caricature, and as an excellent mimic of children of from one to five years of age. Mr. Hemsley has made a close study of the little people, whose traits he gently satirises in his clever mimicry of them. Both the matter and manner of the new entertainer are distinctly diverting, and he is a decided acquisition to the hall of mystery in Langham-place. He was very heartily received on Monday.

The Seven Leopolds, lady and gentlemen acrobats, who are now at the Cirque Plege, Brussels, are engaged for the World's Fair at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, for Christmas.

Fred Karno, to whom laughter-loving London owes so much, has just been booked to revive the glories of "Richardson's Show" at the great International Fair at Olympia at Christmas. To give the Fair, which has already secured the support of the pick of British and American showmen, the desired cosmopolitan touch, the managing-director is now visiting the festivals at Rouen and Montmartre to secure the latest Continental novelties. The great ostrich farm of 200 birds reaches England this week-end.

Mr. Richard Cass's agency has now the booking for three London halls. Further particulars will appear in our advertisement columns.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING AND HEATING.

Mr. H. J. Greenwood moved the reception of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee's postponed report in reference to the regulations for electric lighting and heating in theatres and music halls. The report was as follows:—

We have for some time past had under consideration the question of the revision of the regulations made by the Council on March 25, 1902, with respect to the electric lighting and heating installations in theatres and other places of public entertainment in London. The regulations in question are extremely technical, and it is impossible to indicate briefly the various alterations proposed, but generally speaking the object has been to make the meaning of the regulations clearer than it is at present, and in very few instances are the regulations made more stringent. We have been in communication with the Theatrical Managers' Association, the Suburban Theatre Managers' Association, and the London Entertainments Protection Association, and have had the advantage of their criticisms on our proposed amendments. A satisfactory understanding has now been arrived at on the whole question, and this result is largely due to the fact that we propose to give a right of arbitration in cases where the regulations require work to be done, and in cases where, in consequence of alterations to premises, it is proposd to apply the regulations to an existing installation which has already been approved by the Council. We think it reasonable that arbitration on these points should be allowed, provided it is distinctly understood that it must not be regarded as constituting a precedent for allowing arbitration on the structural regulations of the Council, and, further, that the Council will reserve to itself the right to withdraw the clause if it is found to be unsatisfactory in practice. As regards the application of the amended regulations to existing installations which have been approved by the Council, we have given an assurance that the regulations would not be retrospective except in unusual instances, such as the carrying out of extensive alterations, &c. Certain of these regulations are included in the rules relating to premises licensed by the Council which rules were made by the Council on Oct. 25, 1904, and in the structural regulations made by the Council on July 30, 1901, and Feb. 4, 1902. A copy of the electric lighting and heating regulations showing the alterations proposed will be found in the statement separately submitted to the Council. We recommend—

(*a*) That the proposed amendments to the electric lighting and heating regulations made by the Council on March 25, 1902, shown in the statement separately submitted by the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, be approved, and that the seal of the Council be affixed to three copies of the regulations as amended.

(*b*) That the necessary consequential alterations be made in the rules relating to premises licensed by the Council (adopted by the Council on Oct. 25, 1904) and in the structural regulations with regard to theatres, &c., approved by the Council, on July 30, 1901, and Feb. 4, 1902, and that the seal of the Council be affixed to three copies of the rules and structural regulations as altered.

Mr. Leon moved on (*a*) to leave out all the words after "approved," and to insert "except the clause relating to arbitration." He pointed out that the Council and the Council alone were the responsible authority in London for seeing that the theatres and music halls in the Metropolis were safe from fire. The arbitration proposal of the Committee was a proposal to delegate to a single person, not a member of the Council, not even an official of the Council, to decide whether certain work was necessary or not. So far as he knew, that was an entirely new precedent, and one which he ventured to think the Council should not set up. There might be, as in the case of sanitary matters, other local authorities outside interested in the arbitration, and who would claim the right to intervene. It was, therefore, highly desirable that in dealing with theatrical and music hall proprietors the Council should hold fast to their supreme power to decide what was right or what was wrong.

Mr. Edward Smith seconded the amendment. He regarded it as a most unusual proceeding that the Council should be asked to create another authority outside itself. If the recommendation of the Committee were carried it would be setting up a new precedent of procedure in all the Committees of the Council. Whilst admitting that the subject of the lighting and heating of places of amusements was highly technical, he had not been able to find any real reason why the Council should submit to the pressure brought to bear on the Committee by the theatrical and music hall managers.

Mr. Greenwood said he would be very sorry if the Council did not see its way to adopt the recommendations of the Committee. The matter had been before the Theatres Committee a great number of times. Negotiations had been going on for a long period between the representatives and particularly the managers of the theatres and music halls; and in the result they had arrived at what they thought was a working arrangement. He did not suppose that any one of the Committee was ready to part with the powers of the Council in this matter; and of course the working arrangement was agreed upon subject to its acceptance by the Council. The arbitration clause, for which he considered there was ample justification, was not intended to apply to structural matters in theatres and music halls, but simply and solely to questions of electric heating and lighting—a very complicated and technical subject. The Council were not recommended to part with any of their powers to insist upon work being done which they considered necessary from the point of view of the safety of the people who attended places of public amusement; but after consultation with the theatrical and other managers it appeared to the Committee that no satisfactory decision could be arrived at unless arbitration were conceded. If, after a time, the clause were found not to be working satisfactorily, the Committee reserved the right to withdraw it.

Sir M. Beachcroft foresaw considerable danger in the Council parting with any of its authority in this matter of lighting and heating places of public amusement. He had to complain that himself and other members of the Council had not received any papers on the subject so that they might form a complete and just opinion on a very difficult and complicated question; and that, in itself, was a *prima facie* ground for adjourning the consideration of the report.

Mr. Greenwood understood that all the papers relating to the subject had been circulated to the members.

Col. Rotton said the question under discussion had occupied the attention of the Committee in consultation with theatrical managers at various times for several years, and it was thought that they had now arrived at a satisfactory conclusion. If it were found that arbitration did not work well, the right to claim it could be taken away. It was of enormous importance that a smooth working of the arbitration clause should be given a chance. The theatrical and other managers, who, he must say, were a long-suffering class, had shown themselves anxious to meet the views of the Committee in every possible way, and the conclusion arrived at was that the only practical solution was to be obtained by a slight modification of the Council's powers.

Mr. Dolman supported the amendment on the ground that in the event of any fatality occurring in a theatre or music hall the public would not be satisfied with the explanation that the Council were unable to insist upon any requirements for the safety of the public because of the award of the arbitrator.

Sir Algernon West urged the Council to accept the Committee's recommendation. He pointed out that a large number of theatres were not under the authority of the London County Council, but under the control of the Lord Chamberlain; and that functionary, he believed, was perfectly satisfied with what was being done.

On a show of hands, the amendment was supported by only seven members, and the recommendation of the Committee was then agreed to.

Clause (*b*) was also passed.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that the Council on Nov. 25, 1905, granted a provisional licence for music and dancing in respect of the Putney Empire and Palace of Varieties (now known as the Putney Hippodrome). The premises have, with certain slight exceptions, been completed in accordance with the drawings approved on June 2, 1905, and the Committee recommended—(*a*) That the seal of the Council be affixed to a certificate under section 12 of the Metropolis Management and Building Acts Amendment Act, 1878, in respect of the Putney Hippodrome, Felsham-road, Putney; (*b*) That the provisional licence for music and dancing, granted on Nov. 24, 1905, be confirmed; that notice of such confirmation be endorsed on the licence; and that the seal of the Council be affixed to such endorsement.

Agreed to.

MISS DOT STEPHENS' SAD CASE.

Miss Doris Stephens, best known in the professional world as Dot Stephens, a very clever vocalist and dancer, met with a terrible accident late on the Saturday night of June 30. She had fulfilled an engagement at H. M. Theatre of Varieties at Walsall, and left the same night to go to Glasgow, where she was to have appeared the following week. On reaching Wolverhampton she had to wait some time to join the midnight mail on the London and North-Western line, and there met some professional friends. She went to the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, and was afterwards accompanied to the High Level Station by a gentleman, who secured her a seat in a second-class compartment, and saw that the door on the platform side was properly fastened before the train started. On reaching Fordhouses, about three miles from Wolverhampton, the unfortunate young lady was found lying in the six-foot way in an unconscious state, and terribly injured. She was conveyed to the Wolverhampton station, and thence to the General Hospital. She was found to be seriously lacerated about the head and body.

Photo by Sydney Wood.

MISS DOT STEPHENS.

So sad a case has rarely, if ever, been brought before the dramatic and musical profession, whose record abounds in deeds of charity. The name of Miss Stephens is now to be added to the already full scroll of benevolent actions.

Miss Stephens was a clever vocalist, dancer, and actress, and first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr. Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour.

Amount already acknowledged ..	£823	8	0
Mrs. Albert Chevalier	2	2	0
J. W. Chapman	1	1	0
John McInnes, per Miss Queenie Leighton	1	1	0
N. de Silva	1	1	0
Adah Barton	0	10	0
Florodora Company, per A. B. Spens	0	10	0
William Forbes	0	5	0
C. Hedley Clark	0	2	6
Roland Bottomley, sent to him for his autograph	0	2	6
The Fatal Wedding Co.:—			
Mr. Guy Hastings	0	2	0
Arthur Law Rayner	0	2	0
W. Devin	0	2	0
Blanche Stanley	0	2	0
W. Westwood	0	2	0
Mr. Jones (Seacombe), 1s.; Mr. Charles Burgess, 1s.; Leah Marlborough, 1s.; Katherine Clarke, 1s.	0	4	0
J. Davis	0	5	0
Mr. John R. Collins	0	2	6
Miss Catherine Taddy	0	2	6
Prince of Pilsen Co.:—			
Mr. Sophy Harris	1	1	0
Nancy Hervyn	0	2	6
A. R.	1	10	0
T. Bright, 2s. 6d.; E. Bright, 2s. 6d.; Curtis and Vanity, 1s., Daisy Ray, 1s.; Ed. Neville, 1s.; Florrie Bray, 6d.; Evelyn Vaudray, 1s.; Amber Austa, 2s. 6d.; Reid Finan, 1s.; W. Nightingale, 6d.; Stultus Mayor, 6d.	0	14	0

It is intended to purchase an annuity for Miss Stephens, whose terrible misfortune has already excited the greatest commiseration.

All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in these columns. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. Bannister Howard, Hon. Treasurer, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.; to the "Dot Stephens Fund," at the Capital and Counties Bank, King-street, Covent Garden; or to the Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

"THE MYSTERIOUS CROSS."

An agreeable sensation of bewilderment is this week pervading the Empress, Brixton, where a leading attraction of the programme is an illusion, called "The Mysterious Cross," presented by Mr. Arthur Preston and company. Slow music heralds the rising of the curtain, and upon a darkened stage stands a man in vivid red. The lights are turned up, revealing a square platform raised a few inches from the ground, and enclosed on every side by draperies hung on metal uprights. A gentleman in evening dress then draws the curtains, and reveals a black wooden cross, some six feet high, with deep notches on the cross-piece and at the top. An elaborate description of every detail of the apparatus is then given, attention being drawn to the utter impossibility of connection with traps, mechanical scenery wires, or mirrors, the speaker offering to forfeit £500 if he can be proved to have used any of these devices. He then seizes the man in the red suit and ties him unceremoniously to the cross with a rope specially made to prevent slipping or unravelling, and knotted at the waist, arms, and throat. To make any tampering with the cord still more difficult he affixes a handkerchief round the knots, and the ends of the rope are passed over the top of the tent and held by a man at either side. The curtains, which are manipulated by a cord hanging from the top in full view of the audience, are drawn, and the performer, stepping to the front of the stage, fires a pistol. Rushing to the rope, he pulls aside the curtains, and the gentleman in red is found to have disappeared and his place taken by a lady in green. She is bound apparently to the same cross with the same knots and the same handkerchief. After releasing the young lady, the performer claims to have done a clever thing, but declares he will do something still more wonderful, and, immediately pulling the curtains, reveals the scarlet-suited individual pensively reading a letter. The feat defies all attempts at elucidation, and is very skilfully executed, the admirable delivery of the gentleman who performs the operation adding greatly to its effect. The audience gave an emphatic verdict of approval to the performance, the attractive powers of which were fully proved by a house crowded in all parts.

DR. BODIE AND CHARITY.

Sir,—The Waterloo Hospital having refused to accept the profits of my lecture, which I gave in their aid, I hereby send you the same, to be divided equally between the Music Hall Home and the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. The profits, after deducting expenses, amounted to £14 10s. 8d. I have made up the amount to £20, part of same being the whole amount, without any deduction, of the sale of The Bodie Book. I shall refrain from any comments, and content myself by saying that the conduct of the Governors of the above hospital is inexplicable to me, considering they are advertising the fact that funds are urgently needed and that every penny helps.

It is my intention, when I have the opportunity to give special Sunday lectures in aid of our own deserving charities, who, I am sure, will not be too proud to accept the money honestly earned in a good cause by one of themselves.—Yours, &c.,

WALFORD BODIE, M.D.

163, Blackfriars-road, London, S.E., Nov. 15.

Result of Dr. Bodie's Lecture at the Canterbury Music Hall.

Gross takings				£37	9 6
Deduct:					
Printing account (Oldfields)....	£5	10	0		
Canterbury Staff one night....	3	13	4		
Electric and gas light	2	0	0		
Advertising in Press, &c.....	11	15	6		
				22	18 10
Balance				14	10 8.
Cheque by Dr. Bodie				5	9 4
				£20	0 0

I may mention that the directors of the Canterbury, kindly gave the use of the hall free, and Mr. Miller also assisted greatly in the success of the lecture. I gave my services free and paid postage, &c., which amounted to over £5, which I have not put down in the expenses.

THE METROPOLITAN.

Mr. J. W. Edgar, the popular manager of the Metropolitan, had the pleasure of welcoming quite a host of friends on Thursday evening, the occasion of his complimentary benefit at the variety theatre in the Edgware-road with which he has been so long connected. At a late hour of the evening Mr. Edgar was called on for the usual speech, and his appearance on the stage was the signal for loud applause from the packed house. He said that with such an enthusiastic audience and with such a crowded house it certainly did not look as if his popularity was on the wane. It had always been his object as manager to give satisfaction to the patrons of the "Met." and to do all in his power to secure their comfort. He had to express his thanks to the directors of the company for granting him the use of the hall, to the artists, many of whom had come long distances, to the members of the orchestra under the direction of Mr. D. M. Trytell, and to the secretary, Mr. Leon Zeitlin. He had received communications from artists who would have appeared had they not been suffering from the prevailing epidemic—influenza. Amongst these were Hackenschmidt, Miss Marie Lloyd, Miss Amy Clevère, and Mr. Will Evans. In conclusion, he again thanked all who had contributed towards the success of the benefit.

The artists who appeared included Agnes Hanson, Fred Herbert, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Stewart and Morgan, Michael Nolan, Terry and Bentley, Laurie Wylie, Lily Burnand, Ethel Ra Leslie, Ernest Rees, Madeline Rees, Dr. Walford Bodie, "the miracle worker," Gladius Mavius, Sam Mayo, Clark and Hamilton, Albert Le Fre, Tom Costello, the Abdullah Arabs, Malcolm Scott, Ernest Shand, George Mozart, Ethel Earle, Dan Robans, the Bostons, Tibbie Blundell, and Nora Royston. Amongst those present were Mr. and Mrs. George Adney Payne, Messrs. William Bailey, L.C.C., J. Sinclair, Jesse Sparrow, G. Barclay, Harry Masters, Edgar Bateman, Charles Reed, Charles Chapman, Miss Vesta Victoria, and others.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA.

Owing to pressure on our space, we have been compelled to hold over the weekly instalment of the above. The series will be continued next week.

Mr. E. Eeley is still doing good business at Bridgend.

Pleinston's big wheel and Scarrott's boxers are at Pontypridd.

Messrs. Williamson's kinématograph films, which are so admirably turned out from their well-equipped factory at Welbury-road, Hove, Brighton, include a new subject of palpitating interest, viz., "Where there's a will there's a way," a proverb of which the aptness is dramatically and humorously illustrated in the story of a motor-car elopement. There should be a great demand for this film.

ON THE ROAD, NOV. 19.

After the Ball.—Century T., Motherwell.
All-of-a-Sudden Peggy.—O. H., Cork.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona).—Darlington.
As Midnight Chimes.—Lyceum, Eccles.
Assassin.—Grand T., Nelson.
At Cripple Creek.—T. R., Stockport.
At Duty's Call.—Court T., Bacup.
Beast and the Beauty.—T. R., Ashton.
Beautiful Fiend.—Lyceum, Long Eaton.
Belle of Mayfair.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Belle of New York.—Crown T., Peckham.
Benson, F. R. (N.).—Court T., Warrington.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Tavistock and Newquay.
Benson, Mr. & Mrs., & Co.—Shakespeare, L'pool.
Between Two Women.—T. R., Barrow.
Bound to Win.—King's T., Longsight.
Breed of the Treshams.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
Bulmer, Mr.—Metropole T., Devonport.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Palace T., Belfast.
Catch of the Season (No. 1).—Cardiff.
Charley's Aunt.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona).—Midlands.
Christian, The (Croke).—T. R., St. Helens.
Cingalee (No. 1).—T. R., Portsmouth.
City of Sin.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Claudian.—T. R., Barnsley.
Coal King.—Court T., Wigan.
Country Girl (Macdona).—Midlands
Country Girl (S.).—Deptford.
Dairymaids, The.—T. R., Manchester.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—T. R., Rotherham.
D'Oyly Carte.—Cambridge and Oxford.
Driven from Home.—T. R., Leicester.
Duchess of Dantzig (N.).—Portsmouth.
Duchess of Dantzig (S.).—Chatham.
Earl and the Girl (M.).—Grand T., Derby.
Earl and the Girl (W.).—Coventry.
Earl and the Girl (N.).—Nuneaton.
Earl and the Girl (Howard).—Crystal Palace.
Earl and the Girl (Howard).—King's Lynn.
Eternal City.—O. H., Dudley.
Executioner's Daughter.—T. R., York.
Face at the Window.—Miners' T., Ashington.
Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt.—T. R., Newcastle
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Artillery T., Woolwich.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—West London Theatre.
Faust Up-to-Date.—Prince's T., Manchester.
Female Swindler.—Queen's T., Dundee.
For Life and After.—Edcn T., Bishop Auckland.
Four Just Men.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Florodora (N.).—Blackburn.
Florodora (S.).—Newport.
Florodora (M.).—Colne and Widnes.
Freedom of Suzanne.—Grand T., Woolwich.
French Spy.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
Geisha.—Bradford.
Golden Ladder.—T. R., Sunderland.
Great Awakening.—T. R., Colchester.
Heart's Desire.—Hippodrome, Grimsby.
Held Apart.—T. R., Plymouth.
Her Fatal Past.—Met. T., Glasgow.
Her Luck in London.—Junc. T., Manchester.
Her One Great Sin.—Grand T., Walsall.
Her Love Against the World.—T. R., Lincoln.
Her Lost Self.—T. R., Houghton-le-Spring.
His House in Order (N.).—T. R., Bolton.
His House in Order (S.).—Grand T., Croydon.
Hour of Her Triumph.—Cambr. T., Spennymoor.
Hutchison Repertoire.—T. R., Birkenhead.
Indian Mutiny.—Cradley Heath.
Kitty Grey.—Grand T., Newcastle.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Ungerford & Weston-s.-M.
Lady Kinton's Necklace.—T. R., Rochdale.
Lady Madcap (N.).—Nottingham.
Lady Madcap (S.).—Sheffield.
La Poupee (Levilly).—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
La Poupee (Ralland).—Paisley T., Paisley.
Life of a Showman.—T. R., Ilkeston.
Lights of London.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Lion and the Mouse.—O. H., Leicester.
Little Breadwinner (Howard).—King's Lynn.
Little Michus (Edwardes).—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Little Michus (S.).—Kingston.
Love that Women Desire.—Alexander T., Hull.
Love of Woman.—O. H., Middlesbrough.
Lucky Durham.—T. R., South Shields.
Manxman.—Grand T., Birmingham.
Marriage of Kitty.—Prince's T., Llandudno.
Midnight Mail.—T. R., Stratford.
Midnight Wedding.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Monte Cristo.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Moody-Manners (A.).—T. R., Hanley.
Moody-Manners (B.).—T. R., Worcester.
Mr. Hopkinson (Macdona).—Eastbourne.
Mr. Popple.—Grand T., Manchester.
My Sweetheart.—Empire T., Oldham.
Napoleon the Great.—T. R., Torquay.
No Man's Land.—Alexandra T., Greenock.
Norman V. Norman.—Tunbridge Wells.
Oliver Twist (Howard).—Dalston Theatre.
On the Stroke of Twelve.—New T., W. Stanley.
Orchid (N.).—Birmingham.
Orchid (S.).—Cheltenham.
Otto the Outcast.—Albert T., Brighouse.
Power of Gold.—Queen's T., Longton.
Prince of Pilsen (Harris).—O. H., Burnley.
Prince of Pilsen (Musgrove).—Ave. T., Sunderl'd.
Private Secretary.—Grand T., Hull.
Prodigal Parson.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Prodigal Son.—King's T., Glasgow.
Proof.—Grand T., W. Hartlepool.
Public Opinion.—Grand T., Swansea.
Raffles.—T. R., Edinburgh.
Revenge.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Romany's Revenge.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
Royal Divorce.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Sailors of the King.—T. R., Exeter.
Saints and Sinners.—Gaiety T., Clydebank.
Shadow of Crime.—T. R., West Bromwich.
Sherlock Holmes.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Shulamite.—O. H., Southport.
Sign of the Cross.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Silver King (Polini) (N.).—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Silver King (Polini) (S.).—T. R., Aldershot.
Silver King (Howard) (N.).—Ulverston & Skipton.
Silver King (Howard) (S.).—Heywood and Loughborough.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Portsmouth.
Spider and the Fly.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Still Alarm.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Temptress, The.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Terry, Edward.—Gaiety T., Dublin.
Three Little Maids (N.) (Macdona).—Shrewsbury.
Throne of Terror.—Empire T., Dundee.
Toreador (Macdona).—Midlands.
Traitor.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
The Christian (Howard).—Seacombe.
Two Hussars.—Spennymoor.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—T. R., Windsor.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—Lyceum T., Govan.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—T. R., Glossop.
Two Little Vagabonds (M.).—Milford Haven.
Under the Russian Flag.—P. O. W. T., Salford.
Unwedded Wife.—Star T., Swansea.
'Varsity Belle.—T. R., Blackburn.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Dover.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—Royalty T., Chester.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—Prince's T., Bristol.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Prince's T., Horwich.
Warning to Women.—T. R., Coatbridge.
Wearin' o' the Green.—T. R., North Shields.
What the Butler Saw.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
When London Sleeps.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
When Woman Hates.—Metropole T., Devonport.
White Chrysanthemum (Curzon).—Court T., Liverpool.
White Chrysanthemum (Macdona).—Glasgow.
Wilkie, Allan, and Co.—Canterbury and Deal.
Worst Woman in London.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Youngest of Three.—King's T., Gainsboro'.
£1000 Reward.—T. R., Blyth.
10.30 Down Express.—T. R., Leigh.

The late Mr. Lechmere C. J. Livermore, whose obituary notice appeared in our columns a few weeks ago, has left estate valued at £13,807.

Chirgwin sent a wire to His Majesty on his birthday. The message was graciously acknowledged, and the "white-eyed one" feels highly honoured accordingly.

Mr. Ernie Mayne, out of upwards of twenty offers for Christmas, has settled to play Page in *Cinderella* for Mr. Harry Fischer, his original Edinburgh contract being taken over by that gentleman.

The latest quotations of music hall shares are as follows:—Alhambra, 1½; Canterbury, ¾; Empire (15s. paid), 1½; Empire (10s. paid), 1; London Pavilion Ord., 4⅜; London Pavilion Pref., 5; London Coliseum, ¼; Metropolitan, ¾; Moss Empire, 4⅜; Moss Empire Five per Cent. Pref., 3⅜; Oxford, 6⅜; Palace, 11s.; Tivoli, 6⅜; Varieties Consolidated Theatres, 15s.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

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"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
5, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. WILLIAMS.—*A Story of '45, by Watts Phillips, was produced at Drury Lane Theatre on Nov. 12, 1860, with the following cast: Sir Andrew Silverton, Mr. Benjamin Webster; Sir William Ashford, Mr. William Spencer; Cyril Silverton, Mr. M'Lein; Enoch Flicker, Mr. J. L. Toole; Evan M'Ian, Mr. Belford; Captain Hector Kilruddock, Mr. Farrell; Isabel Ashford, Miss Henrietta Simms; Miss M'Leod, Miss Clyde.*

J. G. W.—*Miss Lily Hanbury made her first appearance on any stage as Myrine, in W. S. Gilbert's* Pygmalion and Galatea, *at a Savoy matinée, May 16, 1888.*

S. K.—The Messenger Boy *was produced at the Gaiety, Feb. 3, 1900, and ran there till the first week in June, 1901.*

W. T. MONKS.—Santa Claus, *a version of the Babes in the Wood legend, was produced at the Lyceum, Dec. 26, 1894.*

PLAY-PRODUCING.—*The expenses in connection with the registration, obtaining Lord Chamberlain's permission, and giving public copyright performance, can be covered with a £10 note. Apply to the International Copyright Bureau, Oswaldestre House, Norfolk-street, W.C.*

M. A. A.—*A person can be refused admission to a theatre even though there is malice or spite in the refusal. Such person has no remedy.*

S. GOLDHILL.—*No, not in Gilbert and Sullivan's operas; but she appeared at the Savoy in* The Chieftain *(libretto by Sir F. C. Burnand, music by Sir A. Sullivan), and in the title-rôle in* The Grand Duchess.

GOLLY WOG.—*We cannot say. A letter addressed to him at "The Era" office might possibly reach him.*

R. H. DARSEY.—*(1) You should register both the performing right and the copyright at Stationers' Hall, London. If you write there the necessary forms for your signature will be sent. (2) We regret that we are unable to comply with your request. So much depends upon the kind of play it is and its merits from an acting point of view.*

W. MERTON JONES.—*Mr. Geo. Ashton, of Bond-street, the well-known agent, has all the arrangements, and for an answer to your question we must refer you to him.*

WAGER.—Leah Kleschna *was produced at the New Theatre, on May 2, 1905, where it ran for several months.*

LEONARD G.—*We regret that we cannot advise you.*

E. W. RHODES.—Antony and Cleopatra *was revived at the Princess's Theatre, on Nov. 18, 1890. The following were the principals in the cast: Antony, Mr. Charles Coghlan; Octavius, Mr. F. K. Cooper; Enobarbus, Mr. H. Stirling; Proculeius, Mr. H. Loraine; Eros, Mr. Chas. Burleigh; Lepidus, Mr. Beverley; Messenger, Mr. Oscar Adye; Clown, Mr. F. Everill; Pomplius, Mr. Kenneth Black; Cleopatra, Mrs. Langtry; Octavia, Miss Frances Ivor; Charmian, Miss Amy McNeill.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

HAMILTON.—Nov. 7, at 12, Grove-terrace, Leeds, Gracie, wife of Archie Hamilton (W. Hamilton's Excursions), of a son. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

DRING—HILL.—Nov. 10, at the Registrar's Office, Oldham, by special licence, C. H. S. Dring to Ina Hill.

HORNER-DUERDEN.—At St. Matthew's Church, Burnley, by the Rev. A. B. Edlestone, Harry Horner, of the Victoria Opera House and Empire Theatre, Burnley, to Mary Anne (Cissie) Duerden, by special licence.

PLUMMER—LINDA. — Nov. 8, 1906, at Stirling, T. Arthur Plummer to Cora Linda, both of "Man to Man" Company (Chattell's).

PLUMMER—LINDA.—Nov. 8, 1906, at Stirling, Cora Linda, to T. Arthur Plummer.

Wedding Cake (Miss Marie Lloyd's wedding).—There are several little triangular boxes in the Letter-box at *The Era* office, containing wedding cake and good wishes from Mr. and Mrs. Alec Hurley. Will Miss Dot Hardy, Miss Odeyne Spark, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mildare, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Earle please apply?

DEATHS.

CORRI.—On Nov. 11, Mrs. Rupert Corri, aged 79. Deeply regretted. R.I.P.

COURTE.—Nov. 7, at Cardiff, Mrs. Courte, wife of the late Henry Cooke (Courte), actress, aged 82.

CURTIS.—Nov. 6, Samuel Curtis, of the Royal Opera House, Leicester, aged 23.

FALCONER.—Oct. 29, at Belfast, Jane, beloved wife of J. E. Falconer, and dearly loved mother of Blanche Faire. Deeply regretted.

KUNZ.—At 31, South-villas, Camden-square, on the 14th inst., Raoul de Dreux Kunz, Mus. Bac., Oxon; aged 37.

MATTHEWS.—Nov. 5, from heart failure, William Matthews, of the original Matthews C.C.C. Minstrels, of St. James's Hall, in his 71st year. Interred at Highgate Cemetery, Nov. 9.

IN MEMORIAM.

CLARKE.—In loving memory of my dear nephew, Walter Clarke, who passed away Nov. 18, 1903. Never forgotten by his loving aunt, Alice Fontainbleau.

LITCHFIELD.—In fond loving memory of my darling mother, Emma Litchfield, who fell asleep Nov. 14, 1905. Sadly missed and deeply mourned by her devoted daughter, Emma. "Into Thy hands, O Lord, into Thy hands."

WILSON.—In loving memory of my dear mother, Ellen Wilson, who passed away Nov. 20, 1901. Gone, but never forgotten by her daughter Emily.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

Alberto, Mr. Fred
Alexander, Mr. W.
Alexander, Mr. Augustin.
Anderson, Miss B. M.
Andre, Madame
Archer, Mr. J.
Ardel, Mr. Tom
Ardeck, Miss Agnes
Balby, Mr. E. G.
Ball, Mr. A.
Barnet, Mr. W. J.
Baroni, Mr. Harry
Barrs, Mr. H.
Bathurst, Mr. Pat
Bayard, Miss
Beaufort, Miss G
Bedford, Mr. E. A.
Beaufort, Miss Georgie
Beecher, Mr. Edward
Bell, Mr. Stanley
Bella, Miss Pattie
Belle, Miss
Beltram, Miss Jessie
Bennett, Mr. Frank
Benson, Mr. T. W.
Birkett, Mr. Harold
Boothman, Miss
Boyd and Glifain
Bronson, Miss Kate
Brooks, Bros.
Brull, Mrs.
Buckingham, Mr. F.
Buckle, Miss Jennie
Caddick, Mr. B.
Caffrey, Mr. Chas.
Callan, Mr. John
Cameo, Mr. Willie
Canton, Mr. Wynne
Carling, Mr. Tony
Carson, Mr. L.
Chambers, Miss Emma
Champney, Mr. Walter
Chapin, Mrs. A.
Clayton, Mr. J. W.
Claff, Mr. Henry
Clayton, Mr. Rene
Clayton, Mr. Herbert
Clifford, Mr. Nat
Clive, Mr. F. W.
Cochrain, Mrs. C.
Cohen, Mr. Sydney L.
Colin, Mr. R.
Collins, Mr. Albert
Collins, Miss M.
Colwell, Mr.
Coma, Mr. Arthur
Connell, Mr. James
Conrad, Mr. Harry
Conrad, Mr. Louis
Coopers, The Three
Corina, Miss C.
Courtiers, The
Courtney, Mrs.
Crawley, Mr. J. C.
Cruikshank, The
Culshaw, Mr. Wm.
Curri, Mr. Carn
Dainton, Mr. Arthur
Danvers, Mr. John
Darrell, Miss Hilda
Davis, Mr. Bell
Daunton, Mrs.
Daunton, Mr. Geo.
De Camo, Mr. C.
Dene, Miss Hetty
Deomes, Mr. H.
Derina, Miss Addie
Dobbs, Miss Edith
Earle, Mr. F.
Easton, Mr. Reg.
Edgar, Mr. Ralph
Edwards, Miss Dollie
Ellison, Mr. J. W.
English Drama Society
English, Mr. Will
Entwistle, Mr. H.
Fischer, Mr. Harry
Fitzgerald, Mrs. Tom
Fontaine, Mr. V.
Foster, Mr. Chas.
Foster, Mr. B. S.
Galette's Monkeys
Gamble, Mr. E. C. W.
George, Miss Marie
Gerrard, Mr. C. H.
Gomer, Miss Florence
Green, Mr.
Gregory, Mr. E. G.
Halford, Mr. Robert
Hall, Mr. J.
Hallet, Mr. W.
Hanbury, Miss Hilda
Hannan, Mr. Percy
Harding, Mr. H.
Heam, Mr. Thomas
Henriot, Mr. Walter
"Henriques," The
Hertz, Mr. Carl
Herman, Mr. Chas.
Hodges, Mr. Horace
Holloway, Mr. Abe
Holloway, Mr. Joseph
Holt, Prof.
Hope, Miss Nell
Hope, Mr. R. M.
Hurman, Mr. Ernest
Iveson, Mr. Tony
Jeffries, Miss M
Jones, Mr. J.
Kendall, Mr. Harry
Kenny, Mr. Chas.
Kent, Miss J.
Kenyon, Mr. Neil
Keyes, Miss L.
King, Miss Hetty
Kioto, Mr. N. T.
Kisbey, Mr. H. J.
Knick-Knacks, The
Lang, Mr. M.
Lauder, Mr. Harry
Lauri, Madame
Lee, Mr. Edgar
Le Hay, Miss Daisy
Leigh and Armitage
Lemoine, Miss Rose
Le Neve and Sullivan
Lennard, Mr. Harry
Leslie, Mr. Alfred
Lewis, Mrs. Alwyn
Lewis, Mr. Gilbert
Leyton, Mr. Geo.
Lincoln, Mr. L.
Lingard, Mr. H.
Liston, Miss Marie
Locknane, Mr. Clement
Loftus, Miss Vinie
Lowe, Mrs. Lillian
Macarte, Miss Eleanor
Maclaren, Mr. Ian
Martelloni Troupe
May, Miss Edna
Mayne, Mr. W.
Mc Calla, Miss D.
Montford, Mr. Geo. R
Montefiore, Mr. Eade
Moore, Mr.
Murray, Miss Vera
Munro, Mr. D.
Myers, Mrs. Rose
Napier, Miss B.
Newton, Mr. Cecil
Norman, Mr. A. W.
Norman, Mr. E. B.
Novell, Mr. W.
Olive, Mr. M.
Parde, Mrs.
Patti, Madame A.
Pattison, Mr. Bart
Pauline, Princess
Payne, Capt. T.
Phillips, Mr. Nath.
Phydora, Mr. H.
Pierri, Mr. Antonio
Pillans, Miss Helen
Pink, Miss R.
Polini, Mrs.
Proctor, Mr. John
Rawschle, Mr.
Reckitts, Miss Edie
Ree, Miss Molly
Rees, Mr. Leonard
Reeves, Miss Marie
Restall, Mr. John
Revett, Miss Daisy
Roberts, Mr. H. R.
Russell, Mr. Harry
Searth, Mr. Frederick
Scott, Miss Emma
Scott, Mrs. Veretta
Sharlotte, Miss Freda
Sidney, Mr. Charlie
Smith, Mr. G. H.
Smith, Mr. Wellesley
Soden, Mr. John
Stadleman, Messrs. F.
Stanton, Miss J.
St. Clair, Miss Queenie
Steuart, Miss Emmie
Stormont, Mr. Leo
Sutherd, Mr. D.
Tasker, Mr. Ernest
Taylor, Mr. Gilbert E.
Temple, Mr. F.
Terry, Mr. H. E., jun.
Thomas, Mrs. R. S.
Tony, Little
Trayner, Mr. Mike
Tyrrell, Miss Florence
Vampire, Mr. James
Vane, Miss Ivy
Varney, Miss Gladys
Vassar, Dr. Carl
Virginia, Miss
Voce, Prof.
Vokes, Mr. W.
Walpole, Mr. E.
Warden, Mr. H'mphrey
Wardroper, Mr. Henry
Ware, Miss Valerie
Warlock, Mr. Jack
White, Mr. Claude
Williams, Miss Cora
Williams, Miss Jessie
Wills, Mr. Chas.
Wills, Mr. H. O.
Yorke, Mr. Nansen
Young, Mr. Alan W.
Zalva, Mr. Chas.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish Many Happy Returns of the Day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Herbert Waring—Sat., Nov. 17.
Ernest Metcalfe—Sat., Nov. 17.
Rose Ralph, Sat., Nov. 17.
Ettie Stratton—Sat., Nov. 17.
W. S. Gilbert—Sun., Nov. 18.
Cissie Moxon—Sun., Nov. 18.
Beatrice Vere—Sun., Nov. 18.
Hubert Percy—Sun., Nov. 18.
Nellie Levey—Sun., Nov. 18.
Carlotta Levey—Sun., Nov. 18.
W. S. Penley—Mon., Nov. 19.
Daisy Halling—Mon., Nov. 19.
Lillie Mowbray—Mon., Nov. 19.
Frank Perry—Mon., Nov. 19.
(Miss) A. Grattan-Clyndes—Mon., Nov. 19.
(Miss) Ffolliot Paget—Mon., Nov. 19.
Alfred Martin—Mon., Nov. 19.
Zeffie Tilbury—Mon., Nov. 19.
J. Field—Mon., Nov. 19.
Marie de Roos—Tues., Nov. 20.
Carter Livesey—Tues., Nov. 20
Chas. R. Stone—Tues., Nov. 20.
H. G. Worth—Tues., Nov. 20.
Chas. Levey—Tues., Nov. 20.
Wallace Davidson—Wed., Nov. 21.
Gladys Elvaston—Wed., Nov. 21.
Doris Cameron—Wed., Nov. 21.
Dorothy Drake—Wed., Nov. 21.
Marie Trevor—Wed., Nov. 21.
Mary Brougham—Wed., Nov. 21.
Herbert Sidney—Wed., Nov. 21.
Frank Stanley—Wed., Nov. 21.
Amos Parker—Thurs., Nov. 22.
G. Leglere—Thurs., Nov. 22.
Percy Baverstock—Thurs., Nov. 22.
Chas. Esdale—Fri., Nov. 23.
Thomas Thorne—Fri., Nov. 23.
C. Blyth Pratt—Fri., Nov. 23.
Edith Finlay—Fri., Nov. 23.
Geo. F. Black—Fri., Nov. 23.

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Further particulars from SECRETARY, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, London.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

NAME.	DATE.
Abrahams, Messrs. F. & M.	March 31, 1906.
Alexander, Mr. Alex.	June 2, 1906.
Ashcroft, Late Mr. W. E.	October 27, 1906.
Ashton, Mr. George	May 5, 1906.
Ashton, Miss Margaret	September 1, 1906.
Ball, Mr. Alf	September 1, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barclay, Mr. Arthur J.	May 26, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barnett, Mr. Orlando	October 6, 1906.
Barrasford, Mrs.	February 10, 1906.
Beatty, Miss May	November 10, 1906.
Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Bessle, Late Miss Elizabeth	February 3, 1906.
Billington, Mrs. John	January 20, 1906.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	September 15, 1906.
Brough, Mr. Lionel	May 13, 1905.
Brown-Potter, Mrs.	March 3, 1906.
Burton, Mr. John	March 10, 1906.
Butt, Mr. Alfred	August 25, 1906.
Carrington, Miss Eva	February 24, 1906.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Cellier, Miss Marguerite	May 26, 1906.
Chapin, Miss Alice	May 26, 1906.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul	May 5, 1906.
Clarey, Late Mr. H. O.	February 24, 1906.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Clark, Late Mr. Henri	Dec. 9, 1905.
Clark, Mr. T. Sealey	May 19, 1906.
Collette, Mr. Charles	November 4, 1905.
Collier, Mr. Hal	May 19, 1906.
Conquest, Mr. Arthur	May 26, 1906.
Conquest, Mr. Fred	Dec. 9, 1905.
Coote, Mr. Bert	June 16, 1906.
Corri, Mlle. Ghita	September 22, 1905.
Costello, Mr. Tom	September 15, 1906.
Cotterell, Mr. Sid	July 14, 1906.
Crisp, Late Mr. Henry	May 26, 1906.
Cruikshank, Mr. Alfred	March 17, 1906.
Culloch, Mr. Arthur	November 10, 1906.
Dallas, Mr. J. J.	July 7, 1906.
Dampier, Mr. Alfred	May 12, 1906.
Deering, Late Miss R.	July 14, 1906.
De Gracia, Mr. G.	May 19, 1906.
Dobson, Mr. E. H.	August 12, 1905.
Donegan, Mr. James E.	May 20, 1905.
Duff, Master Harry E.	April 29, 1905.
Dyball, Mr. George H.	January 13, 1906.
Earnshaw, Mr. Arthur	November 4, 1905.
Elliott, Late Mr. J. B.	May 26, 1906.
Elen, Mr. Gus	September 23, 1905.
Gastelle, Miss Stella	July 15, 1905.
Gatti, Late Mr. Stefano	October 20, 1906.
Genée, Mlle.	September 22, 1906.
Godfrey-Turner, Miss M.	October 28, 1905.
Gibbs, Miss Edith	March 3, 1906.
Grace, Miss Amy	January 13, 1906.
Gray, Miss Dora	January 13, 1906.
Grey, Miss Isabel	July 7, 1906.
Grove, Mr. Fred	March 10, 1906.
Grein, Mr. J. T.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Gunn, Miss Haidee	September 30, 1905
Hamlyn, Mr. J. D.	January 20, 1906.
Hansen, Miss Laura	January 20, 1906.
Harris, Mr. Thomas	February 24, 1906.
Harriss, Miss Sophie	April 7, 1905.
Harvey, Late Mr. Eddie	September 1, 1906.

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For Scale of Charges see another Page.

THE ERA
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1906.

MR. JONES'S JEREMIAD.

Mr. HENRY ARTHUR JONES is always "on the move," and his activity is ever interesting. Between the years 1883 and 1894 he overflowed with essays and lectures on the drama. Many of these appeared in monthly reviews; others were delivered before clubs and "leagues." They all partook of the nature of complaints and protests, and kept his name well before the public.

When Mr. JONES has not been doing dramas, which, happily for his prosperity, have been non-literary, he has been pleading very eloquently for an English stage of another, and less popular, sort.

In his recent lecture to the students of Harvard University Mr. JONES went over well-known ground. He complained of the divorce of the English drama from literature; the absence from modern English plays of any but the conventional ideas of morality; the effect of long runs and the present system of management upon the training of actors; and the absence of any care or knowledge about a national drama.

When these defects of our English theatre are brought before the notice of the public, the line taken by certain amiable apologists is that of evasive excuse. We see no reason to be apologetic. We do not believe in a nation abandoning its natural qualities in order to imitate those of other countries. An Italianised Englishman, the mediæval proverb said, was a devil incarnate; and a Frenchified or Germanised Briton is a hybrid being, entirely unsatisfactory and ineffectual. The Spartans had to degenerate at some time or other, but they would not have delayed their decadence by playing at being Athenians. We can compare England to a horse which does an enormous amount of work in "blinkers." One of the most valuable assets of the British character is its density of apprehension. Brains are not an unmixed blessing, and our practice of taking short views and ignoring cloudy theories has hitherto "worked well."

What is the essential difference between the English playgoing public and those of France and Germany? Chiefly that the French and the Germans are moral philosophers, while the English are not. And we maintain that the English are in the right of it. Once let the drama emerge from its real function—*i.e.*, that of recreation after labour—and it inevitably becomes, like all literature at the present period, morbid, melancholy, and depressing. The old stories are all used up; the old illusions are exploded; and the modern dramatist is forced, in his search for sensation, to "go in for gloom." He is very much in the position of a daily newspaper: it is not the ninety-nine sober and satisfied citizens who are of any value to him, but the hundredth who commits murder, adultery, or suicide. Mr. JONES demands in his Corner-stone No. 3 the "acknowledged right of the dramatist to deal with the serious problems of life—with the passion of men and women." This right has been freely granted in France and Germany, and what is the result? Not the "broad, wise, sane morality of the Bible and SHAKESPEARE," but a bitter pessimism, a melancholy *reductio ad absurdum* of human hope and effort. Writing of M. HENRY BECQUE'S *Parisienne*—a cynical picture of a pack of calmly adulterous *canaille*—poor Mrs. CRAIGIE said: "There are critics who, mistaking the situation for the philosophy, have called this piece immoral. A true book, a true play, cannot be otherwise than moral. It is the false picture—no matter how pretty—which makes for immorality." But Art is primarily a question of selection, and the artist is responsible for his choice of subject. The association of a theatrical audience, from eight till eleven of an evening, with a "sorry crew" of dramatic personages has much the same effect on the individual spectator as "bad company" in real life would have. Take, for instance, *Les Trois Filles de M. Dupont*, a version of which was produced not long ago by the Stage Society. It is simply a hopeless condemnation of the existing social order. The only action which it stimulates is universal anarchy and suicide. The effect on an audience is simply "sickening." As for the literary drama of the Continent, where the playwright has "full scope to deal with the passions of men and women," here are a few sample scenarios of its masterpieces:

Les Tenailles (Hervieu).—Wife married to husband she does not care for. Falls in love with another man. Asks husband to release her. He refuses to "collude" in a divorce case. Ten years elapse. Boy has been born, and has grown up. They quarrel over his education; and wife, in a rage, owns that the boy is the son of her lover. Then it is the husband's turn. He claims a divorce. But the wife refuses. He has no evidence but her confession. Result, dead-lock and despair.

La Loi de l'Homme (same author).—Wife discovers that her husband has been unfaithful. Husband's partner in adultery is a married woman, whose son subsequently falls in love with the injured wife's beloved daughter. Wife objects to the match. The young man's father demands an explanation. Wife tells him the truth. Injured husband, after a passionate struggle with his feelings, concludes to keep silence for the sake of the young lovers.

Grafin Julie (Strindberg). — An abnormally amorous young lady, daughter of a Count, conceives an infatuation for the footman. He seduces her, and makes her rob her father. Finally, the footman gives the girl a razor, and tells her to go and cut her throat. She does so.

Les Corbeaux (Becque).—A widow and three daughters, by the death of the head of the house, are placed at the mercy of the "ravens"—sharp rascals who swoop down on the inheritance. The women would be ruined, did not the eldest girl offer herself up as a sacrifice to the most detestable villain of the lot, whom she marries, practically prostituting herself to save her mother and sisters from poverty.

Rose Bernd (Hauptmann). — A female farm labourer is seduced by a rural mayor. A rascally engineer criminally assaults her. She has a baby, strangles it, and goes mad.

What good can come to anyone, young or old—young especially—from witnessing plays of this class? An impression is created that the world is much worse than it really is; and the merciful illusions which make life tolerable for the great majority are ruthlessly destroyed. Surely it is better to have a "non-literary" theatre to make one contented than a despairing drama to drive one mad? At any rate, that is what the English public think; all except a very small section of over-cultured and cosmopolitan folk, who are certainly active and persistent enough to create an illusion as to their number and importance.

DINNER TO MR. T. P. O'CONNOR.

A complimentary dinner will be given to Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday to celebrate the passing of the Musical Copyright Act of 1906. The Duke of Argyll, K.T., will take the chair, and the Chairman of the Committee will be Sir Alexander C. Mackenzie. On the General Committee are:—

The Earl of Plymouth,
The Earl of Lytton,
Viscount Knutsford,
Lord Balcarres, M.P.,
Lord Monkswell,
Lord Burnham,
The Right Hon. Sir Edward H. Carson, P.C., K.C., M.P.,
The Right Hon. C. B. Stuart-Wortley, P.C., K.C., M.P.,
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William Boosey, Esq.

MISS EMILY SOLDENE issued the following proclamation on Tuesday:—"Permit me, dear friends, to thank all of you for your presence this afternoon. I am retiring with great regret from the stage, but we have to make way for others when age creeps on us. Personally I feel as young as I did in the old Philharmonic days, but the doctors say I must not be so energetic. I must, however, tell you in this manner how grateful I am to Mr. Tree for his presence, to all the artists for providing the entertainment, and to the directors of the Palace Theatre, and especially to Mr. Alfred Butt, for granting me the use of this handsome and popular establishment for my 'farewell.' And in particular I must express my heartfelt gratitude to the silent workers who have organised and carried through the programme. I refer to Mr. Herman Finck, the musical director, Mr. Frank Damer, the stage director, Mr. Edward A. Pickering, the acting manager, and Mr. Thomas Miller, the treasurer. To these, and to the proprietors of "The Daily Chronicle" for their help in the organisation, to the proprietor of "The Military Mail," for the beautiful programmes, and to all my other kind friends, I can only repeat—Thanks, Thanks, Thanks."

THE TOOLE RELICS.

The sale by auction of the late Mr. J. L. Toole's effects was continued on Monday afternoon, when the contents of the deceased gentleman's residence were sold at 44, Maida Vale, W. At the outset it was announced that the fourteen years' unexpired lease of the house had been disposed of by private treaty. The proceeds of this, the second day's sale, realised £500, apart, of course, from the lease. The lots put up were not of great artistic interest, as they were mainly confined to household furniture, linen, crockery and glass, carpets, and kitchen and garden utensils. Mr. Frank J. Arlton, the cousin and companion of the veteran actor, secured, among other things, Mr. Toole's theatre dressing-table for £1 10s., while for 16s. he obtained six water-colour drawings in two frames, pictures depicting Shakespeare's infancy and courtship, and Mr. Garrick and Miss Bellamy as Romeo and Juliet. Twenty-four *Vanity Fair* cartoons went for £4 12s., a gentleman's early English wardrobe £5 15s., a set of twelve coloured characters from Dickens, along with other oddments, £1 6s.; twenty-one pictures, including ten by Chas. Mathews, £1 10s. £7 17s. 6d. was the price paid for part of Mr. Toole's bedroom suite, comprising a Beaconsfield wardrobe, a duchesse dressing-table, a washstand, and three cane-seated chairs. Five engravings—"The Trial of Queen Catherine," "The Railway Station" (after Frith), "Raising the Maypole" (after Goodall), "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (after Landseer), and "Venice" (after Turner)—went for £3. Good bids were made for the ornamental articles, which included a beautifully carved ivory model of a pagoda standing in a garden, with numerous figures and trees, surrounded by trellis-work paling; Crown Derby ware, Chinese bowls and Oriental plates, opal and gilt glass punch service, and Rouen, Parian, and Doulton ware vases.

The third day's sale—and by far the most interesting—took place on Thursday afternoon at Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's. There was a good attendance, the visitors including Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Lionel Brough, Mr. C. M. Lowne, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Frank J. Arlton, Mr. Tom Hazlewood, Mr. Bransby Williams, Miss Sybil Ruskin, and Miss Blanche Wolsey. One of the principal items in the list of 173 lots was a long-link gold watch-chain, with circular pendant locket containing a lock of Edwin Booth's hair, and inscribed "Edwin Booth's hair, for Henry Irving from William Bispham, Nov. 13, 1893," and a combined sovereign-case and matchbox, containing £1 10s. in coin, and inscribed, "To Henry Irving, from J. L. Toole, Feb. 6, 1894." The same lot also contained "This purse (and contents), chain, and locket, as worn by Sir Henry Irving when he died (Oct. 13, 1905), were presented to J. L. Toole by Messrs. H. B. and Laurence Irving, Feb. 17, 1906." There was some stiff bidding over these articles, which eventually went to Mr. Gamble, representing the real purchaser, for 64 guineas. An Algerian onyx scarf-pin, set round with small brilliants, and a small ruby and diamond horse-shoe scarf-pin, presented by the King, when Prince of Wales, to Toole and Irving, went for comparatively small sums, their history not being generally known. Mr. Arlton bought, on behalf of Mr. Ambrose Manning, for the sum of £10 10s., another scarf-pin, set with small white brilliants, and presented by Sir Henry Irving to Toole. Mr. Fred Terry, who took away several curios and mementos out of the collection, gave £25 for a long gold neck-chain with chased gold locket, small brilliant in centre and portrait of Irving, inscribed "Boston, 1899," and a fob chain, bar, and seal, engraved with boar, and bearing the words "Edmund Kean's Seal, J. L. Toole, from Henry Irving, February, 1893." £33 12s. was paid for a flat circular gold locket with monogram, containing a lock of the late Henry Irving's hair, inscribed inside "Sir Henry Irving's hair for J. L. Toole, from Bram Stoker, March 12, 1906." Mr. Bewlay, of the famous firm of tobacconists, secured for £41 an oblong chased gold and dark blue enamel snuff-box, with combined monograms in brilliants and roses, "J. L. T.—H. I.," and inscribed inside "From Henry Irving to J. L. Toole, 1889." A beautiful Worcester china dessert service, with perforated borders, richly gilt, painted in birds, comprising twenty-six pieces, and supposed to have belonged to Charles Dickens, fell at twenty guineas. Several lots, formerly in the possession of the late Sir Henry Irving, were also put up for auction, and fetched good prices. A wrought-iron Elizabethan stove, from Mrs. Siddon's dining-room, fitted for wood fire and loose grate for coals, only realised the sum of 12s. A very interesting model of the Maypole Inn (1780) mentioned in "Barnaby Rudge," and contained in a glass case, was obtained by Mr. Bransby Williams for £3 15s., and a scarf-pin, engraved with the words "I am still happy, was purchased for £2 15s. on behalf of Miss Evelyn Millard.

THE MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.

The monthly committee meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday at the York Hotel, York-road. Mr. W. J. Waimatta (vice-president) occupied the chair, and there was also present Messrs. Frank Heath, F. Slingsby, Tom Carney, H. E. High, J. Mulcaster, J. Shields, G. Malcolm, and R. T. Baines (secretary). A cheery telegram ("Am with you in spirit if not in the flesh") from the president (Mr. Pat Carey), who is appearing this week at the Empire, Leeds, was received in the course of the meeting.

The illuminated address to the president on the occasion of his marriage was on view. It was in a handsome frame, and read as follows:—"Music Hall Sick Fund, Oct. 1, 1906: The committee and officers of the above society desire to offer you their sincere and hearty congratulations on your approaching marriage, and their heartfelt wishes that the future will have in store for you and the lady you are about to wed long life, happiness, and prosperity." The address was signed by the officers and committee of the society, and it was resolved that it should be forwarded to Mr. Carey.

Mr. High called attention to the fact that Mr. Fredk. Baugh had offered one of his variety theatres for a benefit performance in aid of the Society's Management Fund, and asked if anything had been done in the matter.

The secretary said that he had not received any further communication on the subject.

Several members expressed the opinion that it would not be advisable to have a benefit performance before Christmas, and the matter dropped.

After the transaction of some private business, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

MR. CHAS. FISHER, originator of "condensed operas" in our variety theatres, has successfully launched a burlesque operatic skit, and is now playing two special weeks at Mr. Stoll's halls, this being his fifth engagement. He is rebooked for the Moss-Stoll tour next year.

MR. FRED KARNO'S troupe is appearing at the Alexandra, Stoke Newington, this week in *Saturday to Monday*, which is described as a musical pantomimical extravaganza. The burden of the work in the entertainment, is borne by Mr. Rolando Martin, who works very hard throughout the evening, and proves himself an alert and resourceful comedian. Mr. Martin receives adequate support from his fellow members of the company, the more prominent of whom are Misses May Rogerson and Ada Maskell, and Messrs. J. W. Bradbury, Dick Harcourt, J. Fletch, and V. H. Crawford.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

"LES ARMAILLIS,"
Dramatic Legend, in Two Acts, by Henri Cain and D. Baud-Bauvy.
music by M. Gustave Doret;
produced at the Opéra-Comique on Nov. 9.

Koebi	M. DUFRANNE
Hansbi	M. DEVRIES
Fritz	M. CAZENEUVE
L'aubergiste	M. GUILLAMAT
Madeli	MME. LAMARRE
Lina	MLLE DE POURMAYRAC
Roeseli	MLLE. VILLETTE
Un buveur	M. TARQUINE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Nov. 15.—We have had some interesting novelties this week, and the Opéra-Comique opened the ball with three productions, of which *Les Armaillis* is decidedly the best. The plot is founded on a Swiss legend. It is the story of two shepherds, Hansbi and Koebi, who live together in the mountains. Hansbi is weak and timid; Koebi brutal and strong. Both are in love with Maedeli; and when Koebi hears that his friend and the girl are affianced, his jealousy takes the upperhand. Mad with rage, he throttles Hansbi and throws the body into the torrent. In the evening Maedeli is waiting for her *oancé* at the ball in front of the village inn. She dances with Koebi, when suddenly they carry in Hansbi's corpse, which the torrent has thrown up. The dance is brought to a stop, and Koebi remains alone. He drinks to drown his fear, and beholds the shadow of Hansbi, who seizes him by the throat. Koebi utters a shriek and dies. At the windows of the village inn the heads of men and women appear. "Did somebody call?" they ask. But they do not see Koebi lying dead on the ground; and they return to their rooms with each other's good-night. This dénouement is most effective, and created a deep impression. Altogether, the libretto is most picturesque. The music, too, is well in keeping with the character of the story. Very melodious, beautifully orchestrated, it deserves to hold a prominent place in the Opéra-Comique répertorie.

"LES MOUETTES,"
Comedy, in Three Acts, by M. Paul Adam, produced at the Comédie-Française, on Nov. 14.

Chamballot	M. RAPHAEL DUFLOS
Jean Kervil	M. HENRY MAYER
Madame Darnot	MLLE. RENEEDU MINIL
Yvonne Kervil	MLLE. LARA
Marianne	MLLE LYNNES
Anne-Marie	MLLE DUSSANNE
Adrienne Darnot	MLLE BERTHE CERNY

The Comédie-Française has given us an ultra modern play with Nietsche tendencies, and the author has succeeded in making all his characters brutal and unsympathetic, with the exception of a saintly wife, who, even in a mystical Brittany village, strikes us as overdrawn. The work was evidently intended to end in the same unfeeling spirit in which it was conceived; and the final scene was undoubtedly altered with the view of sending the audience home with a less bitter taste in their mouths. The plot is as follows. Dr. Kervil, a Brittany physician, has discovered a "serum" for typhoid. Too poor to "push" his discovery, he consults Chambalot, a college chum, who advises him to raise the money, no matter how, even if he has to divorce his wife to marry a rich woman. As it happens, Mme. Adrienne Darnot, a rich widow, lives in the same house. She takes an interest in the doctor's discovery, and he falls in love with her. Adrienne makes no secret of her affection for Kervil; and the latter's wife is actually prepared to sacrifice herself so as to ensure a brilliant career for her husband; but when she informs the doctor that, despite her love for him, she is willing to divorce, he refuses. They will remain together. Mlle. Lara, as the saintly wife, looked and acted her part to perfection. M. Duflos made the most of the ungrateful rôle of the unprincipled Chambelot; and M. Mayer supplied a good sketch of the scientist Kervil.

At the Vaudeville he have had a revival of *Education de Prince*, originally brought out at the Variétiés. The well-known plot need not be retold. M. Maurice Donnay's witty and sarcastic work again met with an excellent reception; and the piece seems booked for a long run.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

On Thursday, Nov. 15,
"THE CINGALEE.

From the pitiless rain and mud of a typical November afternoon to the graceful sunny clime of Karagama is a change that one can realise with satisfaction. Thanks to the enterprise of Mr. Kay Draco, he was enabled to afford such facilities to those who cared for them on Thursday, when he presented Mr. Geo. Dance's principal company in *The Cingalee* at the Richmond Theatre. The entire company worked—and won—a unanimous verdict of approval. As Sir Peter Loftus Mr. Grafton Williams was altogether excellent; the Hon. Harry Vereker found a really capable exponent in Mr. Cyril Dane, who sang with a considerable amount of artistic taste "One Little Girl." Peals of undisguised mirth resulted from the efforts of Mr. Jack Crichton as the Baboo lawyer Chambuddy Ram; we confess we have never seen the part handled with more conspicuous success. Bobby Warren was represented by Mr. Ethelbert Edwards; his "games" song afforded a lot of amusement. Mr. Helier Le Maistre's powerful voice was heard to advantage in the excerpt, "There's nothing more to say." Mr. Pritchard made much of his slender opportunities as Myamgah, and valuable aid was lent by Messrs. Ramsay, Nixon, Madgwick, and Sadler. *Place aux dames*, the ladies engaged acquitted themselves admirably. A dainty, fascinating little Peggy was Miss Gladys Guy, always a favourite at Richmond. In conjunction with Chambuddy she scored a success in "If I were a Parakeet," and in another song, "She's All Right," she won the compliment of a triple encore—and deserved it; her success was equally marked in "Gollywogs," which evoked tumultuous applause. Miss Marjory Clarke was a distinguished-looking Lady Patricia Vane, and soon won her way into the good graces of the audience. She played with considerable refinement and vivacity. Dainty Miss Georgina Middleton as Nanoya, the Cingalee, also scored an unqualified success. She played with an amount of charm that proved her an artist, and her vocalisation left nothing to be desired. Perhaps her best effort was "The Cinnamon Tree," with a capital chorus, but she was charming throughout. As Angy, Miss Essie Perron was clever in a skilfully executed *pas seul* in Act II. and the quartette of tea girls evinced a considerable amount of ability and contributed largely to the success of the play; so much so, that their names should not be omitted from honourable mention. They were Mesdames Kitty Stephens, Marie Hayden, Blanche Alleyne, and Laura Lindsley. The increased chorus and orchestra were under the direction of Mr. Peter Flitcroft, who is to be highly praised on the success of his efforts.

NELSON AND THOMAS will produce on Nov. 22, at the Palace, Bristol, a new and original comedy, entitled *A Fight for a Fiver*, by the late E. J. Malyon, author of *The Order of the Bath*, &c. The cast will include Master Richard Evans.

MISS ANNIE LAURIE sailed per s.s. Ortona on Friday for Australia, under engagement to Mr. Harry Rickards, the contract being made by Pacey and Reeves.

CALDER'S company are drawing good houses this week at the Empire, Belfast, in the thirty minutes' skit, *The Deputy Duke*, which we expect to see in London shortly.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mrs. George Adney Payne has kindly consented to sing at the Canterbury on the afternoon of the 27th inst., on the occasion of the matinée to be given at that house in aid of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild. The objects of this new charitable organisation have Mrs. Payne's warmest sympathy.

Donations of clothing have reached the Music Hall Ladies' Guild from the Misses Lloyd, Mrs. Smythson, and Mrs. Rawlins. The M.H.A.R.A. have just sent a cheque for the exceedingly handsome donation of £105, which the Guild desire to acknowledge with their heartfelt thanks. The following sums have also been received:—Will Oliver, £2 2s.; Mrs. Pat Carey, 5s.; Miss Bijou Russell, 10s. 6d.; Miss Annie Schubert, 2s. 6d.; Miss Florian Schubert, 2s. 6d.; and Miss A. Raymond, 2s. 6d.

Business at the Alhambra is so good that Mr. George Scott will not need any new attraction to succeed *L'Amour* for some time to come—probably not until the new year. It is understood that Miss Julie Seale will return to the older Leicester-square house and dance in the next production.

Miss Soldene on Tuesday afternoon, just before the close of her matinée, received a telegram of good wishes from some French admirers and Australian friends in Paris. Among those who signed it were Mme. Bernhardt, M. Coquelin, Mme. Dreyfus, and Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Donohoe.

The Palace Theatre Bioscope presented on Monday night several animated pictures of the arrival of the King and Queen of Norway. One picture showed Queen Maud and the little Prince Olaf waiting outside Windsor Station for their carriage and their subsequent passage through the ancient town.

Mr. Jesse Sparrow and Mr. Harry Bawn, on behalf of the Empire, Camberwell, Syndicate, have acquired the Grand Theatre, Islington, which they intend running as a music hall on the twice nightly plan, but not until the conclusion of the pantomime season. This change in the fortunes of the Islington theatre will increase the total of variety houses within a mile circuit to four. As each is governed by a different management there will be no stint in the administration of the barring clause. It is understood that Messrs. Sparrow and Bawn are by way of acquiring other suburban theatres, and that their enterprises will be increased considerably in the course of 1907. But of this more anon.

Mr. Joseph Wilson has made arrangements for Mr. Arthur Roberts to appear at the Tivoli at Christmas in a grand travesty of *Robin Hood*. Mr. Lewis Waller has not only given his full sanction to the parody, but has entered into the spirit of the thing in a sportsmanlike manner, interesting himself in the production, and, indeed, giving Mr. Roberts some funny ideas. The title (just fixed upon) will be *Robin Waller, A.O.F.; or, The Maid of the Mill 'Ard By*. The author is Mr. Herbert Shelley and the composer Mr. Ernest Bucalossi. Special scenery will be painted by Mr. Bruce Smith.

Mr. Bransby Williams, accompanied by his wife, arrived in London this week, fresh from his American successes. They crossed from New York on the Caronia, Cunard Line, and give an exciting account of the fire which broke out on board in the early hours of Tuesday morning. Although many of the passengers were unaware of the incident until they heard of it at breakfast on the following day, the occupants of the state-rooms near to the danger were awakened and called into the saloon in the middle of the night.

It was a scene to be long remembered—the splendid discipline of the men at the hose, and the crowd of half-dressed people, calm, but fully realising the possible dangers of a fight between fire and water. It was not surprising that the popular actor looked thoroughly worn out when he reached home, and among the telephonic welcomes that he received all day Wednesday and Thursday, it was rather amusing that he should be frequently rung up to tell his friends that he was not burnt!

Mr. Williams's visit to America was highly successful, and he found variety audiences on the other side thoroughly appreciative of the humour and pathos of Dickens. Before leaving the States he was nobly entertained by the Manhattan branch of the American Dickens' Fellowship, a dinner being given in New York, with Mr. George Cary Eggleston, the well-known author, in the chair. The souvenir menu contained portraits of the great Boz and of the young Dickensian as Squeers, Barnaby Rudge, and "himself," and apt quotations from the famous novels, Mr. Williams being complimented by a line from "Bleak House"—"I don't know his hequal—and that man's character wardrobe would fill a cart."

The new water spectacle, on the production of which Mr. Frank Parker is exercising his ingenuity and imagination at the Hippodrome, will form the Christmas attraction at that house. Possibly Mr. Fred Trussell may be able to give a hint or two, gathered from his rich store of experiences garnered during his recent voyage in the neighbourhood of Tangier. The name given to the new spectacle is *Treasure Ship in Fairy Seas*—suggestive of coral strands, placid waves, and blue, unclouded skies. The lake will take the place of the ring; and, by an ingenious illusion, the whole of the auditorium will form part of the scene under the waves. Miss Annette Kellerman and the Sisters Finney, two younger daughters of Mr. James Finney, will waltz in the water, while other mermaids will perform in aerial flight above the ring.

Dr. Walford Bodie has sent a cheque for £20 to be equally divided between the Music Hall Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home. Part of the above sum was the profits of his lecture given at the Canterbury three weeks ago, of which full particulars are given in another column.

The Lyceum is to be sold by auction at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, by Messrs. Glasier and Sons on Thursday, Dec. 13, under an order from the the Chancery Division issued by Justice Kekewich. The house is described as the scene of Sir Henry Irving's greatest triumphs, and as an exceedingly valuable freehold property. The sale offers a "unique opportunity for acquiring a suitable National Theatre."

Mr. Eugene Stratton, who has just terminated a long and successful provincial tour, will depart for South Africa on Saturday, Dec. 8, in order to fulfil a series of engagements with Messrs. Sydney Hyman and Co. at Cape Town and Johannesburg.

Miss Lizzette Kitchin will shortly reproduce the successful Irish sketch, *Donnybrook*, which has been rearranged by Mr. Fred Kitchin, with music by Mr. Dudley Powell. It is being booked through the agency of Mr. Fred Neiman.

Miss Maris Lloyd having been unfortunately indisposed this week, her dainty sister, Miss Alice Lloyd, has been appearing in her stead, and both at the Oxford and Euston has been charming all hearers with her delightful rendering of the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s latest big "winner," "Queen of Old Samara," by Mr. J. P. Lambe, which song the same winsome artist will specially "feature" at Christmas, and after, in the Crown Theatre, Peckham, pantomime, in which she will enact the part of principal girl.

Negotiations have been concluded between Mr. J. W. Turner, the well-known operatic tenor and proprietor of the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, and the directorate of Moss Empires, Ltd., by which that popular playhouse is handed over to the great music hall combination directed by Sir Edward Moss and Mr. Oswald Stoll. At the price of £40,000, in round figures, one of the most prominent playhouses in the Midlands is thus transferred from drama to variety. Mr. Turner, who acquired the building from the late Mr. Andrew Melville in 1893, fixed a definite figure as a cash value, and no offer less than this was entertained. Moss Empires, Ltd., have paid cash, it is said, and will take possession in March next. The Grand Theatre was built from designs by Mr. W. A. Ward, and was completed in 1883. It was opened by its proprietor, the late Mr. Melville, on Nov. 14, 1883.

The Liverpool theatrical licensing sessions were held on Thursday. A licence was granted to the New Tivoli Palace, Lime-street, which will be opened on Dec. 3. It was stated that the company owning the premises also controlled the Park Palace and the Paddington Palace, the combined capital, all fully paid-up, being £38,000 in debenture shares, £19,000 in preferred ordinary, and £31,000 in ordinary.

Permission to smoke was granted to the Paddington and Royal, where dramatic sketches occupy the whole of the evening's entertainment. The police stated that there was no objection to smoking, for such a custom was no more dangerous during a dramatic piece than during a variety show. The same privilege was granted to the Park Palace, Mr. Fred Willmott having secured the licence. Mr. Marks, manager of this place, has been appointed general manager of the company's three theatres—a very wise selection.

The promotion is announced of Mr. Eric Smith from stage-manager at the Holloway Empire, a position which he has filled during the past five years, to assistant acting-manager. Mr. Smith had been at the Princess's Theatre before joining the company's staff. The vacancy was created by the promotion of Mr. Rand from assistant acting-manager at Holloway to acting-manager at the company's new Empire at Coventry.

In response to a congratulatory telegram sent by Mr. Fred Leighton, the genial manager of the Sheerness Hippodrome, on the occasion of His Majesty's birthday, the following reply has been received:—"The King commands me to thank you and the inhabitants of Sheerness for their loyal message of congratulation and good wishes.—Knollys."

Mr. Fred Aydon has been at the head of affairs at the Rickards New Opera House, Melbourne, since its opening some five years ago, and his displayed a rare combination of tact and talent in handling the ever varying stream of star artists who have filled the Opera House programme during the period mentioned.

Mr. Councillor Broadhead, head of the Broadhead Circuit, who has just completed his year of office as Mayor of that go-ahead Lancashire town, has been presented by his brother Councillors with an illuminated address and a gold ex-Mayor's badge. The gift to Mrs. Broadhead took the form of a locket with her initials traced thereon in gems.

The People's Palace, Bridlington, in consequence of the company owning it going into voluntary liquidation, will be sold by auction on the premises on Thursday, Nov. 29, by Messrs. Cranswick and Cranswick. The property is freehold, and includes a large concert hall or theatre (licenced), with large gallery and a seating capacity for about 1,500 people; a large refreshment-room (fully licensed), an extensive ball-room in basement with large room adjoining; a good bowling-green in the grounds; ten thousand yards, or thereabouts, of valuable building land; seven shops; and eleven houses.

The Sunderland Town Council has submitted a resolution to its members directing that all licences for places of entertainment within the jurisdiction of the borough shall contain a clause stipulating for a fixed time for opening. The resolution is intended, apparently, to abolish early doors; but is it not unwarrantable interference with the various managements?

Mr. Albert Mathams has been presented, by a number of his friends in Hastings, with a handsome illuminated testimonial and a cheque. During his tenure of office at the local hippodrome Mr. Mathams won the esteem of both visitors and town-dwellers, and the pleasant outcome of this feeling of warm regard will be much treasured by him.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard, having secured a full licence for the New Theatre Royal, King's Lynn, intends, in conjunction with Mr. A. D. Vernon, of the Theatre Royal, Peterborough, running both houses as music halls.

La Tosca, after a lengthy tour of the provinces as an artistic *poseuse*, has received a most tempting offer to tour South Africa, under the management of Mr. F. Fillis, with Lynn, F.O.S., as her business representative.

Little Zola is still vacant for pantomime. After three years with the late George Conquest, there should be no difficulty in the placing of this versatile and funny comedian, who is causing uproarious laughter both at the Middlesex and Standard this week.

Mr. T. W. Volt, the celebrated comedian, so long associated with *The Lady Slavey*, and later, principal comedian at the Hippodrome, is by way of producing at a London hall, in a week or so, Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate's farcical musical sketch, *Lord Bill's Bills*. This production contains several excellent numbers.

Mr. Gus Elen has been the cause of much hearty laughter at the Tivoli, having revived those comical songs, "The pavement artist" and "Meriah!" in which latter (the work of Scott M'Kenzie) the artist cuts a truly grotesque figure in his wedding garb, consisting of silk hat, frock coat, and corduroy trousers with ankle straps *à la* navvy, which last adornment was suggested to the comedian by the author of "It's a great big shame!"

The report of the Palace and Derby Castle, Douglas, Isle of Man, is of a highly satisfactory character, the balance of revenue account showing an increase over last year of £1802 6s. 6d. After payment of debenture interest and trustees' fees, £3440, bank interest, £286 5s. 6d., and directors' fees, £600, there remains a balance of £8833 14s 7d., representing the profit on the year's working. From this sum is deducted £1100 for depreciation on furniture, fittings, and electrical installations, &c., and £500 written off the alterations and improvements to Palace Opera House, leaving a balance of £7233 14s. 7d. available for distribution. The directors recommend that this sum should be allocated as follows:—Dividend on Preference shares (5 per cent.), £3000; divided on Ordinary shares (5 per cent.), £3500; and balance to new profit and loss account, £733 14s. 7d. In addition to the sums mentioned above (totalling £1600) allowed for depreciation, there has been a substantial expenditure on renewals and repairs, and the Company's properties are now in an excellent state of efficiency. The annual meeting will be held on Friday next.

Mr. Walter Gibbons, rejoicing in a strong constitution, is still speeding along the road to recovery at a great pace, and is now able to get up for an hour or two each day.

Mr. William Payne, manager at the South London, has issued a notice to artists engaged at that house that on and after the 26th inst. they will be required to appear at a matinée on Monday, on which day rehearsals are held from twelve to one.

Mr. J. G. Graham, the well-known actor, will make his début on the variety stage on Monday at the Empire, Camberwell, in a powerful dramatic sketch, which deals with a phase of life quite new to the stage. *The Yellow Fang*, as the sketch is called, is a dramatic episode of an opium hell in Chinatown, San Francisco, by John G. Brandon, and is founded upon the actual facts of a terrible crime committed in the Chinese quarter of San Francisco in the summer of 1902.

The fascinations of the Maxixe are to give place to the delights of "La Kraquette," which is to be introduced to London at the Pavilion on Monday by Miss Mignon Tremaine and Mr. Tod Cams. Messrs. J. Williams, the music publishers, of Great Portland-street, have purchased the English copyright, and have leased the rights of stage production to Mr. Cams for two years.

Mr. James Finney and his daughter Elsie sailed for America on Wednesday afternoon, by the s.s. Cedric, from Liverpool. Quite a number of friends assembled on the landing-stage to wish them "God-speed," chief among whom were Messrs. George Harrop (of the Tower, Blackpool), Fred Ash, J.P., Nuttall, Wild, and Fielding, all of whom travelled specially from Blackpool; "Uncle" Bill Child, Johnny Benn, and Harry Inchbold, who came up from Leeds; Frank Lynne, the Mayvilles, Charles May, and others. Mr. Finney received also many congratulatory wires and messages from his numerous friends.

In the Chancery Division on Tuesday, Mr. Justice Warrington heard the petition of Hugo Baruch et Cie, of Berlin, judgment creditors for £460, for the compulsory winding up of the London Coliseum, Limited. Mr. Waggett said the petitioners' complaint was that, from May last, the voluntary liquidation had been used to stave off the unsecured creditors, and nothing whatever had been done. Mr. Dunham, on behalf of creditors for £50,000, opposed the petition, and his Lordship said it was a perfectly hopeless petition, which he dismissed, with costs.

A new musical sketch, entitled *The Professor; or, A Lesson in Dancing*, written by Mr. Albert Le Fre, will be produced on Monday next at the Pavilion. The attractiveness of the sketch will be enhanced by the pretty Pavilion Girls in a series of dances and a new song, "He reached his journey's end," published by Francis and Day.

Messrs. Charles St. John Denton and George Rowlands' sketch, *Mixed Bathing*, produced on Monday at the Duchess, Balham, has proved a great success, and opens next Monday at the Holborn Empire. Other offers were received for it on the Tuesday night, and a successful tour is assured.

The following artists leave Southampton to-day, per the Walmer Castle, to fulfil engagements with the Hyman management in South Africa at the Empire, Johannesburg, and the Tivoli, Cape Town:—The Five Madcaps, in their dancing act; Charlie Deane, comedian; Miss Virginia Ainsworth, an American prima donna; Miss Mabel Thorne, comedienne, and Marsh and Sartella, American singers and dancers.

Mr. Arthur Prince, ventriloquist, returned on Monday to the Empire after a most successful season in New York. Prince's last appearance in England before crossing was also at the Empire, and was probably instrumental in securing for him a Royal "command," which, by the way, came four days too late, and did not warrant the stopping and turning back of the Umbria. The American press showed great enthusiasm in regard to this favourite entertainer, but previous to his opening at the Roof Garden at Hammerstein's in New York, Mr. Willie Hammerstein had grave misgivings over the likelihood of a "speaking act" being efficacious in the open, the engagement being for seven weeks, an unprecedented length of time in America. The manager's fears were, however, quickly set at rest. Prince graduated in *al fresco* performances at Llandrindod Wells, and was there for four seasons, as many London visitors will pleasurably remember.

Mr. Bert Clark (of Clark and Hamilton), who will appear at the Hackney Empire next week, is often hailed as a Yankee. He was intended for the musical profession, and studied at the Royal College of Music and the Guildhall School, being regarded at both establishments as likely to take a very high place as a pianist. He gained the first-class certificate of the Society of Arts. However, he astonished everybody by suddenly "turning it up," and running off to America, from which country he returned with an act that is as popular now as it was when he first introduced it at the London Pavilion some years since.

While Mr. Carl Hertz was giving his illusory manifestations at the Croydon Empire on Monday evening the current failed, and the lights went out. There was not the slightest approach to disorder, and as the hour was nearly eleven the audience quietly dispersed while the band played "The King."

Miss Millicent Marsden, the prima donna of the No. 1 *Prince of Pilsen* company, has, we regret to say, been obliged to relinquish her rôle through the same cause of illness which necessitated her retirement some months since from the Coliseum. We are glad to hear, however, that, after consultation with her own doctor and a leading physician, that a short rest should again restore her to health and active work. A charming and touching episode was witnessed at the Edinburgh station when, not only her manager and his wife came to wish her a speedy recovery, but most of the principals, whilst a gorgeous floral souvenir was presented to her by the eight "city ladies" of the company as a token of love and affection and the great esteem in which she is held by all those associated with her.

The 488th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, when the following members were present:—Messrs. Fred Herbert, Fred Neiman, Charles Coborn (vice-president), George H. Smythson, Albert Le Fre (vice-president), Douglas White (hon. treasurer), F. Slingsby, Albert Voyce, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The minutes having been read and confirmed, the result of the voting on a matter that had been sent out to all the committee was announced—23 being in favour and 2 against. Several questions respecting refunds were considered, also applications for alterations of agencies. A vote of thanks was passed unanimously to Messrs. Jackson, Pixley, and Co., the auditors, for their kind donation of £5 5s. towards the funds of the Association. The scrutineers attended, and read the declaration of the voting for the new committee, and also gave their report on the same. A vote of thanks to the scrutineers was unanimously carried. The weekly financial statement and the hon. treasurer's weekly statement were submitted, and were passed as read.

Owing to the refusal to grant licences to the Palace, Tottenham, and Hippodrome, Hounslow, Mrs. Cissie Louie Lawson has reluctantly decided to close these halls pending an appeal. Due notice of the re-opening will be given to all artists booked.

Miss Vesta Tilley at the Palace, Manchester, broke all previous records on Monday, each number being received as though the talented lady had only just startled the world by her impersonations. At the conclusion of "The king of the house is baby" Miss Tilley was handed a magnificent floral decoration in the shape of a crown resting on a cushion of white flowers, the whole surmounted by small glittering electric bulbs. This, along with other floral tributes, Miss Tilley generously handed over to the local hospital.

Mr. Walter Graham has received contracts from Mr. Walter Gibbons carrying engagements till March next. Three excellent character songs have been written for Mr. Graham's entertainment by Mr. Medley Barrett—"All 'Oi," "The Monthly Nurse," a screamer, and "The Railway Porter at Bunkum Junction."

We spoke last week of the versatility of the late Mr. Mark Kinghorne—in our opinion one of the finest character actors who ever adorned our stage—and now we learn from a correspondent that at one time he was a "Christy" corner-man, and twenty-eight years ago toured in the *Uncle Tom's Cabin* company, of which Mrs. Charles Calvert was a member. The deceased played Lawyer Marks with a lot of funny business that has since become traditional.

At Sotheby's on Tuesday, the medal, with diploma, presented with much homage to Blondin by the citizens of Niagara in 1859, brought £10 15s., and his Cross as Knight of the Spanish Order of Queen Isabella Catholica, with his diploma of election on June 30, 1870 (exactly eleven years after his first performance of the Niagara feat), failed to exceed £5 5s. An 1877 Montevideo medal, an 1879 Brussels offering, and an 1875 Melbourne pendant totalled £11 15s. On the other hand, a pinchbeck watch, a papier-maché cigar-case, and a few ivory tablets once belonging to Grimaldi fetched £13 7s. 6d.

A paragraph appeared in these columns last week to the effect that Miss Ada Reeve had signed an agreement to go to America, and that she would sail in January. Our information came from an eminently reliable source, but is not entirely correct. The facts are that an agreement to play in New York, at a salary slightly in excess of the figure we mentioned last week, was presented to the popular comedienne for her signature, but she refused to accept it on some minor points, and so, for the present at least, Miss Reeve, who may be heartily congratulated on the lucrative offers continually made to her, has entered into no agreement to visit America.

Mr. Arthur Rigby is about to make an ambitious effort in the variety theatres. He will produce, on Monday, at the Richmond Theatre, an entirely new and original Eastern episode, entitled *The Isle of Ooma*. When we mention the book and lyrics are by such writers as E. W. Rogers, A. E. Ellis, and Wal Pink; the scenery, a fine effort, by Julian Hicks; the dress, entirely new, by J. A. Harrison; and the production under the superintendence of Michael Ring, and that Mr. Rigby, whose pantomime reputation is so well known, is playing a good part, it will be noted that this is no ordinary production. Smart and refined comedy is to be combined with perfection of *mise-en-scène*.

A remarkable law suit, involving a most important question, has occupied several sittings of the Paris Tribunal de Commerce this week. The question discussed has been whether a clown could be classed as a tradesperson, and if the jurisdiction of the Tribunal de Commerce could be applied to him.

Our most popular continental clown, Footit, an Englishman, who is the idol of all the children in Paris, was engaged some time ago at the Folies-Bergères, where he played a most important part in the *Revue*, in which he made a big success. In his contract he stipulated that the Folies-Bergères management had the option of engaging him for the following year to play a part in the next *Revue*.

An enterprising manager of a Paris circus, seeing his great success, engaged Footit, at a salary of £25 a week, to appear at the Cirque Métropole. Naturally, this was not to the taste of the manager of the Folies-Bergères, who has injuncted Footit, claiming very heavy damages for breach of contract. But Footit does not seem disposed to accept this version, and, through the medium of his solicitor, claims that he is in no way subject to French commercial law. He says: "I am not a tradesman; I neither sell nor purchase any goods. I am a clown—a simple clown. I simply amuse the public—that is all, and in my mind the Tribunal de Commerce is not competent to judge the question."

The Tribunal de Commerce is very much embarrassed over this case, and really do not know how to decide the question. Pending the result, Footit still continues to delight the audiences at the Cirque Métropole, where he is engaged for several years.

There was a well-attended meeting of the I.A.L. on Sunday, when Bro. 1356 took the chair. A letter was read from the secretary of the V.A.F. with regard to the matter which had been discussed the week previous—viz., the exclusion of a member of the I.A.L. from a V.A.F. meeting in the provinces. The secretary of the V.A.F. pointed out that as the confirmation of the affiliation between the I.A.L. and the V.A.F. had not yet been received and made public, the chairman had acted quite correctly in requesting the member to retire, though in London this proceeding had not always been enforced. He added that directly the affiliation was formally confirmed the widest publicity would be given by the V.A.F. to the fact.

In connection with the affiliation, a letter had been received from Berlin, saying that the executive had suggested two alterations in two clauses in the articles of affiliation, and begged that these should be considered by the V.A.F. It was agreed that this should be communicated to the V.A.F. by the London executive for confirmation or alteration.

In the report of the London meeting of Sept. 2 an office copy of Mr. George Gerald, of Paris, had been published. In this copy the chief clause which had received the disapprobation of the meeting referred to was as follows: "I agree to pay 15 per cent. on all my contracts, and Mr. Gerald must from this sum pay all agency fees to his representatives, or whoever may do business with me." Bro. 1356 wished now to inform the meeting that Mr. Gerald had felt very hurt by this notice in the papers. Bro. 876 pointed out that nothing had been said against Mr. Geo. Gerald personally, and after a long discussion a vote of confidence in the decision of the meeting of Sept. 2 was passed. Mr. G. Gerald had asked for the names of the artists who had submitted this office copy. As the brothers in question were not present, it was felt that their names could not be given; but Mr. C. Bartram stated with no hesitation that he was willing it should be known that he had brought the matter forward on Sept. 2.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS

Mr. David Day has acquired for early publication a fine song, entitled "The Auld Brig o' Ayr," by J. D. Harper and Harry Lauder, and those who have heard Mr. Lauder sing "Rocked in the cradle of the deep" can well imagine how ably he will render this song of regret at the threatened destruction of a landmark dear to the heart of every Scotsman. Another song about to be issued by Messrs. Francis and Day is by the same writers, and named "Wee Willie M'Kie," a very characteristic Lauderian lilt.

No pantomime embodying a farmyard scene will be complete without the song which Messrs. Francis and Day have published under the title of "My sweet Bird of Paradise," which details how a young bantam is one night left by the old birds in charge of the roost with strict injunctions to open the door to no one; now, hearing what he supposes to be the dulcet tones of a love-sick hen imploring her "sweet bird of Paradise" to come out into the moonlight, the bantam disobeys his parents' commands; and how he is at once seized by a fox (evidently a pupil of Mr. Harry Carsdale), who has mimicked a hen to perfection. Mr. Henry E. Pether's music to this "Farmyard Fantasy" is strikingly quaint and taking, embodying, as it does, some funny "poultry" effects. The song is free, and will suit principal boy or girl.

Pantomime demands for "Rosie is waiting," by Harrington and Tate, pour in upon the Monte Carlo Publishing Company thick and fast. Already Birmingham, Liverpool, Leeds, Bradford, Manchester, Glasgow, and other principal towns have made "Rosie" their own. The song is free for pantomime, and an ideal number for principal boy song.

"There's a big ship sailing in the morning," by Mellor, Lawrence, and Gifford, is a number which every exponent of Sindbad should be eager to secure for pantomime. It has an ear-haunting chorus, and the strict march-time melody should shortly be heard everywhere. The Monte Carlo Publishing Company are to be congratulated on securing this fine number.

The Monte Carlo Publishing Company now have in the press, and will issue at an early date, Paul Pelham, Newton Butts, and Herbert Rule's charming song of war and sentiment, entitled "Don't be afraid, little soldier." Many of our favourite vocalists will "feature" this song, both on the variety stage and in pantomime, this year.

The Star Music Publishing Company, Ltd., has leapt into popularity at a bound. They are fortunate in having commenced operations at the psychological moment and under peculiarly favourable conditions. Their first three numbers are being specially featured at six London halls this week, besides many provincial ones. Mr. Tom Costello, who has made so many songs popular, is creating a furore at the Holborn Empire and the Metropolitan this week with the Star Company's topical march-time number, "Nelson from his monument," an ideal pantomime song.

Mr. Donald Hall, well known in light opera and musical comedy circles, made his initial appearance on the variety stage this week at the Holborn Empire, and scored an artistic and popular success with "Will you dance with me, Marie?" In this he is assisted by a most accomplished actress. Mr. Hall's conception of the part, his cultured voice, and passionate acting raised what was simply a pretty song to the dignity of a tabloid society drama. This number, by Mills and Scott, is also issued in the Star sixpenny editions.

Miss Florrie Forde seems to have the gift of selecting songs that are destined to become popular, and "Sailing in my balloon" is no exception to the rule. Her powerful voice and pleasing manner, added to the song's undoubted catchiness, make an ensemble that is quite irresistible. The audiences at the Canterbury and Chelsea Palace this week sing the chorus fortissimo, and in the usual manner testify to the popularity of Miss Florrie Forde and "Sailing in my balloon," which is another of the Star Company's gems.

Miss Hetty King has just produced at Liverpool with great success her new song, "In Piccadilly," and will make a special feature of it during her pantomime engagement at Liverpool. The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Company, Ltd., are the publishers of this song.

Mr. Robert Courtneidge has accepted for his pantomimes the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Company's "Sweet Saturday night" and "Mariar." These two songs will be produced also by Messrs. J. F. Elliston and Stanley Rogers in their pantomimes.

The Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Company, Ltd., have had again numerous demands this week from pantomime producers for some of their biggest successes—"Take me back to London Town," "Moonbeam," "Little Girl," and "Lola, in my gondola."

Mr. Ernest Shand, on Monday, acquired a comic song, by Edgar Bateman and H. F. Greenfield, entitled "Oh, Tumpty! Tumpty Number One!" Messrs. Francis and Day have bespoken the song. A "dame" version is likely to be ready simultaneously, and the number will be expedited through the press. The number of applications received by Messrs. Francis and Day for copies of Mr. Fred Earle's song, "Birdseed," from the same pens, has been phenomenal.

Messrs. Reeder and Walsh, of 14, Castle-street, publish some popular numbers for pantomime. Principal boys should rejoice in such a song as "Good-night, my little Daffodil," and comic men of resource should score with such a selection as "Have you seen the papers to-day?" The chances for topical allusion seem to be illimitable.

Singers, authors, and composers have given Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter a busy time recently, and, among others, the following numbers have been accepted for publication during the last few days: "Pierrot Inquisitive; or, what is it?" (Mr. Charles Coborn), by Robert Ganthony; "If at first you don't succeed" and "Little Robin Redbreast," both by Murphy and Lipton; "I've brought a 'rickshaw for you" (Miss Mabel Thorne), by Percy Edgar and Fred Elton; "A pierrot's life," an instrumental piece of great charm, by Theo Ward, the well-known Eastbourne composer; "You look all wrong because you're bandy" (Mr. Joe Archer), by Harry Wincott; a novelty song, called "Saralo," by Seth Weeks, which will be exploited by the combination known as the Saralos; "Fly away" (Mr. Tom Collins), by Harry Leighton and George Everard, a very funny song indeed, founded on the children's favourite rhyme of "Two little dicky birds sat upon a pole"; "The goldfish and the water-lily" (Miss Madoline Rees), by H. F. Greenfield; "A very old friend of the family" (Mr. George Collins), by C. Collins and C. Ridgwell; "Where've you been while the sun's been shining?" (Miss Daisy Dormer), by Chas. Collins and C. W. Murphy; "Butterfly Gavotte," by Adèle Collier and Algernon Clarke; "Little Snow White," by Beatrice Lord and Bernard Hatton; and "The Marsh Marigold and the Will o' the Wisp," by Mellor, Gifford, and Lawrance.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE ALHAMBRA.

"Two minds with but a single thought" is the only indication the programme gives of the nature of Agnes and Julius Zancig's act, whose present engagement at the Alhambra is responsible for their introduction to an English audience. But the simple poetic phrase is quite sufficient to suggest something mysterious, and unquestionably there is mystery in the doings of the Zancigs, whose turn renews the oft-discussed subject of mental telepathy, thought transmission, and, in fact, the whole range of psychic science. Agnes Zancig occupies the stage while her partner, Julius Zancig, moves among the audience. Julius is shown various objects by gentlemen occupying seats in the stalls, and his confederate on the stage immediately calls out the name of the article and the name of the person to whom it belongs. It seems inconceivable that this phenomenal power of divination should be possessed by any human being; and to those who closely watch the whole proceedings, and notice how the questions are asked and answered, it seems equally inconceivable that there could be any word-code adequate to afford the lady the information which she herself is able to impart. We have not the slightest intention or desire of attempting to unravel the intricacies of psychic force, or whatever influence is employed by the Zancigs; we are perfectly content to remain with open mind, and to say that the "show" is an extraordinary one. Coming to what might be described as more material things, we have the Brothers Bonnes, who are seen and admired in an extremely smart equilibristic exhibition; and Clown Pacal, whose mimicry of animals and the noises created by various methods is so wonderfully natural and characteristic of what he is supposed to represent.

Urbanora has a goodly share in the evening's entertainment. The new pictures, shown for the first time on Monday, are of the excellence to which the Charles Urban Trading Company have accustomed us. The photographs of the Lord Mayor's Show were taken under particularly unfortunate circumstances, in that the operator was handicapped by fog and rain. The effect, however, from the impressionist point of view, is distinctly pleasing, and in the eyes of the artist there will be merit in the mist, which, moreover, is not of such an all-enveloping character as to prevent the different units in the cavalcade of historical subjects being distinguishable from each other. The photographs of Sir William Treloar are, on the other hand, especially clear and lifelike, and their appearance on the screen is greeted with much cheering. Then the views of salmon fishing in bonnie Scotland, and the waterfalls in the same country of picturesque ruggedness, are admirably vivid and well defined. And in this connection we might point out that Urbanora had best take care lest there be poured out upon it the vials of Scottish wrath. It is nothing less than a sacrilege to write "Bonny Scotland." Bonnie Scotland, please! Urbanora affords us further pleasure in a cleverly-designed and thought-out series of views, telling the story of the use to which a small boy puts an inadequate knowledge of juggling. He has witnessed a magician cook a cake in a tall hat, and, with the aid of eggs and some ink for colour and flavour, he attempts to do the same, with ludicrous results. The film is an extremely amusing one.

Our old friend, *Parisiana*, is still with us, and we still enjoy its bright colours, its gay life, and the merry whirl of Signorina Varasi's dancing. The Aquamarinoff Troupe submit much that is attractive in their Russian national songs and dances; and Les Poettingers, with their delightful scena, *In the Land of the Midnight Sun*, afford many happy moments to the æsthete and the visionary. The five ladies, attired in the picturesque dress of their country, enchant their hearers with their singing. The rendering of "I sigh for you" is eminently commendable. More music comes from Luigi Rossi's marvellous horse, Emir, a handsome specimen of the equine race, and amazingly intelligent withal. With bells on its legs and bells on its head, Emir discourses harmony divine, to her evident self-enjoyment. And then this altogether admirable quadruped blows a French horn with all the zest of a mighty-lunged trumpeter. Mr. Rossi is to be congratulated in the first place on the possession of the horse, and in the second place upon his remarkably successful training of the animal. The beautiful ballet, *L'Amour*, is still fascinating the ears and eyes of Alhambra patrons with its beautiful scenes, beautiful dresses, and beautiful dances and music. The lively, lightsome movements of Signorina Maria Bordin, with all their expression of poetry and music, are of themselves sufficient to attract a multitude, and, by the way, they have done that already. In his brilliant fashion Mr. Geo. W. Byng presides over the orchestra, and in his own particular sphere enhances M. Thomé's scholarly and impressive music.

THE TIVOLI.

Patriotic and military items since the close of the war have been somewhat rare, but with the glowing oratory of Lord Roberts, who is urging up and down the country the necessity for training every youth in the love of country and the knowledge of how to defend it, the staging of such a scena as *Back to Barracks*, by Mr. Joseph Wilson, at the Tivoli, is quite in sympathy. The chauvinistic spirit may be deprecated by the Keir Hardies of the future; but the average Britisher, represented by the man in the street, if not quite a Jingo, has no lack of admiration for the military. There is, therefore, plenty of applause for Mr. Dennis Drew and his cadets—well-drilled lads—who give expression to stirring verses in the number, which has two scenes, entitled respectively "The Reserve Man Returns to Duty," and "Once More in the Barrack Square."

The announcement that Little Tich would appear as a London park-keeper roused unusual interest among the large audience assembled on Monday evening at the cosy house in the Strand. The new impersonation enables the great little comedian to indulge in his customary antics, and the oddity of his movements, and the humorous nature of his patter, keep the house in roars of laughter. The novelty, of which the humour is sure to grow, does not oust from its pride of place the burlesque army officer, which is about the best thing Tich has done for years. It contains some clever verses, which are admirably recited by the comedian, who dons the skirts in a third item to give his parody of the *première danseuse*, a piece of grotesquerie that has lost none of its mirth-compelling qualities. Mr. T. E. Dunville, another funny man in the bill, is quite up to date with "Soap, soap, soap," a cleverly written apropos, to which the loose-limbed one does full justice. In "The Channel Swim" he again lets fly the lightsome spirit of mirth. Thomas is just now at his very best, and that is saying a good deal. Mr. George Bastow's ancient countrymen—of the type existing before the "back to the land" period—are always interesting, and his Methuselah-like villager is a decidedly amusing personage; a remark that applies with equal force to Mr. Gus Elen's coster caroller, who serenades "Meria," to whom many matrimonial advantages are offered. Fragson, the entente cordiale comedian, is in very strong contrast to any of the comedy merchants we have mentioned. His is such a happy combination of English and French methods, that his turn is, in its way, unique. On the night of our visit he sang all the old favourites, and added a new number, "Chin Chin Lu," which has been adapted from *La Petite Tonkinoise*, by Eustace Ponsonby. It is a bright and tuneful trifle, and is most vivaciously rendered.

Early in the programme, Orpheus, who is termed the master of melody, plays the oboe with artistic taste, and gets out of the ordinary groove in his selections. His rendering of "Simple Aveu" is one of the best we have heard. Miss Edie King exploits the various styles of Continental dancing, and shows us equally well the characteristics of the national dance of the sparkling señorita from sunny Seville, and those of the more sober vrouw from the Zuyder Zee.

A great attraction in the programme is the superb singing of Miss Ada Colley, the phenomenal Australian soprano, who chooses for her principal solo that most difficult canzonetta by Sir Henry Bishop, which has exercised the ingenuity and the abilities of the finest *soprani leggieri* in the world. Miss Colley's wonderful compass enables us to realise completely the joyous spirit of the song, and her marvellous high notes speak eloquently of exceptional vocal gifts. The house is thrilled and astonished, and lets itself go in frantic applause, Mr. John Radcliffe, the admirable flautist, who plays the obbligato, very rightly sharing in the honours. The Cambrian Trio sing pleasantly enough in a harmonised version of "Alice, where art thou?" Miss Rachel Lowe, who has returned after a most successful provincial tour, hurries on to sing "Any rags?" one of her most pronounced successes; the Poluski Brothers fool round in an eccentric fashion that sets the audience in a roar; and other turns in a comprehensive scheme of variety are Miss Victoria Monks, the Abdulla Troupe of Arabs, the Three Laurels, and Miss Carlotta Levey.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

For good all-round healthy amusement the programme Mr. Arthur J. Barclay gives his patrons this week would be hard to beat. The local public is now enjoying one of the best entertainments they had had for a long time. The acting-manager, Mr. Geo. F. Slater, is this week "very busy," and that expression implies a great deal. One factor, however, in the making up of record houses, may be found in the fact that five days of the week have been set apart for a "ticket benefit" in aid of the Hospital Saturday Fund, and this may have some effect in swelling the receipts. However that may be, the programme is, in itself, sufficiently strong to attract good business. To begin at the end, we may be allowed to notice in the first place the production of Mr. Sidney Bacon's musical comedy, *The Duchess of Tooting*. This fascinating piece has been written by Mr. George Sheldon, that gentleman being responsible for the "book," lyrics, and music, besides acting as conductor. Mr. Stephen Adeson as Fitzroy Fitzherbert, who impersonates the Duchess of Tooting "to oblige a friend," is the life and soul of the piece. Mr. Adeson's acting is full of spirit and is always extremely funny. Mr. Henry Latimer does well as Charles Cash, and Mr. Ernest Spalding is excellent as the elder Cash; a charming representative of Rose Latour (of the music halls) is found in Miss Josie Farrington, who acts and sings charmingly, and arouses enthusiasm with a pretty dance. Miss Dora Heritage is an excellent exponent of the elderly *bond fide* duchess. Miss Rhoda Paul is smart and piquant as the page-boy, Peter.

Miss Amy Elcock, a charming young comedienne, looks pretty in her very original costume, sings tunefully, and dances neatly. An immense success is made by Mr. Cyrus Dare, whose mimicry of "baby" talk and infantile singing is excellent; Mr. Dare is received with the heartiest laughter and the loudest applause. The Sisters Hall repeat duets that have earned approval here before now, and are as charming as never. A mirth-provoking "absurdity," *Building a Chicken-house*, is given by Mr. Dan Agar and company. The exponent of the chief character does well to follow minutely the lines laid down for him by his well-known predecessor in the part. The effect is very provocative of mirth, and the principal receives admirable support from his subordinates. The Picquays, a lady and gentleman of rare acrobatic power, give a speciality act of considerable neatness. Miss Idalia May gives characteristic dances, in costume, of various nationalities—Irish, Scotch, Spanish, Italian—winding up with a coon dance and a sailor's hornpipe that is loudly cheered. Cruikshank, the clever comedian, is one of the prime favourites here. He is in excellent form, his whimsicalities, singing, and playing being all as artistic and as highly relished as ever. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope brings an admirable programme to an agreeable conclusion.

HOUNSLOW HIPPODROME.

Mr. Lennox Barry has good reason to felicitate himself on his excellent bill this week. After a well-played selection by the orchestra, under Mr. Bodin, Miss Madge Scarlett sings with much skill a dainty love ballad anent the "Silver Shade." She is followed by Mr. Richard Joyce, whose whimsicalities won him a lot of applause; his ditty dealing with the eccentricities of folks generally amused the audience highly, and he follows up his success by a really remarkable display of clever clog-dancing. Miss Ethel King and Mr. Maurice Hoffman present a comedy of complication, entitled *The Sleeping Car*, and quite a unique idea is cleverly carried out. The scene depicts a double berth on a Midland sleeping-car mail train bound for Edinburgh. Miss King enters and takes possession of the top berth, and is followed by Mr. Hoffman, who has taken the other. Needless to add, these young people are "engaged," and they are both bound for the same destination to carry out an old rich relative's instruction. The fun waxes fast and furious, and is played with great delicacy and no little refinement; the complications cause peals of merriment, and Mr. Hoffman is to be highly complimented on his efforts. *The Sleeping Car* is an excellent sketch.

Miles and Rance contribute to the humour of the evening with a quick-change duologue, entitled *Paying Him Out*. Mark Beauchamp is travelling down to meet his intended wife—not of his choice, but that of a relative from whom he has expectations. Somewhat indiscreetly he refers to her in anything but complimentary terms; this the lady discovers, and by a series of quick-changes she brings the recalcitrant lover to his senses—and contrition. The sketch is capitally played, and the fun never flags for a moment. Mr. Lennox Barry has played a trump card in the special engagement of Mr. G. H. Chirgwin, the One Eyed One. He is as merry as ever, and fires off his witticisms and puns with all his accustomed vivacity; local topics come in for a share of the dusky comedian's attention; even quaint little Isleworth does not escape! He sings his "Rag-time Coon" ditty with much success. Of course his mechanical doll evokes a lot of applause, and, in response to vociferous demands, he sings in his own inimitable way "The blind boy," and as an encore he gives "She wore a wreath of roses" on his one-stringed banjo very cleverly. Miss Florence Yamen is a singer of coon ditties, and can boast of unflagging vitality. The audience roars with laughter at her quaint "business"; her song, "Liza, dear, I'm gwine away" is a fine sample of her skill, and she merits the applause so liberally bestowed on her efforts. Jury's Bioscope gives "The Rajah's Casket," quite a marvel in biographic detail, and follows it up with the woes that befall a lady who is "shadowing" her erring husband.

MR. W. SIMPSON CROSS, F.Z.S., the well-known naturalist of Liverpool, has turned the gardens at Southport into a "Zoo Park." His up-to-date methods and his knowledge of how the public should be catered for must inevitably result in this popular resort proving a great success. Not the least of the attractions is a splendid bowling-green—as level as a billiard-table—which is considered one of the finest in Lancashire.

STAR SONGS FOR PANTOMIME.

A new star has appeared in the variety firmament—not a great comedian or an accomplished vocalist, but something which has an important influence in the making of both. It is, in fact, the Star Music Publishing Company, Ltd., the leading light of which is Mr. Bennett Scott, who is managing-director, and will personally conduct the business in conjunction with his well-known collaborator, Mr. A. J. Mills, also a director of the company.

The new company's premises are situated in an unrivalled position at 9, Charing Cross-road, facing the Garrick Theatre; while at the side loom the imposing walls of the National Gallery. A suite of rooms, excellently adapted for their purpose, has been secured, with electric light, telephone, and all appointments fully up to date. In the front is the reception-room, tastefully decorated in green and white. A fine-toned piano stands in the corner, and the walls are adorned with pictures

Photo by Russell.

MR. BENNETT SCOTT.

of artists whose fame is closely associated with the productions of Mills and Scott. Close by is the publishing department, and the next apartment is devoted to the purposes of a waiting-room, where appointments may be made, letters written, and facilities given for anything that may conduce to the convenience of clients. The clerical offices complete the establishment. A pianist is always in attendance to try over a song, and to music hall and pantomime artists a hearty welcome is extended. Among the novelties introduced is a phonograph, liberally furnished with records, so that artists will be able to test the merits of any song they fancy.

Interviewed on the subject of the new enterprise Mr. Scott says: "I have been asked a hundred times by as many different people, 'Why do you not publish your own songs?' It was easy at the time for me to give many reasons for not doing so; still, I thought seriously of the matter, and when I was again recently approached on the subject of publishing, I was quite in favour of the idea. A few days later the word was given to 'go.' Inside of two hours I had 'spotted' these premises, and decided they were just what I wanted. Forty-eight hours later a small army of carpenters, decorators, &c., were at work on the necessary alterations. Within four days our first three numbers were engraved, printed, and dispatched to America for copyrighting. By the next day we had furnished the premises and secured our staff, headed by Mr. J. Thurlow. On the seventh day we rested, and on the eighth, the Star Music Publishing Co., Ltd., was duly registered, and we had purchased a splendid song from those celebrated writers, Harry Castling and C. W. Murphy." The new composition sings the praises of a Welsh maiden, and has a lilting melody that is sure to take the town.

"I presume you have heard most of the terrible things Mr. Mills and I have concocted?" continues Mr. Scott. "Well, if I must go into the dark ages, our first really big song was 'Darling

Photo by Tear.

MR. A. J. MILLS.

Mabel,' which, I should say, was the progenitor of a number of ditties in which the chorus was made to read as a complete letter. Among other songs, I am personally guilty of 'Everybody's loved by someone,' 'I've made up my mind to sail away,' and, in conjunction with Mr. Mills, 'There's a girl wanted there,' 'Farewell, my little Yo San,' 'Hear the pipers calling, Jenny mine,' and many others. Mr. Mills is also part writer of 'Just like the ivy I'll cling to you,' 'It's the poor that help the poor,' and that ubiquitous song, 'Bombay,' while he is partly responsible for Miss Ada Reeve's first success, and for that of Mr. Tom Costello's 'Old Clown,' as well as for his latest hit, 'The Suffragettes.' He has written songs, moreover, for Mr. Alec Hurley, before that gentleman found his vocation as an idealised coster impersonator.

Messrs. Mills and Scott have placed with Francis and Day and B. Feldman and Co. for the season's pantomimes some excellent numbers, including "By the side of the Zuyder Zee," "Snowflakes," and "Hello! it's a different girl again!" which are all in great demand.

"With regard to our policy as publishers, we do not propose to issue only our own works, but shall buy anything good that comes along, whoever the authors may be. We have no prejudices, and will, indeed, give preference to other writers whenever their compositions show signs of success. Our various numbers will be issued under the title of 'Star Sixpenny Editions,' and we hope to make that the trade mark of success."

All the company's productions are at present being sung in London, no less than three being given at the Royal. No. 1 of the Star Company's copyrights is entitled "Sailing in my balloon." They are being bombarded by letter, wire, and telephone with applications for copies of the song, which has proved an instantaneous hit at the music halls, and the piano is kept continually playing it over every day to artists and managers anxious to secure the latest craze. A telegram recently received from a Colchester artist put the success of the song thus tersely: "Balloon went up to-night. Successful ascent." No. 2 is "Nelson from his monument," a rousing march-time number, which is being featured by Tom Costello, who declares it will surely become as popular as "Sail away," if not more so. No. 3 is entitled "Will you dance with me, Marie?" and this is perhaps the most charming number of all.

Messrs. Mills and Scott, who have been together some fifteen years, were both comedians at the outset of their career; but such was the appreciation bestowed by an undiscerning public that they determined to take a deep and lasting revenge by becoming song writers. So well did they apply themselves to their work that the ear of the populace has ever since been haunted by ravishing melodies, wedded to words that have a knack of remaining indelibly impressed on the memory. An excellent principle of the collaborators has always been that of never turning money away. Once (in the long ago) an amateur came to them and wanted a song *à la* Harry Randall. The firm had nothing in hand but a "serio" lyric of the "Strolling down the lane with Charlie" order. Happily, Mr. Mills had been a mimic as well as a comic singer, so while Mr. Scott deftly accompanied on the piano, Mr. Mills sang the song so nearly in the style of Randall that the customer was delighted. He jumped at the bargain, but came back the next morning and said he couldn't make it sound like Harry Randall, and wanted his money back. The transaction, however, was completed; the money, in fact, was spent, and there the matter ended.

Both partners hold the decided opinion that the position of song-writers has vastly improved by the increase of publishers, and also by the demand for the "free song," before which Mr. Scott thinks there is a great future. The only disadvantage it possesses is the possibility of two artists wanting to sing the same song at the same hall, but the company obviate that difficulty by making a list of the singers to whom the song is given, and getting their dates in advance, so that a clash can always be averted.

"The composer of popular songs," says Mr. Scott, who is an able executant on piano and organ, "need not by any means be an educated musician. Some of the most popular melodies have been invented by men who did not know A from a bull's foot, being obliged to pick out their tunes with one finger on the piano. Success depends not upon technical knowledge, but upon the invaluable gift of being able to reach the public ear, so that even the most ignorant in musical art need not despair of writing a popular song." Mr. Mills, on his part, thinks lack of technique is sometimes an advantage. He has, before now, had to invent the tune as well as the words of a song, and if there should happen to be a resemblance between a composition of his and one that has appeared before, "how," he adds naïvely, "can I be accused of plagiarism when I don't know a note of music?"

Mr. Mills and Mr. Scott are deeply grateful for the many kindly expressions of goodwill they have received from brother song-writers, publishers, artists, and managers, and they feel they may look to the future with perfect confidence. Among those who have extended a welcome to the new company is Mr. David Day, one of the respected principals of Francis and Day, who said, "Let me be the first to wish you success," Mr. Bert Feldman, and Mr. J. P. Harrington. Visits have been received from many managers, including Mr. Wyndham, of that mammoth firm of provincial producers, Howard and Wyndham, and from Mr. Frank Dix, the representative of the Robert Arthur theatres.

"There is just one little thing more that must not remain unsaid," says Mr. Scott in parting. "We owe it to Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., to acknowledge that but for his splendid work in Parliament, which has made it possible for composers and publishers to protect their rights, there would have been no Star Music Publishing Co., Ltd."

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

An excellently varied and exhilarating programme is that provided at the Shepherd's Bush Empire this week. The bill is headed by Arthur Conquest and company in the thrilling dramatic sketch, *The Sioux*. The sketch, the scene of which is laid outside a log hut in the backwoods, is chiefly remarkable for a realistic fight between the settlers and a tribe of Indians, and for Mr. Arthur Conquest's performance as an ape. The performance of Chadi is one of the best of animal impersonations, and the widespread eulogy it has gained is thoroughly deserved. The agility displayed by Mr. Conquest can only be the result of constant practice, and the laughter evoked by the antics of the gorilla is continuous till the end, when the house is moved to complete sympathy at the pathetic death of the faithful animal.

A new and extremely amusing turn is that of Ted and May Hopkins, the Welsh comedy couple, in *Cambrian Courtship*. Welsh comedy is a decided innovation and, in this case at any rate, a distinct success. That popular comedian, Mr. Mark Melford, appears in a sketch, which he makes extremely laughable. Eadie and Ramsden provide an amusing turn, chiefly noticeable for some clever eccentric dancing. Mr. Hesketh Meade is a gentleman with an excellent baritone voice, and interest in his singing is increased by lantern illustrations. A very popular turn is *In Her Boudoir*, the title given to a very entertaining medley, which gives excellent opportunities to Miss May Beatty and Mr. Edward Lauri. Miss Beatty, who has lately come to us from Australia, appears first in principal boy attire, and later in a smart lounge suit, and proves herself the possessor of a good voice and a charming manner. Mr. Lauri makes several changes, his most humorous impersonation being that of a young lady in evening dress. Mr. Lauri is a good comedian.

Mr. Arthur Reece is very successful with his song "When there isn't a girl about," and scores an unmistakable hit. The Stein-Eretto troupe are responsible for some very clever tumbling, which concludes with a marvellous flying leap by one member over the heads of seven men, alighting on the topmost of two tables on his hands. Barton and Ashley, obviously an American turn, supply an excellent specimen of the tramp and lady variety. The tramp, especially, is a most amusing person, and withal an exceptional dancer and tumbler. Mezzetti and Mora give a very pleasing, straightforward performance on three horizontal bars. Altogether a most enjoyable programme, well worthy of the repute long since gained by the establishment, is presented.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

The bustling sketch, entitled *The House Boat*, which is being played by Mr. John Leopold's company at the Hackney Empire this week, has nothing in common with Mr. J. M. Barrie's comedy of the same title, which the late Mr. J. L. Toole produced at his theatre, except that a house-boat figures in both productions. In the music-hall piece the plot turns upon the frolicsome adventures of Colonel Scorcher, who arranges to meet at a quiet spot up the river a lively little music-hall artist, named Dolly Damper, and her sister, Daisy, and have dinner on board a house-boat. The colonel, being a middle-aged married man, ought, of course, to know better; and when his rather severe-looking wife discovers, by means of a note from Dolly, which the colonel has carelessly dropped, her husband's duplicity, and determines to be present also at the up-river gathering, no one feels any sympathy for the middle-aged Lothario. A friend who had promised to accompany the colonel having disappointed him, he takes with him his servant, Lively, who, in manner at least, does not belie his name. Mrs. Scorcher also has a companion, their maid-servant Maria, who is Lively's sweetheart. The principal scene is the grounds of a riverside inn, the house-boat being a conspicuous object in the rear; and much merriment arises from the eccentric behaviour of a waiter who is fond of assuming an upside-down position, and revolving like a human top; while a couple of tramps join in the laughable antics, and Lively is introduced to the two girls as a young lord with plenty of money to spend. The doings of the colonel and his servant are watched from a balcony by Mrs. Scorcher and Maria, who punishes her sweetheart by dropping a tray upon his head. The dinner on board the boat is a very lively affair indeed, the fun growing fast and furious until the curtain falls. Mr. Watson Hume gives a capital embodiment of the gay old colonel, and Lively is played with much humour and spirit by Mr. Willie Leopold. Mr. Barry Lupino is remarkably energetic and active as the waiter Tipit, and the two tramps have amusing and acrobatic exponents in Mr. John Leopold, jun., and Mr. Ernest Leopold. Miss Kathleen Cavanagh represents Mrs. Scorcher with appropriate severity of manner and appearance; Miss Gertie Winter is clever and quaint as Maria; Miss Amy Hall and Miss Queenie Bronte as Dolly Damper, and her sister Daisy, are bright and merry girls; and Miss May Gordon as Susan is a pert waitress. Mr. Wilfred Vaughan scores as Blobbs, an innkeeper; and Mr. Tom Leopold, Mr. Charles Gough, and others give valuable assistance in minor parts.

Miss Millie Hylton is always welcome, and on this occasion she is accompanied by a pretty and clever little girl, Miss Decima Brooke, who shares in her success. "Somebody's sweetheart I want to be" is a charming composition, and this is followed by an equally attractive item, "By the side of the Zuyder Zee," in which Miss Hylton's little assistant appears as a Dutch girl, and gives a clog dance. Miss Hylton's stage-work is as refined as it is clever and graceful; and she continues to ably maintain the best traditions of the variety stage.

The amusing sketch, *Aunt Matilda*, is suggestive of a well-known farcical comedy, but, all the same, as played by Mr. Frank Elliston and company, it causes roars of laughter, and thereby fulfils its mission. The lightning painter known as Speedwell limns portraits of such famous people as the late Sir Henry Irving and Dan Leno, Generals Kitchener and Buller, and, lastly, of His Majesty the King, in an incredibly short time, and his artistic skill is duly recognised. The Matweef-Hugoston troupe of Russian singers and dancers give a wonderful performance. Mr. Tom Owen, attired as a Welsh dame, contributes a good song; and the Saphos excel in a comedy bar act. Mr. Fred Elton, seated at the piano, gives his musical and vocal act, *On Board an Ocean Liner*, in which he introduces a number of songs with conspicuous success. Miss Sybil St. Elmo, a ballad vocalist, sings in pleasing style, and is well applauded; and the American Bioscope, with up-to-date subjects, is also an interesting item in a most attractive programme. Mr. John Christie, the acting-manager here, is as assiduous as ever in the discharge of his onerous duties; and Mr. D. Earle Charles is the recently-appointed assistant acting-manager.

ROYAL ALBERT.

ANNUAL HOSPITAL BENEFIT.

The Seamen's Hospital (Royal Albert Docks Branch) has benefited to a considerable extent by the two performances given in its aid at the above music hall on the evenings of Thursday and Friday last week. In lending his theatre and his assistance for such a worthy object, Mr. Arthur G. H. Hunt, the proprietor, is carrying out the promise he made some time ago to continue the favours hitherto extended to the Hospital by Mr. Charles Relf, the late proprietor of the Royal Albert. The performances, which formed the sixteenth annual entertainment in support of the charity mentioned, were well attended. On the Friday evening, Mr. H. C. Staniland Smith, the honorary secretary of the Seamen's Hospital, appeared before the curtain and publicly thanked Mr. Hunt for so generously placing theatre and artists at their disposal, and he also expressed gratitude to those performers whose names appeared on the programme in addition to the ordinary week's turns. Mr. Hunt stated that he was only too happy to do anything in his power to help the Seamen's Hospital, and he was delighted to see that there had been such good houses. He mentioned that collections would be made among the audience in aid of the institution.

The names of the artists on the programme for the two days were Miss Billie Barlow, Miss Jessie Preston, Rezene and Robini, Miss Florrie Forde, Miss Lillie Soutter, Nat Travers, Miss Marie Empress, the Gilbert Trio, Arthur Reece, Sisters Wingrove, Sisters Beatrice, Barton and Ashley, Miss Amy Sullivan, Miss Daisy O'Malley, the Danbys, Minnie Moran, the Two Mays, Tom Bass, Corrie and Dereve's musical comedy sketch, *Office Hours*, Bessie Benson, Fred Herbert, the Sprees (Dorothy and Joe), Gladys Williams, Geo. Woodward and Fay Walton, Rose Pareezer, Ivy Aberdare, Mr. S. King Alexander, Raymond's Biotableaux, the Jenners, Bertha Norwood, the Tatlers, Sydney Mason, Florrie Beck, Miss Ethel Netherton, the Bros. Tarrant, Miss Gracie Kebbell, and the Levines.

THE M.H.A.R.A.

THE NEW COMMITTEE.

The following gentlemen have been elected to serve on the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association for 1906-1907:—Albert Voyce, 552; Joe O'Gorman, 531; Harry Griff, 531; Wal Pink, 519; Charles McConnell, 500; Charles Gardiner, 497; Peter Bijou, 496; A. Borelli, 496; W. H. Clemart, 496; Fred McNaughton, 493; Fred Russell, 488; Harry Wright, 467; John Alexander, 485; C. C. Bartram, 479; Harry Blake, 477; Fred Herbert, 464; Arthur Rigby, 461; Walter Munroe, 459; G. H. Smythson, 459; Bob Leonard, 457; Frank Gerald, 448; Fred Neiman, 425; George Gray, 418; Fred Griffiths, 414; Barney Vox, 406; J. Foreman, 402; Phil Ray, 401; Geo. A. Booker, 394; Charles Pastor, 392; Pat Carey, 390; Harry Conlin, 388; Fred Slingsby, 388; Fred W. Millis, 386; Harry Tate, 369; Jeff Vendome, 364; Jack Collinson, 363; Arthur Reece, 363; Robert Abel, 350; George Preston, 350; Arthur Carlton, 339; J. C. Dunedin, 335; Bernard Stavordale, 322; Harry Bancroft, 309; W. Welsh, 284; Fred Harrison, 263; Ryder Stone, 263; and W. Downes, 246. Not elected:—R. G. Knowles, 211; Harold Finden, 198; P. H. Paulinetti, 195; Lieut. Albini, 183; Monte Bayly, 157; Wm. Holles, 142; Ernest Ball, 107; and Jim Cameron, 90.

COUNTY COUNCIL LICENSING.

The second sitting of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the London County Council was held on Monday at the Sessions House, Clerkenwell, when applications for licences for places north of the Thames were considered. Mr. H. J. Greenwood, chairman of the committee, presided, and the other members in attendance were Mr. J. B. Williams, Mr. Howell Williams, Lieutenant-Colonel Rotton, Sir Algernon West, Lord Monkswell, Mr. J. Brandon, Mr. E. Yates, Mr. B. S. Straus, and Sir W. J. Bell. Among those present interested in music hall management were Mr. Frank Glenister, Mr. Geo. Scott, Mr. F. Woodford, Mr. Henri Gros, Mr. Jas. Howell, Mr. Geo. Adney Payne, Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. Dundas Slater, and Mr. Ernest Polden.

LONDON COLISEUM.

On the application for the renewal of the music and dancing licences of the London Coliseum, the Chairman inquired what was proposed to be done with the building.

Mr. C. F. Gill, K.C., said there had been an order of the Court with regard to the sale of the theatre at the instance of the debenture trustees. A scheme was now on foot which was likely to result in an arrangement being made of a satisfactory character which would enable the premises to be carried on for some time with a theatrical licence, but at the beginning of last year some difficulty arose upon the question as to what was a theatrical entertainment. That was likely to give rise to litigation, and to avoid it application was made for a theatrical licence, and that of the County Council was surrendered. By subsequent negotiation, however, an agreement was come to on the sketch question, so that in future no difficulty would arise under the County Council licence.

The Chairman inquired whether it was proposed to reopen the building at an early date. Mr. Gill: It is anticipated that it will be. Even if the present arrangement should fall through, and the place sold, it is important that it should be licensed.

The licence was granted.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.

Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett applied for a music and dancing licence for the Alexandra Theatre, which it was intended to transform into a music hall. He said that the Stoke Newington Council had recommended that the licence should be granted subject to the condition that no intoxicating liquors should be sold in the auditorium, by which he understood that it might be sold in the bars.

The Chairman, after consulting with his colleagues, announced that the licence would be granted only upon the usual condition that no intoxicating liquors whatever were sold.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE.

Mr. Gill was also entrusted with the application on behalf of Mr. Oswald Stoll for a provisional licence for music and dancing for the new Finsbury Empire. Opposition was offered by a large number of residents in the neighhood on the customary grounds. Mr. Gill reminded the committee that they granted the licences last year, and that the full council were equally divided on the question of confirming their decision, with the result the licence was not granted. In view of the fact that one of the grounds of objection, which was repeated in identical terms in three of the notices, was that the moral tone of the neighbourhood would be lowered if the proposal was carried into effect, it was important to bring to the notice of the committee the further fact that, although Mr. Stoll had control of a large number of music halls, in no case where he had been entrusted with a licence, either in London or the provinces, had any question ever arisen or any complaint been made with regard to any entertainment provided. The proposed building would involve an expenditure of £25,000. As to whether the place was likely to be a financial success, he submitted that that was a matter which hardly concerned the committee or those who were objecting. The place would appeal to a population of something like 300,000, and the railway facilities to the place were extraordinary. It was also proposed to surrender the licence of the Holloway Empire, which, it was considered, was more adapted to the purposes of a theatre. There would be two performances a night, and no intoxicating liquors would be sold. He ridiculed the idea of the moral tone of the neighbourhood being lowered by such a music hall, and pointed out that 1800 persons residing within three-eighths of a mile of the site had petitioned in favour of it.

An ex-inspector of the Metropolitan Police, who had had experience of music hall audiences and knew the neighbourhood well, said he did not believe the hall in question would be either an inconvenience or a nuisance to the neighbourhood. Mr. Lewis Carr, secretary of the Great Northern Hospital, who was a witness against the licensing of the Holloway Empire, deposed that the music hall had by no means proved a source of annoyance to the patients.

Mr. Stoll said he held several licences under the council, and no question had ever been raised as to the character of the entertainments that were given. In the event of the present licence being granted, the house would be conducted upon lines similar to those of the other houses, and he would give an undertaking that the house should not be used on Sundays, and that no intoxicating liquors should be sold. The site had been selected with great care as most suitable and as serving a very large area.

Evidence having been given by various residents, the committee retired, and on returning, the chairman said it had been decided to recommend the council to grant the licences subject to the usual restriction that no intoxicating liquors be sold or consumed on the premises.

PROPOSED NEW CONCERT HALL.

An application for a provisional licence for music for a new concert hall to be erected on the site of St. Paul's Church, Great Portland-street, which had been demolished, was granted.

THE CANTERBURY.

On the application of Mr. George Adney Payne for a music and dancing licence for the Canterbury Music Hall, which had been adjourned from the Newington Sessions, the chairman suggested that the directorate of the hall should renew their undertaking of last year to limit the numbers of persons using certain parts of the hall, but Mr. Payne said that might mean that they would bind themselves for the remaining portion of the existing lease.

Eventually the chairman said that under the circumstances they had no other alternative but to advise the council to refuse to renew the licence.

There is a bright little side-show in the Electric Theatre at the Crystal Palace, and many visitors drop in to be well amused for half an hour or so when up on the more serious business of poultry or dog shows, to find an efficient ventriloquist in the person of Mr. Stanley H. Bell, who opens the entertainment with a garrulous old lady as his companion, and manages to extract some hearty laughter, chiefly by virtue of her smart and unexpected rejoinders to his queries. Mr. Ernest E. Noakes is an accomplished manipulator of coins, cards, and even billiard balls, his "palming" being especially good. He has, moreover, some more ambitious illusions, requiring up-to-date apparatus, such as the Educated Clock, the Frame of Enchantment, and others. Altogether, it is an entertainment that should not be missed by visitors to the Sydenham Palace.

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"SNOWFLAKES."

"THERE'S A MAN IN MANITOBA."

"I CAN SEE RED ROSES BLOOMING."

"ARRAH WANNA,"

Our 11th Hour Sensation.

"GOOD-NIGHT, MR. BROWN, I'M OUT."

"CHEYENNE."

"FIGHTING FOR THEIR KING & SIRELAND."

"ROSY'S COSY BUNGALOW."

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"THE GOOD OLD UNION JACK."

"COME BACK TO BORNEO."

"BOY BLUE."

"I WONDER WHAT WE'D DO WITHOUT OUR GIRLS."

"ARRAH WANNA,"

Our 11th Hour Sensation.

"WHY DO THE GIRLS LOVE CHARLIE."

"IN MY PAGODA."

"WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO LEARN TO LOVE ME."

(FOR FULL LIST SEE PANTOMIME BOOKS.)

FRANCIS, DAY, AND HUNTER

The Music Market of the World.

142, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON W.C.

"THE DEBUTANTE" AT THE EMPIRE.

Mr. George Edwardes has again called in the resourceful M. Wilhelm to supply the scenario of the new ballet at the Empire, which was produced with every sign of success on Thursday evening. The period illustrated by the dresses is the "thirties," when flourished such exquisites as the Count d'Orsay—whose character has been so admirably typified by Mr. Tree at His Majesty's in Mr. Clyde Fitch's *The Last of the Dandies*—and when such dancing prime donne as Taglioni, Lucile Grahn, Carlotta Grisi, Cerito, and Fanny Elsler witched audiences at the chief Continental opera-houses by the spirit and grace of their solos. We are brought into close touch with this period in the first scene of *The Débutante*, which takes place in the practice-room of the ballerine at the Paris Opéra House. Dandies stroll in quite unconcernedly to watch the pupils of M. Pirouette at practice, and look picturesque in the white beaver hats, coloured coats, and tight trousers of the period. When we make the acquaintance of M. Pirouette, who occupies the important position of *maître de ballet* at the Opéra House, he is busy rehearsing *The Odalisque*, in which Mlle. Florita is to play the chief part. That lady, however, throws up her part when she observes the interest shown by Pirouette in Mlle. Delphine, the protegée of a rich patron of the theatre, and the *maître*, at his wits' end to replace her, is persuaded to give a trial to the novice, who immediately distinguishes herself in a series of dances.

A short front scene depicts the incidental worries overwhelming Pirouette, who is badgered by composer, costumier, librettist, and scene-painter in turn. At length the curtain rises on the first performance of *The Odalisque*, an Oriental ballet, of which the scene is a Seraglio garden. The favour of the aged Sultan and his suit is sought by Mustafa, a slave-dealer, who introduces a number of odalisques to the notice of his Highness, who is so struck by the grace and beauty of Azalea that he is determined to purchase her at any price. Having completed his bargain, he instructs Hassan, a handsome young officer of his bodyguard, to bring the girl into his presence. Hassan is just in time to rescue Azalea from the brutality of Mustafa, whom he fells to the ground. Gratitude ripens into love—the course of which does not run smooth, in consequence of the jealousy of Zulima, who cherishes a hopeless passion for the young soldier. She fosters the anger of the Sultan against Hassan, who is ordered under arrest. Azalea sues for her lover's pardon, and is told she can only gain it by withdrawing from the Sultan's finger his signet ring. She succeeds in doing this during a *pas de fascination*, and all ends happily.

The opportunity for a brilliant stage-setting rich in Oriental colouring comes with the second scene—the garden of the Seraglio—and here the evolutions of the odalisques and the ladies of the Turkish Court, which, as of yore, have been arranged by Mme. Katti Lanner—now once more entrusted with the important functions of ballet directress—are bewildering in their prettiness. Purple and green are the pervading colours of the costly and beautiful dresses, and the dresses of the Sultan's bodyguard, who look exceedingly chic in their jaunty caps, have a very smart appearance. To Mlle. Genée a number of solos are given, and she dances superbly in skirts that are somewhat longer than the prevailing fashion, and the effects she produces are even more graceful and fascinating than ever. She obtained an ovation on Thursday, the crowded and delighted house being seemingly never tired of applauding her. Mr. Fred Farren as the *maître de ballet* in the first scene and the Sultan in the second, displays his versatility and talent for miming to immense advantage. He is always entirely conscientious, and can always be trusted to sound the dramatic note whenever the situation requires it. His gesture play is excellent, and his dancing artistic. Mr. P. Sundberg as the patron of art in the first scene and as the slave-dealer of the second gives evidence of his adaptability, and his dance is a surprising study in agility. Miss D. Craske again makes a very attractive and manly "lover" of the *prima donna assoluta*, and her perfect deportment and expressive pantomime again elicit warm compliments. For the music of the first scene Mr. Cuthbert Clark is responsible, and his score is agreeably melodious, the themes being of a light and graceful character. Mr. C. J. M. Glaser has treated most effectively in his music for the Seraglio scene the dramatic nature of the theme, and has not forgotten in his score the necessary Oriental colouring. The triumph of the new Empire ballet seems to be assured, if we may gauge its future prospects by the enthusiasm shown at the première on Thursday.

BARNARD'S PALACE, GREENWICH.

A large and well-pleased audience assembles here nightly, attracted by the liberal bill of fare provided by the skilful and courteous management of this popular hall. After the overture has been capitally rendered by the orchestra under the able direction of Mr. William Skerry, the first turn on the programme is that of Phil Inglis, the coon comedian and dancer, who is well received. Next come the charming Sisters Melba, who sing in excellent style "Good-bye, Dixie gal" and "Until we meet once more." This pretty turn is followed by that of Minnie Dawn, comedienne and dancer, who sings "Au Revoir" very pleasingly, and then contributes a graceful and pretty dance. The next comers are Leighton and Williams in a smart comedy duologue, which exactly suits the taste of the audience. Harry Mack greatly interests all present by his surprisingly rapid changes of attire; White and Jerome's coster scena entitled *Little Billy's Birthday* is a popular item, consisting of song and dance by a number of well-trained and clever children. The Brothers Tarrant, a couple of clever comedians, are greeted with hearty applause; Hans and Lux, who style themselves "the argumentative college chums," give a neat turn, and their patter is smart and novel. Olive Pauline sings in an attractive and entertaining manner her song entitled "Git away, Mr. Jasper," and she winds up with a neatly-executed dance. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope exhibits a new series of interesting and amusing pictures. Mlle. Dora plays a solo on the oboe entitled "Sing me to sleep," and another on "Scotch Airs." This lady is a clever musician, and is warmly applauded. George White is a funny comedian, and loud laughter greets his rendering of "That girl belonged to him" and "Tim." An attractive extra turn is that of Miss Olive Day, who sings charmingly the pretty song entitled "Make hay while the sun shines." Miss Marie Santoi and her merry little Japs please by their capital little scena entitled *The Japanese Tea Garden by Night*. This turn brings the capital evening's entertainment to a successful conclusion.

Henri Cot, the French giant, and Prince Colibri, the Russian midget, are delighting and interesting large audiences at the New Cross Empire. The giant stands 8ft. 7in., weighs 390lb., is 21 years of age, and is expected to go on growing for the next five years. Prince Colibri, the smallest living man, is 25 years of age, and stands 23½in. and weighs 8½lb. A sensation was caused by this extraordinary pair on Wednesday, when they visited the city, calling in at St. Paul's Cathedral and other places of interest, until the attentions of the crowd became too pressing.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

THE fairs ahead for next week are—Darlington, on the North-Eastern Railway; Pickering, on the North-Eastern; Rugby, on the North-Western and Midland; Dover, on the South-Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover; Fakenham, on the South-Eastern, Midland and Great Northern; Guildford, on the London and South-Western, South-Eastern, London, Brighton, and South Coast; Haltwhistle, on the North-Eastern; Martin Town; Crowle, on the Great Central; Louth, on the Great Northern; Newark, on the Great Northern and Midland; Ripon, on the North-Eastern; York, on the North-Eastern, Great Northern, North-Western, Great Eastern, Midland, and Great Central; Chesterfield, on the Midland; and Gloucester, on the Great Western and Midland.

IN Scotland there are—Airdrie, on the North British and Caledonian; Langholm, on the North British; and Inverness, on the Highland. In Wales, there is Aberystwith, on the Cambrian and Manchester and Milford line.

BELPER keeps a fair on the opening five days of November. This year the shows were:—J. Proctor's theatre of living pictures and varieties; J. Crighton's cinematograph; Prince Samonda, with second-sight séance and clever variant of the box-trick; and W. Le Neve and Norah Sullivan in the athletic demonstrations. The machines on the ground were Collin's motor set, Twigdon's gondolas and steam horse sets, and Jervis's steam swings. The Winchester ranges, rifle saloons, and bottle batteries were by Messrs. A. Proctor, S. A. Hall, Wyatt, and A. Hall. The other fair-ground caterers were Messrs. Young, Charlton, Rudd, Brinkley, A. Proctor, W. H. Hall, and Wyatt.

LARGE numbers assemble nightly to witness the capital performances of Messrs. Burnett's portable theatre, now centred in Moore's Showfields, Redruth. The bill for the week includes the plays *Under the British Flag*, *Charles Peace*, *Drink*, and *Belphegor*.

AMONG the many good things provided at Hengler's Hippodrome, Plymouth, this week are Ford's performing pigeons, the Clarks (globe walkers), the Brothers Bodey (comedy bar acrobats), and a grand imperial spectacle in which a number of well-trained boys and girls participate.

CARMARTHEN November pleasure fair was held on Wednesday. The weather during the morning and afternoon was beautifully fine, but in the evening rain fell, and the business, which had been brisk during the early portions of the day, was materially affected thereby. The fair was held in the Corporation Pleasure Fair-ground, and was resorted to by crowds of people from the country-side. Messrs. Henry Studt and Son's grand electric motor-cars were the chief attraction, while the children found much pleasure in Mr. William North's juvenile roundabouts and Booth's juvenile swings. Messrs. E. Booth, David Boswell, John North, D. Evans, and William North's cokernut shies and shooting saloons and aquariums received generous patronage, as did also Plinston's aerial big wheel, Wortley's working model of a colliery, Testo's marionettes and living pictures, Blower's boxing saloon, and Baker's circus, the latter of which gave a very clever exhibition.

THE question as to whether shows shall be permitted to stand in the public squares at Aylesbury as in the past came before the usual monthly meeting of the Urban Council on Monday, when the matter was referred to the Market Committee to bring up a recommendation to the next meeting. A favourable result is anticipated. On the 9th and 10th inst. Prof. A. Ball's bioscope and variety company visted the town, and was accorded a hearty reception.

PRINCESS GOOMA and her Dahomey Amazon women warriors (under the direction of Mr. Tom Brown) finish a highly successful engagement at Wonderland, Leith, to-day. This booking concludes the Scottish provincial tour, and the warriors, gratified with their enthusiastic and appreciative reception, return to Glasgow for a pantomime engagement.

DEEPFIELDS Wakes was held in two fields from the 9th till the 13th inst. The attractions comprised Switchback motor-cars by Mrs. S. Shepherd; two sets of horses, the four and three-abreast, by William Davies; living pictures by J. Cordwell; swings by Davies and Shepherd; cokers by Dobson, Turner, and Humphries; Winchester ranges by Turner and W. Dobson; and stalls by Turner, Dobson, Humphries, and Cartwright.

THE letter of the President of the Showmen's Guild, Lord George Sanger, in defence of fairs and showmen, has been quoted from our columns by the daily Press.

ONE enterprising pressman has interviewed the veteran showman, and has obtained the following interesting expression of opinion on fairs, both ancient and modern.

Speaking of the efforts to abolish old-time fairs, "I believe," he said, "that only a very small number of people are responsible for these efforts, and that their views do not represent the opinion of the majority. I have spent a pretty long life among traveling showmen. I know them for respectable and hard-working people, and I do not think it is a general wish that their means of livelihood should be taken away, or that conditions, already hard enough, should be made harder.

"I suppose it is more difficult to-day for the showman to earn a living than when I was young. The fairs are larger, and there are more varied amusements, but they do not last so long, and there is not so much business done. In the old days, when the fair was on practically all other business ceased. At Morn Hill, two miles out of Winchester, where the oldest fair in the country was held, the carts and waggons used to be coming in all day for more than a week before the fair started. It lasted fourteen days, although there was no water in the fair-ground, and water carted from Winchester had to be bought at 2d. per bucket. At Portsmouth the fair also lasted fourteen days, and we used to move then to a place not five miles away, and set up for another two days.

"The most striking difference between the fairs of to-day and those of my boyhood is the practical disappearance of the travelling theatre. The travelling theatre booths of Richardson and others were enormous places, conducted on the most magnificent scale. In the early days of last century men like Kemble and Kean did not disdain to tread the boards of the travelling booth. I have known Richardson's booth to go to the Ealing Fair and stay a whole month, with a cast formed of the cream of the dramatic profession of the day.

"That part of the business has, of course, been killed by the multiplication of the suburban and provincial theatres and music halls. We were also better patronised in the early days. On Oct. 28, 1847, on the second day of the Windsor Fair, I saw the late Queen, the Prince Consort, the Prince of Wales, and the Princess Royal walking through the fair, and Wombwell's menagerie, which was showing there, was ordered to Windsor Castle on the following day to perform before Her Majesty and the Royal Family."

MR. STOLLS' panoptican in Cardiff is a great draw among the juveniles, consisting, as it does, of the magic maze, roller-skating, Bioscope pictures, &c. Mme. d'Arc's Waxworks, with many new additions, is well worth a visit.

THE annual Loughborough fair was held on the 8th inst. and two following days. The first day it rained from morn till night; however, great crowds turned into the market-place the last two days, and enjoyed all the fun of the fair. There was an exceptionally fine array of shows, including Proctor's, Kemp's, Thurston's, and Twigdon's. There was also the usual amount of flying horses, swing-boats, and gondoliers, and an abundance of cokers and shooting galleries.

MR. ROBERT W. PAUL, of 68, High Holborn, W.C., has forwarded to us a copy of his latest catalogue, describing his new and selected animated picture films. The little book, which is tasteful in its get-up, is embellished with hundreds of photographs printed on art paper, and exhibitors of the cinématograph should apply for one, which will be sent carriage paid on receipt of address.

MR. JOHN JOHNSON'S Victoria Theatre at Barry Dock still draws crowded houses. This enterprising proprietor has some new scenery, which is quite unique. His ideas for the usual Christmas pantomime are in every way sure to lead to success.

MR. J. M. PETTS, who has been working the Eastern counties, has met with much success and given much satisfaction to the audiences assembled, leaving a good impression in every town visited. In addition to Petts' Perfect Pictures he is accompanied by a select vaudeville company.

MR. WM. HAGGAR, jun., has been granted a three months' licence for his portable theatre by the Neath Corporation.

CHRISTMAS attractions at the Crystal Palace, in addition to Mr. Bannister Howard's pantomime of *Aladdin* in the theatre, will embrace Lord John Sanger's Royal Hippodrome and Menagerie, by arrangement with the Crystal Palace management. A liberal and diversified programme will include scenes from the Boer War by Sanger's troupe of elephants; a pony with human brains; "Nero, or the sports of ancient Rome"; the elephant barbers, whose accomplishments include those of shaving, dining, boxing, and playing skittles; and many other circus and variety turns.

THE EDDIE HARVEY DEATH LEVY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

DEAR SIR,—Will you kindly grant me space in your valuable paper to answer a letter, signed "Ray Maskell," in your issue of Nov. 3? It refers to the V.A.F. death levy in connection with my late lamented brother Edward. In answer to that letter, no money has yet been paid to me as stated. The reason is that I have not yet taken out letters of administration. No one has any right to promise any of the V.A.F. money except myself, and I have never done so.

What I propose is that it should be entrusted to any two of the V.A.F. Executive Committee solely for the child's benefit.—Yours truly,

DENNIS HARVEY.

"JEMIMA'S DILEMMA."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Some time back I wrote a sketch for Mr. T. B. Brydge, entitled *Jemima's Dilemma*. The subject was taken from the French, but treated quite differently to the original. The sketch played at the Standard recently by Mr. T. C. Matthews's company is exactly the same as mine, and as Mr. Brydge is continually playing it in the Halls it might be thought he had copied Mr. Matthews's sketch.—Yours faithfully,

GEO. ROBERTS.

125, Stockwell-road, S.W.
Nov. 9, 1906.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD MEETING AT BURSLEM TO DEFEND THE WAKES.

The largest meeting yet held in the Burslem Drill Hall took place on Wednesday evening, when the members of the Showmen's Guild made their protest against the proposed abolition of the Wakes. There were well over two thousand people present. Mr. T. Bentley presided, and there were also on the platform the Rev. T. Horne (chaplain of the Showmen's Guild), Councillor J. H. Broadhurst, Messrs. T. Watson Wright, F. Bibby, P. Collins, T. Payne, Jeffreys Davies, G. Crump, W. Shaw, W. Cooper, J. Podmore, G. Podmore, S. Beech, H. Hall, G. Holdcroft, P. Brooks, A. E. Wood, and others.

The Chairman said he was pleased to meet the people of Burslem once again upon the Wakes question. He had taken part in the agitation twenty-seven years ago for the restoration of the festival, which had ended successfully. The reasons which had moved the Council to decide to remove the Wakes were, firstly, the insanitary condition which was alleged to accompany the presence of the vans; secondly, a complaint from a tradesman who had spoken against the annoyance caused by the continuous noise of the mechanical organs; and, in the third place, a letter which had been sent to the Council by another tradesman. He had visited that gentleman, and could tell them that he only wished the Wakes to be held from Saturday to Tuesday. The town derived £250 gross in rents from the showmen, and this sum would be lost to the town if the resolution of the Council was carried into effect.

Mr. Fred Bibby, of Manchester, proposed the following resolution: "That this meeting of the people of Burslem, convened by the Showmen's Guild, and supported by the local Wakes Defence Committee of the ratepayers, protests against the proposed abolition of Burslem Wakes fair." He claimed to have known and had the friendship of thousands of showpeople, and wished to defend them against the outrageous charges made against the showmen of Great Britain. (Applause.) He claimed to know them better than the Town Council, and he would say that they were not gipsies; they were as respectable a body of men and women as any community. (Applause.) Their morality and their calling had been attacked, and the sanitary conditions attending their presence in the town had been called into question. It was not the wish of a single showman that there should be anything insanitary about his temporary dwelling, for no one was more particular as to the cleanliness of his surroundings. (Hear, hear.) The showman had to face the world and the bigotry of fanatics who would not allow the people to have any entertainment at all if they had their wish. (Applause.) The showman's calling was one of the most ancient in existence, and during the last few years as a body they had made progress to as great an extent as any municipal body. Burslem was as much entitled to amusements for its working people as the upper classes of any town, and if the people could not have one week's amusement in the whole of the twelve months, all he could say was that they were going to the dogs fast. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. P. Collins, in seconding the resolution, said he had been coming to Burslem for twenty-five years, and he thought it was wrong on the part of the busybodies to stigmatise the showpeople and the townspeople as they had done. The Town Council ought to have called a town's meeting before any action had been taken. (Applause.) For his part, he should do everything in his power to help the people. The Wakes provided an innocent amusement under the canopy of heaven, and everything in connection with it was right and orderly. If there was any need for intervention, they might leave that to the police. (Hear, hear.) During all the years he had visited Burslem he claimed that he had never seen one row in the Wakes. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Watson Wright, of Leicester, the solicitor to the Showmen's Guild, said that the fair held at the Wakes was legally constituted, and was as good a fair as any owing its origin to Royal Charter or prescriptive right. He outlined the history of the agitation which ended in the restoration of the Wakes twenty-six years ago, and said that the town councillors of that day were wise in listening to the petition presented by 700 ratepayers and the ballot of the townspople, and restored the fair. When the members of the present Council realised what the people said and what they meant they would be as sensible and as reasonable as their predecessors. (Applause.) It was impossible to assail the legality of the Wakes, for the greatest authority upon the subject had held that it was an essential condition of the holding of a market and fair that it should be open for all persons to frequent it for the purpose of buying and selling. There had also been a case—Cooper *v.* Collins—in which it was held that the amusements carried on by the showpeople constituted a fair in the legal sense of the term. In that case of Cooper *v.* Collins the appellant was Mr. Patrick Collins. The speaker went on to say that the amusements of the Wakes were as much a part and parcel of the fair as the buying and selling, and had been so recognised by Parliament. If the Town Council prevented the public from going there and using the open spaces they were liable not only to an action at law at the instance of the people, but also to be indicted for misdemeanour. (Applause.) And if the people of Burslem wished to have their fair the showpeople would not hesitate to assert their legal rights. (Applause.) The fair could not be abolished unless it was satisfactorily proved that it was the cause of grievous immorality, and was injurious to the inhabitants. The Showmen's Guild was in a position to prove that there was not an instance of immorality amongst the showpeople at the fairs in any part of Great Britain. (Applause.) The only way to secure the abolition of the Wakes was by petition to the Home Secretary, and if such a petition was forwarded he felt that it would be met by Mr. Gladstone as it had been by previous Home Secretaries, and no order would be made. (Applause.) The showpeople were a respectable body of citizens, and were entitled to the protection of the law as much as any other section of the community. Those who proposed to interfere with the fair were, he said, busybodies and faddists. (Applause.) Mr. Wright appealed to those present to attend the town's meeting which had been convened, and show their opinions and influence to the members of the Council. Surely the Mayor and his colleagues did not want to set themselves up as little gods. (Laughter.) At any rate, the people could knock them down if they did. It was inconceivable that a body of gentlemen should set up a standard of morality which it was almost impossible for other people to live up to. They seemed to arrogate to themselves a high standard of morality just because they were a kill-joy committee. (Laughter and applause.) Some of them might live in a big house and have a motor-car and go to the theatre in Birmingham or Manchester, yet they denied the poor people their amusements. (Applause.)

The Rev. T. Horne said that he heartily supported the resolution, and he ventured to claim for the travelling showpeople the sympathy and assistance of the people of Burslem in the present controversy concerning the Wakes. He claimed to know through and through the life of the showman. The best work of his life had been done for them and in their midst. He stood there to vindicate the showpeople from the terrible slanders and the vile aspersions cast upon them and their avocation in life. Consider, he said, how the showman had to live his life ever in the public eye. We have been told of the fierce light that burns

"MY SUGAR-PLUM."

A VOCAL SWEETMEAT THAT POSITIVELY MELTS IN THE MOUTH, ITS DELICIOUS FLAVOUR CLINGING TO THE MOST EPICUREAN PALATE.

Sing this Chorus over three times, and forget it IF YOU CAN!

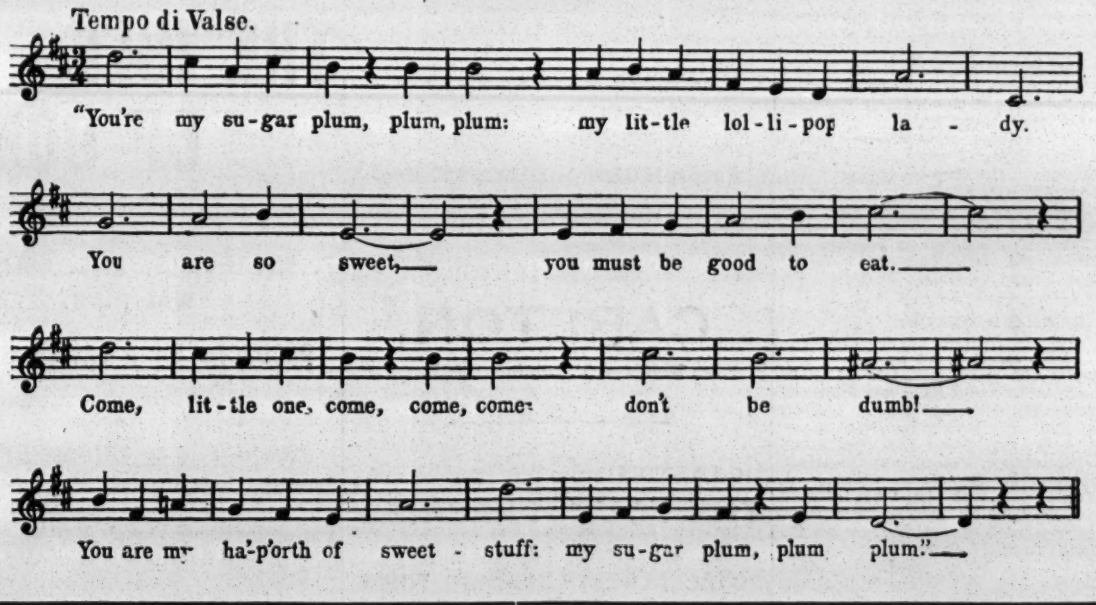
Suitable for "Boy."

HARRY DACRE'S CHRISTMAS SUGAR-PLUM

(Dragée bien sucrée).

Suitable for "Girl."

CHORUS.



Suitable for "Girl."

HARRY DACRE'S CHRISTMAS BON-BON

(Très bon).

Suitable for "Boy."

The music of the Verse is *à la Schottische*, and is quite as alluring as that of the Chorus.

THIS ADVERTISEMENT APPEARED FOR THE FIRST TIME LAST WEEK.

No less than 93 applications have been received already.

WHICH PROVES THE ABOVE CHORUS TO BE *A MAGNET*.

IT IS FREE FOR PANTOMIME.

A few FREE Music Hall rights will be issued. Apply at once.

THE SUCCESSFUL SONG SYNDICATE, 20, Nassau Street, Mortimer Street, London, W.

about the throne, but monarchs may for a time escape that ever alert observation and criticism. Not so the showman. His home on wheels, as well as the outside and inside of his show, is ever under searching observation. He cannot escape; his very living depends on carrying public sympathy—public support. His patrons are the masters of his whole life. His success entirely depends on winning and holding public esteem.

He asked—and he was sure that the justice-loving people of Burslem would concede—to showmen and showwomen the same domestic virtues, the same integrity of purpose, the same honesty of life and action as was freely accorded to all other sections of the workaday world. (Applause.) They were just as good citizens, just as loyal subjects, just as loving parents, just as religious, just as pure in their manhood and womanhood as the rest of the people. (Applause.) It had been darkly hinted that in some way—never set out in distinct terms—that the coming of the shows to the Wakes was a sanitary danger—a moral danger—to the community. A minister of Burslem had declared that as sure as the Wakes of Burslem came round there was an increase in the catalogue of illegitimate children. ("Shame.") That was a staggering statement to be made. It was more than that; it was an insult to the womanhood of Burslem, and he asked the people of the town to throw back the lie to those men who would traduce the moral character and the purity of the women of the town. (Applause.) If the Wakes was abolished in Burslem it would be abolished in every Pottery town. It was a movement on the part of their would-be masters and pastors to deprive them of an opportunity for necessary rest from toil and labour, an opportunity of mixing with their fellows, and of exchanging kindly acts of neighbourliness. Moreover, it was a movement on the part of a class of men who only regarded the working people so far as they were wealth-producers for them. (Applause.) By a resolution of the Council, it had been decided that only ratepayers should be heard at the town's meeting. ("Shame.") Consequently, the showmen had at short notice to engage that hall in order to appeal from Cæsar to Cæsar's master—the people. The people had manifested their interest in the subject, and had shown that however well meant the efforts of the governing body were, it had in that matter misunderstood the wishes of the people. (Applause.) The rev. gentleman concluded by pointing out how numerous and varied were the delights of the Wakes fair. He said there were the shows, the roundabouts, the stalls, the cocoanuts, and the thousand and one delights of the British fair which they demanded the right to enjoy. These privileges were their heritage and their birthright, to be handed down unsoiled and undiminished to their sons and to their sons' children. (Loud applause.)

The Chairman then put the resolution, and it was carried with but one dissentient.

The Rev. T. Horne proposed, and Mr. T. Watson Wright seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman, who suitably acknowledged the compliment, and the meeting terminated.

Burslem is thoroughly roused, and the enthusiasm of the people for the defence of their pleasure fair knows no bounds.

Mr. Horne was urgently pressed to stay over the town's meeting on the Thursday night and again address the people on the question of the hour.

This he consented to do, and the following poster and handbills were got out:

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.
Re Burslem Wakes.
To-Night,
After the Town's Meeting,
the
Rev. T. Horne
will deliver a 30-minutes' address
on
"British Shows and Showmen,"
in
St. John's-square, Burslem,
After, not during, the Town's Meeting.
Come in your thousands,
And demonstrate that you intend to retain
your Popular Fair.
T. Hurst, Hon. Sec.

ALLEGED FRAUD ON FRED KARNO.

William Henry Chippendale, 26, described as a clerk, was charged, on remand, at Lambeth on Saturday, before Mr. Hopkins, on a warrant with forging and uttering an order for the payment of money.

Mr. J. Woodhouse, who appeared for the prosecution, said the prosecutor was Mr. Frederick John Westcott, who was known in the theatrical profession as "Fred Karno." Prosecutor had a number of touring companies of comedians playing at different theatres and music-halls throughout the kingdom, and in order to work them each company had an acting-manager, whose duty it was to receive the sums due from the theatre proprietors at the end of each week, and render a statement to Mr. Karno's treasurer. It was the duty of an acting-manager to pay the salaries of the persons performing in the company. Prisoner had been in the employment of the prosecutor for about twelve months as a secretary, and at times as acting-manager, and he was acting in that capacity during the week ending Sept. 8 last, when he was in charge of a company performing at the Hackney Empire. In the course of his duties he received certain moneys from the treasurer of that hall, and in the ordinary course made up his usual weekly statement, which he presented to Mr. Bell, who was Mr. Karno's cashier. In that statement he set out the salaries of the various performers in the company, and amongst them was the name of Mr. J. Clegg, who was put down as having received £2 from the prisoner as salary. Prisoner presented his vouchers in the ordinary way to Mr. Bell, one of them being signed "J. Clegg." Prosecutor at that time was in America. Upon the prosecutor's return in October last, prisoner being still in his service, Mr. Bell drew his attention to certain irregularities in the prisoner's accounts, and the prosecutor called prisoner into his room and asked for an explanation. Prisoner then said he was very sorry, but he had got into a muddle with his accounts. At that time it was not known that the Clegg voucher was not in fact signed by Mr. Clegg. On Oct. 13 prisoner absented himself from business, and did not return again to the prosecutor's service. Prosecutor caused an investigation to be made, and it was then found that Mr Clegg did not receive £2 from the prisoner, and did not sign the receipt which the prisoner had presented. Other matters having come to the prosecutor's knowledge, he thought it necessary to take proceedings.

Detective-sergeant Hedges said he found the prisoner detained at Swanley on the 2nd inst., and read the warrant to him. He replied, "This is a surprise." On the way to the railway station he said, "Johnnie Clegg worked three days for one company. He left. On the Saturday I could not see him, and I signed the note."

Prosecutor, who resides at Vaughan-road, Camberwell, and Mr. T. S. Bell, his cashier, were called in support of the charge.

Mr. John Clegg, a comedian, of Dewsbury, stated that for three nights during the week ending Sept. 8 he was performing with Mr. Karno's company in *The Mumming Birds* at the Hackney Empire. He did not receive any money from the prisoner that week. The receipt produced was not in his handwriting, nor did he authorise anyone to sign it. As a matter of fact his salary was paid by another manager, to whose company he was transferred.

Mr Hopkins committed prisoner for trial.

THE FIGHT FOR BURSLEM WAKES.

Excellent progress has been already made in the struggle for the people's popular Fair at Burslem. The local defence committee have done yeoman service, and we anticipate that the end of this week will see the forces of reaction routed, and the old-time wakes again freed from danger.

It had been arranged that the Showmen's Guild would join forces with the local Traders' Committee, and that the Rev. T. Horne and Mr. Watson Wright would speak for the showmen at the town's meeting. This arrangement was prevented coming into effect by a resolution passed at the last Council meeting, to the effect "that only ratepayers be heard at the town's meeting."

This eminently futile attempt to muzzle the showmen was met by the Guild at once taking the Drill Hall and billing the town for a big appeal to the people of Burslem. The following poster and handbill was issued, and every means taken to arouse public interest:—

SHALL BURSLEM WAKES BE LOST?

What is the answer that the people of Burslem will give to this important question?

Remember it is your Wakes, your heritage handed down to you in almost unbroken line by your forefathers, and it is yours to hand on to generations yet unborn.

What social crime have the toilers of Burslem committed? Why should their old-time Wakes, a genuine rest from toil, be taken from them by those who have abundant opportunity of rest and of pleasure at their command?

These "goody-goody" people view with alarm and suspicion the working-man and his family enjoying the fun of the fair, and they are quick to conclude that the fellowship and good neighbourliness of the open-air fun at the Wakes, has within it the possibilities of all possible sin and social degradation.

You, the men, women, and children of Burslem, have been held up to reprobation and all sorts of social iniquity attributed to you because, in spite of the bidding of these would-be custodians of your daily life, you still love your old Burslem Wakes.

Twenty-eight years ago you were deprived of your Wakes for a couple of years by the same type of people as would deprive you of it to-day.

You rose in your might and majesty, and won your Wakes back again.

Shall the sons of such worthy sires prove less valiant in the fight against prejudice, cant, and humbug?

Remember, even the enemies of the wakes have been driven to admit that this is a people's question.

They did not put that reservation in the resolution now on the minutes of the Borough Council, practically abolishing the Wakes.

Although they knew it was eight months before the next Wakes, they ordered that no ground be let for shows or such like things during the time of Burslem Wakes.

There is no reference here to the will of the sovereign people.

A town's meeting has been duly convened, and a vigorous movement started to bring about the rescinding of the resolution against the Wakes.

Attend in your thousands. Demonstrate your fixed purpose to retain the liberty and enjoyment of your old-time fairs, and show these would-be dictators as to what you shall do and what you shall not do—what pleasures you may enjoy and what pleasures you may not enjoy—that you claim the liberty of free-born Britons to say that your soul is your own, and that you will not be treated as creatures unfit to enjoy without moral stigma and social disgrace your old-time liberties and freedom from toil at Burslem Wakes.

The showmen of the Empire will hold a public meeting, on the Wednesday evening before the town's meeting, at the Drill Hall, Newcastle-street, Burslem, at 7.30, when the cause of the showmen will be advocated by the following gentlemen:—The Rev. T. Horne, London; T. Watson Wright, Esq., Leicester; and Fred Bibby, Esq., Manchester, members of the Executive Council of the Showmen's Guild. T. HURST, Hon. Sec.

5, Tavistock-street, Strand, London, W.C.,
Nov. 12, 1906.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

W. F. Jury's Imperial Bioscope company has been exhibiting in the theatre an attractive entertainment by means of their living pictures. The varied subjects have met with hearty recognition, and special praise may be accorded to the series of living flowers, very beautiful displays of coloured photography—the floral ballet being most artistically depicted. The show included variety interludes. Amongst those appearing may be mentioned Mr. Walter Howard, whose banjo performances are of no mean order, and the Brothers Daniels, negro minstrels, with dancing specialities. On Saturday the Central Hall was filled with a large and appreciative attendance. Tschaikowsky's grand overture, "Solonnelle," was performed by the full strength of H.M. Coldstream Guards' Band, under the conductorship of Lieut. J. Mackenzie Rogan, to whom the credit is due of first introducing this fine work to the British public. A number which called for special praise was the song, "Beloved it is morn," by the ever-successful artist Miss Maud Dalrymple, who in response to the applause, gave "Home, sweet home." Mr. Harry Dearth's songs were all meritorious, particularly "The Corporal's ditty." The organist and accompanist was Mr. G. D. Cunningham, whose praiseworthy efforts always meet with the appreciation they deserve. Gounod's scena, "The Holy Temple," was given as a cornet solo by the conductor, and the success of the concert throughout was beyond question.

BARRING CLAUSE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I think it will be of interest to all artists and agents to know how they have been misled by not reading carefully their contracts. I consider three months' limit very reasonable. Now, then—Mr. J. W. Rickaby, who should have opened this week at the Hippodrome, Putney, was threatened with an injunction by Mr. Walter Gibbons, although his date to open with him, I am informed by his agents, is Dec. 16, 1907. If barring of twelve months is allowed to continue, how are the agents and artists to exist?—I am, Sir, yours faithfully, W. J. GRIMES,

Director Empress, Ltd., and Putney Hippodrome.
Empress Lodge, 203, Brixton-hill.
Nov. 13

GREAT DRAW.

GRAHAM,

The Human Marionette.

"A Sure Top."

Agent,

GEORGE BARCLAY.

HALT!

LOOK!

WATCH!

DO YOU WANT A SENSATION?

DO YOU WANT TO PACK YOUR HALL?

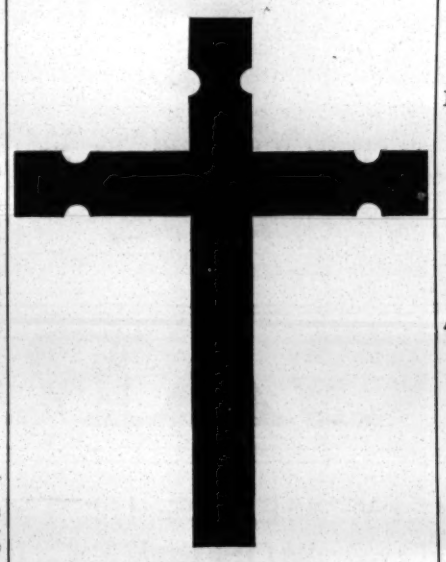
DO YOU WANT YOUR DIRECTORS TO CONGRATULATE YOU?

NO SHOWMAN'S HUMBUG!

THE EMPRESS THEATRE, BRIXTON,

Packed to suffocation nightly to see

THE MYSTERIOUS CROSS.



A Positive Sensation. First Production Monday last.

TOP OF THE BILL.

Immediately Booked after First Performance to open Monday Week at the TIVOLI and OXFORD.

A guarantee of its merits.

Agent, HUGH J. DIDCOTT, Esq.

SOLE PROPRIETOR,

CARLTON,

Registered Number, 2,633.

CARLTON is also Sole Proprietor of

THE FOUR KWEERIES,

Monday Next,

ROYAL ALBERT, CANNING TOWN.

CARLTON is also Sole Proprietor of

THE FOUR KWEERIES,

EN ROUTE FOR AUSTRALIA.

Manager, Mr. JERRY HART.

CARLTON himself is also working on the Stoll Tour with Enormous Success, and booked to play the SHOWMAN in the forthcoming pantomime at the PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRISTOL.

ARTHUR RIGBY.

JUST CONCLUDED TWO YEARS' RUN

OF

THE MARCH of the MARRIED MEN

By E. W. ROGERS.

AND

TWO YEARS' RUN

OF

WOMAN'S RIGHTS.

By E. W. ROGERS and ALBERT E. ELLIS.

Played at every Hall, including
MOSS'S EMPIRES, STOLL'S EMPIRES,
BARRASFORD TOUR,
WALTER DE FRECE'S TOUR,
MACNAGHTEN HALLS (London),
G. ADNEY PAYNE'S HALLS,
WALTER GIBBONS'S HALLS,
&c., &c.,

AND CAN BOOK MORE DATES.

PRODUCING ON NOV. 19

AT

RICHMOND THEATRE,

A NEW AND ORIGINAL EASTERN EPISODE

Entitled—

THE ISLE OF OOMA,

Written and Composed by

E. W. ROGERS, A. E. ELLIS, and WAL PINK.

PRODUCED ON A LAVISH SCALE.

New Scenery by JULIAN HICKS.
Beautiful New Dresses by J. A. HARRISON, Ltd.
Fans, Properties, and Embroideries by BHUMGARI & CO.
Produced by MICHEL RING.
Company of 20.

XMAS ARRANGEMENTS,

PANTO,

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

Address letters: ECCENTRIC CLUB, W.

FRED KARNO'S COMPANIES.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO ALL ARTISTS ENGAGED FOR GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW, PANTOMIME.
REHEARSALS for above will commence at Glasgow, as under:—
MONDAY, Nov. 19, at 11 a.m.—Local Chorus and Ballet.
WEDNESDAY, Nov. 21, at 11 a.m.—London Chorus.
FRIDAY, Nov. 23, at 11 a.m.—All Principals.
All engaged are requested to immediately forward their PRESENT ADDRESS TO THE HEAD OFFICE.

GLASGOW.
GRAND. Pantomime Season, 1906-7.
GORGEOUS XMAS PANTOMIME.
"The House that Jack Built."
Fred Kitchen, Harmony Comedy Four, the Fourteen Black Hussars, Kirby's Flying Ballet, Miss May Mars, Miss Luna Love, Miss Frances Kapstowne, Sisters Hopkins, Little Maudie Francis, Wee Mona, Bob Sloan, Fred. Whittaker, Helier Le Maistre, Miss Genevera Tree, Miss Agnes Lane, Harry Lappo, Frank Douglas, Frederic Booth, E. Sydney Smith, Dave Laird, Harold Wellesley, Barry Searle, Albert Leonzi, H. Victor Smith, Misses Holly Errol, Eva Norman, May Prichard, Freda Vaughan, Lallie Forsyth, Kathleen Morland, Dora Grey, Nellie May, Florence Raymaur, Florence Fenwicke, Eva Carlisle, Flo Pragnell, Helen Temple, Ianthe Gordon, Florence Marks, Gabrielle Wallace, Violet Crossley, Helen Le Maistre, Lydia Granville, Louis Wollett, Alys Hardy, and chorus and ballet of 150 performers.

HULL.
EMPIRE. "Moses and Sons."
Messrs. Fred Kitchen, Albert Bruno, T. Ellis-Buxton, Herbert Landeck, Anthony Gordon, J. Springsohn, H. Lappo, Nat Lewis, Bernard Katz, Gipsy Dolin, H. Myers, Phil Sinclair, D. Asher, W. Davis, N. Goodman, B. Hart, Frank Lester, F. Westcott, M. Rutherford, E. H. Carl, Harry E. Stafford, L. Banjamin, Fred Bentley, Misses Aggie Morris, Janet Reeve, Madge Rockingham, Rosa Abrahams, Lydia Weber, C. Doncaster, Leah Holland, Bertha Hymans, Kat Hymans, Blanche Newmann, Etty Ray, E. Silve, A. Boyce, A. Spencer, B. Asher, C. Gordon.
Manager, Mr. J. B. Helm; Musical Director, Mr. Dudley Powell.

AMERICA, U.S. MASS.
LOWELL T. "Mumming Birds."
Messrs. Harry Royston, James Russell, Sidney Chaplin, W. Fern, Ernest Stone, Fred Bendo, Bert Clark, Arnold McFarlane. Misses Amy Minister, Beatrice Barnes, Agnes Clark.
Manager, Mr. A. Forrest.

BIRMINGHAM.
HIPPODROME. "Dandy Thieves."
Messrs. George Hestor, Frank Morton, Harry Howe, R. H. Kitchen, Tom Manardo, Alec Munro, Sydney Bolton, Charles Usher, B. Moore, S. Gossling, Frank Douglas, Cecil Frere, Misses Leonora Castelle, Kitty Brunton, Chlocy Johnson, Margaret Ruby, Daisy Hestor, Edith Ager, Amy Hermance, Marjorie Gossling.
Manager, Mr. L. Greenwood; Musical Director, Mr. F. H. J. Moran.

AMERICA, U.S. NEW YORK.
HAMMERSTEIN'S. "The Smoking Concert."
Messrs. Billie Reeves, George Welch, Arthur Dando, Will Stanley, Charles Emerald, Jack Osborne, Chas. Sivado, Reed Almonti, Will Crackles, G. Seamans, J. Aubrey. Misses Rosie Fenton, Mabelle Welsh, Minna Dixon.
Manager, Mr. A. Reeves.

NORTHAMPTON.
OPERA HOUSE. "Saturday to Monday.'
Messrs. Rolando Martin, James Fletch, Fred Palmer, J. W. Bradbury, Dick Harcourt, Victor H. Crawford, T. McDonough, George Cooper, C. Herbert Summers, Sydney Lansdown, Bertie Crew, W. Lawrence, E. Pablo, Mark Milton, Misses Amy Rogerson, Ada Maskell, Daisy Stone, Lucy Walden, Lulu Lillian, Kathleen Dennis, Valetta Rushton, Muriel Palmer, Ethel Milton.
Manager, Mr. H. A. Dooley; Musical Director, Mr. A. D'Albert.

SOUTH SHIELDS.
EMPIRE. "Jail Birds"
Messrs. James Le Fre, Bob Lewis, Fred Whittaker, Bert Williams, Will Moran, Frank Melroyd, Will Lorenzi, George Craig, Albert Layton, E. E. Giles, jun., B. Dean, Misses Ada Minister, Sara Dudley, Louie Decubas, Marjorie Williams, Rosie Mayville.
Manager, Chas. Sewell.

LONDON.
OLYMPIA. Christmas, 1906.
Special production of the Famous Old-Time RICHARDSON'S SHOW,
A faithful revival of all the old glamour and glory of ONE OF THE MOST AMUSING AND BEST-BELOVED FEATURES OF OLD ENGLISH FAIR LIFE.

MANCHESTER.
PALACE. "The Football Match," Christmas, 1906.
Messrs. Harry Weldon, Ernie Myers, Robb Gilmore, Will Poluski, jun., Brien McCullough, Bertie White, Jack Royal, Alec Thomas, Miss Lily Lonsdale, Miss Eunice Bell, supported by the Karno Troupe of comedians, and pantomimists, and two real first-class football teams, comprising well-known football players selected from the leading clubs of the United Kingdom, and chorus and auxiliaries of over a hundred artists.

KARNO'S THEATRICAL FACTORY,
CAMBERWELL, S.E.
The Magnificent NEW WING just added to the above, comprising a Paint Room, Rehearsal Room, and Storage Dock, is now complete. The new Paint Room is furnished with Two Frames capable of carrying any Cloths. The new Rehearsal Room, splendidly lighted, ventilated, and heated, is 72 feet long, 21 feet wide, and owing to its exceptional height (26 feet 6 inches) can be used as a Practice Room for any Gymnastic or Aerial Acts. The huge Storage Dock, thoroughly ventilated and dry, covers an area of 316 square yards, and has a cubic space of 32,648 feet.

GENERAL STAGE DIRECTOR, AUTHOR, and PRODUCER,
Harold L. Hilliard.
SOLICITORS,
Stanley, Woodhouse, and Hedderwick, E.C.

Sole Proprietor and Director,
MR. FRED KARNO.

26, 28, & 28a, VAUGHAN ROAD, CAMBERWELL, S.E.

Telegrams, "Karno, Camberwell."
Telephone, Nos. 2341, 2341a Hop.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS, ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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THE PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E. Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25, Apri 1, on
COUNTY THEATRE, READING, Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25, Apri 1, on
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER, Dec. 17, Feb. 11, March 25, April 29, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER, March 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON. Nov. 26, Dec. 10, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 11, 18, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD, Feb. 11, March 4, 18, 25, April 1, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON. Feb. 18, 25, March 4, 25, April 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER, March 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON. Nov. 26, Dec. 10, Jan. 7 three nights, Feb. 18, March 11, 18, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, May 6, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, Dec. 17, May 6, onwards.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD, Jan. 7, 14, 21, Feb. 4.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD; GRAND THEATRE, LUTON; Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 28, Feb. 4, onwards, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 31, Mar. 4 (three nights only), onwards.
Add., E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Strong Attraction, for Luton, Jan. 14 (three nights).
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Company, Dec. 24. Certainty only.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Canterbury, Nov. 26, Dec. 3 (three nights only).
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Three Nights, Nov. 29; Three Nights, Dec. 13; Six Nights, Dec. 17 (?). And a Really Good Pantomime, Six Nights, Feb. 18.
Address, F. W. PURCELL, "Lingwood," Yerbury-rd., Tufnell Park, London, N.

WANTED, First-Class Attraction, for the Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, Dec. 3, through transferring.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Dec. 10 (?), Dec. 17.
Address,
THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE.
WANTED, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, First-class Attractions only. FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, Musical Plays and Important Attractions, for Grand T., West Hartlepool, Vacant Nov. 26, Jan. 14. F. GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool. Wire.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Manager and Licensee, Mr. L. F. A. ROGERS.

WANTED, Companies, Jan. 7, 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 25, March 4, onwards.
One or two Good Pantomimes required.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Dec. 17, 1906; Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 1907.
Apply, JAMES KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for Dec. 17. Jan. 7, 21, Feb. 4 and 11. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

GRAND THEATRE, MANSFIELD.
WANTED, Musical Attractions, Dec. 17, March 4, 18, April 29, only vacancies till Autumn. Magnificent brick and stone building, main street, centre of town, lighted by electricity. Bookings include the best shows on tour. Stage 60 by 40; 40ft. to grid.

T. R., RUGBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 3, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, March 4, April 18, 29, May 20, 27. A. F. CROSS, P. O. W., Nuneaton.

GRAND THEATRE, RAWTENSTALL.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Musical Comedy, &c., for Spring and Autumn. First vacant date March 25, 1907.
This week, "THE CHRISTIAN."
Monday, £47 2s. 8d.
Tuesday, £51 3s. 4d.
Wednesday, £36 18s. 6d.
Equitable terms to Attractions that can draw money. Address all communications, A. DE FRECE, 12, Cecil-court, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Dec. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 (three nights each).
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE, OLDHAM.
WANTED, Good Dramatic Attraction, for Dec. 17, '06. Apply, W. EASTWOOD.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Dec. 10, 24, and 31; also Pantomimes for dates in Jan. Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Dec. 10. Dec. 10. Address,
J. W. WHITEHEAD, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

WANTED, Pantomime or First-Class Attraction, Feb. 11.
Address, COULSON, T. R., South Shields.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 3 and 17. L. CARSON, Keighley.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Jan. 28, Feb. 4, onward (with exceptions).

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant Dec. 3, 10, 17, onward (with exceptions).

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Dec. 17, 31, onward (with exceptions).
(Last three nights of each week.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 28, onward (with exceptions).

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Dec. 3 10, 31, onward (with exceptions).

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, onward (with exceptions).

"SPAN OF LIFE."
Vacant Dec. 31, Feb. 18, onward (with exceptions).

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
Vacant Dec. 31, Jan. 14, onward (with exceptions).

"CINDERELLA."
Vacant Feb. 11, onward (with exceptions).

Companies "Farmed" through Fit-ups.
To Let, on Royalty, "THE PRAIRIE FLOWER" and "OUR BRITISH EMPIRE."
Excellent plants printing.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.
The leading Theatre in the Town.
The only Theatre in the town lighted by electricity.
This week, "THE PRINCE OF PILSEN."
Next week, Mr. and Mrs. John Walters' Pantomime, "BABES IN THE WOOD."

WANTED, Companies, New Year's week, Dec. 31, to oblige "Kitty Grey."
Must be strong Attraction.
Jan. 21, Feb. 11, and certain later dates open.
Apply, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
The Premier Theatre in the Furness District.
Holds £90 at Ordinary Prices.
This week, Wm. Greet's "EARL AND THE GIRL." (Return Visit.)
Next week, Frederick Melville's "BETWEEN TWO WOMEN." Week following, Mr. Louis Calvert's "SUNDAY" (Return Visit).
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, for Jan. 21, through obliging Fredk. Moullot, Esq.
The Bookings for this Theatre include the Principal Attractions Touring.
All applications for dates to
HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 17, March 25, April 15, and various onward dates.
Apply, Manager, CHARLES TRENCHARD.

NEW THEATRE, OXFORD.
WANTED, First-class Company, for Dec. 26 (four nights), musical preferred.
WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

GRAND T's., CHORLEY and RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Big Attractions, musical preferred, Dec. 3 (?), 17, 24, Grand, Radcliffe; also Dec. 10 (?), 24, Grand, Chorley. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, HORWICH.
WANTED, Good Cos., Nov. 26, Dec. 3, Musical preferred; also Pantos., Christmas and New Year. Enclose day-bill. F. LEWIS.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLCHESTER.
WANTED, Big Co., Dec. 3, through cancelling.
MACDONA, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Good Pantos., Feb. 4 or 11, for Victoria Theatre, Stanley, Co. Durham.
Address, JOHN CASSIDY.

WANTED, First-Class Attraction, Dec. 17.
H. MASTERMAN, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

WANTED, Companies, for Coliseum, Aberystwyth, and Memorial Hall, Lampeter, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, Aberystwyth three, Lampeter three. Wire, PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Inverness, Attractions for Feb. and March. Vacant dates apply, CAMERON BURGESS.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Pantomime, Feb. 25, one week; also Attractions, March 25, April 15, 29, and onwards. Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

ILFRACOMBE.
RUNNACLEAVE T. AND OPERA HOUSE.
The Most Comfortable Playhouse in the District, used exclusively for Amusement Purposes. Everything well done. Open all the year round.
WANTED, Attractions, between now and Xmas, with exceptions, also a Good Panto.
JULIUS PHILLIPS, Opera House, Ilfracombe.

THEATRE ROYAL, WEST BROMWICH.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Comic Opera, Musical Comedies, &c., April, onwards. Address, HERBERT VERE.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, Companies, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 17, 24, Jan. 14, 21 (latter dates can be booked in conjunction with Opera House, Perth. W. E. PORTS.

THEATRE ROYAL, HEBBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Musical preferred, Dec. 3, Jan. 28; good Pantomime, Feb. 4 18, 25. Opened Monday, Gilbert Payne's "Honeymoon," £41 7s. 3d.; Tues., £31 15s. 5d. Certainty or share. Seats 1,700; holds £75. CHARLES ELDERTON.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, KING'S LYNN.
Lessee and Manager, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
WANTED, good Pantomime, Jan. 7 (six nights).
N.B.—This would be first Pantomime in.
WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Xmas on. Apply,
HARRISON-BROADLEY, Manager.

WANTED, for Prince's T., Llandudno, Queen's Pal., Rhyl, P. H., Colwyn Bay, Good Musical Attractions, Dec. 10 on, with exceptions; also booking season, 1907. CHAS. CHAPLIN, Sea View, Colwyn Bay.

PUBLIC HALL, SCUNTHORPE.
WANTED, Companies, Three Nights, Nov. 22, Dec. 6, 13. W. W. JOHNSON.

WANTED, Good Attraction for Christmas Day, share or rental. WM. EASTWOOD, Manager, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Magnificent New Town Hall, moderate rental, permanent stage, excellent accommodation. F. W. WESTERN, Sandy, Beds.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

COMPANIES WANTED.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Feb. 18, March 4, 18, and April 15.
WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, Nov. 26, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24. Wire, Wire, Wire.
R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Feb. 25, 1907.
Communicate, HARRY YORKE.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 24, Feb. 11.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO TOOK THE WRONG TURNING,"
By Walter Melville.
Grand Autumn Production.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 18, 25.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE SOLDIER'S WEDDING,"
By Walter Melville.
Grand Autumn Production.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 11, March 11.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatre, Nov. 26.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE,"
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 31, Feb. 11, 18, April 1.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 31, Jan. 21, Feb. 4.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 28, Feb. 25,
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 31, Jan. 14, Feb. 18.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 28, Feb. 18, March 4.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Jan. 21 and March 11. August Bank Holiday week is vacant.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Weeks of Dec. 17, 31, and Jan. 7, Scala Production.
Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Feb. 11 and 18, through transferring. Nov. 19,
T. R., North Shields (six nights).
Aut., 1907, Grand Production, "Rollicking Rory."

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED Jan. 7, Feb. 4, 11, March 4, 11, 18.
Address, J. W. CORDINER, Theatre Royal, Rotherham.
See Companies advertisement, page 2.

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 24, on, Big Production.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Dec. 24, on, Full Chorus, Big Specialities.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, Jan. 28, for Milton Bode's "Dick Whittington" Pantomime, and Jan. 14, for "Chinese Honeymoon."
Wire, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

Messrs. SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL,"
By William Hibbert.
A Sound Show that draws money everywhere. This week, return to Alexandra, Hull, within 12 months. Better business than ever. "A drama which is both ingenious in construction and vigorous in development, and being exceedingly well acted, is an all-round capital play. A special feature in the piece is the beautiful scenery.—Hull Daily News, Nov. 13, 1906. All new scenery; new uniforms; grand display of Pictorials. First-class Company of Sixteen Artists. Refer William Morton, Esq.
WANTED, Xmas, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14, Feb. 11, Easter. All communications to JOHN B. SHINTON, Grand Opera House, Harrogate (return).

"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 7 and 14. Now booking Spring and Autumn, 1907. C. DURIE, H. M. T., Dundee.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, Jan. 7, 14, 21, Feb. 4, Lancs. or Yorks.
DICKIE CLARE, Queen's T., Gateshead.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
By Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, Theatre, with Large Holding Capacity, with Xmas Week, also Jan. 7, 21, Feb. 11 (North or Midlands). Now booking Autumn, 1907.
H. HOLLISTER, Grand T., Birmingham (to-day); Monday, Aquarium T., Yarmouth.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, "Mr. Popple," Nov. 19, 26; "Are You a Mason?" Dec. 3, Xmas; "Country Girl," Nov. 26. Communicate, CHAS. MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

A'DELL AND CHABOT'S COMPANIES.
The name a Guarantee.
"HIS SISTER'S HONOUR."
By Eva Elwes.
WANTED, good Theatres, Jan. 28, on (to follow Grimsby), with exceptions; three tons of scenery, draperies, and properties; big plant of new printing, and a cast second to none touring. Thanks J. E. Barnes, Esq., J. F. Elliston, Esq., W. W. Kelly, Esq., W. D. Forsdike, Esq., F. Macnaghten, Esq., W. Eastwood, Esq., A. De Frece, Esq., A Selwyn, Esq., for letters and contracts.
"THE ROMANY'S REVENGE,"
Vacant Dec. 31, Jan. 7, March 11, on.
E. A'DELL, Muncaster T., Bootle (third visit).

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.,
"BOUND TO WIN."
WANTED, New Year's Week, Jan. 7, 14, for this great attraction. Enormous business this week. Racehorses toured. Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY, Alex. T., Birmingham; next, King's T., Longsight, Manchester.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Sixty-fourth week of present Tour.
Booked and re-booked into Oct., 1907.
WANTED, Whit Week Midlands, March 25 (follow Jarrow), April 8.
FRANK AYRTON, Queen's, Longton (return).

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, for "A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR." "A CLEVER IMPOSTOR." "A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
Everything done in absolutely first-class style.
Everything done in absolutely first-class style.
Production Xmas week, T. R., Macclesfield.
Add., STUART CLEVELAND, 24, James-st., Fleetwood.

THEATRES WANTED.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the following Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, for this Extraordinary Attraction, Dec. 17, '06. Managers desirous of making money, book the above. L. CARSON, Keighley.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, First-class Autumn Dates, for this most excellent attraction, August, on. L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18, First-class Theatres only. CARSON, Keighley.

MISS MARY NEIL AND MR. GEORGE KIRK'S CO., "HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, New Year's Week, Jan. 7, 21, 28.
A few Autumn Dates still open.
CHARLES A. LEICESTER, This, T. R., Ilkeston; next, Junction, Manchester.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S TOURS.
WANTED, Theatres, for the Powerful Dramatic Play, adapted from Stanley Weyman's Celebrated Novel, "COUNT HANNIBAL," by Messrs. Freeman Wills and Frederick Langbridge, Authors of "The Only Way," &c.
The Successful Comedy, "THE CHEVALIER DE ST. GEORGE," by Frederick Langbridge.
By Arrangement with Chas. Frohman, Esq., Anthony Hope's Celebrated Play, "THE ADVENTURE OF LADY URSULA."
For Vacant Dates, Address,
W. HOWARD ASHLEY, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. "THE FOUR JUST MEN" (by arrangement with H. A. Saintsbury), Feb. 18, 25, March 18, Easter, and onwards, with exceptions.
"OLIVER TWIST," Feb. 4, March 18, Easter, and April 8.
WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Best Theatres. Vacant Dec. 24, also Feb. 18, 25, March 4, and few later.
Grand T., Birmingham Nov. 19 (third visit).

"THE TRAITOR."
"THE TRAITOR."
E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, 17, 24. E. HILL-MITCHELSON, this and next week, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
WANTED, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, and Easter week.
EUGENE BERTRAM, P.O.W. Theatre, Grimsby.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, for this Brilliant Attraction, Dec. 3, 31, Jan. 7 and 14.
Miss Georgette Thierry as Ninon.
To-day, HARRY FOXWELL, P. O. W. T., Salford; Nov. 19, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for JACK HADDON'S JACK HADDON'S Gorgeous Pantomime, "JACK AND THE BEANSTALK," "JACK AND THE BEANSTALK," Vacant Jan. 14, 21, Feb. 4.
This Pantomime can be played twice nightly.
Address,
JACK HADDON, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford.

"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
WANTED, for Paumier and Howard's No. 1 Company, April 22. Address,
ALFRED PAUMIER, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 10, 31, "For Better or Worse."
Wire, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

HARRY GRAHAM'S
"LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD."
WANTED, Jan. 7, Jan. 7 (in or near London). Forty-five people travelled.
GRAHAM, 2, Inver-terrace, Upper Clapton, London, N.E.

"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Feb. 4, 18 (?). Apply, H. A. JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

"THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, with large holding capacity, Whit and August Bank Holiday weeks, for the Biggest Financial Success touring. Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

"A HEART'S DESIRE," by Frank Adair.
Phenomenal Success.
WANTED, Nov. 26, to follow Grimsby. En route; or H. ELLIMAN, 5, Vernon-st., Dublin.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Dec. 10, 17, 24, New Year (North preferred), Feb. 25, March 11 (between Dudley and Sunderland), April 1. MILLER, Empire Theatre, Dundee.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOUR.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this sound money-maker, Xmas and New Year, Xmas and New Year; also Feb. 4, 11, and 25. Address, FRANK M. THORNE, Opera House, Torquay.

MRS. BANDMANN PALMER'S TOUR.
WANTED, Dec. 3, through transfer. Address, Mrs. BANDMANN PALMER, Sat., Loughborough; Mon., O. H., Kidderminster.

ALLAN WILKIE,
supported by Mr. G. Alexander Marsh Miss Carrie Baillie, Miss Gertrude Gilbert, Miss Ine Cameron. The Strongest Shakespearean Company touring the British Isles.
WANTED, April 15, between Carlisle and Warrington; April 29, between Warrington and Harrogate; May 13 and 20, North; May 27, Midlands; June 10, onwards. Good Theatre, for Four Weeks' Stock. Share or certainty. Aug. 5, onward, with exceptions. Address, Pleasure Gardens T., Folkestone.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH."
WANTED, Xmas, New Year, Jan. 21, and others. Wire, FRANCES DELAVAL, T. R., Houghton-le-Spring, Durham.

MIDLAND SYNDICATE'S DRAMAS, PANTOS.
WANTED, April 1, 15, 29, and a few later dates, for "Life" and "East Lynne," powerful company; "Aladdin" Panto., open Feb. 4 and 18, fifty people on stage, everything carried. Wires, HERBERT BARRS, Grand T., Falkirk; next week, Kilmarnock (3), Ayr (3).

"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
Enormous Success.
Miss V. ST. LAWRENCE as the FIEND.
WANTED, Xmas and New Year, Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 18, 25, March 18, April 15 (?), 22 (?), 29, June 3, 10, 17 (?), July 1, 22, 29, Aug. 12, Oct. 28, Nov. 11, on.
MONTAGUE BEAUDYN, next, Lyceum, Long Eaton.

"THE CONSCRIPT."
WANTED, Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7 (3), 21, 28, for above Strong Attraction.
Staged on First-class Lines.
CLIVE, this, Kidderminster; next, Luton.

"HER ONE GREAT SIN."
WANTED Xmas, follow Aldershot.
J. LEICESTER JACKSON, Monday, Walsall.

THEATRES WANTED.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
Forty-Five in Company.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 14 (South), to oblige a Manager, and Easter.
Only Vacant Dates till Xmas, 1907.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for JAMES KIDDIE'S JAMES KIDDIE'S Colossal Gorgeous Pantomime, "CINDERELLA," "CINDERELLA," "CINDERELLA," Vacant Jan. 21, Feb. 4, and onwards. "ALADDIN," "ALADDIN," Vacant Feb. 18 (Midlands). "DICK WHITTINGTON," "DICK WHITTINGTON," Vacant Feb. 18 (Lancs. or Yorks.).
Address,
JAMES KIDDIE, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Dec. 31, Jan. 7, March 4, 18. FRED BULMER, Metropole Theatre, Devonport.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, Xmas week. FRED BULMER, Metropole Theatre, Devonport.

"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres. FRED BULMER, Metropole Theatre, Devonport.

"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
WANTED, Aug. 3, onwards. FRED BULMER, Metropole Theatre, Devonport.

THE NATIONAL VAUDEVILLE CO.,
Under the Management of Mr. John Jackson, will shortly Tour with a First-class Company of Dramatic and Variety Artists.

"THE BIGGEST SCAMP IN LONDON,"
"SALLY'S BIRTHDAY" (with Songs and Supers),
"HER LADYSHIP."
The above Sensational Sketches are quite Original, and will be a sure draw, supported by an efficient number of well-known Variety Turns and Specialities; also a Bioscope, with up-to-date films.
Pictorials, Printing, Gag Bills, ad lib.
Thanks to Managers for Contracts and Offers of Dates.
Must have Good Sharing Terms, and Halls and Theatres that hold Money.
Can Play Once or Twice Nightly.

WANTED, Dec. 24, onwards. Wanted, Dec. 24, onwards.
Shares or Certainty.
Apply,
SECRETARY, 55, Bancroft-road, Mile End, London.

THE "APEX" ANIMATED AND TALKING PICTURE CO., with the CHRONOPHONE (Gaumont's patent),
The Greatest Wonder of the Age.
WANTED, Theatres, Music Halls, Halls, &c. Dates, Dec., and onwards.
Shares or certainty.
All communications to
GENERAL-MANAGER, 81, Victoria-avenue, Hull.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"SIGN OF THE CROSS" Fit-up Tour.
WANTED, various Artists in all lines, for Tour commencing Xmas, rehearse fortnight prior, including Chorus Mistress to combine Piano, Ladies and Gentlemen with good voices, Soprano, Contralto, Tenor and Bass, for small parts and chorus; must have good figures and be ladies and gentlemen. Interviews by appointment only. Full particulars in first instance to HENRY CHATTELL, Malden Cottage, Watford.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, First-class Character Gent. (Sir Noel); must be robust, and not under 5ft. 10in; also young and dashing Chambermaid (Angelina), not over 5ft., and slight build, to wear inflated dress, two acts; must have plenty of go. Both must have first-class wardrobe. Rehearse Nov. 26, Nuneaton. Joints not objected to. Send last two references (with present addresses), exact height, age, photos. (stamp for return) imperative, lowest terms, SANTE, Theatre Royal, Ilkeston.

WANTED, Full Company, for "The Shulamite," Dec. 10, for two special weeks, tour to follow if suitable, rehearse Monday, Dec. 3. Terms, refs., and photos. (essential), to J. FRED WATSON, Victoria, Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, for Fit-up Tour of "Bluebell," commencing Xmas, Bluebell, Blib, Blob, King, Sleepy King, Conductor. Age, height, references, lowest terms, ladies' photos. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford. All Artists interviewed in London.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
"MODERN ADVENTURESS." "TICKET-OF-LEAVE." "HEART OF A HERO," "OCTOROON," &c.
WANTED, Immediately. First-class Experienced Comedian and Chambermaid, for above, important parts; must be quick studies, reliable, and dress parts well. Those who have played parts before preferred. Full particulars, age, height, photos. (essential), and lowest terms for long tour, to CHARLES DRAYCOTT, P. O. W., Mexborough.

WANTED, Hybert's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Fit-up Tour, Clever Child for Eva, Lady for Heavies; good, reliable Pianist, Coloured Singers, good voices. Terms, refs., &c. HYBERT, C/o Creber, printer, Plymouth.

MILTON RAY'S SKETCH COMPANIES.
WANTED, for "Cruise of the Calabar," Baritone Actor-Vocalist, tall and young; Low Comedian (small), sing and dance; Good Master Carpenter, to go on in chorus; Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen, Property Master, and Baggage. All to open about Dec. 10, long tour to suitable artists.
Address,
ARTHUR MILTON, Grand Theatre, Hanley, Staffs.
Important.—A Good Pair of Knockabouts wanted.

WANTED, to Rehearse at once, Lancashire District, smart, young, attractive ladies; must be good vocalists and dancers. Good quartette write; also smart soubrette. Open, special week, Nov. 26; if suitable, probable tour.
MANAGER, 73, Belmont-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, tall good-looking Young Ladies, strong, clear voices, speak and sing well, good modern wardrobe; long engagement to those suitable.
MAJILTON, Palace Theatre, Southampton.

WANTED, Open Immediately, London, through disappointment, powerful young Leading Lady, good appearance, modern wardrobe, powerful delivery, long engagement. Wire, LEONARD MORTIMER, Palace, Southampton, till Saturday evening; after, 152, Clapham-road, S.W.

"BOUND TO WIN."
WANTED, a Heavy Lady, to Rehearse at once. Wire, particulars, F. G. KIMBERLEY, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham; next, King's, Longsight, Manchester.

ROBERT PERRIS' CO.
WANTED, immediately, good Heavy Man, tall, good appearance and delivery, Comedian and Child shortly. Send photo., refs., and absolute lowest terms to Metropole, Abertillery.

WANTED, Good Heavy Gentleman, and Chambermaid, good voice. Lowest terms, photo., names and addresses last two references, ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Open Xmas, for acknowledged London Success, Robust Gentlemanly Heavy Man, at least 5ft. 11in. in height; also Tall Rough Character Actor. Apply in first instance, stating height, terms, references, to
Box 4002, "The Era."

WANTED, Special Week, Heavy and Small Part, Gentlemen; everything found. Lowest terms and particulars, PEAKE, Grand, Sheffield.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"THE LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE."
WANTED, First-class Juvenile Leading Man, tall, powerful. Rehearse Dec. 17. Photos., age, height, refs., and terms, G. Carlton Wallace, Alex Theatre, Hull.

"POWER OF THE CROSS." CO.
WANTED, at once, strong Dramatic Jew man, also Heavy, capable old man disguise. Photos. (or useless), refs., and all particulars to Geo. A. De Gray, Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.

"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, Gentleman for Light Comedy (Dude part). Photo., references, and lowest terms, to Charles Durie, H. M. T., Dundee.

WANTED, Capable Young Actor, for Répertoire, also Young Lady for Small Parts. Address, with height, photos., age, and references, Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, Opera H., Kidderminster.

WANTED, tall Gentleman, for Heavies; also a smart Comedian, with good singing voice; also a smart Comedienne, with strong voice, for Coster Comedy; tall and of good appearance. Sketch Artists preferred. Letters, Secretary, the National Vaudeville Co., 55, Bancroft-road, Mile End, London.

WANTED, Good Heavy Leading Man, not less than 5ft. 10in, must dress well, have good voice. Refs., terms, &c., Box 4,010, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, an Opening will occur shortly for an Amateur Lady and Gentleman, for Paris and Understudy in High-class Play now Touring under Well-known Management. Apply, with full particulars, to Box 4,003, "The Era."

WANTED, Rehearse at Once, Sketch, good responsible lady and gentleman. Height, age, photos., lowest terms, E. Lewis, 2, St. Michael's-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Four Girls, aged 17-18, who have slight knowledge of Dancing and Singing. Apply, Miss Nellie Navette, 2, Bedford-mansions, High-street, Camden Town (adjoining Bedford Music Hall). Miss Nellie Navette is also prepared to accept Pupils in Dancing and Deportment, &c.

WANTED, First-class Dancers, for Long Engagement on the Continent; must be young, and able to do Ballet Dancing. Write for appointment to T. Wathon, 35, Russell-street, Brixton.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by young Actress (recent refs., good appearance), Engagement, now or for Spring; moderate salary. Apply first instance, Box 3,999, "The Era."

WANTED, Immediate Engagement, by Young Comedienne Instrumentalist, Cornet, Banjo, Mandoline, English Concertina, Piano, experienced Music Hall Performer. "Q.," 4, Defoe-road, Tooting.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for "Aladdin," good Second Boy, Emperor, Vizier, Dame, Stage-Manager to produce, First-Class Quartette of Dancers, Chorus Ladies, Agent in Advance, Carpenter. Age, height, references, lowest terms, ladies' photos., E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford. All Artists interviewed in London.

WANTED Principal Girl, for First-class Pantomime. Address, stating previous Pantomime Engagements, where appearing next two weeks, and salary expected, Box 3,997, "The Era."

NEUMAN-WOOD'S "DICK WHITTINGTON"
WANTED, Principal Boy (through illness); find Palace Dress, or all if desired, to save time. Quote last year's panto engt., lowest terms, photo. as principal boy, and stamped addressed envelope. Also Speciality for Palace (no setting). Coms., Court T., Bacup.

PANTOMIME.
WANTED, a First-class Comedian, for Abanazar. Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Two Youths, Knockabouts and Clog-dancers, for Animal Impersonation.
State Experience and Terms.
John Tiller and Co., 15, Lime-grove, Manchester.

WANTED, for a Provincial Pantomime, a Flying Ballet. Address, with terms and particulars, Box 3,995, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to open immediately, several smart Young Ladies, must be able to sing and dance well, twelve months' run guaranteed to those who know their business. Those in town call at Bedford Music Hall between 11 and 12. A. Rozell, Bedford, London.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
"ALADDIN." "CINDERELLA."
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
Season 1906-7.
WANTED, Artists engaged for above to send addresses for the next two weeks to James Kiddie, Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, in London or Suburbs, through misunderstanding, Panto. Engagement, Lottie Bell, the Little Australian Vocalist and Dancer, "Red Riding Hood," Boy or Girl "Babes in the Wood." Fine voice, good dancer, 17 years of age; own songs and dresses. Reasonable terms. James, Moore Arms, Cadogan-street, Chelsea.

WANTED, Panto., by Miss Daisy Morell, the Popular Principal Boy. Thanks Messrs. Fred Little, Samuel James Dan Thomas, E. C. Jazon, Brooks's Agency, for Offers. Monday, Prince's T., Preston.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged Panto., Cecilia Maude, Abdallah or Fairy Queen preferred, height 5ft. 11½in. Last year, Abdallah, Shakespeare, Clapham. Communications, 91, Tyneham-road, Clapham.

WANTED, Known, Miss Bessie Frank, at Lib., Principal Girl. Refer Mr. J. H. Savile, Mr. J. Gar Kiddie. Address, L. T., Ipswich.

WANTED, Panto. by Second Girl and Baron, and Speciality; also First-Class Quartette. Address, Miss Vayne, The Limes, Haddenham, Cambs.

WANTED, Panto., Frank Anderson (Handy Andy), Eccentric Tumbling, Talking, and Knockabout Clown, &c., and his two comical Donkeys. Address, C/o Benham, 6, Spittal-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Panto. Engagement, by Geo. Gulliver, Ventriloquist and Acting-Management, at Liberty Dec. 24; can give répertoire of Vent. Acts if necessary. Address, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Panto., by F. Francis (Francis and Melli). Good Comedy Acrobat, used to Animal parts. 54, Lillie-road, Fulham, London.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Victor Vernon, Principal Comedian, Four Seasons Theatre Royal, Plymouth. Address, 69, Cranworth-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Panto., by Little Ganty. Wire, Zoo, Glasgow; Monday, Olympia, Liverpool.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, B. Caderos, Liberty for Pantomime, animal part, traps, &c. Thanks A. Carlton for offer. Perm., 1, Reed-st., West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, Mozzetto, the Famous Juggler and Comedy Assistant, vacant for Panto., First-class Speciality. Add., Empire, Camberwell.

WANTED, by Steve Cooke, the 16oz. to the pound comedian, panto., burlesque, dramatic part, or dame. Theatre Royal, Worthing.

WANTED, by Comedian, small part in Pantomime; height 5ft. 7in. F. S., 52, Westbourne-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Panto., by Bob Baxter, Dame preferred, four seasons J. F. Elliston, Esq., two seasons R. Arthur, Esq. Address, Monday, Empire, Middlesbro'.

WANTED, for Panto., Animal Parts; Goose a Speciality; have own skin. J. Arthur, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Panto., a sure, reliable draw anywhere. Now the whole talk of Sunderland. Second week, re-engaged. Next week, Victoria Hall.

WANTED, Known, Barrett and Knowles, at Liberty for Panto. Reasons for being so, Last year Theatre Royal, Glasgow; year previous Alex. Theatre, Birmingham. Refer to Fred Wyndham, Esq., or Lester Collingwood, Esq. All coms., 16, Woodsley-view, Leeds; or Blackmore.

WANTED, by Denby and Dent, Pantomime. Address, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Frank Keegan and Co., Funniest Knockabout Act on the Road, at Liberty for Panto., Dec. 24, 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21. Com., 8, Somerleyton-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Known, Astley's American Circus, Astley's American Circus, the Funniest Act now before the Public. Roars, screams, and yells of laughter, at Liberty for Panto; also 20 Small Ponies, for "Cinderella"; all colours of Patent Leather Harness. Hippo., New Brompton.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, two Scenic Artists for a few weeks to touch up Pantomime Scenery. State terms and latest refs. to R. C. Buchanan, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, for Midlands, to touch up and repaint. Inclusive terms. F. Adderley, 50, Barmouth-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram open to accept Contract or Salary. Arrangements complete at present. Address, c/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, G. Sackmann, Scenic Artist and Contractor. Painting-room, Kennington Green, Kennington-road, S.E. Tel., N3296 Hop.

WANTED, by Alfred Ford, Scenic Artist, an Engagement, or Contract Work. Address, 110, Wenlock-street, New North-road, Islington, N.

WANTED, by G. S. Evans, Scenic Artist, Long or Short Engagements; extensive experience; moderate terms. 8, Buckley-street, Limehurst, Ashton-under-Lyne.

MISCELLANEOUS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Smart Young Gentleman, to learn duties Acting-Manager (London Music Hall) and represent Agency. Salary £3. Premium £25. Particulars, references, photos. (if possible), Edwardes, Business-Manager, Poste Restante, Nottingham.

WANTED, Young Gentleman, to learn Management of First-Class Company, now on Tour. Splendid opportunity. H. Elliman, 5, Vernon-st., Dublin.

WANTED, Agent in Advance and good Carpenter, both thoroughly used to Fit-up work. Age, references, lowest terms, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS.
WANTED, to travel with Agent, thoroughly Practical Billposter, High-window Litho. man; sobriety essential. Terms and references to George Dobler, Shakespeare Hotel, William-street, Belfast.

WANTED, a Good, Useful Man, as Carpenter, for a well-known picture show; only those used to fair-ground work, and teetotaller preferred. Apply, in first instance, Box 4,017, "The Era."

WANTED, Handy Man, for Pictures, for Hand Billing, Posting, &c.; must be willing to wear uniform if required. Salary 25s. State references, &c., to Manager, Animated Pictures, Town Hall, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Reliable Billposter, to take charge of round, no fares advanced, 24s. weekly, constant shop. Testimonials from last employers. State age. De Rees, Ltd., Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Managers, Agents, Authors, to Know, Shorthand-typist seeks Engagement, in London; own machine; age 24, male; just concluded six months' engagement with F. B. Woulfe Répertoire Co. W. J. C., 59, Kingsgate-road, Kilburn, London, N.W.

WANTED, by a thoroughly experienced Manager, holding the highest references for competency in every department, including Bars and two houses nightly system, the management of a First-class Music Hall, Theatre, or Pantomime Company; well educated, good appearance, and security if required. Address, Box 3,972, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Stage-Manager or Carpenter, in Theatre or Music Hall, own tools; twenty years' experience; age 39; good refs. W. Harwood, Stage-Manager, Pavilion, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, as Manager Treasurer, or any Position of Trust; unexceptionable references. Address, R. A., Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty shortly, as Stage-Manager, for Music Halls, or Carpenter, for Sketches, one who thoroughly understands bar cellar work. Address, Box 4,016, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Mr. George Yates, Advance Agent; smart, reliable, excellent Window Biller, thoroughly experienced; good refs. Concluding 10 weeks' Tour, Dr. Seaton's Pictures. Vacant Nov. 26. P. O., Guildford. Wednesday, Basingstoke, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged Xmas and Spring as Master Carpenter; own tools; tour or resident. W. H. Grieves, Theatre Royal, Bath.

WANTED, Employment, as Wardrobe Mistress, lady's dresser, able to cut, fit, and make. Address, Dare, 43, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, £1 Bonus Given for Obtaining young lady post as Theatre Attendant, experienced, aged 24, tall, good appearance. Box 4,009, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTED.
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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Musical Conductor, for Pantomime, at Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield. State age, experience, and salary required. Francis Laidler, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

WANTED, at once, for an English Orchestra, Young Man, not over 25 years, First Violin, Cornet, Trombone, Viola, Bass, Clarionet, 'Cello, also other instruments. Touring in Germany. Apply, Musical-Director, Scotch Orchestra, Bochum i/w., Germany.

WANTED, Lady Violinist and Pianist. Dollie Edwards write. Conductress, 19, Rochester-rd, Camden-rd, N.W.

WANTED, a good Performer on either Cornet, Clarionet, Trombone, or Side Drum, as an attendant. Salary commencing £34, increasing to £48, together with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Single man. Apply, with copies of testimonials, W. Grainger, Co. Asylum, Stafford.

WANTED, First and Second Horns, for Pantomime Season, Grand Theatre, Glasgow, join Dec. 3; also Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Cornet, for Circuit of Scotland's Provincial Theatres. Terms, refs., age, to Director of Music, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Three Good 'Cellists, Two Solo Violinists, One Violinist and Pianist combined, for White Star Mediterranean Service. Musical Duties only; second-class accommodation. One First-class Pianist and Flautist, for Cunard Service. Mr. C. W. Black, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Empire, Liverpool, Viola Player. Apply, stating salary required, and giving names and addresses for references, to A. W. Young, Empire, Liverpool.

WANTED, Good Harpist (Gent.), Pavilion Variety Theatre, Glasgow; must read from piano copy. State terms, references, experience, Howard Galpin.

WANTED, Pianist, for Pictures; must be willing to assist during daytime and in fitting-up. Would-be managers save stamps. State terms, references, &c., to Manager, Animated Pictures, Town Hall, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Good Pianist, for Auction Mart; must read at sight, and be useful during day; good wages. Edwards and Page, Neath.

WANTED, for the King's Theatre, Sunderland (Managing-Directors, Mr. Ernest Stevens, Mr. R. C. Buchanan), Complete Orchestra, to open about Dec. 20. Applicants must be competent and reliable. State salary, references, and age to Director of Music, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

Season 1907.

WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Musicians, all instruments, for Pavilion, Ballroom, and Opera House Orchestras, for Easter (March 28 to April 6), and from May 18 to Sept. 29, for the Season. Only Steady and Competent Instrumentalists need apply. Applications, stating experience, with references and salary required for one or two performances daily, to be sent to Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone, General-Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

POOL and BOSCO'S CIRCUS, LIMITED.
WANTED, Complete Band for Aldershot, commencing Dec. 3. Lowest terms to Bosco, 3, Winsley-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Expert Lady Instrumentalists, for permanent Engagement with First-class Symphony Orchestra, 80 performers. Full particulars, Box 3,998, "The Era."

WANTED, Instrumentalists, Vocalists, Dancers, and Juveniles, for Ladies' Bands, London, Paris, and South Forden, 462, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush, London.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept., "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.
"Re Advertisement "'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
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"Yours truly, Philip Germann, Bandmaster, "Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.
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WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, Violinist, Disengaged, Composer of Music "Silver King," &c. Pantomimes arranged. 54, Casewick-road, West Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Known, T. C. Poyser, late Musical-Director, Grand Theatre, Leeds, Disengaged. Address, 98, Gordon-hill, Enfield, Middlesex.

WANTED, Re-engagement by smart young Pianist-Conductor (or Violinist-Conductor). Theatre or Hall. Henri Rochelle, c/o Burbridge, 22, Knowle-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Musical-Director (Violinist), experienced; arrange Variety or Pantomime. C. T., 11, Harcourt-avenue, Manor Park, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, theatre or music hall, permanency, good refs. E. Burrows, 14, Pier-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged, close of season, Leader or Conductor, for Panto., Violin, Piano, Compose, Arrange. Address, J. White, 47, Sutherland-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Miss Elsie West, Violinist, is Open for Engagements, Concerts, At Homes, &c. Lessons given. 17, Pyrland-road, Highbury New Park.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Second Violin, any business, distance no object. C. Davenport, 2, Gardner's-square, Bengeworth, Evesham, Worcs.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violin, in Orchestra; steady and reliable. Write, H. Foreman, 29, Ilderton-road, Rotherhithe, Cambs.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, Good Solo Cornet, open Monday next, 19th; thorough experience in Variety Business, and sobriety essential. Permanency if suitable. Recent references to Geo. Clough, Conductor, Palace Theatre, Blackburn.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Cornet, competent, and strictly sober. Address, Cornetist, 48, Kenry-street, Ton-y-Pandy, S. Wales.

WANTED, Engagement or Deputising, by First-Class Cornettist; experienced in all Lines. Highest refs. Bonner, 50, Clifton-road, Peckham.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, Dis. Nov. 24, through Pier Pavilion closing, Concert and Variety; good refs. H. Hart, 25, Sidney-road, Southport.

WANTED, Known Englishman (38), German Linguist, situation, any capacity, Artist Oils, Second Clarionet, Fine Music Copyist, Business Talent; willing. Refs. C. S., 90, Southern-road, Plaistow, E.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement by Clarionettist, any business; reliable references, and total abstainer. McCormick, 28, Aylmer-road, Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionet, Engagement, any Business, reliable, abstainer, would deputise; London or suburbs. Sheehan, 11, Pelham-street, South Kensington.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass or Flautist; experienced, reliable, any business. Handel, 17, Worcester-parade, Gloucester.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement. Maud Jones, 35, Brinton's-road, Southampton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, through closing, Forest Gate, London, experienced opera, drama, or variety. Perne, 22, Church-street, Leominster.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, through closing Pier Pavilion, highest refs., any business. W. Sayer, 24, Manning-road, Southport.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Stringed Bass, permanency or deputising, any Bus., Manchester preferred. Clark, 20, Priam street, Queen's Park, Manchester.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, steady, reliable; experienced Variety and all Lines; good refs. Basso, 29, Palatine-road, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Four-string Basso, Theatre or Music Hall. Disengaged Nov. 24; good references. Bryant, Basso, Devonshire Park T., Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone Soloist, Orchestral or Military; just finishing Tour in France; Liberty Nov. 26. Hugh Thompson, 39, Hobson-street, Oldham.

WANTED, by Trombone or Euphonium (efficient), Engagement. J. Hutchinson, Circus, Bloxwich. After Sat., 1, Greek-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, Theatre or Music Hall, or Deputising. W. Goff, 111, Upper Kennington-lane, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, Theatre or Music Hall; good references; would deputise. Hurst, 105, Culford-road, Dalston, N.

WANTED, Engagement in England, by First-class Second French Horn, theatre, at Liberty from Nov. 19. Leonard Trautner, 39, Tetzelg, Nuremberg, Germany.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, for Little Girl, on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. Casselle, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Immediate Engagement, by Lady 'Cellist, any business, soloist, experienced. Edith Harvey, 11, South Hill Park-gardens, Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, 'Cellist, Disengaged, used to variety, drama, opera, will also do altise; thorough experience. 47, Melrose-gardens, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagement as 'Cellist, in or near London; any business. Address, Box 4,012, "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced Oboeist, Engagement; sober reliable. Late Royal Artillery Band, Woolwich. Field, 28, Cardozo-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Known Æneas Gibson, First-class Harpist and Pianist, immediate Rengagement; young; travel abroad if preferred; reliable, sober. 164, Roundhay-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Maud Estlin Grundy, age 19, Harpist; brilliant Soloist. All letters, 7, Provost-rd., Hampstead, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Lady Harpist, Solo and Orchestral, Engagement for Panto, or Xmas production. Box 3,996, C/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Disengaged, any Business; steady and reliable. Flautist, 244, Mitcham-road, Tooting.

WANTED, Engagement by N. Robinson, Pianist, Orch. or Self; exper. Var., Dram. business; steady, reliable; good reader; excel. refs. 227, Bowling Back-lane, Bradford, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady, as Accompanist, London or Tour. 39, Chelsham-rd., Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Charles Waterman, Pianist, varieties, dance work, concerts, &c., London only. 76, Hambalt-road, Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Resident Eng., Pianist, combine Second Violin, or Auxiliary Orchestra (Panto.), Theatre, Music Hall; experienced; abstainer; refs. Manton, 20, Swan-st., Longtown, Cumberland.

WANTED, Engagement, by Variety Pianist, large or small, 20 years' refs., conduct and arrange. Lorenzo Lewis, 3, Market-st., Exmouth, Devon.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Pianist and Mandolinist, in Exhibiton Orchestra; also Space for Photos., Jewellery. Studio, 15, Queen-arcade, Ripon.

WANTED, Deputising or Permanent Engagement, as Double Drums, any Business. A. Eason, 16, Stonebridge-rd., South Tottenham, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced, Variety preferred; excellent references; steady, reliable. A. Lille, 93, Queen's-road, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing, Drums, Second Violin, or Viola, Panto., Deputising; any business. Chapman, 140, Hampton-road, Southport.

WANTED, Engagement, with Drums and Effects, or as Deputy. R. J. Walker, 15, Moon-st., Gibson-square, Islington, N.

WANTED, Known, the Orchestral Association is prepared to provide Managers and Conductors with Professional Players, from Single Performers to Complete Orchestras, for First-class London or Provincial Theatres, Concerts, or Balls, &c.; or Military Bands of any number, including Conductor if required. None but bonâ fide professional musicians are admitted to membership. For particulars, apply Secretary, 28, Gerrard-street London, W. Telephone, 4459 Central. Telegrams, "Harmonists, London."

WANTED the Shakespearean Ladies' Orchestra (Viennese), copyright registered Stationers' Hall, twenty-two (or less) performers, magnificent costumes; highest criticisms. Conductor, Miss Gascoyne Old, 238, Edgware-road, London.

To Pier Managers, Corporations, &c.
WANTED, Known, a First-Class Italian Orchestra or Military Band, at Liberty for next summer season; best picked soloists; smart uniforms; répertoire includes all the latest English selections. Musical-Director, Box 3,765, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands, apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to Dec. Quartet now Disengaged.

WANTED, Known, The Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, Disengaged Nov. 19; large répertoire and magnificent costume. Conductress, Volthurst, Boundary-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Known, Rosabel, Ladies' Military Band, also Concert Party; brilliant Vocalist, &c. Manager, 112A, St. James's-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, complete Orchestra of seven performers, including Conductor (Piano), at Liberty through closing; Concert, Panto., Variety, &c. Crabtree, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.
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POOL and BOSCO'S CIRCUS, LIMITED.
WANTED, to Open at Aldershot, Dec. 3, on, Artists in all Lines, suitable for Circus Ring, Riders, Gymnasts, Acrobats, Trapeze, Strong Shows Musical Act, Novelties of every Description. Nothing too Big. State absolute lowest terms to Manager. Irving Bosco, 3, Winsley-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Young Man, for Comedy, Horizontal Bar Act, must be funny. State height, tricks, photo., Ballon, General Post Office, Liverpool.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, at Once, and Future Dates, all the Latest and Greatest Novelties, Big Sensations, and Star Turns in all Lines. Anything new to the above town can be booked at once. Note.—All Artists engaged will have the option of engagements at Ohmy's Grand New Building, which will open in December. Address, King Ohmy, Circus, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, for Tenting Season, 1907, good Jockey Act Rider, and Novelties of every description, new to England, that can be performed in a Tent. Apply, with fullest particulars, and absolute lowest terms in first instance, to Lord John Sanger and Sons, Ltd., Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, Comic Horizontal Bar Performers, suitable for Circus Ring. State lowest terms for one week, two, three, and four weeks. Send vacant dates in January and February 1907 Silence a polite negative (pro tem.) Address, George Gascoigne, Victoria Villa, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, First-class Hand-balancer or Juggler. Maxim, 71, Park-street, London, N.W.

WANTED, Small Troupe Acrobats for "Span of Life." Lowest terms, references, photo., to Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

WANTED, a Youth, good Back-bender, for Comedy Show. Send photo. Ryan and Hall, Olympia, Liverpool.

WANTED, a Top Mounter, for well known Acrobats, at once. E. Starling, 57, Fortess-road, Kentish Town, London.

WANTED, Top Mounter, about 8st., able to play a Comedy part, in Acrobatic Sketch. All details c/o Box 4,005, "The Era."

WANTED, Sharp Boy, over 14, small, for acrobatic business. Send photo. and particulars, Acrobatic Troupe, 5, Nelson-terrace, Daybrook, Nottingham.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.
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WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Tudor's Four Performing Ponies, double and single acts and double or single harness, all ten hands. Great attraction for Pantomimes. Hippodrome, Blyth.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Dec. 17, onwards, for Winter Season, the refined John Scott Family of male and female Equestrians, &c., five in number (one lady and four gents.), including Poor Billy, the King of the Ring. For particulars, lithos., &c., address, 12, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, Proprietors, Managers, and Agents to look out for something new and novel, a success every town we visit, two-and-half years with Bostock and Wombwell's great shows; Jackies and his savage Brutes. For dates address, Jackies, Bostock and Wombwell's, C/o J. J. Miller, Melbourne, Australia.

WANTED, Frank Anderson (Handy Andy), Talking, Tumbling, and Knockabout Clown and Agouste, Entrées, &c., and his two Comical Donkeys. Vacant Dec. 17, on. C/o Benham, 6, Spittal-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Happy Armstrong, Talking Knockabout Clown, Entrées, and Musical Act, Liberty Nov. 26, onwards, exceptions. 40, Aspinall-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lolo, Charming Lady Gymnast, Graceful Trapeze and Teeth Speciality Artist; also Little May, Graceful Contortionist and Dancer; at Liberty Nov. 19. 127, Upper Aughton-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, by Les Steckels, Dec. 24, 31, Gymnastic Speciality, conclude to-night, Opera House, Derry. Agent, Stebbings. Permanent, 17, Seymour-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Oct. 17, 24, only Vacant Dates, Mayeno Trio, 2 ladies, 1 gent., Gymnasts, Acrobats, Tight Wire. Three distinct Acts. Perm., 30, Great George-st, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., Triple Bar Gymnasts, Re-engaged another week, Hengler's Hippo., Plymouth; next, Empire, Merthyr. Vac. Dec. 10, 17.

WANTED, Monday 19th, also Dec. 3, The Maros, Quaintest Three-Bar Comedians. This, Varieties, Bury, wire; then, 126, Porter-street, Hull.

WANTED, by Almo Trio, clever Comedy Three-Bar Act, introducing Miss Myria Lo-La, the only Lady Three-Bar Performer, Nov. 26 (one week only), through resigning engagement. Wire, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Tom Hall and Family (five people), Acrobats, Wire Walkers, Gymnastic Clowns, Dogs, Monkeys, and Robert Davies, all-round Equestrian, with own two Horses, vacant Christmas. Would rent or share with suitable buildings. Address, Circus, Dudley, Northumberland. Thanks for offers.

WANTED, Engagement, with any Small Touring Co., by Good All-round Juggler. Will accept 40s. weekly. 19, Clifden-road, Brentford.

WANTED, Nov. 26, between Birmingham and Portsmouth, Joe Hastings, Champion Jumper and Up-to-date Orator. 62, Monument-rd., Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, a First-class Tumbler and Hand-balancer. Address all letters, Box 4,001, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, good all-round Tumbler, wishes to join Tumbling Troupe or Comedy Sketch. Grogans, 36, Ardgowan-place, Kingston, S.S. Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.
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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Richard Cass's Agency, Richard Cass's Agency, Richard Cass's Agency, Sole Business-Manager, Charles Castle, Charles Castle, Some of the very tip-top of the Profession have placed their business in our hands. The best numbers required. Richard Cass's Agency, 30, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines. Nothing too big. Send full particulars, with lithos. (if any), to Morgan, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, Nov. 26 and onwards. Manager, Britannia, Glasgow.

THE NATIONAL VAUDEVILLE CO.
WANTED, for Dec. 10, 17, Variety Artists and Specialities, no Sketches, must be new to Boston. Apply, with lowest Combination terms, Secretary, 55, Bancroft-road, Mile End, London.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Comedians, to buy Soap Song. Absolutely good. P.O. for 1/- only. Syd. Godfrey, 1, Brighton-terrace, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, Nov. 25, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small. P. Reymond, as above

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Nov. 26, Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small P. Reymond, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artists or Combinations, Jan. 14, and on, for Victoria Theatre, Stanley, Co. Durham. Address, John Cassidy.

WANTED, for Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall, Variety Artists for to-night, Saturday, Nov. 17, one performance only. Those in neighbourhood preferred. Wire, A. De Frece, Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

EMPIRE, GREENOCK.
General-Manager, H. L. SKIVINGTON.

WANTED, Star Artists in all Lines. Nothing too big. Salary or Share.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists for Glasgow Concerts. Lowest terms and permanent address to the SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, for Scotland, immediate dates. ANDERSON'S Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in every Line, Nov. 26 and on, Big Sensational Stage Act, New Year's Week. Big Money for a Big Act. Small Specialities write at once. DREW BAILEY, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, willing to do Show Turn at Special Matinée, Surrey Theatre, to write at once, enclosing stamped addressed envelope, to MANAGER, Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery-avenue, E.C. No interviews.

"CHESTER'S."
P. L. CHESTER (late Chester's Agency Limited). 30, Fennel-street, Manchester.
WANTED, First-class Artists. Correspondence invited.

WANTED, Known, Artists wishing to be Booked for First-class Music Hall Engagements, please communicate with BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Palace, Lancaster. J. FELL, Proprietor.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines. Send lithos. to SAM LEE, 48, Howland-street, Fitzroy-square, W.

THE ALHAMBRA, GROVE-ST., EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Immediate Dates. Write, MANAGER.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, only dates vacant until end Jan. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists of every Description, for immediate and future Dates. If only vacant one week, send lowest terms as introduction to long engagements at future date. All fares paid after joining; also props. carried to and from hall. Apply, POOLE, Myriorama, Tonbridge.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards. Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Aritsts, all Lines, nothing too big, for Palace, Leigh, Lancs., Dec. 3, onwards. J. LARDER, 51, Fairhurst-street, Leigh, Lancs.

ALHAMBRA, EDINBURGH. Rehearsal, Monday, 12 o'clock, for Royal Quintette, Major Moss and Son, Mark Anthony, Sisters Clare, Stuart and Worth, Nellie Colwyn, Bioscope, Prinellas.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, Nov. 26, onwards. Address, MANAGER.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Empire Palace, Dover, and the Alhambra, Sandgate. FRED DURHAM'S Variety Agency, 14, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Telephone 15, Brixton.

WANTED, Star Artists, Nov. 26, onward. TOM PRICHARD, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
DALTON'S AGENCY. Always send
DALTON'S AGENCY. House Address as well
DALTON'S AGENCY. as Theatre.
DALTON'S AGENCY. A feature in connection
DALTON'S AGENCY. with this Agency will be
DALTON'S AGENCY. Artists Vacant "Monday
DALTON'S AGENCY. next," also "Artists Vacant
DALTON'S AGENCY. Immediate Dates," and Art-
DALTON'S AGENCY. ists are requested to post
DALTON'S AGENCY. me if open Monday next,
DALTON'S AGENCY. and mention at same time
DALTON'S AGENCY. any immediate vacancies;
DALTON'S AGENCY. but "Monday next" being
DALTON'S AGENCY. a feature in the future, a
DALTON'S AGENCY. penny stamp may mean a
DALTON'S AGENCY. shop. Please note to always
DALTON'S AGENCY. send private address where
DALTON'S AGENCY. staying in the respective
DALTON'S AGENCY. towns for early delivery of
DALTON'S AGENCY. telegrams. Tele., "Gran-
DALTON'S AGENCY. beste Withington," Tele-
DALTON'S AGENCY. phone, 193 Didsbury. 29,
DALTON'S AGENCY. Maulderth-road West, With-
DALTON'S AGENCY. ington, Manchester.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME CO., LTD.
WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec 23, 1904, no Contracts will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager. T. M. SILVESTER, Manager; G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

WANTED, Known, Parthenon Music Hall, Liverpool. Important Notice.
This Hall will be Closed on and after Monday, Nov. 19, 1906. Those Artists who have not been communicated with, please consider all contracts cancelled. EDWIN W. SMITH.
WANTED, for Nov. 26, Dec. 2 and 9, Stars in all Lines
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency, 105-5, Strand, W.C.

BARNARD'S AGENCY,
24, Islington, Liverpool.
WANTED, Stars and Specialities. Nothing too Big. Telephone, 1114.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Big Stars and Novelties, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, onward; also a Complete Pantomime, for Jan. 7, twice nightly, on share or certainty. FRED NEIMAN and Co., Variety Agents, Hippodrome, Sheerness.

PALACE, KILMARNOCK.
Lessee and Manager, J. CUMMINGS.
WANTED, Star Acts, all Lines, absolute lowest, once nightly.

WANTED, Known, any Star Acts who have odd weeks vacant should send list of vacancies to FRANK LYNNE, Tivoli, Grimsby. (AYTOUN'S Agency.)

WANTED, Nov. 19, 26, all Dec. on, for South and North Wales, Sunderland, Bristol, Midlands, Variety and Speciality Acts all Lines. Lithos., memos., permanent address, T. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Variety Talent, Share or Salary. Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock for Marie Blythe, Carl Lynn, Two Whites, Pender Troupe, Stilt Walkers, Vernon's Bioscope, George Young, Golden and Grey.
Letters, SMITH and Co., Red Lion Hotel, Rochdale.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c., 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester

WANTED, the Cream of Profession. Those new to London can have a trial show. Send lithos., memos., and bookings, lowest terms, &c. Keep me posted every week. Many thanks to Henri Gros for giving Lily Arthur two dates at the Metropolitan, and two at Chelsea. BILLY HENDERSON, 30, Handforth-road, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, Specialities of all kinds, immediate and future dates. Send list of bookings. MARTINO'S Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

REOPENING, HIPPODROME, CAMBRIDGE, at Popular Prices, 3d., 6d., 1s.
WANTED, Big Speciality, on Sharing Terms, Nov. 26 and Dec. 3 weeks. Wire, ROYLE, Theatre, Dereham, Norfolk.

WANTED, Good Speciality, that will Draw, for pantomime, one week, Jan. 28, Midlands. HERBERT BARRS, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

GEO. ZALVA'S INTERNATIONAL AGENCY,
Residential Offices,
THE HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
Sole Appointed Agent for the Yarmouth and Lowestoft Hippodromes, Hengler's Enterprises.

WANTED, Nov. 26, on, Big Specialities, of Every Description, for Various Towns.
Also Speciality for Xmas and New Year's Weeks Quote lowest in first instance, and give full bookings.
Telephone, No. 288.
Telegraphic Address, "Zalva, Scarboro'."

WANTED, Specialities, Dec. 17, 24, 31 and onwards. HURMAN'S Agency, 18, Conway-mount, Leeds.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.
WANTED, Big Top of Bill, Dec. 10, and Jan. 7 and 14.
Call Monday, Nov. 19.
Capt. D'Evelin's Zouaves,
Frank Coyle,
Leonard and Larry,
Jones and Co.,
V. L. Granvill,
The Bells,
Carte and Mirtyiana,
Sisters Bronson.
Mr. Kemble will be in town Tuesday next, and may be seen at Messrs. De Frece's Office, from 12 to 1 o'clock.

WANTED, Good Combination, Dec. 17, new to Stanley. Address, JOHN CASSIDY, Victoria Theatre, Stanley, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Attractions for Amusements Park, situated midway between Leeds and Wakefield. This Park has been purchased, and is being laid out by the Wakefield and District Light Railway Company, who intend sparing no expense to make it successful. Very favourable terms offered to persons willing to put up and run up-to-date first-class amusement devices. Write, GENERAL-MANAGER, Light Railway Company, Wakefield.

WANTED, for Swindon, Dec. 10, good Top for Bill; also Dashing Sisters, Comedians, Cyclists, Cinématograph Novelties. WOOD, Caterer, Cheese-lane, Bristol.

WANTED, Young Lady, good Soprano or Contralto, with £50 to invest in Sketch for Music Halls. Apply, 76, Higher Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, several smart Ladies, with good appearance; good singing and dancing absolutely essential; must be thoroughly experienced. Suitable people may open at once; twelve months' run guaranteed. Wire, write, or call between 11 and 12, Bedford M. H., London. A. ROZELL.

WANTED, Sisters, ditto Singles, Comedian, and other turns, Nov. 26 and Dec. 3, near London; Combination terms. HICKS, 2, Aliwal-road, Clapham Junction.

WANTED, one week, Dec. 17, good Serio or Sisters, also Comedian; no hambones. Lowest terms to HELLIS, Ebenezer-row, Dorking.

WANTED, a smart man for Dame in Sketch, "A Sham Hero." Must be used to leaping. Apply, 113, New Kent-road.

WANTED, a Pantomimic Comedian who can Posture; one able to do Splits preferred; must be quick, smart, and reliable. Apply by letter only, JOHN LEOPOLD, JUN., 40, Fairmead-road, Holloway.

JOHN H. TOMKINSON'S "ROYAL GIPSY" CO.
WANTED, for Long Tour, good funny Comedian; also pair of Comedians. Full particulars, JOHN H. TOMKINSON, Town Hall, Uttoxeter, Staffs.

WANTED, Two Comedians that can Sing, one Tenor and one Baritone; preference given to those who can dance and tumble. Apply by letter only. No callers. ELECTRIC, 77, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, for Animated Picture Show, Reliable Ventrilcquist and Conjurer; also Artists for Saturday Picture Shows at Ipswich. Back same night. No fancy prices entertained. SULLINGS, Waterloo-road, Ipswich.

WANTED, for Empire, Shildon, Comedy Juggler, for Nov. 26, wire; also Artists, for Dec. 3 and onwards; terms must be low, town small. Address letters, LOMAS, Circus, Rochdale.

THE NATIONAL VAUDEVILLE CO.
WANTED, for Tour commencing Dec. 10, a Bioscope, with up-to-date Films
Apply, with lowest terms, to SECRETARY, 55, Bancroft-road, Mile End, London.

WANTED, First-Class Picture Show, with good reputation; must have special printing, advertising schemes, and energetic management, Dover Town Hall, Xmas week. Big business can be done with absolutely tip-top show. Apply (sharing terms), Mr. R. FORSYTH, Bournemouth-road, Folkestone.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, salary £2 per week for two hours' show;
must be a willing worker.
Enclose copy of two references,
(or no notice will be taken) to
MANAGER, Animated Pictures,
Town Hall, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, thorough knowledge, alternating and direct current, also lime, indispensable. Apply, stating age, experience, references, J. POOLE, Palace Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Bioscope Operator, gas and electric. Reply, stating experience, terms required, and references, to VERNON'S Bioscope, Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, Operator, Speciality preferred. Lowest terms. Wanted, to Buy, Big Films, Dramatic, cheap. DAVIES, 50, Slaney-street, Newcastle, Staffs.

WANTED, for C. W. Poole's Imperial Myriorama. Picture Workers, Bilimen, and Effect Workers, to open Dec. 3 (rehearse Gloucester, Nov. 26 week) for six months' tour. Apply, stating lowest terms, to CECIL F. CONFER, Town Hall, Egremont.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by Nellie Elder, Comedienne, Tyrolean Vocalist, Dec. 3, 10, 24, Jan. 7 and 14 Latest successful writing, "Father's a Millionaire." Glenfield Place, Sowerby Bridge.

WANTED, by Nellie Nora, Musical Act, Monday next, also 26th. Big success this week, Empire. Wire, 34, Co-operative-street, Shildon.

WANTED, by La Belle Sylvia and Katie La Blanche, Monday, 19th, Dec. 3 and 10. Wire, Athenæum, Llanelly, S. Wales.

WANTED, by Florence and Lillian, in their Artistic Musical Act, Dec. 3 and 17. Address, Empire, Newport; Mon., Emp., Nottingham.

WANTED, 19th, Babs Lloyd, Star Artist; Nellie Van, Comedy Artist. Wire, Hippodrome, Brighton. After Saturday, B., 158, Witton-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Cento, the Cycling Monkey, Nov. 19 and onwards; a Novelty. Great success everywhere. All coms., 6, Middle Market-road, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Nov. 26, onwards, by Aldro Lukos, Man Monkey, Speciality, introducing Swinging Perch Act and Tumbling Antics. Address, Empire, Shildon, Durham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey, a real novelty; also great ventriloquial show. Wire, Floral House, Bardon Mill, Northumberland.

WANTED, Dec. 10, 17, 24, by Mark Mooney, Loonie Comedian, in his Novelty Song, "The Ugliest Woman on Earth." Monday, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Dec. 3, 10, and 17, by Geo. Martinengo, famous solo 'cellist and baritone scena, "The Unemployed Musician," Empire, Wolverhampton; Nov. 26, Royal, Halifax.

WANTED, Known, Happy Armstrong, Lightning Pyramid Drummer, Instrumentalist, and Comic Patterer, Vacant Nov. 26, onwards, exceptions. 40, Aspinall-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Dec. 24, by Reg Leo, Eccentric Comedian. Thanks Bob Graham, Esq., for Contracts. Coms., 6 Medora-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, by Allan Hanbury, Comedian. Wire, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, Monday next, Robb Gilmore, the Queer Comedian with the Corkscrew Dance through Brixton Hippodrome having licence postponed. Big hit this week, Palace, Blackpool. Wire, wire, wire.

WANTED, Known, that the Great, Invincible Herman is not dead yet, but he is very much alive, with his Grand, Up-to-date Wire Act, and also has got a few Vacant Dates for London and District only. For terms and particulars, please apply to the Manager, S. FORREST, Winchelsea Cottage, Station-road, Forest Gate, E.

WANTED, Known, Little Hackenschmidt, the Russian Lion's Marvellous Little Wrestling Pupil, World's Champion Boy Wrestler, Pose Artist, &c. Startling success this week, Leigh, Lancashire. Everybody rushed to see him. Vacant onwards, with exceptions. Wire or write, 34, Margaret-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next, by Li-Chang, Chinese Conjurer, in Magic, Mirth, and Music. Vacant for Panto. or Tour. Wire, Empire, Llanelly.

WANTED, Known, Leonzi, Anatomical Marvel, Barrel Expert, Novel Refined Act, Lib. Nov. 19 26. Panto. settled. Coms., 80, Northfield-road, Crookes, Sheffield.

WANTED, Nov. 19, 26 (wire 25, Devonshire House, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.), the Original Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Contortionist, Juggler, Conjurer; also Miss May Geraldine, Chic Dancing Comedienne.

WANTED, Known that after Oct. 1, 1906, Alec Aubrey and Mlle. Devena will be known as The Garellys. Address, Mosebacke, Stockholm.

WANTED, Monday next, owing to Hippo., Grimsby, closing, Zelda, Novel Musical Act, Wal Owen, Comedy Act. Always successful. Wire, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, by Frank Aylmer and Daisy Turner, in their latest successful musical comedy duologue, "The Gasfitter," by Wal Pink. Monday, returns to Palace, Oldbury, 5th visit.

WANTED, Known, Letta and Minni, vacant Nov. 19, 26, and Dec. 3.
Address, 11, Addison Park-mansions, Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, Known, the Wallers, at Liberty, Sam, juggler, balancer, weight lifter; Ernest and Nellie, dancers, cake-walkers. 129, Herries-st., Kilburn-lane, N.W.

WANTED, Monday next, by Marcus Boyle, Comedian; also Ada Whitton, Burlesque Actress. Wire, 39, Hedon-road, Hull.

WANTED, Monday next, also Nov. 26, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystifiers; also Marie Riviers, Popular Songstress. Success everywhere. Wire, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, onwards, with exceptions, by The Monckton's (Fred and Lillie), in Musical Farcical Episode, "Are Wives Dummies?" by E. C. Matthews. Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, Dave Wallace, Great Eccentric Comedian; Marie Tilley, Comedienne, Speciality Dancer. Any distance. Wire, Victoria Theatre, Barry Dock, Wales.

WANTED, Monday next, by Chant and Chant, Vocal Comedy Duo. The talk of Ton-y-Pandy. Refer Manager. Wire, 87, Wollaton-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Nov. 19 and 26, by Gravetta and Parr, Clay Modellers, Impersonators, Conjurers, Pot Pourri. Wire, 88, Boston-street Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday First, by Gilroy and Gross, Comedy Artists; also Dec. 3, through Parthenon, Liverpool, closing. Only vacancies. Wire, Palace, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Dates, Two Clarkes, Acrobatic Speciality Globe Performers; also Comical Beano, with Mechanical Donkey. Roars of laughter. Two Clarkes, Hippodrome, Plymouth.

WANTED, Known, Austin and Austin, in their Eccentric Acrobatic Chair Speciality, Monday next, Regent, Salford; at Liberty Nov. 26; also Panto.

WANTED, Nov. 19, 26, by Carl and Carr, the Refined Comedians. Making a huge success. Wire quick. Aquarium, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Nov. 19, 26, and Dec. 3,
by the Great Albano Troupe.
A Gigantic Success Everywhere.
Wire, Wire,
Wire, Wire,
The Palace, Boston.
After Saturday,
Wire, 39, Newcastle-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Nov. 26, onwards, by the Versatile Woelhafs, Great Comedy Act. E., Greenock; Nov. 19, P., Kilmarnock.

WANTED, by The Marconis, Nov. 26 and Dec. 3, through obliging. Starring, Macnaghten Tour, Terrific Success. Next week, Palace, Lincoln.

WANTED Monday and on, by Gilroy (Vent.) and Boston (Bioscope), smart shows, sure draw. Satisfaction guaranteed. Wire, 55, Effingham-street, Rotherham.

WANTED, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist; and De Lil, Illusionist; Monday next, also Nov. 26. Wire or write, 5, Union-road, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Dates, for Number of Spectacles, both Juvenile and Adults, "Japan," "Brigands," "Scalp-Hunters," Pantomime "St. George and the Dragon," &c. Everything carried. CLARKE, Hippodrome, Plymouth.

WANTED, Nov. 26 and Dec. 3, for Miss Dot Robins' Dramatic Sketch, "The Necklace of Death," Pictorials. Next, Barnard's Woolwich.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lions, Vacant Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, Jan. 7, 14, and 28. Com. week Nov. 19,
L. JENSEN,
Proprietor of Ella's Lions.
Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Alice Fontainbleau, Proprietors to see the smartest Troupe of Dogs in Europe. For dates, Wood Castle, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, Nov. 26, for Whizzing the Whirl, funniest act on earth (copyright). Wire, to-day, Alexandra Palace, Northampton; Monday, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio, Funny Cycle Speciality, Vacant Nov. 26, only vacancy till May, '07. Wire, Hippodrome, Maidstone.

WANTED, by Two Smart Young Men, pantomimists, comedy tumblers, &c., engagement with good comedy act. Good refs. Letters, B. C., 1, Reed-st., West Hartlepool.

WANTED, by Young Man, work or small parts in Sketch or Panto. to open 26th and on; experienced. J. I. AMBLER, Woolpack-yard, Halifax.

WANTED, Bookings, for W. Payne's Bio photoscopes, tip-top shows. Films for hire. Films for hire.
WALTER PAYNE, 346, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements, public or private. Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with Toby. 326, Earlsfield-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements, for the Lingwood Bioscope, change of up-to-date Films weekly; electric or lime-light. LINGWOOD, 31, Watcombe-rd., South Norwood.

WANTED, by Bioscope Operator, electric or gas, steady, good refs., know my work, and not afraid of it. Managers with only a fortnight's work save stamps. Wire or write, MACK, 31, Paddington, Liverpool.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Circus, and Roundabout Proprietors, that De Salis and Co., of Leighton Buzzard, are manufacturers of Showmen's Colours, Paints, and Varnishes, suitable for Switchbacks, Galloping Horses, Rounding Boards, Swings, &c., &c. Specially recommended by Mr. A. Higgins, Artist, of Totterdown, Bristol, and others.
All Showmen should send for price list and samples.
Specialities,
"New Royal Red,"
"Salisello," a perfect white enamel.
Extra Pale Durable Body and White Copal Varnishes.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., the largest Tent Manufacturers in the World, have a large stock of New and Secondhand Circus Tents, made from their famous Rotproof and Waterproof Tent Canvas, "Birkmyres Cloth." The most durable and waterproof Canvas for Showmen's Tents, &c. Buy from Manufacturers and save middlemen's profit. GOUROCK ROPEWORK CO., LTD., Lancaster-pl., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 ammunition, rifles, globes, targets; absolutely cheapest market.

WANTED, Known.—A Word to the Wise is Sufficient. A Client writing June 25, 1906, says:—Bag puncher took £300 in a little over three months. For price, write Sole Agents to the Makers, viz., the Mills Novelty Co. MINERVA AUTOMATIC CO., 120, York-rd., King's Cross, London, N. Largest Variety of Automatic Machines in the trade. No Junk. Don't buy worn-out machines of old pattern; get a genuine Mills 1906 pattern.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch. is going ahead with up-to-date Lines in Field Glasses, Fancy Goods, Clocks, Jewellery, &c. Send for Special Xmas Supplement. There is no cheaper house for you.

WANTED,, Known, Auction Marts and others, R. Owens, 65, Market-street, Manchester, making up good Lines; good profit. Write for samples.

WANTED, Known, Showmen's Letter Cloths made and attractively painted in fancy colours. ROCHE, Artist, 22, Lansdown-road, Lee, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Professor Ruby has secured several Good Large Shops in the Best Positions in London. Good Novelties and Freaks, with Good Flash, send Present and Future Dates. Month's certain shares or salary. A good salary to anything new to London. Wire for Monday, Professor RUBY'S Exhibition, 213A, Rye-lane, Peckham.

WANTED, Novelties, Illusions, or good Trance, nothing too big; six good shops. Wire for Monday. THOMPSON, 78, Castle-street, Bristol.

WANTED, Monday, all kinds of Novelties and Illusions, with good Flash.
Terms, 50%.
Write,
CHAMBERS, Manager, 38, High-street, Putney.

WANTED, Living Novelties, of every description, for absolutely the best shop and position in Leith. FRED DURLAND, Exhibition, 56, Kirkgate, Leith.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, Open at Once, sale of books and post-cards allowed. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Varieties, Dublin.

WANTED, for Baines' Palace of Novelties, Freaks, Midgets, Knife Throwers, with Flash; any good quick show. Shares. 33, Bradshaw-street, Derby.

WANTED, Good Freaks and Novelties. Terms, salary. Two months certain. BURNETTE'S Waxworks, 273, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WORTHING TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, Nov. 12 to Dec. 8.

WANTED, Good Marionettes, also Illusion, for Side-shows; also two more Spaces vacant for stalls. Wire or write, SEEBOLD, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, Pictures, Marionettes, Novelties, Automatics, &c., largest Shop Kirkgate, Leith; also Ground to Let, Shows, Games, &c. PROPRIETOR, 1, Promenade, Portobello.

WANTED, Giants, Midgets, Tattooed Ladies and Gents., Novelties, and Freaks of all Descriptions. A. E. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Character Reader, &c., for Waxworks, main road. 13, East-street, Sittingbourne, Kent. Shares or rent. Open at once.

WANTED immediately, Wireworker, Engraver, Embroiderer, Tattooist, &c. Spaces share or rental; good position. Apply, Madame LINDA, 42, Osborne-street, Glasgow.

WANTED immediately, Tattooer, Phrenologist, Wire Worker, or good Novelty; First-class Shop; best position in town. ROBINSON, Automatic Saloon, Chatham.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Xmas and January, Carl Frederick's Great Palace of Illusions (six in number), Exhibitions or Carnivals, elaborate front, or can be worked separately, under experienced manager and assistants. Share or rental. FREDERICKS, Public Hall, Ipswich.

WANTED, Known, Mlle. Flo (Tattooed Lady) and Ydac's Cabinet Act, Liberty Monday on. Shares or Salary. CADY, 56, Kirkgate, Leith.

WANTED, Known, Madame Amelia, Hampshire Giantess, at Liberty Monday, Nov. 26, and onward. Good flash and cloths; have First-class Doorman. Apply, 28, Warwick-street, Deptford.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Mind Reader and Telepathic Hypnotist, at Liberty. Box 4,007, "The Era."

Important Notice.
WANTED, Known, Xmas and New Year Carnival, on the New Fair Ground, Crompton-street, Wigan. Apply for Ground to WALLIS, Seaforth-on-Green, Preston. N.B.—A portion of the ground to Let for a Permanent Circus.

WANTED, all Showmen and Roundabouts Proprietors, Stall-holders, to know that Rochdale Christmas Fair will commence on Dec. 14, and continue till the 26th next, in the Cattle Market. All applications to WM. MITCHELL, Hindhill-street, Heywood.

WANTED, Known, Spaces to Let for Side Shows of all kinds, at Fair Ground, High-street, Deptford. Address, S. MACKEY, Star and Garter, 490, New Cross-road.

WANTED, to Let, Large Shop, suitable for Auctioneer's, Bazaars, or Exhibitions; best position in Swansea. Apply, DOBSON, 30, Hannah-street, Porth, Rhondda Valley.

WANTED, Known, Room to Let, suitable for Wire-worker, &c., splendid opening. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxwork Exhibition, Dublin. Palmistry excepted.

WANTED, Space, 50ft. by 40ft., in First-Class Exhibition, Gardens or Pier, for Minni Letta's Refined, Novel, Money-making Side Show, on the Rolling Stage. Can be seen working daily at the Olympia, London, for two months, commencing Xmas. Absolutely the only Show of its kind in the World. For particulars, address, LETTA, 11, Addison Park-mansions, Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, a First-class Space for Phrenology, at once. Address, PHRENOLOGIST, 3, Dryden-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, to deliver coloured phrenological chart, with small piece of sweet, 21s. per 3 gross packets; machine lent suitable established exhibitors. ROSE'S AUTOMATICS, 97, Graham-road, London, N.E.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, of 100, 101, and 102A, Houndsditch, has Special Departments for 9ct. Rings, Secondhand Watches, Unredeemed Pledges, and Cheap Jewellery. Send for Special Xmas Supplement. All up-to-date Lines.

WANTED, to Sell, at great sacrifice, two Living Carriages, Road or Rail, one a Pullman Car, 17ft. 6in. long by 6ft. 6in. wide, built by the Gloucester Waggon Company, in splendid condition, cost £200, comfortably fitted with separate bed place, lounge, cupboards, drawers, tables, mirror, Larbert cooking range, Mallakoff roof, &c., &c., door on side, price £50; another, same size, barrel top, nicely fitted with cooking range, separate bed place, chest drawers, table, corner cupboard, &c., has been used as Back Waggon for Shuttered Booth to build to, and carries its own Proscenium, and has every convenience for carrying shutters and frame, also has packing place at back for tilt, lamps, &c., price £30. Will be sold together or separate. Apply, OWNER, Living Carriages, Tanner's-lane, Kettering.

WANTED, to Sell, Carved and Gilded Double Wagon, front opens out to 44ft., light and handy, in first-class condition, all complete, cash, price £150; also Street Piano Organ, only used 12 months, cost £18, cash price £8; also Wanted, to Buy, cheap for cash, 16 arc dynamo. Address, ANDERTON'S Modern Show, Yeovil, Sat.; after, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

WANTED, to Sell, two Rail Pullman Cars, well fitted, two compartments; also one Loading Waggon, with living compartment; one Organ Waggon, large two-figured Organ, by Chiappa; Midget Pony, Harness, and London Barrow; two Ground Booths, Tilts, Lamps, complete. Reason for selling, ill health. THOMPSON, 78, Castle-street, Bristol.

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Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Marie Loftus, Ned Graydon, Glenroy Troupe, Stelling and Dog, Syd May, Lilian Doreen, Lauri Clare, Bioscope, Madge Morley and Co., Selma Braatz. Illustrated Song.

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"Trip to Coontown," Effie Stuart, Sisters Loftus, Fred Clements, Bros. Lloyd, Bioscope, Sauterons, Ray Maskell, G. H. Elliott, Time and Money.

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Rehearsal at 2 for:—
"The Flood," Bioscope, Joly, Boswell's Circus, Little Ganty, Madge May, The Maples, Bonnie Goodwin, Burley and Burley, Chas. Whittle.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Clark and Hamilton, Winnie Derson, Three Guitanos, Northern Troupe, Wilson and Waring, The Ohms, Alexander, Harold Hughman, Bioscope, Harry Anderson.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Leopold Troupe, The Saphos, Matweef Troupe, Sybil St. Elmo, Tom Owen, Frank Elliston and Co., Speedwell, Fred Elton, Millei Hylton and Decima Brooke, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
"High Jinks," Monte Myro Troupe, Ernesto, Die Schultzenlieserlyn, Schenk Bros., Hetty Chattell, Carney and Armstrong, Ed. E. Ford, Raie Walters Bioscope, Barney, Burke and Bray

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Cot and Colibri, Wotpert Trio, Albertus and Millar, Herr Fritz, Strolling Players, Harry Coates, Harry Lawson, Lily Tiso, Millie Payne, Annie Abbott.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Wilkie Bard, Nellie Stratton, Aurora Troupe, Amoros Werner Troupe, The Dandies, Jimmy Shields, Billy Farrell, Royston Keith and Co., Johnnie and Charlie, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
La Milo, Arthur Reece, Amy Sullivan, Mezzetti and Mora, Stein Eretto Troupe, Barton and Ashley, Cliff Ryland, Ted and May Hopkins, Bioscope.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Harriett Vernon, The Adhoffs, Los Granadas, Maudie Ford, Hale and Francis, E. J. Sheldon, Godfrey James, Horace Jones, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Harmony Four, Paulinetti and Piquo, Clemart, Will Mitcham, Maud Ross, Lil Hawthorne, Whit Cunliffe, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Ludwig Amann, Victor Travers, Florence and Lillian, Avrigny Troupe, Amy Russell, Five Bogannys, Roy and Fenton, Bob Hutt and Co., Jack Pleasants, The Lentons.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
Vesta Tilley, New Macs, Brett and Orford, Sisters Dorrell Albert and Edmunds Troupe,, George Brooks, Lizzie Daniels, Imperial Russian Troupe, Boiscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Percy Honri and Co., Selkirk and Co., Preston and Balmaine, Albert Christian, Katie Cohen, Dora Barrington, Nora Emerald, Bioscope, Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, Caselli Sisters.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
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Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Chas. Coborn, Marie Neilson, Mezzettis, Gus Dallon, Eight of Hearts, Bioscope, Harry Herbert, Beatrice Willey, Sisters Lavender.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
"Casey's Court," Two Tees, Maxwell and Francis, Walter King, Henri Taylor Trio, Nellie Farrell, Walter Curtis, May Henderson.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
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RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Arthur Rigby and Co., Marie Keane, Conan and Doyle, Frank Couch, Three Coronets, Pictures, Sydney Bach, Kate Gourlay, Donald Hall and Lady.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Paul Conchas, Farr and Farland, Mabel Bright and Co., Mount and Corelli, Bioscope, May Orchard, Sisters Finney, Arthur Pearl.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Phil Ray, Kit Keen, Cruikshank, George Gilbey, Andie Caine, Harry Nelson, Dot Hardy, Gwennie Hasto, Sisters Geretti, Sisters Warner, Ruth Doris, Goodfellow and Gregson, The Vyponds, Mark Melford and Co., Mons. Anthy, Ross and Grayson, Phil and Netty Peters, Pictures, Harry Vernon's Co. in "Christmas Eve."

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
First Performance: George Kirk and Co., Tom Costello, Jake Friedman, Tom Shenton, The Poluskis, Bioscope, Katie Marsh, Keith Merson and Co., Thompson's Topweights, Barlee and Smith, Dot Hardy.
Second Performance: George Kirk and Co., Tom Costello, Jake Friedman, Tom Stuart, T. E. Dunville, Bioscope, Lucy Weston, Katie Marsh, Ross and Grayson, The Vyponds, Johnny Dwyer.

EMPIRE, COVENTRY.
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Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for those engaged at the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagement cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.
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Written and Composed by Edward Montagu.

There's a mighty little island, where the west wind blows,
Where the oak tree grows, and the red, red, rose;
And her native sons have never failed to thrash her foes.
The whole world knows it well.
Though her rivals always envy her, and try to claim
That she's not the same at the fighting game;
Her sons throughout the world will still uphold her name,
And win anew the glories of her fame.
Chorus:—
At duty's call in line will fall, whenever danger's nigh,
The boys who'll waste no time in idle brag;
From colonies beyond the seas the men who'll do or die,
Underneath the same old flag.
The gallant Scotch, the old Black Watch, those fighting Highland boys,
And then that dear dare-devil Pat from Ireland,
Tommy Atkins tried and true, sailor lads in navy blue,
Fighting for their King and Sireland.

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"ARRAH WANNA."

(An Original Irish-Indian Song).
Words by Jack Drislane, Music by Theodore Morse.

'Mid the wild and woolly prairies lived an Indian maid,
Arrah Wanna, queen of fairies, of her tribe afraid.
Each night came an Irish laddie O, with a wedding ring,
He would sit outside her tent, and with his bagpipes loudly sing.
Chorus:—
Arrah Wanna, on my honour, I'll take care of you;
I'll be kind and true.
We can love and bill and coo.
In a wigwam built of shamrock green, we'll make those red men smile,
When you're Missis Barney Michael Carney from Killarney's isle.

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"THE GOOD OLD UNION JACK."

(A Dramatic Story and Stirring Refrain).
Words by Jack Drislane, Music by Theodore Morse.

Tell me, daddy, tell me, why those men in that big crowd,
Won't you tell me why they're cheering, what makes each one look so proud?
Listen, lad, he answered, it's the tune the brass band plays,
It's the song, "Britannia Rules the Waves," and you'll know one of these days.
Chorus:—
Makes no diff'rence where you wander, makes no diff'rence where you roam;
You don't have to stop and ponder for a place to call your home;
When they ask where you were born, lad, speak right up and answer back,
That you're proud of your own dear Motherland, and the good old Union Jack.

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See our Special Advertisement on Page 24.

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"THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR A GIRL."
"WHAT HAS BECOME OF OUR SONGS?"
"COLOMBO." "STOWAWAY."
"YOU ARE MY IRISH LILY."
"WALTZ ME AROUND AGAIN WILLIE."
"I WANT NO OTHER LITTLE GIRL BUT YOU."
"IF I HAD BEEN BORN A GIRL."
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Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking Engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously

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"MY TINY FIREFLY." "SEND ALONG A WIRE.

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FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, NOV. 19, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12-0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Fred Farren, Wallace Whitney, Beattie Foster, The Delomes, Carter and Gale, Frisetta, Florrie Bray, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Casey's Court, Marconis, Silvo, Harry Briggs, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Chas. Gardener, The Zampas, Gladys Huxley.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
S. S. Peake and Co., Woolmer Young, Simosa San, Madge Field, Paul Courtney and Co., Pallister's Bioscope, Chas. F. Best, Eric Graham.

PALACE, BATH.
Capt. Slingsby, Valazzi, Sisters Redfern, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Lillie Langtry, Almos, Gus Garrick, Blanche and Powell.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Elliotts and Savonas, Friscari, Mayor and Marle, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Gracie Bard, Edwards and Dacre, Josh Dixon, Belle Braham.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Rebla, Geoffreys and Benson, Colby and May, Susie and Protti, Ruth Lytton, Fanny Wentworth, Ethairien Bros., A Ba Be.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Frances Haskoll, Rousby, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, Will Driscoll, Cissie Hare, Prince Kokin, Roze and Calvert, Marba and Verity, Jansons.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Bliss and Bliss, Vox, Raymond's Bio-tableaux, George Hyam, R. A. Roberts, Les Belles Americaine, Bert Harrow, Leonzi.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
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THE BRITANNIA.
Matinée Monday.
G. Marriott and Co., Janet H. Reynolds, Maude Beaumont, Rumbo Austin, Dan Filmer, George Hall, Jack Heath, Daisy Sillcott, Sisters Brooke, Grey and Welford, Raymond, Vaudeville Co.

FORESTERS.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Kate Carney, Guy Ryder, Venola Bros., Wal Phillips, Sid Bandon, Mahatma, Dick Cruickshanks and Co., Sisters Melba, Raymond's, Stan Aubrey, Mark Merry, Minnie Fenton.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Matinée every Monday.
Dora Lyric, Harry Cotton, Bert Danson, Addie Dorina, Percy Hannon, Robbie Roy, Frand Hardie and Co., Raymond, Mignonette Kokin, Galletti's Monkeys, Edna Latonne, Russel Carr.

SURREY THEATRE.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Matinée every Monday.
Dr. Bodie, Smith and Johnson, Addie Dorina, Jack Foley, Louie Hurman, Bros. Zampah, Will Lytton, Three Coopers, Raymond, Silbon's Circus, Dan Robans.

Notice.—All artists carrying Scenery must have it Fireproof, according to L.C.C. regulations, otherwise it will not be allowed in the Halls.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

N.B.—All Billing Matter and Business Communications relating to the Provincial Circuit must be addressed to "King's Chambers, Angel-street, Sheffield."

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THE NEW BIOSCOPE TRADING COMPANY
ARE RECOGNISED AS GIVING
THE FINEST PICTURE SHOWS IN ENGLAND.

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NEW BIOSCOPE PICTURES

22-27, CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS RD., LONDON, W.C.
(Facing the "ALHAMBRA.")

THE CINEMATOGRAPH PIONEERS AND SPECIALISTS.

L. GAUMONT & Co.

LONDON. BARCELONA. PARIS. BERLIN.

Telephone: "2430 Gerrard."
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Our Special "ELGE" Gem for this week is
Our Sensational Success
No. 1550,

THE DRUNKEN MATTRESS.

The guest chamber. A fussy and croaky old man. The mattress must be specially aired and shaken: The obliging chambermaid: The mattress in the sunny garden. The intoxicated reveller. Inside the mattress, The mattress alive. The mattress struggling. The mattress down the stairs. The mattress over the balustrade. Under the motor. Down the manhole. In the wheelbarrow. To the bed room again. The bed re-made, the mattress in place. The old fogies in bed. The mattress alive. Out of the window. Discovery. A roaring final.

Length 715ft. Price £14 6 0 net.

No. 1548.
A MODERN DIOGENES.
A Whirligig of Fun. Not a DULL DETAIL RIGHT THROUGH. An empty barrel. An intoxicated wayfarer. The barrel starts agoing. The railway line. The express. The cyclist. The river.
Length 160ft. Price £3 s. 0d. net.

No. 1547.
THE STEP-MOTHER.
A PATHETIC DRAMA OF DOMESTIC LIFE. A COMPLETE STORY IN A PICTURE.
The lonely widower. The fascinating widow. A little diplomacy. Trapped. Cruelty. Deception. Discovery. Blood is thicker than water.
Length 600ft. Price £12 net.

No. 1530.
A NEW WILLIAM TELL.
A clever adaptation of the old story of "William Tell and the Apple." Extremely well done and highly comic.
Length 156ft. Price £3 2s. 5d. net.

YOUR ATTENTION FOF A MINUTE, PLEASE.

MOST IMPORTANT NOTE!!

Before the end of the year what may happen? Do not leave it till too late. Be advised in time

NOW!!!

Don't wait for 1907. Take time by the forelock. Short-sightedness and overprudence are the forerunners of

RUIN.

THERE IS ONLY

ONE CHRONOPHONE,

and GAUMONT'S are the sole patentees and manufacturers.

— BE WISE IN TIME. —

The CHRONOPHONE is the exclusive property of

L. GAUMONT & CO.

There is no other CHRONOPHO but GAUMONT'S.

This notice is of VITAL INTEREST to all who earn their living by

ENTERTAINMENT.

Obtain the CHRONOPHONE while it is available—NOW.
After December 31st, 1906, the situation may alter.

WHO CAN FORESEE THE FUTURE?

Has the Chronophone been acquired by the Soap Trust or any other Trust

TIME ALONE will DISCLOSE, but NOW! NOW! NOW! or NEVER is the time for those to buy who possess one shred of sense or acumen.

Take it from us, WE KNOW!!!
For we are GAUMONT'S, and WE ALONE own the CHRONOPHONE.

The Trade Mark of Perfection, Quality, and Steadiness—"ELGE."

New "Clarendon" Films (Very Extra).

No. 144.
THE DOUBLE LIFE.
A PATHETIC DRAMA. INTENSELY INTERESTING. VERY BEAUTIFULLY STAGED.
The story of a faithless lover and the girl he has betrayed—in a series of thirteen pictures. Their first joy; love in a cottage; the awakening; her appeal to his father; outcast; wedded to another; the attempted suicide in the church; her father to the rescue; a few months later; home again; the first love.
Length 580ft. Price £11 12s. net.

No. 143.
THE ARTFUL DODGER: OR, THE CAPTAIN OF KOEPENICK.
A clever trick. Natural surroundings. Extremely comic.
Length 346ft. Price £6 18s. 5d. net.

No. 142.
THE STOLEN BRIDE.
An obdurate father. An unwelcome suitor. A daring and resourceful lover. An electric launch. A grand coup.
Length 550ft. Price £13 net.

RE "STOLEN BRIDE."
"The American Bioscope is showing A SPLENDID PICTURE entitled 'The Stolen Bride,' in which great play is made with a natty little motor launch. THIS FILM IS ONE OF THE VERY BEST YET SEEN IN LONDON."—*Extract from* "Referee," Nov. 4, 1906.

New "Norwood" Films.

No. N08.
HOW ISAACS WON THE CUP.
A fine little comic, in which a "cup" leads to a "bath."
Length 200ft. Price £4 net.

No. N09.
THE AMOROUS POLICEMAN.
Bobby off to duty. In the park. A bench. A pretty girl. An unwelcome Johnnie. Bobby welcomed instead. The wife on the scene. Bobby caught in the act. A gay melee, and a hot finish.
Length 115ft. Price £2 6s. net.

LOCAL PICTURES. Within one hour's notice we are prepared to dispatch an operator thoroughly equipped with film and camera for the taking of locals. Our name a guarantee of quality and promptness.

HIRING DEPARTMENT. This department is up-to-date in all respects, and offers a wide scope for choice in every class of subject.—Dramatic, Sensational, Humorous and Trick films in great variety.

Hepworth

No. 1194.

THE

FISHING INDUSTRY.

This film vividly illustrates one of our country's most staple industries, and gives us a little idea of this gigantic trade.

The fishing fleet is seen departing from the shore, one after another the ships glide out to sea, all hands on board dependent on the yield the deep will give up. After the catch they hasten back to give up their haul. Basket after basket load is taken up on the landing stage, emptied out and lowered again and again for a consignment which seems almost endless. All sizes and kinds of fish are seen on the wharves as the camera travels around, hundreds of pounds are here already to be distributed and sent off to supply our needs.

Now we see the fisher girls on the rough hewn rocks, doing their work merrily enough. Haddocks in plenty are strewn about, being dealt with—as only Scotch girls know how—opened, dried, smoked, and packed for the London market.

Our attention is drawn later to both girls and men, some dealing with herrings, and others preparing the much loved kipper. In the packing yards all are busy working with haste to despatch the food for hungry people. No time to waste, cleaning, cutting, drying, smoking, hanging and packing all going on in different spots, each one knowing and doing his work with precision and bustle. The "hustler" is not required here; the work of sending away must be done, it is imperative—food cannot wait!

This is a most excellent review of our fishing industry, the quality throughout is very fine. It is, indeed, the "catch of the season."

Length 375ft. Price £9 7s. 6d.

HEPWORTH MANUFACTURING Co LTD CINEMATOGRAPHERS,

TELEPHONE No. 2451 GERRARD. Telegrams: "HEPTOIC," London.

15 and 17, Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.

PAUL'S LATEST - - - - FILM.

HOW TO MAKE THE TIME FLY.

This Film conveys the idea of hastening or delaying time. A little girl takes the pendulum off a clock, and causes the maid, who usually scrubs in a leisurely manner, to hasten her work accordingly to the speed of the clock. Visitors enter the hall, but suddenly rush up stairs as the clock speeds on. Men papering a wall at the usual speed of the British workman are seen splashing on the paste and the paper with alarming celerity. A gentleman starts taking his meal in the usual quiet manner, but eats faster and faster, according to the going of the clock. In other words, "How to Make the Time Fly" is a film illustrating forcibly the idea of how people could be made to work, eat, and traffic to pass if the control of time itself were in the hands of man.

Code-word, "Time." Length, 300ft.

ROBT. W. PAUL,
68, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

Tels.: CALIBRATE, LONDON. Tele.: 4814 HOLBORN.

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Reasonable Terms. Good Programmes.
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Hold your Audience.

RUFFELL'S PICTURES
Hold their Own.

RUFFELL'S PICTURES
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Try "Ruffell's" in your Billing and the result will be a Success and a Draw.
Place your Date with us, the Reliable
STAR PICTURE EXHIBITORS.
We collect and use nothing but the very best Films of the highest photographic quality of all the leading British and Continental Manufacturers, besides Original Subjects of our own, hence our standard of efficiency is always TIP-TOP.
Complete Weekly Changes.
Terms Moderate.

RUFFELL'S IMPERIAL BIOSCOPE SYNDICATE,
12, LITTLE NEWPORT STREET, W.C.
(Opposite the Hippodrome.)

FILMS FOR HIRE.

WARWICK TOPICALS BEST AGAIN!

The Visit of

KING HAAKON AND QUEEN MAUD.

THE ARRIVAL AT PORTSMOUTH. The Royal Yacht arriving at the Dockyard. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales with Dr. Nansen awaiting the King and Queen. Coming down the gangway. Inspecting the Guard. The Royal train leaving for Windsor.

The above is an absolutely exclusive picture. We had exclusive rights in Portsmouth Dockyard.

THE ARRIVAL AT WINDSOR. H.M. King Edward VII. arrives to await King Haakon. The Royal Party getting into their carriages. This is a pretty picture, showing Queen Alexandra holding little Prince Olaf by the hand and helping him into the carriage.

This is also an absolutely exclusive picture.

Going through the streets of Windsor on the way to the Castle.

ALL THE ABOVE ARE EXCELLENT PHOTOGRAPHIC QUALITY.

THE VISIT TO THE CITY.

Passing through Holborn Viaduct. The arrival at Guildhall.

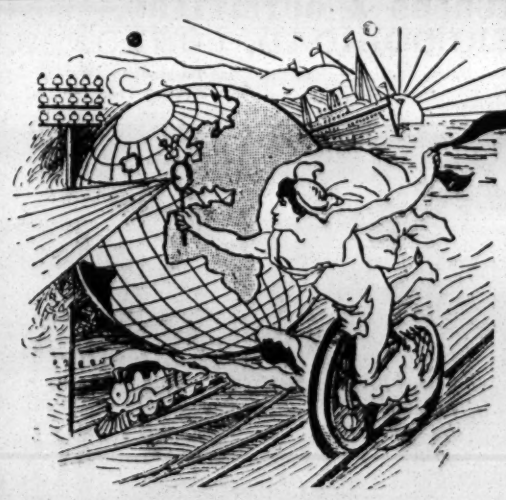
This is a truly wonderful picture (although somewhat poor in photographic quality, as it was taken in a bad light and under cover). Here one sees the arrival of the King and Queen of Norway and their reception by the Prince and Princess of Wales, Duke and Duchess of Connaught, the Lord Mayor, and a host of other dignitaries. Our cameras were within 20ft. of the reception, so that we get striking portraits of every one concerned.

Length altogether about **600ft.**,
Or will be printed in sections as required.

Recent Successes:
A WIFE'S FORGIVENESS.
A BUSY DAY IN A SOAP WORKS.
CABBY'S DREAM.

Always see WARWICK TOPICALS before deciding elsewhere.
IT WILL PAY YOU! ! !

The WARWICK TRADING CO.,
THE WORLD'S HEADQUARTERS FOR ANIMATED PHOTOGRAPHY,
4 & 5, WARWICK COURT, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.
Telephone: 1135 Holborn. Telegrams: "COUSINHOOD, LONDON."
PARIS HOUSE—16, RUE ST. CECILE.



THERE'S MONEY IN THIS!

THE GREAT MOIR-PALMER BOXING MATCH.

For the HEAVY-WEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP of ENGLAND, at the National Sporting Club, King Street, London, on Monday Evening, Oct. 29th, at 10 o'clock.

BY COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL SPORTING CLUB we received SOLE CONCESSIONS enabling us TO DEPICT THIS GREAT MATCH in all its stages.

A Special Private Exhibition of the Film was given on Nov. 1st, at which were present the Leading Sportsmen of England, as well as Representatives of the Sporting Press, and the unanimous verdict at the conclusion was—"MOST EXCELLENT—BEST WE EVER SAW—HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS—THE FINEST GLOVE-FIGHT FILM EVER TAKEN, EVEN INCLUDING FORMER 'DAYLIGHT' PICTURES."

Absolutely no point of the Great Contest was missed, and the whole is reproduced—IN A PICTURE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC QUALITY EQUAL TO THE BEST DAYLIGHT EXPOSURE—without a break, from preliminaries to conclusion.

The Grand Result of our perfect arrangements, a close and uninterrupted view of the Ring, and a Special installation of powerful Arc Lamps of 30,000 c.p. brilliancy, is

A GREAT PICTURE which reproduces with telling effect this THRILLING, ABSORBING, ASTOUNDING, TOPICAL EVENT.

Of this Film, 'THE SPORTSMAN' of Nov. 3rd, says:

"So fine a picture has been taken of the Boxing Match of Monday last that the hundreds and thousands who follow the sport and were not present at headquarters will in the near future be able to see the struggle presented, with everything that took place, to the most minute detail. . . The best pictures of a Boxing Contest ever produced here, or it may be, anywhere. Clear films and a wonderfully steady action enable every movement to be followed. . . Not a point is lost . . in fact, the affair is placed before the eye as it actually occurred."

Of this Film, 'THE SPORTSMAN' of Nov. 3rd, says:

No. 1929. Length 1700ft. (Duration of Exhibit, 30 min.) Price £85. Subject to our usual discount.

Terms: Cash with Order.

THE CHARLES URBAN TRADING CO., LTD.,

48, Rupert Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, LONDON, W.

Telegrams and Cables, "BIOSCOPE, LONDON." And 46, MARKET STREET, MANCHESTER *Telephone, 3118 CENTRAL.*

For other Cinematograph Advertisements see Following Pages.

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THE WORLD'S
BIOSCOPE OUTFITTERS.

Do not purchase your Christmas Films until you have seen those of "WALTURDAW," "CINES" ROME, and THEOPHILE PATHÉ, PARIS. Ready almost immediately.

OTHELLO. *Code Word, OTELLO.*
The grand tragedy of William Shakespeare retold with glorious effects. The canals of Venice beautifully tinted, the strong dramatic story of the jealous Moor, the lovely Desdemona and the wicked adventurer Iago, culminating in the smothering of Desdemona, the death of Othello. Perfect quality. **540ft.** **£13 10s.**

PEEP ROUND THE ZOO. *Code Word, ZOO*
Admittedly the finest in photographic quality of this interesting subject. Has now been tinted and toned (no extra charge) in various shades.
495ft. **£12 2s. 6d.**

FATHER'S WASHING DAY. *Code Word, WASHING.*
The old man interferes generally in the laundry, and to get rid of him is sent out to deliver the washing. After frequently falling over people and several amusing mishaps, he is taken by the police. **292ft.** **£7 6s.**

LIFE IN INDIA. *Code, INDIA.*
Scenes of Indian life—streets, waterways, cocoanut palm groves, cremation of the dead, sacred elephants, bathing in the sacred waters, an Indian baby's bath. Beautifully tinted (no extra charge). Grand quality. **450ft.** **£11 5s.**

A LITTLE BIT OF STRING. *Code, STRING.*
Youngsters' mischief with a little piece of string. A milkman, bootblack, &c., all become victims. Original titling, "WITH A PIECE OF STRING."
250ft. **£6 5s.**

TEA GARDENS OF CEYLON. *Code, INDIA.*
Photographed by our own operator in lovely Ceylon. The whole process of tea manufacture, from the gathering of the leaf to the dispatching for shipment. Beautifully tinted (no extra charge). **340ft.** **£8 10s.**

Our Price, 6d. per foot, less 20 %

Lengths Guaranteed not per Subject.

NOTE OUR FILMS FOR STEADINESS AND QUALITY.

THE "WALTURDAW" CO., LTD.,
3, Dean Street, High Holborn, LONDON, W.C.
Telegrams "ALBERTYPE, LONDON." Telephone: 4707 Holborn.

WARNING.—We shall take immediate proceedings against any Exhibitor, Showman, or Manager exhibiting re-staged copies duplicated or pirated copies, of these subjects.

TRADE **W** MARK
ON EVERY FILM.

WILLIAMSON'S
KINEMATOGRAPH
—FILMS.—

MAKERS OF FILMS SINCE 1897.

NEW SUBJECT:

"WHERE THERE'S A WILL THERE'S A WAY."

Story of a Motor Car Elopement—Romantic and Humourous.

675ft. **Price £16 17s. 6d.**

20 per cent. discount to Exhibitors.

WE ARE THE MAKERS OF—

ERRAND BOY,
WAIFS,
MINER'S DAUGHTER,

And many other Favourites.

WILLIAMSON & CO.
Film Factory,
WILBURY ROAD,
HOVE, BRIGHTON.

TELEPHONES: Works—2634. Residence—732Y.
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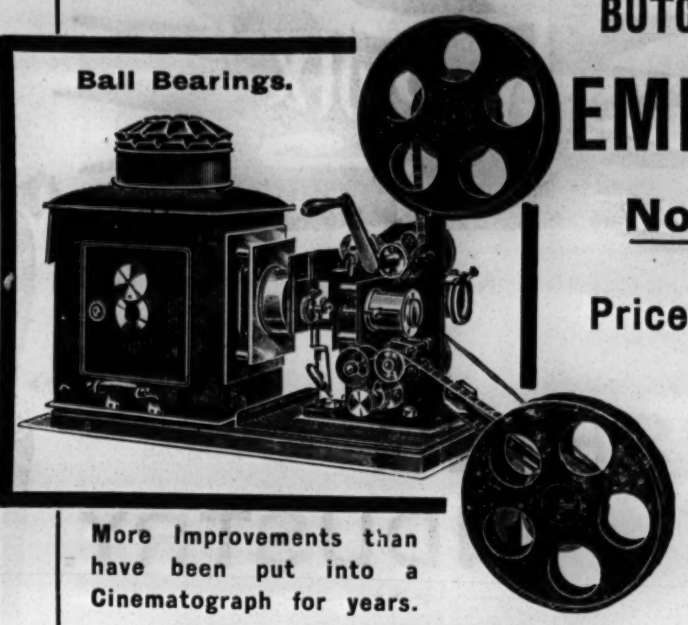
Ball Bearings.



BUTCHER'S
EMPIRE
No. 2.
Price £30.

Best London Workmanship.

More Improvements than have been put into a Cinematograph for years.

The "EMPIRE No. 2."

THE MOST PERFECT CINEMATOGRAPH ON THE MARKET.

BALL BEARINGS. Will run off three or four thousand feet of film without an effort.

ECCENTRIC ADJUSTMENT permits a picture and a half to be moved in either direction without altering the optical centres.

THE GATE is of unique design, and the springs can be easily removed, cleaned, and replaced in a few seconds.

NO SHOWMAN SHOULD MISS AN OPPORTUNITY OF SEEING IT.

Each Machine is thoroughly tested and sent out complete, with the exception of Illuminant, in stout travelling case.

THE FILM HIRE DEPARTMENT.

Have you got a copy of our List of Hire Subjects? You should write for one, for you will find our subjects up-to-date and our terms very favourable, especially if you will let us supply you with Films for the whole season.

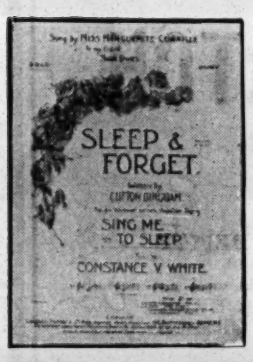
WE ARE REPRINTING THE HIRE SECTION OF OUR CINEMATOGRAPH LIST.
Ready shortly. Write now.

A NEW "WILLIAMSON" FILM. "Where there is a will there is a way,"
675 feet. Price £16 17 6. (Subject to the usual discount.)
INTERESTING. HUMOROUS. DRAMATIC. EXCITING THROUGHOUT. NOVEL FEATURES.

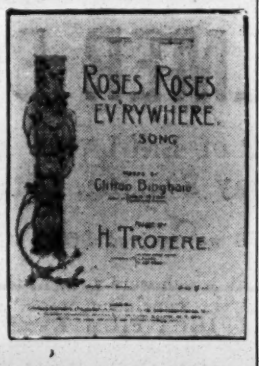
Write for Our New "Empire" Catalogue.

W. BUTCHER & SONS, Camera House, Farringdon Avenue, E.C.

CHARLES SHEARD & Co's
SPECIAL PANTOMIME SONGS.
SECOND TO NONE.



"SLEEP AND FORGET."
'ROSES ROSES EV'RYWHERE.'
"A SWEETER STORY STILL."
"FAREWELL, MY ANNABELLE."
"WHERE THE SUNSET TURNS THE OCEAN'S BLUE TO GOLD."
"I'M WEARING MY HEART AWAY FOR YOU."



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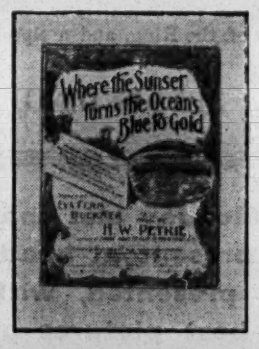

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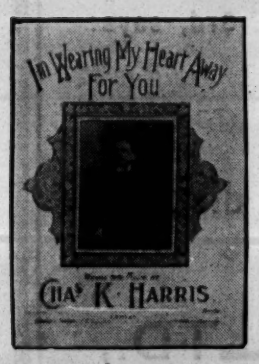

"FAREWELL, MY ANNABELLE."
"WHERE THE SUNSET TURNS THE OCEAN'S BLUE TO GOLD."
"SLEEP AND FORGET."
'ROSES, ROSES EV'RYWHERE.'
"I'M WEARING MY HEART AWAY FOR YOU."
"A SWEETER STORY STILL."

FULL PROFESSIONAL COPY AND BAND PARTS OF EITHER SONG CAN BE HAD, PRICE ONE SHILLING.

CHARLES SHEARD & CO., 196, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.

TO SHOWMEN ENTREPRENEURS, AND CINEMATOGRAPH SHOW EXPLOITERS.

A CINEMATOGRAPH SHOW.

THE
"CRUISE
OF THE
OPHIR."

ONE THOUSAND POUNDS
FOR
TWENTY-FIVE SHILLINGS.

TO THE PUBLISHER, "THE ERA."

Sir,—

It may possibly interest you to learn that a Quarter-Column Advertisement in "The Era" (One Insertion) resulted in over £1,000 Bookings for an Entertainment with which I was connected some little time ago. The Entertainment was entitled

"THE CRUISE OF THE OPHIR,"

Cinématograph Show, and the Bookings were effected within a week.

Yours faithfully,
H. GOLDSMITH-WHITTON,
Late Manager, West's "Our Navy," &c.
London, May 19, 1904.

H. & M. RAYNE,
MANUFACTURERS & OUTFITTERS,
115 to 119, WATERLOO-ROAD, LONDON, S.E.

West-End Branch—49, CHARING-CROSS-RD. (a few doors north of Hippodrome.)
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Every description of **HOSIERY** made to order on the shortest notice.
A NEW, LARGE, & VARIED STOCK of PURE & SPUN SILK TIGHTS, also in WORSTED & COTTON, at the lowest prices consistent with good workmanship.

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Makers to the PRINCIPAL LONDON THEATRES and LEADING ARTISTES of the Vaudeville and Operatic Stage.
Strong Linen Back Satin, Specially Woven for us for the Manufacture of
LOUIS HEEL SHOES. **50 Art Shades in Stock.**
FIT & STYLE GUARANTEED.

THE CHEAPEST & LARGEST STOCK OF THEATRICAL SUNDRIES IN THE WORLD.

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Write Dept. "E" for Prices.
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A World-wide Circulation, therefore an excellent Medium for Advertisers.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1907.

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For Scale of Charges see another Page.

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Catalogues free.

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Supply STREAMER LETTERS, Mammoth Posters, Day Bills, in First-Class Style, and the General Run of Show Printing, Streamers—the Largest Assortment in the United Kingdom—Day Bills, &c., at our Usual Low Rates.
NEW-WALK PRINTING WORKS, LEICESTER.